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THE MARINER

Official Publication of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

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U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Ed Early/Released.

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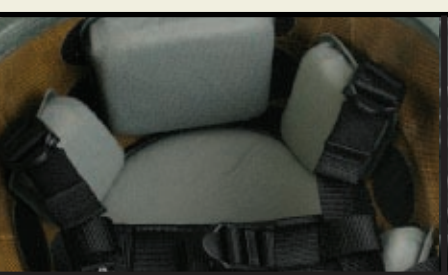

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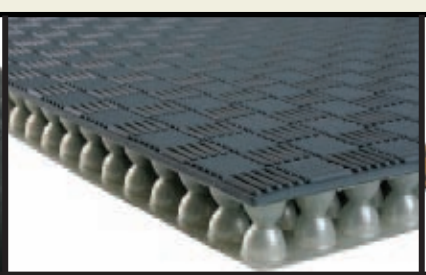

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The Mariner, official publication of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, is devoted to the interests and mutual benefit of its members. Regular Membership is open to all enlisted personnel of the Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Coast Guard Reserve; others may join as Associate Members. Annual dues in the amount of $3.75 per member is set aside to defray the cost of publishing The Mariner. Single domestic subscription price is $15 per year. Persons eligible for Regular Membership are not entitled to published subscription rates. Articles, letters, and JPEG photos for The Mariner should be submitted to the Managing Editor/DED via e-mail to: MarinerEditor1@nera.org or NERA Headquarters, Falls Church, VA. Credit will be given for materials used. Letters may be condensed for publication. Articles and letters appearing in The Mariner do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the National Executive Council of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association or the Editor, nor are they to be interpreted as official policy of the United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard, or the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association. The Mariner (ISSN 0164-3029) is published quarterly by the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, 6703 Farragut Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22042-2189. Periodicals postage paid at Falls Church, VA and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address change to The Mariner, 6703 Farragut Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22042-2189. For general questions, advertising or to learn more about NERA, e-mail: vp@nera.org.

Nick Marine
National President

Hello Again!

We are very excited about NERA's upcoming 55th Annual National Conference being held in Philadelphia-Bucks County, PA on September 19-23, 2012. This conference is being hosted by the Delaware Valley Chapter of NERA and we hope you plan to attend. I'd like to give a special thanks to USAA, Skydex, American Standard, ESGR and Navy Times. Without these companies' ongoing support, it would be impossible to have these gatherings.

Headquarters update: We are in the process of gathering bids to replace the existing three-layered defective asphalt shingled roof at headquarters as well as replace all undersized gutters and down-spouts. These issues have caused water damage to the facia and soffits. It was an easy unanimous NEC vote to move forward with this process since this need for this work is obvious. After we gather bids from licensed and insured contractors that use USA-made products, we will schedule work to begin in September when temperatures cool down. In addition, we have been in contact with the Seabees at Ft. Belvoir and were told that Seabees no longer provide assistance outside of the base due to recent instructions from Navy Legal.

This leads me into the next story. It's sad but very true that every major Navy military decision today from E-7 through O-10 involves a call to Navy Legal. Our access to NOSCs is blocked by Navy instructions written by young Navy JAGs during the Admiral Cotton era. These instructions were meant to stop predatory salespeople or lenders from going after our sailors. I'm told from the highest level of Navy offices and many individual naval officers that these instructions now in place were NEVER intended to exclude military organizations such as NERA. Most NOSC Command Master Chiefs are telling our folks they have to call legal and get back to the NOSC before setting up a table. All military organizations have worn the uniform at one time and now today as volunteers are held at arms' length. Military organizations are PROUD of protecting military members' rights and benefits and our Sailors should be proud of us as well. My hope is that we find someone willing to STEP UP and take the time needed to make the necessary changes.

In the future, I hope that Senior Enlisted advisors are included in the decision making process first instead of relying on staff writers and JAGs to interpret the Navy's TRUE intent!

More Later,
NERA Nick

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello NERA Members

I am excited as we head into another NERA National Conference on the other side of our great United States in Philadelphia. Since I have not been to this fair city, my wife and I are looking forward to this trip with great anticipation.

Personally, I am looking forward to the delegates addressing multiple issues that are before us this year, including membership. This is a perennial problem that must be faced head on and with force.

This conference will allow me to meet with individual members and chapter officers. My hope is to gain more knowledge about the membership challenges the various chapters are facing, as well as addressing the security problems concerning access to the Navy Operations Support Centers, NOSCs.

As I move toward the "golden years", I am touched by younger reservists and their Drill Sites (NOSC). Their dedication is inspirational. I have found that constant contact with the Drill Deck is the best way to seek out potential members. I am always reviewing different ways to contact drilling reservists and their spouses.

My objective is to boost membership, and I am always open to ideas regarding this task. Luckily, I am near an Air Force Base that has a large Navy presence. With a little luck and tenacity, my goal is to seek out Reservists to become members and help keep NERA alive and well. It takes hard work and time to spread the good word of NERA and explain the benefits we now enjoy through our past leadership's efforts.

Duke Hayes

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Information

NAME

RATE/RANK DATE OF BIRTH

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL

SPONSOR

Branch of Service

- ☐ Navy
- ☐ Marine Corps
- ☐ Coast Guard
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Civilian

Duty Status

- ☐ A – Active Duty
- ☐ I – Inactive Duty (SELRES, IRR, VTU)
- ☐ R – Retired

Membership Type

- ☐ Active
- ☐ Associate

Dues Payment Amount

- ☐ $30 – 1 Year
- ☐ $57 – 2 Years
- ☐ $84 – 3 Years
- ☐ $300 – Life
- ☐ $100 – Life (Payplan)*
- ☐ $250 – Life Benefactor

** Partial Pay to be paid within six months*

Payment Information

☐ **CHECK** (enclosed) ☐ **CREDIT CARD** ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXP. DATE

SIGNATURE

House Lawmakers Question Defense Excess TRICARE Funds Reprogramming Request

By Mike Hughes, OSC, USNR (ret), NERA Deputy Executive Director

Twenty-five US House lawmakers, led by Rep. Joe Wilson, R-NC, chairman of the Personnel Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee, sent a letter to Defense Secretary Leon Panetta with concerns about a DOD request to transfer $708 million in Defense Health Program (DHP) funds for other uses in DOD.

The letter questions the feasibility of reprogramming health care funds for other uses when there are service members suffering from Post Traumatic Stress (PTS), Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) and high suicide rates where the funds could be better targeted. They also raise concerns about having a surplus of funds when DOD has requested TRICARE enrollment fee increases for retirees and their families, as well as new enrollment fees for TRICARE Standard, Extra, and TRICARE for Life. They note that the House declined to grant DOD the right to raise any of these TRICARE fees in their version of the FY 2013 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). They question DOD's previous statements that refusal to grant such authority was endangering the sustainability of TRICARE and that "TRICARE was crippling" the DOD. The letter notes that none of this appears to be the case if they have a $708 million surplus for FY 2012. They also noted that DOD had a $500 million surplus in FY 2011 in health care funds.
Note: The FY 2013 NDAA is still pending resolution of differences between the House and Senate versions at the time of this writing.

The lawmakers also stated that private sector health care costs for DOD beneficiaries have been trending downward in 2012 and particularly noted a decrease in costs for retirees because of this. The letter stated: "At a minimum, the reprogramming rationale raises serious questions about the department's ability to accurately forecast future health care costs."

The House lawmakers requested a briefing from DOD on the budget estimation process that is utilized by DHP and an official explanation of what the funds would be used for if the reprogramming was approved. They stated their intention to prevent the reprogramming request from being approved until they are provided the requested information.

NERA is opposed to any reprogramming of DOD health care funds and supports utilizing the funds for PTS and TBI research, suicide prevention and to maintain current rates and fees for TRICARE. ▪

NERA News on Capitol Hill

By Mike Hughes, OSC, USNR (ret), Deputy Executive Director

Congress is taking the legislative budget and fiscal matters to the brink and delayed on many issues until the last week before the August recess. Actual Congressional working days before the lame-duck session are extremely limited, and many issues are being kicked down the road. The biggest issue on the table is the automatic cuts or "sequestration", which mandates budget savings of approximately $600 billion from Department of Defense (DoD) over 10 years, beginning 2 January 2013. Sequestration would cut about 10% of every Defense program funded through annual appropriations, without regard to the consequences, thereby putting DoD missions at risk. It is expected that many military compensation and benefit programs, including Reserve programs, would take considerable cuts if this happens.

In May of this year, the House of Representatives passed the Sequester Replacement Reconciliation Act, reducing the cuts to DoD over the 10 year period, but the Senate has already announced that this act will not be considered during the current session of Congress. Under House and Senate rules, a reconciliation bill cannot be considered unless they first agree on a budget resolution plan. However, the Senate hasn't passed a budget resolution in over 2 years.

Other key major legislative issues are:

- Passing the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2013 for the fiscal year beginning 1 October 2012. There are major differences between the House and Senate proposals that need to be worked out before passage.

- Raising the federal debt limit ceiling. House majority leaders have stated they will not agree to debt raises without corresponding cuts. Members in both the House and Senate have stated they will not approve any debt limit raises. Considering the raising of the debt ceiling last year was what led to the "Sequestration" act, this may prove to be a face-off on fiscal policy.

- Physician payment reductions for TRICARE and Medicare. This is an issue that Congress keeps extending without permanent correction. Without action, there is an expected 30% payment reduction for TRICARE and Medicare physicians, driving physicians from the programs and threatening services to beneficiaries.

Master Chief Steve Sandy, NERA's Executive Director, and I continue to work tirelessly to protect your benefits from funding cuts. We, on behalf of NERA, continue to meet on a regular basis with numerous Senators, Congressional Representatives, and joint military and veteran organizations to support and improve your benefits. NERA is your first and best line of defense against those in Washington willing to sacrifice your benefits, and we will continue to fight the good fight. ▪

Coast Guard and Navy Units Prepare for Joint Deployment

By Petty Officer Second Class Michael Anderson
Reprinted from RESERVIST, Vol. LIX, Issue 2, 2012

On a gray overcast San Diego day in early May, four boats, two Coast Guard and two Navy, patrol near a joint forward operating base. Aboard the vessels, Coast Guardsmen and Sailors clad in camouflaged uniforms grip their weapons, watching nearby vessel traffic as they enforce their security zone.

An approaching Jet Ski and motorboat appear on the horizon. They break from the normal civilian traffic and charge toward the defensive position. The transportable port security boats spring into action, engines roaring, as they maneuver to protect the base.

The unidentified and now hostile vessels continue to close when they begin to fire their weapons. The Coast Guard and Navy boats dodge and weave in response as they simultaneously return fire while protecting the base.

This was just one scenario the Port Clinton, Ohio based Port Security Unit (PSU) 309 completed with Navy Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 3 during exercises at Naval Amphibious Base Coronado, Calif. Both are preparing to deploy to the U.S. Central Command area of operations later this year.

"This six-week evolution integrated PSU 309 and MSRON 3," said Cmdr. Gerald A. Nauert, PSU 309's commanding officer. "The benefit of conducting joint operations is it prepares us to work together in theater. It's an opportunity to train to a level of familiarity that will allow us to safely and successfully accomplish assigned tasking."

PSUs provide security and protect personnel and facilities from terrorism, sabotage, espionage, subversion, and attack. During the exercise, they conducted point defense, harbor security and high value asset escort missions with MSRON 3. The PSU boat crews conducted 150 mission sorties, accumulated more than 3,500 underway patrol hours and expended more than 20,000 rounds of ammunition during the exercise to prepare for their upcoming deployment. With operations and tactics similar to one another, it was an effortless transition for both crews to assimilate. "It's a similar culture," said Lt. Cmdr. Karl Hansen, PSU 309's operations officer. "We're both seagoing services. We share the same mission, so it's a perfect fit."

PSU 309 and MSRON 3 developed a joint chain of command and concept of operations. This included developing a communications hub staffed by Coast Guard and Navy personnel, and a joint planning cell for the current mission, but for future operations as well.

Not missing a chance to build stronger relationships and mission effectiveness, the two units continue to explore ways to better conduct joint operations. "We practice similar tactics," Hansen said. "Our boats have a similar armament of a .50 caliber machine gun and two M240 machine guns. We also cross-deck and become qualified to operate the Navy's Sea Ark patrol boats while deployed in theater. We are constantly learning from each other."

PSU 309 can trace its history back to mid-80s and early 90s when PSUs were "notional" units, meaning they would remain in a training phase mainly manned by reservists until they were activated to a deployed area as a Rapid Deployment Force. With the commissioning of PSU 309, in 1995, it transitioned from a notional unit to a self-sustaining Coast Guard unit. It is ready to deploy anywhere around the world within 96 hours and begin operations within 24 hours. The unit has a proud operational heritage, including missions in support of multiple operations including Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Desert Storm, Noble Eagle and Uphold Democracy. "Our primary mission is to provide security to sensitive ports and vessels," notes Cmdr. Nauert. "But our training also enables us to respond as circumstances dictate."

The unit's mission flexibility was on display during the training exercise when PSU boat crews assisted four mariners on San Diego Bay. First, a PSU 309 boat crew observed a distress signal from three passengers aboard a nearby vessel. Their powerless vessel was caught in the current and was being pushed toward the shore. The Coast Guard crew pulled alongside to provide assistance. After the vessel's engine would not restart, they safely towed the civilian crew and their vessel to its homeport.

Later that afternoon, another PSU 309 boat crew assisted a kayaker, who had washed onto rocks near the mouth of the San Diego Bay. The crew made contact with the elderly male, brought him aboard and provided first aid before transferring him to a San Diego Harbor Police vessel to receive further emergency medical care.

"These rescues are a small example of the multi-mission capabilities of the Port Security Units," said Nauert. "It's a perfect example of our members living up to our unit motto, Facta Non Verba – Deeds Not Words." ▪

Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Anderson

SAN DIEGO — On May 2, 2012, a Port Security Unit 309 boat crew conducted tactical boat crew training during a pre-deployment exercise at Naval Amphibious Base Coronado, Calif. During the exercise, PSU 309 conducted joint point defense, harbor security and escort missions with Navy Maritime Security Squadron 3.

Joanne Elliott
Past National President

VAs Coaching Into Care

Coaching Into Care provides a "coaching" service for family and friends of Veterans who see that their Veteran needs help. Coaching involves helping the caller figure out how to motivate their Veteran to seek services. The service is free and provided by licensed clinical social workers and psychologists. The goal of the service is to help the Veteran and family members find the appropriate services in their community.

Coaching Into Care takes your privacy, and that of your Veteran, very seriously. We keep all calls confidential, except for cases in which we act to protect the lives of you, your Veteran, or others. For more information go to www.mirecc.va.gov/coaching/index.asp.

'PTSD Coach' App Wins Innovation Award

Posted by Health.mil Staff, Monday, July 30, 2012

A mobile application that supports individuals with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) was singled out for its high performance. The 'PTSD Coach' app which was jointly developed by the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs, won the award for innovation in the advancement of telemedicine from the American Telemedicine Association.

The app tracks symptoms, educates and provides support connections to individuals with PTSD. The app was released in 2011 and has been downloaded more than 53,000 times. Dr. Julie Kinn, research psychologist and mobile applications lead for the National Center Telehealth and Technology (T2), says the app is an easy way to get help to those who need it most. Kinn says the app raises the profile of a health issue that affects individuals and family members. And, she says, it identifies, "PTSD as a lasting issue of interest to the telehealth community." Kinn says T2 is pleased that their contributions to the health issues of service members has been recognized.

The Innovation Award is presented for ideas that work to save lives. The PTSD Coach app is available for free download for Android and iPhone devices. T2 welcomes feedback about the app on their "contact us" page. (http://t2health.org/contact).

Learn more about combatting PTSD and improving mental health.

Medals and Decorations

Retirees who have lost or never received medals or lost decorations that they are entitled to can request them. Contact National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 1 Archives Drive, St. Louis, MO 63138. You can also call (314) 801-0800, fax your request to (314) 801-9195, or email MPR.center@nara.gov.

Post-9/11 GI Bill

If you served on active duty from 9/11/2001 to the present (included members of the reserve force recalled to active duty), you are entitled to this program. You can receive up to 36 months of schooling as well as receive a monthly living stipend equal to the BAH for an E-5 with dependents in the zip code where your school is located. You will also receive an annual book allowance up to $1,000. The amounts vary with the length of time members served. You can go to the IAVA website: http://www.newgibill.org/ where there is a calculator to assist you in determining your benefits.

DD-214 Replacement

Another NERA member has passed away (Chief William (Bill) Clark), without having a copy of his DD-214 in his possession. His executor experienced difficulty in obtaining a copy in order to provide Bill with a Military Funeral. I've written about this in the past and will continue to do so. I strongly suggest that you keep a copy of your DD-214 with your Will. It is always a good idea to pre-pay your funeral expenses and when you do, you can give the Funeral Director a copy of your DD 214. It will save time and relieve your loved ones the frustration of having to jump through hoops to obtain one in time. For those of you who cannot find a copy of your DD-214, you can go to www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/ to obtain a free copy. There are services such as www.dd214express.com,

which can also provide a copy for a fee. If you need one quickly, it will cost you $89. My suggestion is to save time, money and headache by following the above suggestions.

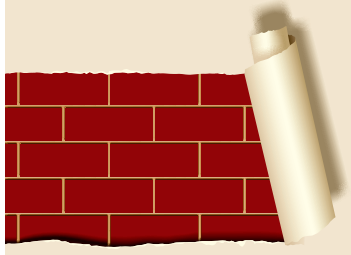
55th NERA National Conference

This will be the last time I will be able to post about the National Convention in Philadelphia. We have some great speakers and plenty of free time to enjoy Philadelphia and the surrounding counties. I hope that we will get a large turnout and that you will bring with you your thoughts and suggestions on how we can make NERA bigger and better. As of this writing, we are expecting the new Chief of Navy Reserve Force, VADM Robin R. Braun. Also on Saturday, 9/22, we will have the Senior Enlisted Panel with members of the Navy, Army National Guard, Coast Guard and Marines. Hopefully we will fill the conference room with many members of the Reserve Community who are drilling locally, as well as with retired members and veterans. If you are currently drilling, retired, a veteran or currently active and would like more information, please email me at marinereditor@nera.org.

Veterans Vocational Institute

If you are a veteran looking for a civil service position, you can log onto www.veteransvocationalinstutute.org. The provide 24 access for online courses in Law Enforcement, Homeland Security, General Clerk, Postal Service, ASVAB, Spanish-English Translation Program and will also assist students in the federal application and examination process for positions in government, private industry and criminal justice agencies. ▪

If you would like me to research other items not previously covered, please email me at marinereditor@nera.org. I thank you all for the kind comments I've received over the years regarding the Tips and Clips column.



NERA Memorial Walk

Pave the way for NERA's future by naming a brick today!

Become a part of history by purchasing a brick on the NERA Memorial Walk. NERA has a long history of protecting the rights and benefits of the enlisted reserves. You can help continue this tradition by purchasing a brick. Your brick can memorialize a shipmate, family member, yourself, or a significant time in your military history.

Each 4" x 8" will be custom engraved to your specification and placed in the Memorial Walk in front of NERA headquarters.

NERA Memorial Walk General Information

Phase 1: Will feature the bricks surrounding a lighted flagpole.
Phase 2: Construction of a brick walkway leading up to NERA HQ.

Donations to the NERA Memorial Walk are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

NERA reserves the right to review all copy submitted.

Questions can be directed to Jennifer Abbott, jabbott@nera.org or (703) 534-1329.

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Commandant and Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps visit Marines and Sailors of Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Africa

By Cpl. Adwin Esters, Combat Correspondent, Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Africa

NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, SICILY — General James F. Amos, Commandant of the Marine Corps, and Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, Micheal P. Barrett, met with the Marines and sailors of Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Africa, 18 July 2012.

Special-Purpose MAGTF Africa, a unit of about 125 Reserve Marines and sailors from roughly 32 different units, is commanded by Lt. Col. Gerard Wynn of 3rd Force Reconnaissance Company out of Mobile, AL. The unit supports Marine Forces Africa and U.S. Africa Command by providing security cooperation teams to African nation partners.

"Talking to leadership at U.S. Africa Command, they told me that Special-Purpose MAGTF Africa couldn't be more flexible, more user friendly," said Gen. Amos. "Other than Djibouti and some episodic exercises, [Special-Purpose MAGTF Africa] is the only trained, consistent, persistent Marine Corps force that AFRICOM has."

While Special-Purpose MAGTF Africa offers AFRICOM a new set of capabilities in theater security cooperation and crisis response, the Reserve Marines and sailors of the Special-Purpose MAGTF are representative of the operational reserve, a concept the Marine Corps has recently embraced.

"You Marines are forward-deployed and forward-engaged; shaping, training, deterring, and responding to all manner of crises and contingencies," said Sgt. Maj. Barrett, referencing the Commandant's Planning Guidance while talking to the Marines. "You are part of an operational reserve. One hundred percent of Marine Forces Reserve units have deployed over the past ten years. That is over 75,000 Marines and sailors!"

Sigonella, IT-Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James F. Amos addresses the Marines and sailors of Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Africa at Naval Air Station Sigonella, July 18, 2012. Gen. Amos along with the Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps, Micheal P. Barrett, visited the Marines and sailors of Special-Purpose MAGTF Africa. The newly formed unit is made up of over 120 reservists from 32 different units and supports U.S. Africa Command by conducting security cooperation missions in the continent of Africa., Cpl. Adwin Esters, 7/18/2012

Many of the Reserve Marines and sailors of Special Purpose-MAGTF have civilian careers as business owners, law enforcement officers, or as paramedics, while others are working towards a degree. Both Gen. Amos and Sgt. Maj. Barrett thanked the reservists for volunteering to take time away from their civilian lives and staying dedicated to the mission.

"Don't think that we don't know what you are going through here," said Gen Amos. "Thank you for being Marines and thank you for volunteering." ▪

San Francisco Hosts Annual Battle of Midway Celebration

By MCCS Bob Hansen, USN, (Ret)

SAN FRANCISCO — The 70th anniversary of the United States Navy's victory during the Battle of Midway was celebrated in grand style at the historic Marines' Memorial Club on June 2, 2012. Marked by the highest turnout in several years, six veterans of the battle and three widows of veterans were honored in ceremonies prior to dinner.

The Battle of Midway, June 4-7, 1942 is recognized by the United States Navy as the key turning point in the Pacific War. Coming just six months after Pearl Harbor, America stopped the Japanese fleet and gained the offensive for the first time. The anniversary is one of only two official celebratory events designated by the Chief of Naval Operations. The other one is the Navy's Birthday in October. According to RADM Tom Andrews, SC, USN (Ret), San Francisco has hosted a celebratory dinner marking the Battle of Midway for 15 consecutive years.

Vice Admiral David Architzel, Commander, Naval Air Systems Command was the featured guest speaker. VADM Architzel, who was introduced to the veterans in private ceremony prior to dinner, stated: "We commemorate Midway once a year, but I hope all of you will keep the memory of this great battle with you always as a cherished symbol of what this nation can attain through the efforts of its extraordinary people."

Veterans who attended this year included CWO2 Frank Boo, USN, (Ret), VADM Fletcher's senior yeoman during the battle; LtCol Lloyd Childers, USMC, (Ret) a navy radioman-tail gunner during the battle (as well as a veteran of Pearl Harbor); ACRM Ed Anderson and LtJg Oral "Slim" Moore, who were also radioman-tail gunners; LCDR Phil Horne, a pilot on a scout plane; and MM1 Millard "Tom" Fuller, part of the ship's company on the USS YORKTOWN (CV-5).

Although age and time has dimmed some memories, the events of the battle that "turned the tide" in America's favor remains sharply etched in their memories. The veterans still recall the

All photos by William Schultz, San Francisco Battle of Midway Committee.

MAC Duane Nokes, left, and MAC Mike Mitchell, right with NOSC Alameda Color Guard

Battle of Midway Veterans and their enlisted aides from NOSC Alameda and NOSC San Jose gather in the library at San Francisco's Marines Memorial Club prior to celebratory dinner: Pictured (from left to right). IT2 Tanya Noble, NOSC San Jose, with ARCM Ed Anderson; YN1 Jose Ramirez, NOSC Alameda, with CWO2 Frank Boo; HM1 Erwin Villeros, NOSC Alameda, with LtCol Lloyd Childers; HM2 Glenn Casilla, NOSC San Jose, with MM1 Tom Fuller; MA2 Jose Calderon, NOSC San Jose, with LCDR Phil Horne; BU1 Jim Halloran, NOSC San Jose, with LtJg Oral "Slim" Moore. Enlisted aides were all SOY, SOQ, or JSOY from their respective NOSCs. YN1 Ramirez is Region SW's SELRES SOY

VADM David Architzel, Commander, Naval Air Systems Command, prepares to hand out certificates of appreciation to Battle of Midway VETS, assisted by NOSC Alameda CO, Jim Ridgway and MCCS Bob Hansen, USN (Ret) and STGCS (IUSS) Patty Coons.

CWO2 Frank Boo, USN (Ret) acknowledges applause when introduced during dinner. Frank was senior yeoman on the staff of RADM Frank Jack Fletcher during the Battle of the Coral Sea and the Battle of Midway.

names of shipmates lost during the battle and the events that preceded and followed that day. Ask any one of them to tell the story, and be prepared for a thorough naval heritage lesson.

Three widows were also recognized. Delight Lorenz, the widow of Ensign John D. Lorenz who was awarded the Navy Cross for heroism, and Genevieve and Elaine Rouse, the widows of brothers CWO2 Charles and QMC Francis Rouse. All three proudly served aboard the YORKTOWN. ▪

LT (SC) Luis Marquez, recruiter at NOSC Alameda, sings to the "mess" at the Battle of Midway Commemortive Dinner.

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55th NERA National Conference September 19–23, 2012

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

1500 – 1800	Registration
1800 – 2000	Meet and Greet – Brady's (cash bar) (mini cheesesteaks, hoagies, soft pretzels & Tasty Cakes)

Thursday, September 20, 2012

0630 – 0800	Breakfast
0700 – 0830	Registration
0830 – 0930	Opening Ceremonies (Color Guard from NSA Philadelphia) invocation Welcome Speech by Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo
0930 – 1000	Former Congressman from Pennsylvania, Patrick Murphy
1000 – 1030	Meet and Greet with Patrick Murphy
1030 – 1045	BREAK
1045 – 1115	Veterans Affairs – Aid and Attendance (Betty Carelo)
1115 – 1215	USS FORRESTAL, The Tragic Fire — Paul Niessner Enginemen, Petty Officer 2nd Class
1215 – 1330	LUNCH
1330 – 1430	Agent Orange Presentation — Paul Sutton
1430 – 1445	BREAK
1445 – 1530	Short Business Session (Constitution & By-Laws – (C&BL))
1730	Leave for Spirit of Philadelphia (Casual Dress)

Friday, September 21, 2012

0700 – 0800	Breakfast
0800 – 0900	Business Session (C&BL) 2013 Conference Update; etc.
0900 – 0930	Veterans Affairs — Benefits (Mike Hughes)
0930 – 1000	USAA Update
1000 – 1030	ESGR Update
1030	LEAVE FOR TOURS, ETC

Saturday, September 22, 2012

0700 – 0800	Breakfast
0830 – 0930	Chief of Navy Reserve (tentative)
0930 – 1030	Senior Enlisted Panel
1030 – 1045	Break
1045 – 1145	VETS 4 WARRIORS
1230 – 1400	AWARDS LUNCHEON

Sunday, September 23, 2012

0730 – 0830	NEC MEETING

REGISTRATION FORM

Crowne Plaza Bucks County Hotel
4700 Street Road
Trevose, PA 19053
800-227-6963
www.cpbuckscounty.com

Conference and Awards Lunch Registration

- Meetings on Thursday, Friday and Saturday
- Meet and Greet Mixer at Brady's Pub Wednesday Night 1800-2000
- Awards Luncheon on Saturday
- On-Going Hospitality Suite

Please enter number of people attending and multiply by amount noted

#_____ X $75.00 $_____

Spirit of Philadelphia Dinner Dance

Thursday Night

#_____ X $75.00 $_____

On-Going Hospitality Suite

Donations Accepted $_____

Conference Booster Roll

Minimum $5 $_____

**Names will be listed in Conference Book as indicated in registration above*

TOTAL $_____

Please note that this form will NOT reserve your hotel room.

To reserve your room, you must contact the hotel directly at either (800) 227-6963 or 215-364-2000 and mention The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, Group Code N6Q.

The room rate is $95 per room, plus taxes. This includes breakfast, (up to two persons per room). The room rate is good for 3 days prior and 3 days post conference dates.

Registration Information

NAME (FIRST-MI-LAST)

☐ USN ☐ USMC ☐ USCG

RANK (OR 'CIVILIAN') SERVICE BRANCH

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE TELEPHONE OFFICE/CELL

E-MAIL

NICKNAME (FOR TAG)

NERA CHAPTER (IF NO CHAPTER AFFILIATION, STATE 'NONE')

Spouse/Guest Information

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (FIRST-MI-LAST)

SPOUSE/GUEST NICKNAME (FOR TAG)

☐ YES ☐ NO

IS SPOUSE/GUEST A NERA MEMBER OR ASSOCIATE MEMBER?

Payent Information

☐ **CHECK** (preferred)
Payable to NERA, DVC Check Number: _____

Mail to: NERA DVC
Mike Hayes
584 New Road
Southampton, PA 18966

☐ **CREDIT CARD** ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXP. DATE

SIGNATURE

Top Left: Vice Admiral Robin R. Braun. **Top Middle:** Craig Schiefelbein, CEO, Paragon Development Systems, Inc. (PDS). **Right:** (L-R) Ens Matthew D. Debbink, USN, Mrs. Alicia K. Bosscher, LT John Paul Debbink, USN, and Ms. Sarah J. Debbink

Left: VADM Braun with her husband Mike. **Above Middle:** VADM Robin Braun relieves VADM Dirk Debbink. **Above Right:** Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jonathan W. Greenert

Top: VADM Dirk J. Debbink.
Right: Sea Chanters singing O, America

Change Of Command And Retirement Ceremony Chief Of Navy Reserve Commander, Navy Reserve Force

AUGUST 13, 2012
By Yvette Purtill

NAVY YARD, WASHINGTON, DC – In a dual Change of Command and Retirement Ceremony on 13 August 2012, Vice Admiral Dirk J. Debbink, Chief of Navy Reserve and Commander, Navy Reserve Force relinquished command to Vice Admiral Robin R. Braun and officially retired after honorably serving his country for over 35 years.

Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jonathan W. Greenert was the guest speaker at the ceremony. He congratulated VADM Debbink on his remarkable career and impressive record, and for being the man who would get the job done, whatever task was handed to him. He then congratulated Vice Admiral Braun on being the first female leader of the Navy Reserve and expressed how she is an inspiration to us all.

In accepting command, VADM Braun spoke about her career and family. Her father was a career naval aviator, and she proudly wore his sword and wings at the ceremony. She congratulated VADM Debbink upon his retirement and expressed how she had big shoes to fill.

Commissioned in 1980, VADM Braun is a graduate of Northern Arizona University and was designated a naval aviator in 1981. She has accumulated over 5,800 flight hours as a naval aviator and was previously the deputy director of the European Plans and Operations Center at U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany.

"I was tremendously honored to be nominated for this job," Braun said. "The Navy Reserve is basically 65,000 men and women who are citizen-sailors who have full-time jobs and then also serve in the Navy Reserve as part-time sailors. Really, the tradition of the Navy Reserve is for 97 years we've had men and women serving their country on a part-time basis. I take a lot of pride in being able to lead that force and provide added capabilities to the Navy" according to the *Times Record*.

In his retirement speech, Vice Admiral Debbink spoke of his supportive family and quoted Rabindranath Tagore, "I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted, and behold, service was joy."

In an emotional tribute, the Debbinks' four children, Sarah, John Paul (LT, USN), Alicia and Matthew (ENS, USN) explained how their father stood the watch for 35 years perfectly balancing his duties as father and sailor. Guest speaker, Mr. Craig Schiefelbein, a civilian and personal friend, spoke of Vice Admiral Debbink's humility and dedication to service. He also praised VADM Debbink and his wife for their numerous charitable contributions over the years.

We wish fair winds and following seas to Vice Admiral Dirk J. Debbink upon his retirement and offer congratulations to Vice Admiral Robin R. Braun upon her appointment as the Chief of Navy Reserve and Commander Navy Reserve Force, United States Navy. ▪

All photos by Joanne Elliott

Big Changes for Reservist Drill Pay and Retirement Under Review

By Josh Magnum

Do you know who Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Andrew B. Davis is? If you are a drilling reservist you really should. He is the Executive Director of the Reserve Officers Association and is reviewing the 11th Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation (QRMC) under which major changes are being reviewed for drill pay and retirement compensation for reservists.

I am a drilling reservist with both active duty and reserve deployments under my belt. I do not represent the Navy Reserve's opinion in this article or any particular group's agenda on this subject, but I am focusing on sharing the facts and potential impact to our reserve military members.

Per the U.S. Department of Defense Release No. 520-12 from 21 June 2012 the following items were under review and received the listed recommendations:

Special and incentive pays

QRMC recommended that these pays are cost-effective but they recommended an authority be established to manage career incentive pays.

Combat compenstation

QRMC stated that reservists in greater danger often do not get appropriate amounts of hazard duty pay. They recommend that compensation be restructured so those who are exposed to the greatest amount of danger receive higher compensation. They recommended establishing a differential in hazardous duty pay and replacing the Combat Zone Tax Exclusion with a refundable Combat Tax Credit and a refundable Direct Support Tax Credit.

Question: So how would the DoD interpret who is in a more dangerous location? We already deal with the partial pay of combat incentives for members who do not spend the full 30 days in "zone". Will members in the most danger get paid more than the current rate? These questions were not answered in the report and are open for interpretation. My concern here is there will be even more of an onus on military service members in a war zone to track their pay and verify they are getting their required benefits. And of course they will have to PROVE it.

Wounded Warriors, caregivers, and survivors

QRMC researched the financial well-being of service members wounded and the survivors of wounded warriors. Additionally, they examined the financial implications for family members who take on role of caregiver for a wounded service member:

- **Wounded Warriors.** QRMC showed that income loss increases with severity of injury, but disability payments more than offset the loss, on average. However, they did recommend that an examination of wounded warriors' earnings and disability payments be made in order to fully understand the long-term impact of their injuries.

- **Caregivers.** Recommended that the DoD and VA benefits be more closely aligned and that they help to offset earnings losses that some caregivers experience.

- **Surviving spouses.** Research identified that surviving spouses receiving survivor benefits replaced a significant portion of income loss. The QRMC did recommend partially eliminating the reduction in survivor benefits when the spouse is also entitled to Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, and to equalize Survivor Benefit Plan

payments when a Guard or Reserve member dies while performing inactive duty training.

- **Reserve Compensation, Benefits and Duty Structure.** According to the QRMC, the reserve component today supports two functions — supporting operational missions on a regular basis and providing strategic depth. The QRMC's opinion was that the compensation system was designed to support the strategic reserve function and optimizing compensation for training, and therefore is misaligned with current utilization of the guard and reserve as they are now integrated with the active component. The QRMC recommended updating the reserve compensation system by transitioning reserve components to a total force pay structure whereby a member receives full pay and allowances for each day of duty regardless of the type of duty. Furthermore they recommended moving the reserve component to a retirement system that aligns with active duty component that would allow reservists to receive retirement pay upon reaching their 30th anniversary of military service coupled with 20 qualifying years of said service.

  – QRMC also made recommendations to change health care, educational assistance and disability benefits, noting that these items could become more restrictive and easier to change by the government (flexibility based on need)

  – The QRMC found that the reserve duty structure is complicated, confusing and cumbersome. Thus, they recommended reducing the number of authorities under which a reservist can be called or ordered to duty from 30 to 6.

  – The new retirement plan could also equate to lower annual retirement points in order to offset some of the cost associated with the change and potential incentive pay early in a reservist's career in order to continue to make drilling worth the time and effort.

Looking Glass: The report noted that bonus, pay, and retirement benefits all could be modified for a reservist. Some of the items that have hit home would be the change from four days pay for a single drill weekend to a single day pay (like the Active Component's single day worked for single day pay but without many of the other entitlements) for each day a reservist is mustered during drill weekend. This shift to active "like" pay would not include things like BAQ, dependancy allowances and medical/dental for the reservist and their families. It is also noteworthy that this reduction in pay would further exacerbate the cost of serving on Reservists families as most Reservists could work overtime on the weekend making double even triple the amount of pay they currently receive.

The board obviously did not take into account that a reservist can spend hours of their personal time responding to CMS-ID, NFAAS, GMT (online), Medical/Dental, NOSC reporting requirements, and many more monthly tasks that are not completed on the drill weekend but on the member's personal time. As a leader, it is very difficult to justify the amount of work placed on reservists during the month leading up to a drill weekend as it stands today. With this change the DoD would be asking us to continue to meet active duty readiness requirements and reserve requirements with less pay and less benefits.

It is noteworthy that the board did not seem to consider that many reservists drive over three hours to their duty station which for junior sailors almost equates to their entire drill weekend's pay. Did I mention that young 18 year olds who don't even have cars are being recruited?

This review focused on the government's fiscal mindset at this time and it would appear their goal was to identify how much less they could provide military members, still meet the bare minimum of recruiting requirements and not impact upcoming elections. This was evident in the desire to not increase caregiver support for our Wounded Warrior's and their families who have truly felt the brunt of our Nations Call to Duty. Yet the board still felt comfortable with recommending less retirements points and less pay for drilling reservists. It also seemed to identify ways to get civilians to enlist but not continue through a 20 or 30 year career. ▪

Reservists Support Naval Expeditionary Force Intelligence During RIMPAC 2012

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Patrick Dille, RIMPAC Public Affairs

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, HAWAII (NNS) — As exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2012 entered the final weeks, a coordinated tactical phase, designed by a Navy Reserve intelligence team, helped drive the scenario.

Thirteen Reservists specializing in military intelligence integrated with the naval expeditionary force (NEF), one of seven joint task force commands working under the combined force maritime component commander to respond to the military scenarios of RIMPAC.

The Reservists' analysis of things like bomb attack reports, enemy activities and civilian emergencies within the fictitious exercise scenario were directly accessible to expeditionary force leaders.

The Reserve intelligence team, made up of five officers and eight enlisted intelligence specialists (IS), integrated into the watch center at the NEF command post on the waterfront of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. The NEF command post also housed Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group (EODGRU) 1 command operations.

Two of the Reserve intelligence team officers, both explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) specialists, served as liaison naval officer (LNO) consultants at the Pacific Warfighting Center (PWC) on Ford Island, while two intelligence officers served at the NEF command post, one as a watch captain and the other overseeing intelligence operations. The third officer, Capt. Paul Jensen, is the commanding officer of the EODGRU 1 Reserve component, and served as deputy NEF commodore during the exercise.

"Getting to take part in a real world, high-level exercise, the training, the experience can't be attained anywhere else," said Jensen. "You can't attain that on a drill weekend, you can't get it at a Reserve-only exercise; our immersion into the jobs we would do if we were called upon to activate is the main point of us coming here, and the main value that we take away."

The Reserve intelligence team's immersion during RIMPAC involved living and working in air-conditioned tents at the EODGRU 1 compound, the unit whose headquarters became NEF headquarters during RIMPAC. According to Jensen, the NEF is a relatively new concept where an adaptive force package is assembled from Navy Expeditionary Combat Command forces based on a specific mission and then deployed as the lead element into a conflict to assist the host nation with internal defense, and air and sea port defense until the arrival of follow on forces. The adaptive force package is assembled with capabilities that can range from explosive ordnance disposal, diving and salvage, maritime security, naval construction (Seabees), maritime civil affairs, intelligence, riverine, and combat camera. This year, NEF had command and control over 18 units from coalition partner nations including Australian, Russia, and Canada, in addition to U.S. forces and the Reserve intelligence team who contributed niche support at the headquarters level.

"I have found that it is one of the best cases of integration of Reservists and the active component," said Jensen. "They're not looking for stuff for us to do, we immediately integrated in and offered up increased capacity in those mission areas that they maintain."

One key mission area during the tactical phase of RIMPAC was locating simulated improvised explosive devices. For the intelligence team, this meant the IS's monitored the internal network known as "CENTRIX," where the exercise scenario is played out in a sort of virtual reality. Intelligence information was sent, or "injected," into the intelligence watch monitor by exercise controllers know as "the White Cell," or by other exercise sources, through notes within CENTRIX, usually an email.

U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Michael O'Day/Released

Explosive ordnance disposal technicians from Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group (EODGRU) 1 rappel from an SH-60 Sea Hawk helicopter.

"In real life, it would be coming in from all different directions," said Intelligence Specialist 1st Class Brad Vancleave, a nine-year Reservist serving as request for information (RFI) and information collections manager. Information sources could include people returning from the field giving direct reports to the NEF intelligence team, or "cell." They would also include field teams briefing the NEF commanders after a mission, or field specialists collecting information using sophisticated surveillance equipment.

"The intel guys don't do as much outright collection as they do assessment - what it means," said Jensen. "And then they have a product they can give the commander so he can make decisions based on that, and then potentially send out EOD or other forces as required."

During RIMPAC, the field teams serving within NEF operated in simulated field conditions in order to add an element of increased reality to the scenario. Dozens of air conditioned tents were set up in compounds, known as tent cities, scattered across Ford Island and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. It was from these tent cities that expeditionary forces reacted to the information the seasoned Reserve ISs analyzed.

"This is old-hat for me," said Vancleave. As a civilian, this is what I do. I came from a tent in Afghanistan, and was a little hard-pressed to know I'd be in a tent in Hawaii; but this is how it is in theater, this is realistic.

Just before attending his first RIMPAC this year, Vancleave spent six months in Afghanistan as an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) pilot with a military contractor. He also deployed in 2003, just after joining the Reserves, for more than a year with SEAL Team 5 as a targeting analyst focused on human intelligence. Between his job flying UAVs and gathering intelligence with the Navy, Vancleave has spent more than four years boots-on-ground in Iraq and Afghanistan, experience that helped him separate kernels of valuable information from chaff.

Vancleave and the other ISs on watch stayed keenly focused on intelligence injects related to smuggling routes, weapons smuggling, narcotics, improvised explosive device detonations and discoveries, and other land-based reports.

"I tracked those instances, and then they got reported on our built-slides for the update brief, or for the PWC to focus in on imagery collection so that we could take that information and get something further," said Vancleave. "It's not as much about the capabilities right now as it is about the process."

"A lot of them have done multiple deployments, and they've worked as [intelligence] specialists and intel analysts during those deployments; that's an incredible value-added skill set to bring to the team that they didn't have without our folks," said Jensen. "It's more, it's better; it's not an issue that they couldn't do it without us, it's that they can do it a lot better with us."

The Reservists made the exercise more dynamic for EODGRU 1's Intelligence Exploitation Team (IET) by adding realism to their field operations. Chief Intelligence Specialist Eloy Rodriguez, EODGRU 1 Reserve element leading chief petty officer and watch supervisor, along with the other Reserve ISs on his team, served as role players impersonating foreign nationals whom active duty ISs on the IET, known as hum'inters because of their human-intelligence gathering specialization, interviewed. This interview activity simulated the way hum'inters would gather human-intelligence information in the field, a process involving interaction between human intelligence collectors and people living in the local population.

The information the hum'inters gathered from Rodriguez and the other Reserve ISs wouldn't have changed the course of the structured exercise, but if the hum'inters hadn't asked the right questions in the right way, Rodriguez said it could have made reaching their goal more difficult.

"This side-play helps drive how the intel analysts from EOD build their target development so that they can defeat the IED networks," said Rodriguez.

Rodriguez trained early on as an aerospace engineer, and has since become a paralegal at a law firm in San Diego. He joined the Navy as an IS in 1987 and gained experience along the way working with UAV aircraft as part of the Naval Special Warfare Command beginning in 2001. In 2007, he started working with EOD, and has maintained that connection ever since. RIMPAC 2012 marks his fourth, and his experience with the biennial exercise ranges over 20 years.

"My first one was in the '90s," said Rodriguez. "My last three have been with EOD, and I've seen it grow to this point where there's an incredible level of detail." He said this year's incorporation of human intelligence collection had direct impact on EOD's actions.

"It's like getting the ground truth from the locals to determine if there is infiltration of bad guys in the area of interest," said Rodriguez. "They ask just general questions to find out if this individual that have moved into this area are actually from there, and if they're coming from somewhere else, what their intent is: is their intent to be a part of the community and contribute, or is it something else?"

As the tactical phase of RIMPAC progressed, Rodriguez began rotating his team through the watch floor and out into the field with EOD technicians to exercise their full range of skills.

"What that does is, it builds a trust with the EOD techs; they're like, wow, this guy can shoot," said Rodriguez. "So, the credibility of that IS has now just grown exponentially, and that EOD tech can now come to us with confidence in our abilities."

The Reserve intelligence team continues to support NEF and EODGRU 1 through the end of the 36-day RIMPAC, the world's largest international maritime exercise that involves twenty-two nations, more than 40 ships and submarines, more than 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel. Members of EODGRU 1's Reserve element also supplement real-world operations, in addition to exercises, including the unit's eight-month mission as Joint Task Force Troy in Baghdad in 2011 where they were responsible for exercising command and control of operational EOD forces throughout Iraq. ▪

The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association (NERA) offers college scholarship program for NERA members and their family. Applications due June 7, 2013

General Information

USAA/NERA College Scholarship Program recognizes the service to the United States and sacrifices by Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Reserve component members, retirees and their families. These scholarships are made possible by generous grants from USAA (www.usaa.com) and additional donations from NERA and its members. The application is available at www.nera.org. *(NERA reserves the right to modify or discontinue the scholarship program at any future date should funding not be available.)*

Scholarship Amounts

- Two $3,000 scholarships for Regular NERA Members.
- Four $2,500 scholarships for any Regular or Associate NERA member, spouse, son, daughter or grandchild of a regular NERA member. Children and grandchildren must be unmarried and under age 23.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the scholarship, the applicant must be any Regular or Associate NERA member. NERA members may also sponsor a qualified applicant: a spouse, son, daughter or grandchild. Sponsored children and grandchildren must be unmarried and under age 23 on the scholarship deadline: June 7, 2013.

In order to qualify for the scholarship, the applicant or sponsor must be a member in good standing by the scholarship deadline: June 7, 2013. All Member dues must be paid in full by June 7, 2013. If you have any questions regarding your eligibility, please contact NERA at 800-776-9020 or members@nera.org.

Eligible students must attend undergraduate level studies at a college, university or junior/community college that confers a bachelor's or associate's degree, on a full or part-time status as established by the school accepting the scholarship funds. Academic programs involving a second undergraduate or graduate school degree are not eligible.

Scholarship Use Requirements

Scholarship applicants may be either graduating high school seniors or students already attending a college, university or junior/community college. Applicants must be enrolled or planning to enroll, full-time or part-time in the fall semester immediately following award of the scholarship. Enrollment may be in any undergraduate program leading to a bachelor's degree or associate's degree at an accredited college or university.

The NERA Scholarship can be awarded in addition to any other partial scholarship, including a ROTC Scholarship. Those applicants already in possession of an appointment to a U.S. service academy or receiving a "full scholarship" to any accredited college or university are not eligible. A "full scholarship" is usually defined as one that provides for payment of tuition, books, lab fees, and university supplied dormitory room and board.

Essay Requirement

One 500 word essay chosen from one of the two topics listed below.

FIRST ESSAY CHOICE:

Personal Goals and Objectives

In 500 words, state your career goals and objectives for your education. Focus on how your college education will benefit you and/or others and how that corresponds with your career goals and objectives.

SECOND ESSAY CHOICE:

"Why Are Reservists Important to America?"

In 500 words, explain how reservists are significant to America.

The application and additional instructions are available online at www.nera.org. ▪

Congratulations USAA/NERA 2012-2013 Scholarship Recipients!

NERA President Nick Marine has announced the 2012-2013 USAA/NERA Scholarship recipients. The USAA/NERA Scholarship Program recognizes the service and sacrifices made by Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Reserve component members, retirees and their families. We want to thank the scholarship committee for their devoted efforts in finding these distinguished recipients and USAA and NERA members for making these scholarships possible.

2012-2013 Scholarship Winners

$3,000 Active Member

MST1 Christopher McBrayer USCGR (2nd time recipient)
EODC Matthew Clausen, USNR

$2,500 Sons, Daughters etc.

Katherine Norwood (2nd time recipient)
Matthew Green
Kelly Williams
Diana Shoemaker

Congratulations to all USAA/NERA scholarship winners!

The 2012/2013 Scholarship Committee

MCPO Forrest Croom
YNCS Ralph Hensley
PN1 Judith Minkin
YNCS Dwayne Mitchell
LIC David Nelson
Scholarship Chairman: CTRC Ward Wollesen

Thank you!

Christopher McBrayer, a Coast Guard Reserve MST1 seeking a BS in Computer Science at Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi, received one of the USAA/NERA Active Member Scholarships. This is Petty Officer McBrayer's second scholarship award as he works his way toward becoming an officer in the Coast Guard.

EODC Matthew Clausen, USNR, also received the Active Member USAA/NERA Scholarship. Chief Clausen has been deployed to both Iraq and Kuwait several times and is pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Nebraska, Omaha.

A second time recipient of the USAA/NERA Sons and Daughters Scholarship due to her continued excellent in academics, **Katherine Norwood** is working towards a dual major in Biochemistry, Molecular and Cellular Biology and Mathematics. Katherine plans to pursue her Master's Degree and PhD in Education.

Matthew Green, another recipient of the USAA/NERA Sons and Daughters Scholarship, hopes to make a career as an Historian Archivist. He has completed an internship at Old Sturbridge Village and has gained a great deal of information about our country's history. He is currently enrolled at the University of Connecticut with a major in History.

Another recipient of the USAA/NERA Sons and Daughters Scholarship, **Kelly Williams** is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education at the State University of New York at Potsdam. As a senior in high school, she assisted her principal with a pre-kindergarten class for one period each day. This satisfying experience led her to pursue a degree in Education.

Cadet Diana Shoemaker, the final recipient of the USAA/NERA Sons and Daughters Scholarship, has her sights set on a career in the criminal justice field as either a criminalist or a Secret Service Agent. She is enrolled at St. Leo University in Florida and is very active in the Naval Sea Cadet Corps., such as the USNSCC training sessions including the Petty Officer Indoctrination Course and the Naval Intelligence Training Course. ▪

July 30, 2012
I am honored to be the recipient of the 2012 Naval Enlisted Reserve Association Scholarship.

I have demonstrated responsibility and leadership throughout my high school career while involved in athletics and as a volunteer for many organizations. I understand the importance of hard work and discipline as well as service to my community. I hope this serves me well in my future career choice.

In the fall, I plan to attend the State University of New York at Canton. Your scholarship will be very beneficial in helping me with my college expenses while I enroll in my career choice.

Thank you for providing this scholarship to assist students in pursuing their education. I really appreciate your generosity and am proud to be the recipient of this year's award. I will definitely put this scholarship to good use and hope to one day give back to my community.

Sincerely,
Kelly L. Williams

Stephen,
I know we spoke briefly on the phone, but I wanted to say thank you again for the time you guys put in in selecting the NERA Scholarship recipients. The award means a great deal and definitely helps out.

Thanks again,
Matt Clausen
EODC

Grandfather William Kaczor MMCS retired Life member and Katherine Norwood, 19, a student at the University of New Hampshire, who will be entering her third year in the coming fall.

She is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree with a double major of Biochemistry, Molecular and Cellular Biology and Mathematics. Through a combination of Advanced Placement (A.P.) credits taken in high school, additional classes taken over summer and winter breaks, and a rigorous academic workload that continually exceeds the required credit hours during the regular school year, Katherine will have completed over 100 credit hours of coursework by the end of August 2012, while maintaining a 3.5 GPA. In addition to her classes, Katherine has volunteered in an undergraduate research lab for the past year and half, where she is currently working with breast cancer cells. After graduating, she hopes to move on to graduate school, where she will pursue a master's, and eventually a doctorate, in computational biology.

BEQUEST FORM

Help Secure the Future of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

Suggested Language for Making a Bequest to the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association (NERA)

You may include a bequest to support NERA when preparing your will or by adding a codicil to your present will. Bequests may be of cash, securities, real estate or other property. Bequests of all sizes are welcome, whether they are outright, contingent or residual.

If you are considering designating how your bequest will be used by NERA or establishing an endowed fund through your estate plans, please contact (or have your professional advisor contact) Stephen R. Sandy, Executive Director of NERA, at 800-776-9020 or neraexec@nera.org.

Please note: *This information is not intended to be legal or tax advice. We recommend that you consult with a qualified estate planning attorney when drafting your will.*

Your request should be directed to The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association. The following language may be useful to your attorney:

Specific Bequest

"I give The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, Falls Church, Virginia, 22042, the sum of $_____ to be used for the general support of NERA."

Residual Bequest

"I give The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, Falls Church, Virginia, 22042, ___ percent of the residue of my estate to be used for the general support of NERA."

Contingent Bequest

"In the event that _____ predeceases me, I give The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, Falls Church, Virginia, 22042, the sum of $_____ (or, alternatively, ___ percent of the residue of my estate) to be used for the general support of NERA." ▪

TAPS

We mourn the loss of our NERA members and compatriots.

We suffer for their loved ones, who grieve the loss of vital love, companionship and guidance. Their place will always remain vacant among this patriotic assembly. Amen.

YNC Earl A. Breaux	Crescent City	**YN1 Clarence Nuss**	Dayton Ohio
PNC Mary Burkert	Delaware Valley	**EO1 Roy Parsell**	David E Floyd
AMSC William Clark	Delaware Valley	**MRCM David L. Schaaf**	Tacoma
HMC Samuel S. Fulginiti	Delaware Valley	**Mrs. Margaret Sherrick**	Garden State
ADC Joseph A. Herda	Minnesota	**Mrs. Mildred Titta**	Garden State
RPC(SW/AW) Richard L. Kleiner	Greater New York	**ADR2 Delmar V. Weiss**	Minnesota
SA Benjamin Lobe	Greater New York		

"A Tribute to HMCM Manny Ratner"

A distinguished group of NERA lifetime members whose outstanding dedication and support continues to fortify the legacy of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association thus inspiring future generations to absolute greatness.

DK2 Donnie H. Adkins
HMCS William M. Allen
MCPO-CGRF Mark H. Allen
PNC William A. Anderson
EMC Larry M. Arnold
IS1 Judith A. Ayers
CWO4 Shirley Barlow †
SKCS John A. Bartlett
LSC Michael F. Bartsch
AVCM Don Bauman
LCDR William D. Bennett
BM1 Jeffrey Benton
AEC Charles A. Berger
CUCM David D. Boman
OS1 Donald J. Bond
IS1 Wayne E. Boyer
DKCM Charles E. Bradley
MCCS Brian Brannon
CMC John K. Brian, Jr.
SKCM Julius 'Gene' E. Brown
IT1 Gerald E. Bruce
QMC(SS) Fred A. Bruno
HMCM Harry T. Buckles
ATC Dennis E. Buisman
PN2 James A. Bullard
DK1 John D. Burke
CTRCS Charles A. Burkett
AZC(AW) John L. Busby
FTGC(SW) James W. Cain
GSCM Ralph W. Camp, Jr.
AO1 Thomas B. Carroll
CWO4 Michael Chierico
SKC Donna Childre
AMSC William F. Clark
RADM Casey W. Coane
HMCS Robert C. Cramer
CAPT Ted Daywalt
VADM Dirk J. Debbink
ICCS Milton E. Degroodt
EO1 Steven L. Devereaux
AFCM(NAC/AW) David J. Di Marzio
MMC Larry J. Di Pasquale
AMH1 David M. Drajna
SKC (AW) William Duda
DPC Richard B. DuRall
AMCS James Edfors
Mrs. Lois Edfors
CM1 Albert C. Edsman
PNCM(RET) Richard J. Elfrink
YNC Joanne M. Elliott
EM2 Glenn I. Fessler
HM1 Mary E. Finley
EM1 Edward L. Fitzsimmons
MMCS Jesse Fox
AEC Kenneth D. Freese
LNC James M. Frierson
SHC James Bruce Fromel**
MS1 Victor Frumolt III
QMC George M. Garcia
SKCS Joan Gardom
IC1 Lloyd L. Gibbs
FORCM Chris Glennon
BM1 Claud F. Gordon, Jr.
STCM(SW) David A. Green
HTCS Morris A. Greening
AKC Martin J. Grillo
RADM Wallace N. Guthrie
HMCS James B. Hagerman
AVCM Steveon H. Hall †
RMC Jerry D. Hall
CMDCM(FMF) Paul Haller
STCM Jerome A. Hamling
ADR1 Joseph Harrison, Jr.
MN1 Clifton D. Hayes
BUC Edgar E. Hedgecock
CAPT John G. Herbein
SKCS Edward C. Hettel, Jr.
CE1(RET) Francis J. Heywood
AKCS(RET) John M. Hicks
OSC Michael Patrick Hughes
ETCM Joseph J. Humphrey, Jr.
QMC Bernard F. Hurchalla
AECS Bradlee Hutchinson
AT1 Harold A. Hyslop
GSMC David L. Ingram
PSCS Luther Jennings
HMC Paul E. Jensen
CM1 David B. Johnson
YNCM(RET) Martha E. Johnston
YNCS(SCW) Arthur A. Julian III
EMC Nicholas G. Karthas
MAC(RET) Tommy L. Keheley
RADM Stephen T. Keith**
OSCM(SW) Hans O. Keller
HT1 Herman M. Keller, Jr.
SK1 K. Daniel Kelly
HMC George H. Kenson
YNCM George J. Knorr
ABHCS Eugene 'Geno' Koelker
ADJ1 Frank L. Kreutzer
IMC Gerard P Kuebler
ABFC Fred V. Kurtz
HM1 Dale L. Lankford
FTCM Dwight Lanning
BMC Joseph C. Lanning Jr.
YNC Jeanne Lemasters
AFCM John M. Lenard
BU1 Fred G. Leppig
SK1 Richard W. Lewis
MS1 Floyd E. Lindsey
AKCM John J. Lomax
TSGT Joaquin A. Lopez
AMS1 William P. Mancusi
YNCS David J. Marden
SKCS(SW) Nick Marine
YN1 Ian Mastrup
YNC Joseph Michael Mauro
SKCS Gene McCarthy
AE1 William B. McCaskill
LNC John McCormack
BTC Terrell V. McMullin
HT1 Arthur J. Meconi
SFC John W. Meek
QMC C. Bruce Melcher
CUCM David N. Mentink
QM2 James W. Mitterer Jr.
FCCM(SW) Thomas W. Mlnarik
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HTCS Anthony W. Morris
IV2 Thomas A. "Bull" Morton
YNC Marianne E. Mosher
AMH1 Duane E. Mosher
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CMDCM(FMF) Ron Naida
LCDR Thomas F. Norton
MSCM(SW/SCW) David A. Nygaard**
SKC(SW) Robert E. Orton
SKC(AW) Penny I. Padour
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ENCS Raymond R. Page
EOCS Robert D. Parrish
Mr. Norman S. Pearce
DCCM Charles E. Peterman, Jr.
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LTJG Brian P. Pietrandrea
UTCS(SCW) Larry Poffenbarger
LT Fred Prozzillo
HMCM Manny Ratner †
CTAC Patrick G. Reding
ETC Robert C. Reeves
BTC William C. Rendall †
HMC John D. Rivers
ACCM Delores Rucker
LTC Roger Rucker
HMC Walter E. Sack
DCCM Stephen R. Sandy
AMHC Edward A. Schaefer
QM2 James C. Schaub
SKCS William J. Severns
PRCS David L. Shaw
YNC Charles Sherrick
DCC(SS) Thomas V. Shields
QMCS Malcolm L. Slack
CUCM David B. Smith
RMC Fred H. Springall**
QM1 Nicholas Stagliano Jr.
BU1 Mark J. Stanek
PNCM James Stephens
CAPT Eugene P. Sullivan
AQ1 Joseph J. Surdyk
CUCM Gerald M. Swift †
AD1 Neil V. Tanis
YNC Dorothy Texidor
SK2 Joyce Thompson †
MMC Christopher N. Thorpe
BM2 David P. Tinyanoff
CWO4 Charles A. Utz
BU1 Thomas A Van Hook
CAPT John A. Van Huyck
AKCM Richard J. Vannucci
PNC John M. Vargo
MRCM Michael A. Viens
HTC James J. Vincent
ENC(SS) William E. Vincent
YNCS William Vinglas
QMCS Henry B. Vogler Jr.
SKCS Norma B. Von Dohren
AWC(AW/NAC) Michael E. Wadsworth
UT1 Dennis A. Wagner
HMCS(FMF) Darryl Wahler
MSCS Max B. Wano
AM2 Roy D. Watkins
SKCM Robert L. Watterson
AEC Roger D. Webster
EMCS(SS) Barrett E. Weiser
CWO2 Wayne R. Wicks
ASC Howard J. Williams
SK1 Alvin H. Wright Jr.
FORCM Ronney Wright
CWO4 William D. Yates
AE1 James P. Yednak
CSM Collin Younger

Members in **Bold** are Current or Past National Presidents.
** Members who are "double" Life Benefactors.
† Members who have Passed Away

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