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# THE ROCKETEER

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 1992

NAVAL AIR WEAPONS STATION, CHINA LAKE

Vol. 48, No. 17

## Recycling saves landfill space, Navy resources

By Peggy Shoaf  
Staff Writer

**F**our hundred pounds an hour, collected eight hours a day, five days a week, is a lot of trash. But that's the amount of paper

China Lakers are now recycling. "That sounds like a large amount until you stand at the landfill and see what we are still missing," said L.R. "Tree" Crabtree, recycling program manager for the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake.

The NAWS Recycling Program was launched Jan. 16. Since that time, the

program has expanded from only collecting office paper to recycling newspaper, magazines, tab cards, cardboard and brown kraft paper products. Currently, there are 800 "Replay" containers (China Lake's blue recycling bins) located throughout the Station.

When collected, lids are placed on the

"Replay" containers and put in a locked truck until they reach the Recycling Center. After all newspapers, magazines and cardboard have been extracted, the leftover ledger paper is shredded and bailed.

"This means the Recycling Center Please see **RECYCLING**, Page 6



Photo by Tim Tyson

**TEAM AWARD**—Members of the Public Works Department's Exhibit Center Team were recognized for their superior efforts at getting the China Lake Conference and Exhibit Center ready for an early opening.

## PW team earns special recognition for efforts on new Exhibit Center

China Lakers and visitors who use the China Lake Conferencing and Exhibit Center can thank a strong Public Works Department team for a major role in turning the old Officers Club into the new Exhibit Center. The efforts of the team did not go unnoticed by senior management at the now-disestablished Naval Weapons Center. In fact, the work brought the NWC Team Award to 54 members of the PW Department team

responsible for renovation and repair.

Work began last July with an original completion date of Jan. 1. But in September the deadline shifted to Nov. 8. Meeting the deadline required close cooperation by planners, engineers, estimators, materials expeditors, foremen and craftsmen.

Extensive work was needed in the facility, including substantial demolition of walls, ceilings, floors and mechanical

systems. New wall coverings, flooring and electrical systems were required throughout the area. Other changes included replacing accordion-style partitions with archways, drop ceilings and a thorough cleaning.

Presenting the team award were Capt. Douglas W. Cook, NWC commander when the award process began, and Bill Porter, the last NWC technical director.

Members of the Public Works

Department team were: Ron Willett, Michael Becker, James Childers, Ned Crafcraft, Jerry Hollingsworth, Travis King, Fritz Klinger, Cecil Laing, David Larson, Dennis Medley, Marvin Perkins, Charles Roach, Craig Setting, Walter Siebert, Thomas Ray, William Enterkine, Michael Chadwick, Johnny Perez and Neil Stoner.

Other members included: Kirk Please see **TEAM**, Page 9

### Point Mugu expands sea range capability

Former Coast Guard vessel becomes new ship target

7

### Month of the Child

Family Home Care providers talk about the challenges

13

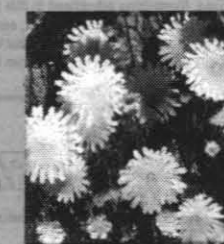
### Safety Sense

Dark nights and dark bikes a dangerous combo

12

### The Weather Report

	Max.	Min.	Gusts	Precip.
Wed	89	58	18	-
Thurs	91	44	9	-
Fri	94	48	14	-
Sat	96	53	12	-
Sun	96	55	22	-
Mon	100	54	19	-
Tues	100	51	10	-



# COMMENTARY

## China Lake Calendar

- Thursday, April 30**
  - IEEE Videoconference, 9 a.m., Training Center.
- Friday, May 1**
  - MOWC Art Auction, 7 p.m., Seafarer Club.
  - Law Day.
- Monday, May 4**
  - MWR Youth Basketball League signups begin.
- Thursday, May 7**
  - Josh's Jamboree, Desert Empire Fairgrounds.
- Tuesday, May 12**
  - Military Transition Assistance class.
  - WACOM monthly lunch, Seafarer Club, 11 a.m.
- Saturday, May 16**
  - Armed Forces Day.; Exhibit Center open to public from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Monday, June 8**
  - Armerican Heritage Week begins with 5K Fun Run/Walk.

# The Commanding Officer's Desktop



The Commanding Officer's Desktop is a forum for China Lakers who have questions of broad interest. It is not the intent of this column to circumvent the normal chain of command. Questions may be called in to 939-4127 or mailed to "CO's Desktop, C/O Code 0033, NAWC, China Lake.

### QUESTION

I am an Air Force retiree, and as such, have NEX privileges. I am probably a bit antiquated because I still try my level best to buy American-made products (or at least American-named products) whenever possible. Therein lies the source of my concern with our local NEX branch.

About two weeks ago, my wife and daughter went into the NEX to purchase a Zenith brand VCR. Our television is a Zenith, and we specifically wanted the "remotes" to be compatible. We purchased the TV at the NEX, and at the time of that purchase (within the last year), they stocked at least one and possibly two models of Zenith VCRs. Now they stock none. When queried about this, the ranking manager on duty at the time stated something to the effect (not a direct quote), "No, we don't stock Zenith any more, or any other American brands. We are only stocking Japanese electronic equipment now." No reason was given, just a statement of policy.

The longer I stew about this, the more outraged I get. Hey, I'm realistic, I know American brands aren't necessarily made in the USA (my new Zenith VCR was made in the Philippines), but that's not the point. The point is, particularly given the state of our economy right now, that NEX's "no American brands" policy, if that is indeed NEX's policy, needs a little adjusting.

### ANSWER

The Retail Operations supervisor meant to convey that most of the video cassette recorders (VCRs) are made overseas. The Navy Exchange system has always practiced the "Buy American" theme, even before it became popular.

The following is a direct quote from the Navy Exchange Manual. It states the Navy Exchange's policy as follows:

"In the procurement of resale merchandise, Exchange activities will show preference for U.S. made merchandise. Specific guidelines are as follows:

"(1) Buyers and contracting personnel will aggressively seek sources for U.S. made resale merchandise and will advise the supplier community regarding their preference for such merchandise.

"(2) When similar U.S. made and foreign products are available, having comparable quality, price and customer demand, the U.S. product will be purchased.

"(3) U.S. made products will be promoted through advertising circulars and instore signing."

I hope this clears up any misunderstanding. If you have any further questions, don't hesitate to call Lt.j.c. Michael Corsey, the Navy Exchange Detachment's officer in charge. His number is 446-2586.

## CO's Desktop new number

Because of the changeover to the Center Telecommunication System, the number to the Commanding Officer's Desktop has changed to 939-4127.

Questions dealing with the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake will be answered by Capt. B.J. Craig, the commanding officer. Questions dealing with the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division will be answered by either RAdm. William E. Newman, commander, or Capt. Douglas W. Cook, vice-commander.

## Warehouse 1063 closes its doors

Warehouse 1063 is closing down soon. China Lake employees or codes with items stored there should to remove it within the next week. Material not claimed will be transferred

to DRMO for disposal. If you aren't sure your code has something stored in Warehouse 1063, call Kathy Ramont or Fran Rugg at the Public Affairs Office, 939-3511.

## Pages From The Past

### April 30, 1982

Elaine Jenne was named Naval Weapons Center Secretary of the Year by the Federal Women's Program Committee. . . VX-5 selected AD1 Kent Harris as its Sailor of the Quarter. . . Vivian Boultinghouse was elected to a second term as president of the Indian Wells Valley Council of the Navy League. . . No injuries or damage was reported from a swarm of small earthquakes on NWC's north ranges.

### April 28, 1972

Construction is underway for the Systems Analysis and Computer Lab addition to Michelson Laboratory. . . Virginia Keyte, Miss Ridgecrest-China Lake, promoted the May 13 Armed Forces Day celebration. . . Eugene Copeland of the Public Works Department has converted his 1971 Ford pickup to run on propane rather than gasoline. . . RAdm. Joe G. Schoggen, commanding officer, Navy Resale System, visited China Lake and toured the NEX and Commissary.

### April 27, 1962

NOTS and VX-5 will promote 152 sailors to the next highest grades this latest promotion cycle. . . Naval Air Facility personnel raised \$200 for the China Lake Little League. . . Capt. E. I. Malson, OIC at the Pasadena Annex, talked about the role of military labs to local civic groups. . . A Defense Study Team arrived at China Lake for a two day stay.

### April 30, 1952

Boy Scouts from NOTS, led by Marine Sgt. Gerald Keene, were stranded in Nine-Mile Canyon by heavy snowfall; other Marines, led by CWO H.K. Goeke, made a successful rescue. . . Judson Eldridge of the Rocket Department won a \$275 suggestion award. . . Heavy rain and a blooming desert combined to bring a caterpillar plague to the China Lake area this spring.

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288-6743 (Autovon)  
(202) 443-6743 (commercial)

## Long-term assignment in Office of the CNO advertised at NAWC Weapons Division sites

The following announcement for the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OP-00K) is being made at all Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division sites simultaneously. To apply for the position, submit a current SF-171 to Code 22 (C9201) Jacqui or Sandra, Room 202, Human Resources Bldg. 2335, 939-2424 by close of business May 8.

**ASSISTANT FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, CNO EXECUTIVE PANEL (OP-00K).** This is a rotational assignment located in Washington, DC, on the CNO Executive Panel. The duration of the assignment will be 1 year.

Scientists and engineers at the DP-3/DP-4 levels with 3 to 5 years' experience at the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division and 1 or 2 years' significant Washington experience, preferably with an understanding of the OPNAV working environment, are eligible to apply.

Functions include: Support and coordinate efforts of CEP Task Forces.

Assist in selection of specific subjects for study or evaluation by the CEP.

Analyze intelligence assessments to identify Navy technology initiatives.

Remain abreast of the latest developments and trends in S&T.

Act as principal liaison between CEP staff and S&T elements of SECNAV, OPNAV, ONR,

SYSCOMS, Navy and national laboratories, other services and agencies, the Defense Science Board, intelligence community, industry, and academia.

Coordinate research and development planning functions with staff offices.

Research and prepare position papers and oral presentations for CNO.

Draft correspondence on S&T issues for CNO signature.

Incumbent must have: technical credibility in a field of expertise through a

combination of advanced education, publication, and personal research; extensive knowledge of and experience with Navy research and development functions, organizations, and programs; an understanding of the S&T considerations of strategic planning; highly developed verbal and written communication skills; and the ability to interact with senior personnel at the highest levels of DOD, Navy, other services, industry, academia and individuals of national prominence.

Top Secret and SCI clearances are desirable.

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DOS 5.0, 3 1/2" 499

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1-20 Words	\$2.00 Flat
Each additional word	after 20 words.....10¢ each
<b>CLASSIFICATIONS</b>	
PERSONALS.....	1
LOST & FOUND.....	5
HELP WANTED.....	10
SERVICES/SCHOOLS.....	15
RENTALS.....	20
REAL ESTATE.....	25
BUSINESSES.....	30
AUTOMOTIVE.....	35
MISC. FOR SALE.....	40
PETS & SUPPLIES.....	45
GARAGE SALES.....	50

## DEADLINE FOR ALL CLASSIFIED LINE ADS IS 4:30 p.m. TUESDAY

<p><b>1 PERSONALS</b></p> <p>FIL-AM DANCERS Will perform Philippine Native and Cultural Dances for club events, organizations &amp; other activities. For more info call 371-3062 or 371-7742. (0429)</p> <p>Garden Tour, sponsored by Oasis Garden Club, May 2, 1992. Donation \$3.00. Tickets available: Amigo's Nursery, Country Feed Barn, Country Junction, R/C Chamber of Commerce, Means Nursery, Maturango Museum, Lou's Hallmark. (0429)</p>	<p><b>15 SERVICES/SCHOOLS</b></p> <p>CERTIFIED FAM Home Care Prov. Have openings for child 2 yrs. &amp; older. \$2/hr PRT. \$75/wk F/T + means. 446-5293, Dawn. (0429)</p> <p><b>20 RENTALS</b></p> <p>REDUCED \$30. Section 2BR, 1BA Triplex. D/W, G/D, laundry nook, fenced patio. Very cooperative landlord. Spacious 8 applicants welcome. Discount for seniors or 9 mo. lease. \$405/mo. W/T pd. Leave msg. at 375-7384. (0520)</p> <p>BEST 1BR IN R/C. Free cable makes \$350/mo. a bargain! Prime location, convenient to shopping. Quiet, excellent condition. 375-5425. (0506)</p> <p>2BR, 2BA, DW, Sierra Breeze. Sun &amp; Swim club, water &amp; trash pd. 377-4197/4308. (0429)</p> <p>Lease 1120 sq. ft. commercial building. Inyokern Rd. frontage. 377-4197/4308. (0429)</p> <p>1BR SW, private lot, China Lake Acres. Furnished. 377-4197/4308. (0429)</p>	<p><b>35 AUTOMOTIVE</b></p> <p>1990 NISSAN Hardbody Pickup. Carpet kit, stereo, camper shell. \$9300. Call 375-7475 after 3pm. (0429)</p> <p>18 FT FISHING/SKI BOAT w/walk throughbow. 170HP Volvo engine. 270 Penta outdrive. Comes w/trailer. 7 hp Evinrude trolling motor, depth finder, CB radio, skis, life jackets and more. Asking \$6,000. 225 Larkspur. 375-7475. (0506)</p> <p>1987 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER SE 6 cyl. a/c, ps, pb, cruise, tilt wheel, tinted windows, am/fm/cass, passed smog Mar 92. XLNT cond. Moving to Japan, must sell now. \$8,900. 446-2475. (0429)</p> <p>'89 Pontiac Grand Am, four door sedan, white exterior, grey interior, air, asking \$7,500 or best offer. Call 375-3855, ask for BJ or after 5pm 446-5188. (0527)</p> <p>'89 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, blue exterior and interior, air, low miles, high blue book, \$9,500, asking only \$8,500 or best offer. Call 446-5188 after 5pm. Ask for Gary. (0527)</p> <p>1995 OLDS FIRENZA. 2DR hatchback, 4 cyl, fwd, ps, pb, a/c, am/fm/cass, sunroof, tilt wheel. \$3,750 OBO. 446-2854. (0527)</p>	<p><b>40 MISC. FOR SALE</b></p> <p>5 piece living room set. \$600 OBO. 446-7172. (0522)</p> <p>8 foot pool table. \$600 OBO. 377-3554 after 3:30 pm. (0520)</p> <p>MAUVE COLORED Carpet and drapes. Xint cond. Carpet is 17'x13' w/6'x9' dining area (foam padding to fit). \$200. Drapes are Mauve w/white specks, 120x64. (fits sliding glass doors). Also 72x63. Drapes come w/iron rods. \$100 OBO. 446-5760, call anytime, leave message. (0506)</p> <p>Summertime is here. Swim and vacation in Lake Tahoe. Timeshare - Tahoe Seasons Resort. Sleeps 6, in-room spa. Take over payments. 384-2430. (0507)</p> <p>Mother of Pearl - Black Lacquer Grandfather Clock - \$350 OBO. 384-2430. (0507)</p> <p>Baby bedding for Sale. Only used twice. \$25. 446-9132.</p>
<p><b>25 REAL ESTATE</b></p> <p>GREAT BUY Beautiful 3BR 1.75BA custom home near new Gateway School and NAWC Back Gate. Dbl gar w/opener, FP, many other amenities. \$79,500. 375-1577 (0506)</p>	<p><b>35 AUTOMOTIVE</b></p> <p>85 TOYOTA TRUCK-Must sell, Asking \$3500. 371-1549, lv msg. (0429)</p>	<p><b>45 PETS &amp; SUPPLIES</b></p> <p>WANTED - Chinese Shar Pei dog. For more info call 446-4689. (0429)</p>	<p><b>50 GARAGE SALES</b></p> <p>GARAGE SALE: Friday, 8am until noon. 11 pc. dining room set, 2 queen sleeper sofas, 5 pc. living room corner group, Singer professional sewing machine with everything, many other items. This is an estate sale. 609 Weiman Ave. (0429)</p>

**THE ROCKETEER**

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### Josh's Jamboree begins May 7

Josh's Jamboree, the annual spring festival at the Desert Empire Fairgrounds, begins with "Garter Day" on Thursday, May 7, from 5 to 11 p.m. The \$9 garters allow the purchaser to unlimited rides for the entire evening.

Friday and Saturday nights feature the High School Rodeo. Gates are open from 5 p.m. to midnight on Friday, May 8, and noon to midnight on Saturday.

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10, mothers receive free admission from noon to 10 p.m.

Discount ride tickets are on sale at MWR's Craftech onboard the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake. The booklets, containing 25 ride coupons, are \$10 each. This is more than a 33 percent savings off regular coupon prices. For more information call 939-3252.

### Oasis Garden Club plans tour

Oasis Garden Club of Indian Wells Valley will present its 33rd annual Garden Tour on Saturday, May 2. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., guests will see 11 local gardens, enjoy light refreshments and be able to view a variety of educational exhibits.

Tickets, at \$3 a piece, are available at Amigo's Nursery, Ridgecrest Chamber

of Commerce, Country Feed Barn (Inyokern), Country Junction, Lou's Hallmark, Maturango Museum and Means Nursery.

"Enjoy a mixture of traditional and exerscape landscaping," invites Sandra Nagel, the chairperson for the event. "See what a lovely garden you can create in our desert climate."

## What's happening

On May 1, 2 and 3, the Creative Expressions Spring Art and Craft Show features work by seven local artists at the Heritage Village Clubhouse, 425 W. Heritage Drive. A reception for the artists will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday. The exhibit will open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

On Friday, May 1, the Dorian Society will bring Oakland Ballet's Crystal Slipper to the Dore Theatre (California State University, Bakersfield campus). The season's final program begins at 8 p.m. Tickets, \$17 for general admission and \$8 for students, may be reserved by calling Nancy Haley at The Dorian Office, (805) 664-2387.

From May 2 through June 3, the Sylvia Winslow Exhibition Gallery of the Maturango Museum will host "The Best of the Year," a collection of mixed media artwork completed by students of Burroughs and Mesquite high schools under the guidance of teachers Anieta Thompson-Shaffer, Cris Meyers and Karen McDonald.

On Saturday, May 2, the Exchange Club of Ridgecrest hosts an auction of new and used merchandise in the Bud Eyre Chevrolet showroom. Merchandise can be viewed from 9 a.m. to noon on that date. The auction starts at noon and lasts until everything that can be sold is sold. All funds received from the auction will be used locally for projects and donations the club provides the community each year.

On May 4 and 18, the Kern County Health Department, 250 W. Ridgecrest Blvd., will hold its May immunization clinics from 8:30 to 11 a.m. and from 1 to 3 p.m. Cost for each immunization is \$3, with a maximum charge of \$10 per family per visit. Reservations are not required.

More than 8,500 "Recycle '92!" coloring calendars will be ready for distribution to third grade students throughout Kern County May 4, the first day of Recycling Week. The locally-produced calendar can be colored and contains helpful tips about recycling, oil and paint collection, littering and other information. The purpose of the event is to promote recycling by educating children and parents, reads a press release from the Kern County Department of Public Works.



### Senior enlisted members offered new chance to retire at highest pay grade after one year

Washington (NNS)—The Navy is offering master chief, senior chief and chief petty officers the opportunity to retire after one year in their new pay grade, rather than waiting two or more years to retire in grade.

The Secretary of the Navy has given the Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) authority to offer earlier retirement to service members in pay grades E-7 to E-9.

The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, AVCM (AW) D. R. Bushy, said early retirements and reduction of acces-

sions into the Navy are part of the Navy's strategy during the force draw-down. "By encouraging voluntary retirements we protect our mid-career sailors from reductions in force and keep promotion opportunities stable."

Chiefs who have completed more than one year in their pay grade, seeking retirement under these changes, should forward requests to BUPERS pers 273 by letter with command endorsement. A completed application for transfer to the fleet reserve must be attached to the request.

## Free service helps locate U.S. sailors worldwide

Washington (NES)—The Navy Worldwide Locator service provides duty station addresses for active-duty Navy members. The service is free to immediate family and official Navy members. The locator service also assists the American Red Cross and federal and state agencies in searching for a sailor for official purposes or in emergencies. Civilian friends, aunts and uncles, cousins, etc., are charged a small fee for locator use, but will be assisted.

The service was established primarily to assist DoD, according to Boiler Technician 1st Class Tim Holley, head of the locator service. The three-person locator staff answers about 2,000 calls and 1,500 letters a week. Holley points out that the locator will not provide state-

ments of service, verify employment or answer calls from creditors, and any information contained in the service record is protected under the Privacy Act.

Most addresses of official duty stations can be released. Station addresses that cannot be released include commands engaged in sensitive operations, such as SEAL teams, nuclear power training facilities, security command groups and weapons and communication stations. Also not released are overseas and routinely deployed unit addresses which include ships, aviation squadrons and operational staffs. Exceptions can be made if the inquiry is prompted by official Navy business or by an emergency.

Calls to the locator service are



**VOTING RIGHTS**—MSC Frederick Gilchrist, voting officer at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, posts information on primary elections this year. The new voting official is actively encouraging military members to exercise their rights to vote in local, state and national elections through the absentee ballot process in their home of record.

answered by a computer sequencer and are then transferred to the staff in the order they are received. The staff enters the name and social security number of the member being sought into a computer system called the Military Locator System. Holley said callers seeking someone from another service will be referred to that service's locator. The Navy locator can be reached Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST at Defense Service Network 224-3155/5011/9221 or commercial (703) 614-3155/5011/9221.

In addition to answering phone queries, the locator service can forward letters to Navy members. The sailor's name, social security number and any other available information should be

printed on an envelope. The letter to be forwarded should then be placed inside that envelope.

Letter forwarding is free to sailors and immediate family members. Others wishing to forward a letter must enclose a check for \$3.50 payable to the U.S. Treasury. Envelopes should be addressed to the Chief of Naval Personnel, Pers-312D, Washington, D.C. 20370-5000.

The Navy locator has access only to active-duty members. Once a member separates from naval service, the personnel record is sent to the National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63132-5100. The Personnel Records Center operates under the same guidelines as the Navy locator service.

### Free shuttle bus service available for China Lake military members

Military members at China Lake can take advantage of the shuttle bus between the Bachelor Enlisted Quarters and various points around Armitage Field. The shuttle bus provides free transportation for military members who work at the airfield. Service starts at 5:30 a.m. on weekdays and the last run starts from the airfield at 4:30 p.m. The schedule is:

Time	Departure	Location
5:30	BEQ	
5:45	Hangar 1 (turnstile)	
5:50	Hangar 3 (turnstile)	
6:15	BEQ	
6:30	Hangar 1 (turnstile)	
6:35	Hangar 3 (turnstile)	
7:00	BEQ	
7:15	Hangar 1 (turnstile)	
7:20	Hangar 3 (turnstile)	

Time	Location
10:25	BEQ
10:30	Clinic
10:45	Hangar 1 (turnstile)
10:50	Hangar 3 (turnstile)
11:15	BEQ
11:30	Hangar 1 (turnstile)
11:35	Hangar 3 (turnstile)
NOON	BEQ
12:15	Hangar 1 (turnstile)
12:20	Hangar 3 (turnstile)
(to BEQ drop off only)	
1:30	BEQ (Wed. only)
(goes to Hangar 1 area only)	
3:00	BEQ
3:35	Hangar 1 (turnstile)
3:40	Hangar 3 (turnstile)
4:05	BEQ
4:25	Hangar 1 (turnstile)
4:30	Hangar 3 (turnstile)

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### Budgeting tips for the new baby

In any life changing situation, knowing what to expect can help turn anxiety into anticipation. Becoming parents is no exception. The joy of welcoming a baby needn't be hampered by worry about how the new arrival will affect the household budget.

The Navy Marine Corps Relief Society's Budgeting for Baby Class can help expecting parents understand the changes ahead. The class covers not only financial planning, but community resources (WIC, La Leche

League, etc.), safety issues, the cost of prenatal and postpartum medical care that CHAMPUS will and will not cover, and how to make necessary changes to the service member's military records.

Budgeting for Baby classes are held the first Wednesday evening of every month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Reservations for the class can be made by calling the NMCRS between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 939-2921.

### New schedule ready for NAWS Galley users

Due to budgetary constraints, the following changes to meal hours at the Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS), China Lake, enlisted dining facilities are now in effect.

Main Galley: **Breakfast**—Monday through Friday, 0600-0630; Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 0700-0730. **Lunch**—Monday through Friday, 1100-1145; Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 1100-1145. **Dinner**—Monday through Friday, 1630-1715; Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 1630-1715.

# Chapel Call

By LCdr. S. A. Casimano, CHC, USN  
Command Chaplain

As I write this, the Easter lilies which majestically decorated the sanctuary of the All Faith Chapel have begun to wilt and die; their task of ushering in this year's celebration of Christ's resurrection now completed. Soon, the sanctuary will take on a less-festive appearance, with white and gold paraments exchanged for simple green hangings, gold-plated candelabra polished and put away for next year's feast and a sense of the "ordinary" pervading the Chapel's interior. But, despite the simplicity of the Chapel's quiet, soothing appearance, there looms above the altar in bold relief the saving Cross of Jesus, casting its delicate shadow against the wall on which it is affixed. It is always there, no matter what the season or celebration, always reminding those who look upon it of the reason for the Easter joy. After all the Easter "Alleluias" have been sung, it is the Cross that remains as a sign of hope and victory.

I am reminded of a delightful story which Joyce Huggert narrates about a man named Ron in her book *Approaching Easter* (Lyon Publishing Company, Batavia, Illinois, 1987): "A man called Ron once told me why he boasts about Christ's cross. Ron was a paratrooper in the Second World War.

## The Sign That Is Always There

On New Year's Eve, 1944, his battalion stayed in an Abbey in France and one of the monks gave him a metal crucifix. On the morning of 24 March 1945, Ron pushed this crucifix in his battledress pocket as he rushed for reveille. That day his battalion crossed the Rhine by plane and were then commanded to jump. Even as he landed, Ron's parachute was punctured by a burst of bullets and his body was spun round by the force of the fire. But he was able to run, unhurt, and shelter in a trench. He found bullet holes in his smock, his battledress and his shirt—but it was two days later, as he stripped for a bath in a military hospital, that he discovered why he had escaped injury. Embedded in his clothes he found the spent bullet which had cut holes in his clothes. He also drew out of his pocket the metal crucifix which was now broken in two and he realized that this cross had taken the full impact of the bullet and had protected his body from being punctured like his parachute. That was over forty years ago but Ron still thanks God every day for a life which might have ended in 1945."

As we Christians look upon that "sign that is always there," we thank God for life eternal made possible because of Jesus's love for us.



**WET & MUDDY** were more than just words to the Marine Aviation Detachment members who participated in the Volkslauf Mud Run at Tustin, Calif. in March. Participants were (l to r) Sgt. D.P. Rouse, SSgt. R.F. Dixon, GySgt. D.R. Allen, Cpl. S.P. Richardson, Ssgt. R.W. Fiorvanli and Ssgt. J.A. Finegan. The local Marines came in 302 out of 495.

## Navy releases date for SER boards

The Navy has set dates and details for selective early retirement (SER) boards for fleet reserve and retirement-eligible chief petty officers this year. The master chief petty officer board will convene at the Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) on Aug. 31, and a separate board will convene on Sept. 8 to consider the records of chief and senior chief petty officers.

Enlisted SER boards are among the actions and policy changes recently adopted to keep Navy manpower reduc-

tions on track without involuntary separation of career personnel prior to retirement eligibility. The total number serving in those two top grades may not exceed three percent of the entire enlisted force. Facing similar limitations on officer numbers, the Navy held SER boards for captains and commanders in 1990 and 1991 and plans to do so again this year.

BUPERS has established an enlisted SER boards hotline at Autovon 224-5560 or (703) 614-5560.

## Active-duty parents benefit from revised assignment policy by the Navy

Washington (NNS)—Navy Assignment Policy regarding certain categories of parents has been revised slightly as part of a DoD-wide policy standardization.

The revision ensures that all new mothers, and—in the case of adoption—single parents or one member of a dual military couple, are now eligible for a four-month exemption from deployment or TAD that would take them away from their children. The individual has the option to waive this exemption.

"This is not a major change to Navy policy," said Capt. Martha Whitehead, special assistant for women's policy at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, emphasizing that the Navy's pregnancy policy governing women on ships basically meets the new DoD policy.

"This revision just extends that policy to one member of dual military couples and single members who adopt; and to those in the categories who are assigned to shore duty but who otherwise may be subject to deployment or lengthy TAD."

According to Whitehead, some people have misunderstood the wording of the new policy to mean that these parents have four months "free" time. "They will continue to work in their homeports or current duty stations for this four-month period, and return to shipboard duty four months after birth."

Specifically, the new policy states that the Navy will not assign parents in these categories "to a dependent restricted tour, deployment or duty away from the permanent duty station or to an over-

seas tour for which concurrent travel is denied" for four months following child-birth or adoption.

The change in policy was prompted by legislative concern surrounding new mothers, single parents and dual military couples during Desert Storm.

Capt. Whitehead pointed out that the underlying concern for any policy change "has always been and still is mission accomplishment. However, we have a tradition of taking care of all members of the Navy family."

## Indicators point to a superb fishing season

All indicators point to the start of another very good fishing season in the Eastern Sierra, says a press release from the Eastern

Sierra Interagency Visitor Center. Waters below the 8,500 foot level are free of ice and open for fishing.

Mike Haynie, California Department of Fish and Game, reported trout planting operations have been stepped up. "All streams and lakes, with the exception of Oak Creek (near Independence) will be stocked this year," he said.

Visitors are urged to use caution when fishing in higher areas, because weather conditions can rapidly change. Warm spring weather has caused all lake ice to become "rotten," reads the press release. No matter how thick the ice appears, it is not safe.

Shrubs on the Eastern Sierra valley floor are already dry and can easily burn, says a California Department of Forestry representative. The fire danger is very high and great care must be taken with campfires or when smoking outdoors, he said. The fire danger is already that usually found in mid-summer.

**Fire danger is already high**

Area anglers trying their luck on opening weekend reported mixed results. Fishing was slow in the Lone Pine area, including Haiwee

Reservoir, but improved up north. Some of the hot spots were Lee Vining Creek, Convict Lake, Crowley Lake and the lower Owens River.

Recreation and other information for the trout season can be obtained by calling one of the following areas during normal working hours: Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce, (619) 876-4444; Eastern Sierra InterAgency Visitor Center, (619) 876-4252; Mt. Whitney Ranger Station (Lone Pine), (619) 876-5542; Bishop Chamber of Commerce, (619) 873-8405; White Mountain Ranger Station (Bishop), (619) 873-4207; Mammoth Lakes Resort Association, (619) 934-2712; Mammoth Lakes Reservations, (800) 367-6572; Mammoth Lakes Ranger Station, (619) 934-2712; Mono Lake Ranger Station (Lee Vining), (619) 647-6525; Bridgeport Ranger Station (Bridgeport), (619) 932-7070; and CalTrans Recorded Road Information, (619) 873-6366.

## Soccer scores range from ties to blow outs

Members of the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake Youth Soccer League returned to the fields last weekend after an Easter break. Scores ranged from ties to blow outs.

### Division I

#### Express 6, Wolves 0

Four goals by William Johnson and two by Mathew Doud gave the Express the win. Defensive moves by Trevor Rosenlof and Alicia Crawford shut out the Wolves, despite hard play by Emily Miller, Rianna Woolley and Angela Hill.

#### Owls 4, Tigers 0

Goals by Chad-Marshall, Michael Moran and Spencer Witt put the Owls on top. Efforts by Isaac Morgan, Edward Kim and Tommy Satele weren't enough to stop them. According to the Tigers' coach, Matthew Mossberg and Kurt Hennigan came close to scoring.

### Division II

#### Express 2, Flames 1

In a close game, Matthew Blodek's lone goal wasn't enough to overcome the Express. Mike Wessel and Nick Barnes did well in the loss. The Express did not turn in a score sheet.

#### Cobras 1, Stallions 0

In spite of several saves by goalie Luke Morgan, the Stallions let one slip

by, resulting in the loss. According to the Stallions' coach, Tim Farris sacrificed his body trying to stop the victors. The Cobras did not turn in a score sheet.

### Division III

#### Kickers 2, Goalbusters 2

Neither team could get the best of the other in this exciting competition as the Kickers' Rodney Sloan and Scot Hine, and the Goalbusters' Megan Campbell and Chani Christensen provided outstanding defense. The Kickers' two goals were knocked in by Glen Covdoza and Jesse Lesniak, while Brian Haugen scored both goals for the Goalbusters.

#### Drillers 7, Knights 2

Strong offense and four goals by Ryan Charlon, along with a goal each by Robert Charlon, Chris Andrews and James Fujiwara gave the Drillers the victory. According to the Drillers' coach, Sarah Gruwell and James Tam played an excellent game. The Knights did not turn in a score sheet.

### Division IV

#### Crystal Palace 5, Red Devils 2

Goals by Tim Frid and Jon Mickelson, and good defense by Michelle Drake and Karamie Lovern, weren't enough for the win. The Crystal Palace team did not turn in a score sheet.

## Hall Memorial Lanes closed May 5

Hall Memorial Lanes, and its snack bar, will be closed on May 5. According to Bill Boothe, the bowling center's manager, the closure is due to Morale, Wel-

fare & Recreation staff training.

The bowling center will be open its regular hours, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., on Wednesday, May 6.

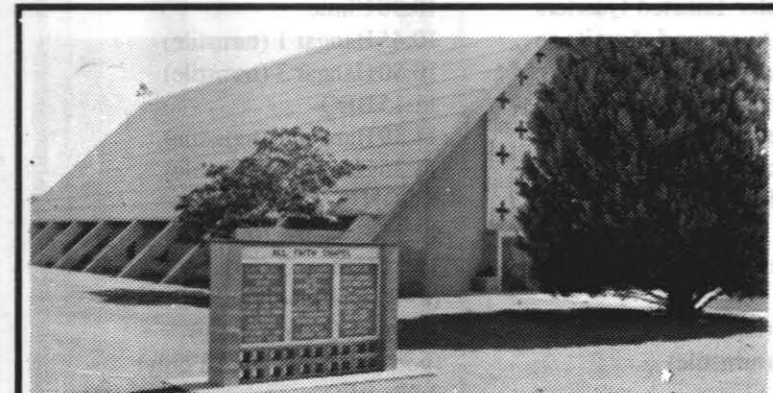
## 10K RACE from Page 16

covered a variety of terrain," he said. "From paved roads to hills of loose sand, the event was a challenge to the most adroit."

Trophies were awarded to the overall winners and plaques to the winners of the various age groups. Approximately 70 prizes from 30 different sponsors were distributed in a post race drawing.

The event helps support the DARE Program and the Marine Corps Ball.

"We (the Marines of China Lake) thank all the participants, sponsors and the Over the Hill Track Club for once again making this event a resounding success," said Colonel J. P. Agenbroad, MAD's commanding officer. "We hope to see you all there next year."



## All Faith Chapel Services

<b>Protestant</b>		<b>Roman Catholic</b>	
Sunday Worship Service, East Wing	8:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass, Main Chapel	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service, Main Chapel	10:30 a.m.	Daily Mass, Small Chapel	11:35 a.m.
Sunday School, 1008-10 Blandy & 1903-05 Mitscher	9:00 a.m.	Confessions, Weekdays	By appointment
Bible Study (East Wing), Wednesday (September thru June)	11:30 a.m.	Religious Education Classes, Sunday (September thru May)	
Men's Prayer Breakfast, East Wing, Thursday	6:30 a.m.	1902 Dibb, 1002 Blandy, 1008-10 Blandy & 1903-05 Mitscher	10:15 a.m.
Officers' Christian Fellowship/Christian Military Fellowships, East Wing, Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Scripture Classes, Tuesdays (October-January)	
		St. Ann's Parish Hall	7-8:30 p.m.
<b>Jewish</b> (375-0385 Messages)		<b>Islamic</b>	
Weekly Services (East Wing), Friday	7:30 p.m.	Jumaa Prayer, Friday (1002 Blandy)	1:00 p.m.
Adult Hebrew Lessons (East Wing), Saturday (September thru June)	3:00-5:00 p.m.		
Religious Education (East Wing), Sunday (September thru June)	9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.		

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Weight room tours offered

# Gym usage free May 1 & 8 for National Fitness Month

In celebration of fitness month, May, the Morale, Welfare & Recreation Department's Sports Division at China Lake is opening the gym May 1 and 8. Adults are invited to use the facility at no charge from 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

In addition to its indoor pool, racquetball courts and basketball court, the gym features exercise, fitness and weight rooms.

The exercise room, also known as the cardiovascular loft, houses lifecycles, rowing machines, stair masters and two recently added treadmills.

The fitness room, located off of the gym floor, houses a Universal 15-station workout machine, light weights, life

cycles and other equipment necessary for the beginning exerciser.

Weight room equipment includes a variety of machines, including a 10-station Nautilus machine that helps tone up the upper torso, arms and legs; an inverted leg press; and a variety of bench presses and weights.

During the month, from 3 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, guided walks through the weight room will be offered. Richard Shadden, gym attendant, will explain how to correctly use and get the most out of each machine.

Visitors don't have to be members of the gymnasium to take advantage of this free offer.



**OVERALL WINNERS** of the MAD Dash 10K run and 5K walk are (l to r) Eric Martin, Terry Ashton, Ens. Romelda Sadiarin and Kim Vigneault. Col. J.R. Agnabroad (far right), the commanding officer of the Marine Aviation Detachment, was on hand to congratulate the winners.

## Ashton and Ens. Sadiarin overall winners in this year's MAD Dash

Terry Ashton and Ens. Romelda Sadiarin (VX-5's public affairs officer) were overall winners of the fifth annual "MAD Dash" 10K run and 5K walk held April 18 onboard the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake.

Ashton, the overall men's winner, crossed the finish line with a time of 39:03. Sadiarin, the overall women's winner, tallied a 53:21 finish time.

Second place for men went to Eric Martin, who had a time of 39:50, while second place for women was captured by Kim Vigneault with a time of 54:15.

According to CWO3 Chuck Hargis, a member of the Marine Aviation Detachment, the event attracted about 140 participants. "More difficult than most 10K road races, the MAD Dash

Please see **10K RACE**, Page 17

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90MB Bernoulli transportable #S0700426-TRAN (dual 90 is #S0700425-DUAL)  
90MB Bernoulli cartridge tripak #S0700429  
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### ADP SPEDI News

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Seagate 1GB SCSI hard drive (1,037MB, 15ms) #ST41200N  
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# DoD now offering voluntary outplacement service to all

Looking for a change? Unhappy with work or, maybe, just want to relocate? Then the Defense Outplacement Referral System (DORS) may be the answer. This new Department of Defense computerized program assists DoD employees and military members leaving the service in securing employment outside their current activity.

According to Joaquin Rivier, a personnel management specialist in the Naval Air Warfare Weapons Division Human Resources Department at China Lake, the program assists eligible employees and their spouses (regardless

of whether the spouse is a DoD employee or not) find employment within DoD, non-DoD federal agencies (such as the Department of Energy) and the private sector. "If the DoD employee registers, then his (or her) spouse is also eligible to register, regardless of whether she (or he) is in DoD," said Rivier.

Part of the Priority Placement Program, DORS has been around for a while, Rivier said. Its main purpose is to help people displaced due to closures, reductions in force, etc. However, earlier this year the program was opened to all DoD employees on a volunteer basis.

"Previously," said Rivier, "it was the installation commander who decided upon eligibility for the program."

Rivier stated the program assists DoD activities in the downsizing process. "Even though the DoD is downsizing all over, some activities aren't affected by the process as much as others," he said. "In addition, the downsizing isn't affecting non-DoD federal agencies."

Civilian employees interested in using this program can make an appointment by calling Melissa Lytell at 939-3317. Military members leaving the service who are interested in the program should

contact Judy Baron, RAP/TAMP (Relocation Assistance Program/Transition Assistance Management Program) manager, at 927-1555.

Names of participants appear on lists to private firms or federal agencies that have requested a list of employable applicants and which are located in geographic areas selected by the applicant. The lists will be issued by the Office of Personnel Management to requesting non-DoD federal agencies, the Army activity at Monterey, Calif., for private sector vacancies and the Defense Data Support Center for DoD agencies.

## Code 27 urges proper use of CTS features

Acceptance testing of the new telephone system is continuing daily. Thus far, several instances of incorrect uses of some of the new system's features have been noted. The call forward feature is very useful if you are out of the office frequently or prefer having someone else answer your calls. However, call forwarding telephones that result in a cycle will inhibit the switch from properly handling other legitimate calls that need to get through. Please use care in implementing this feature and know where your calls are going!

Another problem involves taking the handset off the telephone (going off-hook) in order to not receive any calls. This act will cause the switch to take the telephone out of service permanently. If you do not wish to receive any calls, forward them to someone who will answer them for you. Another alternative is to use the ringer volume control available on all telephones. This is the preferred method to stop the telephone from ringing and disrupting your work.

The Meridian Mail Voice Messaging system has been implemented for those

users who formerly utilized answering machines. Additional mailboxes will be available to all users starting Oct. 1. Call pickup groups and group intercoms are currently being programmed into the system and are available to all users. The CTS team is still working hard at adjusting the new system to meet each group's individual needs.

If there are any questions or concerns dealing with any portion of the telephone service, please contact the Telephone Services Branch, Code 2714 at 939-3451.

### WACOM lunch offers Lane and Company

Ventriquoist Jerry Lane and Company will be the entertainment for WACOM's meeting set for Tuesday, May 12, at the Seafarer Club. A social period will be held at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at 11:30 a.m. The program will be held after a brief meeting. Jerry Lane and Company have appeared in shows in Reno, Tahoe and Las Vegas, Nevada. Members may make reservations by contacting Eleanor Rockdale at 446-6925 or Mary Martin at 375-4052 no later than May 6.

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**RECYCLE** from Page 1

can process virtually all unclassified documents, including administratively sensitive and FOUO," Crabtree said. "For years people have been taught sensitive documents have to be destroyed before they can be removed. It will take some time to make people comfortable about the new disposal/recycling methods," Crabtree said.

Some people have expressed concern with strip shredding of sensitive documents, Crabtree said. "There have been instances where documents have been reconstructed after strip shredding," he explained. "But we have several factors in our favor. First is pure volume. We generate two to three one-thousand pound bales each day of white ledger paper alone. The sensitive documents have been mixed together with a lot of nonsensitive materials, and that material is dampened before bailing. This causes the paper to stick together and also smudges some of the printing. At this point, recycling paper is much more controlled and safe than placing it in the wastebasket."

"Even though recycling is important, security has to come first," Crabtree said. "If there is any question about whether a particular type of document should be placed in the recycling container, I suggest calling Dave Shipley at Operations Security, 939-2079."

Codes shredding their own paper, before recycling, can also cause problems, Crabtree said. First, if the paper is particle cut, or strip cut less than 3/16th of an inch wide, the paper has to be discarded because there is not enough fiber content left in the pieces to recycle.

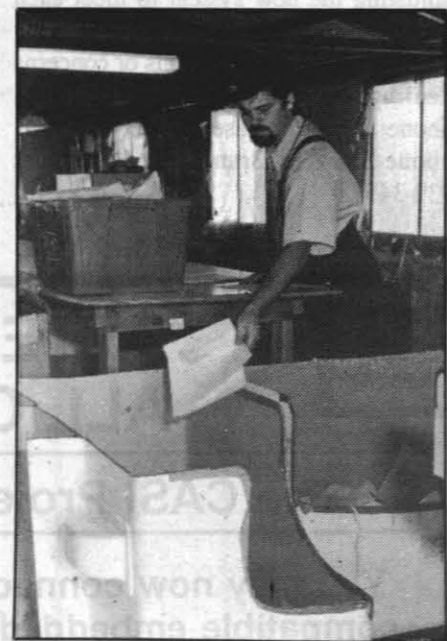
It is also difficult for codes to keep the shredded product pure, Crabtree said. "Almost every time we take a bag of shredded paper, we find at least a couple of pages of colored paper," he explained. "This means the whole bag is now classified as colored paper, selling for about half the price of white ledger paper."

Finally, strips of plastic (shredded viewgraphs for example), newspaper, magazines and xerox paper wraps ruin the whole bag of paper, Crabtree said.

"Add the fact shredded paper takes



**TREE CRABTREE** uses a forklift to move a 1,000 pound bale of shredded paper, now ready to be sold for recycling into pulp.



Photos by Terry Pascerella

**SHREDDING**—Don Stocks sorts and shreds paper, getting it ready for sale to recycle.

up so much room in the truck we have to take extra trips back to the Recycling Center, and it becomes obvious it is bad news when the customer shreds his own paper," Crabtree said.

Keeping the bales pure is also hard on the recycling people, Crabtree said. "This is where the customer can really make a difference. Our initial shipments of paper have been rated as premium white ledger paper because we have done a good job of sorting out foreign materials," he said. "If the customer will help us keep non-recyclable materials out of the 'Replay' bins, that would make our job a lot easier," he said.

Crabtree noted the biggest problem is with Postit Notes, or "yellow stickies." They are hard to find and remove Crabtree said. Just a few flecks of yellow showing in the bales causes brokers to downgrade the paper.

Glue also causes problem because some glue won't wash out in the recycling process, resulting in inferior paper, Crabtree said. For this reason, recycling personnel throw away envelopes. Crabtree admits some envelopes are made with water soluble glue, but since they have no way to test the glue, white envelopes have to be thrown away. Large brown envelopes are put in with the cardboard and grocery bags, so they do get recycled, Crabtree said.

Another problem that often causes a lot of recycling effort to go to waste is the white wraps from xerox paper. "Apparently this paper is treated to protect it against moisture," Crabtree said. "We can't even use it with cardboard. These wrappers slow down our sorting process because they are such a clean, white-looking paper."

In the non-paper area, the program accepts all California Redemption containers (aluminum, glass and plastic). According to Crabtree, these items are

turned over to the China Lake Morale, Welfare & Recreation Department. Profits to help finance MWR programs at China Lake.

Crabtree said the recycling program is also accepting #2 plastic containers (primarily milk and water containers). However, Crabtree said he would appreciate it if people would remove the caps and spouts and rinse the containers out prior to recycling them. "Rancid milk smell will drive away even your closest friends," he explained.

Crabtree noted he is in the process of having China Lake's Recycling Center become a California State Certified Recycler. As soon as that becomes final, he plans to expand the program to some of the more difficult products, like household glass.

While they would love to get into recycling toner cartridges, Crabtree said the Station already has a program to remanufacture toner cartridges by sending them through the PC Lab. "That is a better deal for the Station than recycling," he said. "However, any code that does not have its cartridges remanufactured, should deposit them in the 'Replay' containers. We will see the Station gets some value for them."

Employees wishing to be put on the recycling collection schedule can call Crabtree or Sammy Treece at 939-2522.

"Some people think of recycling as an alternative to disposing of their trash," said Crabtree. "Recycling will never become completely successful until we realize we are 'producing' raw material for industry. As with anything else, the higher quality product we produce, the more we can sell and the better price we can receive for it."

"When we are done with this, there will be a recycling container by each desk and a trash can down the hall," Crabtree concluded.

**FHCP** from Page 13

Carol Rettschlag, Pat Greene, Paula Hill and Maria Minori compared the certification process to labor. Once it was over, they forgot about it. "At the time," Rettschlag said, "I wondered if I was ever going to get through it. But it's worth it. Making sure the children you are caring for are in a good situation makes it all worth while."

The four became FHCP providers so they could stay home with their children, but still earn money. "I discovered I could make more money staying home with my children and watching others than placing my own children in a day care program," Greene said.

Minori, who watches two children under one year of age on a full-time basis and a three year old and two other children less than a year old on a part-time basis, enjoys the unconditional love the babies provide. While she doesn't particular enjoy the early morning hours (her first baby comes at 5:45 a.m.), she receives tremendous satisfaction from her young charges. "I love babies," she said. "It's when children start talking and getting opinions that they drive me up the wall!"

Greene said she receives a "good feeling" when she visits her charges' homes and sees their artwork she helped them make hanging on the wall or refrigerator.

Providers agree there is some jealousy from their own children over the care they give other people's children. "We just have to spend extra time with our own children when the other kids are gone," said Hill. "We plan special outings just for the family."

Hill's 10-year-old daughter, Shannon, is very enthusiastic about her mother's occupation. "I love it," she said. "I like inviting the kids into my room and letting them listen to music and giving them candy." That's not a treat often given to her own brother and sister, she admits.

Three-year-old Erin Zurn, one of Hill's charges, loves visiting Shannon, but, doesn't like going to Hill's house, she said with a big grin and dancing eyes. The more Hill sputtered over the remark, the wider Erin grinned.

Presley noted providers attend training classes and have their homes inspected monthly by the FHCP coordinator. "It keeps us on our toes," Hill said laughingly.

The program also provides a support system that is unequalled, the women said. "The feedback from the other providers is invaluable," Minori said. "If you have a problem with a particular child (or even with the program) there is always someone you can call."

China Lake currently has 20 FHCP providers and another 13 in the process of becoming certified. Additional providers are needed as there are currently more than 30 names waiting for family home care, Presley said. She should know because being she's expecting a baby in only five weeks and has had her name on the waiting list since October.



**THEY'RE HERE**—More than 250 children, child care providers and parents took part in last week's Naval Air Weapons Station Public Awareness Walk at China Lake. The event is held each year to remind people of the nation's most important resource—the children.



Photos by Terry Pascerella

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## Seafarer offers dinner theatre production

On May 8, the Seafarer Club will present "Broadway Tonight," an Alex & Alicia Production. The event begins with a social hour at 6 p.m., followed by a chicken ala' orange dinner at 6:30 p.m. The show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are available at the club, are \$20 per person.

Reservations, which are recommended, can be made by calling 939-8658.

## Sato Leisure Travel offers cruise special

Now available from Sato Leisure Travel is a two-for-one special on Song of Norway's Canary Islands and Morocco cruises.

Cruise-only prices begin at \$977 per passenger. Ports of call include Volcanic Lanzarote, Las Palmas, the Fortress of Gibraltar and Casablanca and Agadir.

Cruises depart Oct. 31, Nov. 12 and Nov. 23. Certain category and restrictions apply.

For bookings and more information, call Sato Leisure Travel, Bennington Plaza, at 446-7751.

## MWR Sports Division rewards those who exercise during May

May is National Fitness Month and the Morale, Welfare & Recreation Department's Sports Division at China Lake is offering to reward those who complete some form of exercise every day during the month. Just keep track of the exercise by recording it in a daily journal. Those who turn the completed journal in to the staff at the China Lake Gymnasium during June will receive a free beverage or powerbar.

The offer is open to all China Lakers. You don't have to be a member of the gymnasium.

## Discount tickets available at NAWS

Military Fun Days are being held at Magic Mountain May 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 22-25.

Specially-priced tickets are \$12.45 and are available to military and civilian personnel, families and friends at the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake Craftech Center. Ticket price at the gate is \$24.50. There is no charge for children two years of age or younger. For more information, call 939-3252.

## Registration for youth basketball league starts

Sign-ups for Summer '92 Youth Basketball begin May 4 at the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake Youth Center. Games for this six-week league will be played on Saturdays, with practices being held on weekday evenings. The first game is set for July 11, with the season ending Aug. 15. The league is open to children 7 to 17 years of age.

Evaluations will be held on Saturday, June 6, from noon to 2 p.m. A coach and referee meeting will be held from 5:15 to 6:15 on June 17 at the Youth Center. Volunteers are needed for coaching. People who would like to coach a youth basketball team should call the youth sports director, Lita Drake at 939-2909.

The league is open to military and civilian dependents. Cost is as follows:

E1-E3—\$14.50 for first child, \$12.50 for second.  
E4-E6—\$15.50 for first child, \$13.50 for second.  
E7-E9—\$16.50 for first child, \$14.50 for second.  
01-03—\$17.50 for first child, \$15.50 for second.  
04-05—\$18.50 for first child, \$16.50 for second.  
DoD—\$19.50 for first child, \$17.50 for second.  
06 & above, Dept. heads—\$20.50 for first child, \$18.50 for second.  
Others—\$21.50 for first child, \$19.50 for second.

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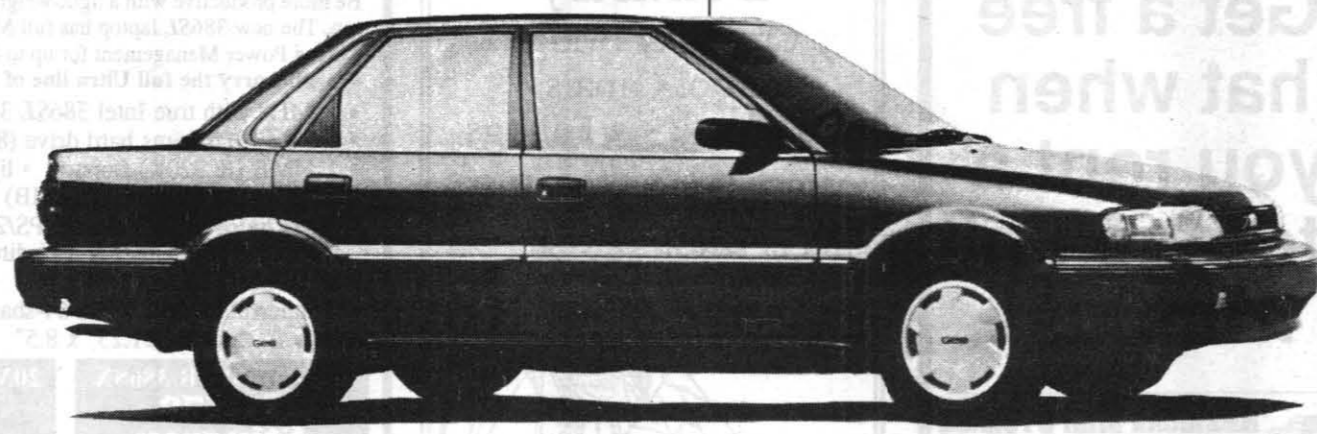
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## Point Mugu expands its sea-testing capabilities with maneuverable, remote controlled, ship-sized target

Story & Photos by JOZ Rick Collins  
Missile Staff Writer

For many years and under a variety of names, the naval communities at Point Mugu, China Lake, Albuquerque and White Sands have always been in the forefront in the test and evaluation of some of the world's most sophisticated air-to-surface and surface-to-surface weapons systems.

With the recent establishment of the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, the center's reformulated mission is to be the Navy's full-spectrum research, development, test, evaluation and inservice engineering center for weapon systems associated with the various forms of air warfare.

Of the many phases weapons—like the HARM, Harpoon, and I.R. Maverick missiles—go through—one of the most critical is the system's actual sea test against a target ship.

Until now, that testing has been carried out against many target platforms that are either remote-controlled boats, called Septars, made up to mimic a perceived threat, or barely mobile floating hulks of once-proud Navy combat ships, usually decommissioned World War II destroyers.

As is sometimes the case when a facsimile is used instead of the real thing, there can be trade-offs in the value of the substitute and the results of the tests.

"There has been a long standing, unmet need for a mobile ship-sized target for weapons systems test and evaluation," said Jeff Blume, a naval architect at Point Mugu's Surface Target Division.

Now, thanks to the United States Coast Guard and the knowledge and efforts of Blume and his fellow workers in the Engineering, Septar Operations and Target Ships branches of Surface Targets Division, the need has been met. Point Mugu is the only Navy facility to have a maneuverable, remote-controlled, ship-sized target hulk.



**FIRST IN THE NAVY**—A helo removes personnel from the ex-USCGC Clover after verifying that the remote-control system is functioning properly. The 187-foot ex-Coast Guard buoy tender is the only fully maneuverable, remote-controlled ship-size target hulk in the Navy.

Blume said in mid-1990 the Coast Guard notified the Targets Division that it was decommissioning an entire class of ship and wanted to know if Surface Targets would be interested in receiving any of them, free of charge.

The Coast Guard ships, first built in the 1940s, were used as buoy tenders. The class of 13 ships were later converted into medium-endurance cutters. They weigh 900 tons, are 187 feet long and have a top speed of between 10 and 12 knots.

Blume said the ships were converted to medium-endurance vessels during the '70s and were used for fishery patrols, but were being phased out because they

often had to chase law-breakers but couldn't catch them.

"They could go a long way, from here to Singapore (with full tanks), but not very fast," said Blume.

He also said the logistic support for the engines was hard for the Coast Guard to keep up with because of the nonavailability of machine parts for the twin 1,000-horsepower diesel/electric power plants.

Blume said after receiving the Coast Guard offer, "We decided to demonstrate our capability in remote-controlling a double digit (capable of maneuvering in speed in excess of 10 knots), fully maneuverable vessel in sea-state three (fully-developed seas with 15 to 25 knot sustained winds).

He said the Surface Targets Division had been looking for an alternative to the ex-Navy DD-class ships because they are not mobile when received and are extremely expensive ("several million") to convert to an external propulsion system.

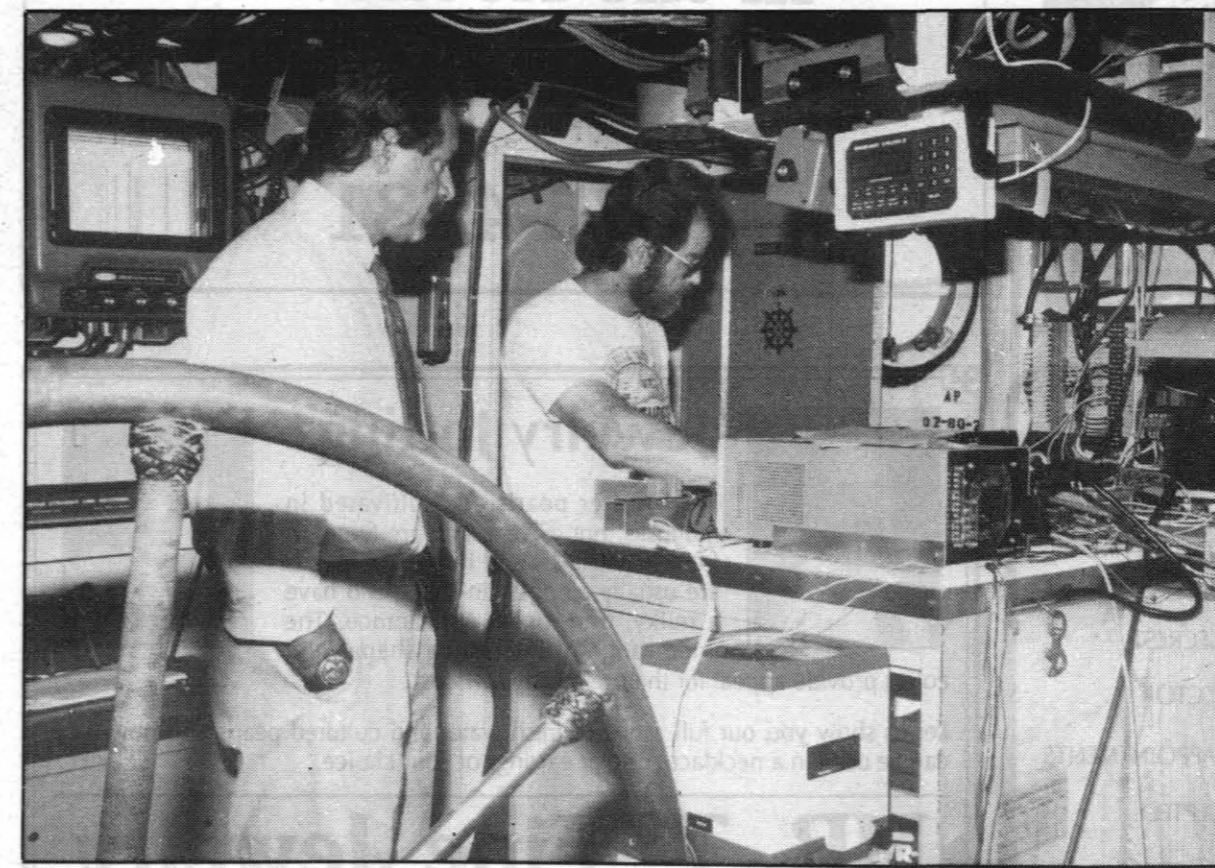
Presently, the ex-USS Stoddard is the only mobile ship-sized vessel in the seven-to-eight ship inventory controlled by Surface Targets. The others are designated as target hit ships and are towed into position, then either set adrift or anchored during a weapon's test.

With only a three-knot capability, the ex-Stoddard's value as a mobile target is limited. Blume said gunners don't try to hit the veteran ship. It is only used as a self-defense test platform to test defensive weapon systems. Decoy barges are towed behind it to attract incoming missiles if they are not knocked down during the sea tests.

The first ship to be delivered was the ex-USCGC Clover (WMEC-292). Blume said the ship arrived from Eureka, Calif., after decommissioning in July 1990 and she was a fully-operational ship upon arrival here.

"Everything is still on board except for crypto equipment," said Blume. "They (Coast Guard) even left us a microwave and toaster."

Blume said the cost to convert the ex-Clover was about \$400,000. He said it took more than six months to develop and install the remote control system onboard because Surface Targets personnel worked on the ship



**ONBOARD**—Left to right, Jeff Blume and Paul Felgar fine-tune the remote-control board on the target ship's bridge.

**TARGET** from Page 7

with no direct funding. He added it was a special project done while maintaining the rest of the division's normal work load.

The Surface Target personnel have had a lot of experience in remote-controlled seaborne targets. Blume said one of the charges within his division is that it is the cognizant engineering activity for the Navy world-wide for the research, development, maintenance and configuration control of all seaborne targets.

Blume compared that cost to the QST-35 Septar 56-ft. target board, which costs more than \$500,000 each. "They are not as threat representative as this ship because of their size," he said. He added that the Navy contracts out every year to buy "a bunch of them."

Some of the changes made to the ex-Clover by division personnel included: removal of all asbestos; the addition of a helo deck on the fantail; installation of eight video and still cameras; installation of 12 Super RBOC chaff tube launchers (radar deflecting counter-measure system) on the well deck; installation of extra emergency pumps and an emergency power plant in case

of a direct hit below the waterline or in the engine room; sterilization of the sanitation system; sterilization of the wing fuel tanks and refilled them with sea water.

The remote-control system added to the ex-Clover is an adapted version of the one used on the 56-ft. Septar. Its two drive units operate the ship's helm and throttle. The entire ship-board system is guided by the Integrated Target Control System. It allows an off-ship operator to command the steering, throttle and cameras during weapons test.

Blume said the remote-control system operates basically the same as a remote-controlled model boat or airplane, with the only difference being the controller can't see the boat. The ship can be controlled from another ship or via a Laguna Peak hook-up to Range Operations.

He added the ship is perfect for the Navy's needs because, although gunners don't intend to sink the ship, during certain operational evaluations direct hits are necessary. He said the ex-Clover can take a direct hit and survive because of her water-tight integrity, and that during all exercises, two salvage boats, with emergency

water-pumping capability, will be there in case they are needed.

"We're excited about this type of vessel because there are 12 more of them available for use down the line," said Blume.

Blume defined the ultimate goal of Surface Targets Division: "To come up with a utilitarian target ship to support fleet training and weapons evaluation."

Such a ship has been conceived, designed and engineered by Blume and others within the Surface Targets Division. The new generation of ship is a fully remote-controlled, environmentally clean ship containing no asbestos or PCBs.

"It is sinkable by Environmental Protection Agency standards," said Blume.

Blume said the new Ship Simulator Target (SST) ship will be 260 feet long; capable of operating in Sea State Three at 12 knots; maintain an operational speed of 13.5 knots and the superstructure can be modified to outline most any type of ship silhouette. The first prototype is due in approximately 18 months.

**American Heritage Week kick-off features annual 5K Walk/Run competition on June 8**

Registration is being taken for the American Heritage Week 5K Run/Walk, scheduled for June 8 at the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake.

The registration fee is \$8. Those registering by May 20 will receive a t-shirt or tank top. Those registering after May 20 will not be eligible for the shirt. Checks, made out to Sue Prasolowicz, should be sent to NAWCWPNS Human Resources Department, 505 Blandly, Rm 109, China Lake, CA 93555-6001, ATTN: Sherri Baker, Code 226. Please include work phone number and code on the check.

The American Heritage Week 5K Run/Walk starts at 11:30 a.m.. All participants are required to check in at the registration desk, located near the Officers' Club pool entrance, no later than 11:15 a.m. Race day registrants need to check in by 11 a.m. with a completed entry form and entry fee. The check-in desk opens at 10:45 a.m.

This event kicks off American Heritage Week 1992. Watch *The Rocketeer* for other events scheduled during the week, including the annual EEO Awards presentation ceremony.

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In consideration of my entry, I, intending to be legally bound, do hereby, for myself, my heirs, associates, and administration, waive, release, and forever discharge any and all rights, claims and causes of action which I may hereafter accrue against the United States Government, the Department of the Navy, the Naval Air Weapons Center Weapons Division, Naval Air Weapons Station, all sponsors of the event and their respective officers, agents, representatives, successors, and/or assigns, for any and all injuries or damages suffered by me as the result of participation in this event. I certify that I am physically fit to participate in the event, and that I am knowledgeable of the risks involved in this type of event.

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**MWR**

**Know More Diet open house set**

Taught by Karen Botham, the Know More Diet, a program by Jazzercise, is a nutrition education program to help learn to create a healthy diet that can be followed for life. Sponsored by the China Lake Morale, Welfare & Recreation Department, Know More Diet classes will be offered at the Children's Center Conference Room (off Blandly) every Monday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for eight weeks.

According to Botham, the program offers lifetime solutions to weight management, blood cholesterol and blood pressure problems. Food plans are chosen based upon weight and exercise habits.

Students will learn why fad diets don't work; how exercise helps raise metabolism and how dieting lowers it; how to lower fat in food to 30 percent or less; the difference between saturated

and unsaturated fats; the difference between good and bad cholesterol; how to read labels; and why it isn't necessary to count calories.

"It's a program where participants can lose weight and still eat 'real' food," said Botham. "We don't sell pre-packaged food. People select real food from the store. The way to manage your weight and health is knowing what to buy."

To learn more about the program, Botham is offering an open house at the Children's Center Conference Room on May 4 from 6:30 to 7 p.m. Cost of the eight-week program is \$79 per person. A \$10 discount is offered to those joining the program during the open house. People who would like to register, but can't attend the open house can register by call Botham at 446-3381.

*Month of the Child*

**Employees have day care choices**

Parents working at the Naval Air Weapons Center China Lake have a choice when it comes to day care, said Janet Presley, coordinator of the Morale, Welfare & Recreation Department Family Home Care Program (FHCP). "If parents don't want to send their children to a day care center, preferring more of a family situation, they can choose one of our FHCP providers," she said.

Debra Oliver, head of the Youth Center at China Lake, praises both the program and the FHCP provider of her two-year-old daughter, Cassie. "Cassie is part of another family," she said. "My provider is the most wonderful person, but it's not just her. It's the interaction between the entire family. That's what I want for Cassie."

According to Presley, the FHCP provider is at least 18 years of age and has passed the FHCP certification process and cares for other people's children at her (or his) home on a regularly scheduled basis. Presley noted China

Lake residents may not provide child care on a regularly scheduled basis for more than 10 hours per week without the FHCP certificate.

To become certified, potential providers must take orientation, CPR and First Aid training classes; receive medical clearance; pass numerous home inspections (by the coordinator, fire department and preventive medicine personnel); have an emergency back-up (a substitute provider); receive a family advocacy clearance; and have an operating telephone and proof of insurance. Upon satisfactory completion of these requirements, potential providers are given pending certification and allowed to start providing home care. Upon passing the National Agency Check Investigation background check and receiving final approval from the NAWS commanding officer, providers receive a FHCP certificate.

Please see **FHCP**, Page 15

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# Safety Sense

## Bike riders need safety awareness

You're driving down Lauritsen Road to the Airfield; you've gotten a little behind in your work so you came in early this morning. The sun isn't even a hint in the east yet and your mind is on what you plan to accomplish this morning. Suddenly, you see something in the road ahead. Just in time you swerve out of the way and just miss it. Was it a coyote? No, it was much bigger than a coyote. Was it a burro? No, it didn't look that furry. What was it? A bicyclist riding to work at the same time with no lights or reflectors on their bicycle.

Recently, we've had several near miss situations with bicycles during hours of darkness. A bicycle with no lights or reflectors does not show up very well at night, and should the operator be wearing dark color clothing as well. . . This is the stuff that accidents are made of.

According to California law and Station instruction, every bicycle operated upon any roadway during darkness shall be equipped (1) with a forward facing lamp (attached to the bicycle or the oper-

ator) emitting a white light which, while the bicycle is in motion, illuminates the highway in front of the bicyclist and is visible from a distance of 300 feet in front and from the sides of the bicycle, (2) with a red reflector on the rear which shall be visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear when directly in the front of the lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle, (3) with a white or yellow reflector on each pedal visible from the front and rear of the bicycle from a distance of 200 feet, and (4) with a white or yellow reflector on each side forward of the center of the bicycle, and (5) with a white or red reflector on each side to the rear of the center of the bicycle. Bicycles which are equipped with reflectorized tires on the front and the rear need not be equipped with these side reflectors.

Bicycle riding can be both an economical and healthy way to get to and from work; but if you're not doing it safely you may not get there at all. Please, ride and drive safely.

# Ideas Column

By Melanie Truesdale  
IDEAS Office

## Some IDEAS may prevent a disaster

This is the day for disaster preparedness. Sometimes IDEAS fits right in with that concept. Our IDEAS prevent disasters from happening.

No. 388, Bicycle Access and Safety. Joy Adams, Code 006, would like to see either gates opened or built for bicycle access.

No. 389, Tennis for Military. Lt.j.g. Chris Johnson and Ens. Romelda Sadiarin suggest MWR look at a better way of scheduling use of the tennis courts and ball machine.

No. 390, Site Licenses for Computer Software. Larry Brauer, Code 326.

No. 391, Michelson Lab's South Gate. Kurt Reese suggests scanner to expedite traffic.

No. 392, Computer Software Requirements. Randi Clark, Code 395, suggests a newsletter on available software.

No. 393, Self-Help Program. James Quarders, Code 2661, suggests personnel on "lite duty" assist in the self-help program.

No. 394, Emergency Materials Fund. Robert Enterkine, Code 6204, suggests Code 62 set up a method to make funds available for emergency purchases on weekends.

No. 395, Supervisor Work Experience. Ben Parsons, Code 32901E, suggests branch heads and above work one day a month with the personnel they supervise.

No. 396, Single Item Cold Storage Purchases. Robert Enterkine, Code 6204, suggests items like film, batteries, etc be sold individually instead of bulk.

No. 397, NAWC/NAWS Logos in MacDraw. Reva Duggins, Code 3903, suggests the logos be made available on the Mac in more than Power Point.

No. 398, Eating Facility. Ricky Parks, Code 225, use the galley as a restaurant for all.

No. 399, Videotape Security Refresher Training. John Poole, Code 3642, suggests Code 24 tape the security refresher and make it available for employees unable to attend.

No. 400, ADP User Handbook & Guide. Gunars Svika, Code 3571, suggests developing a policies and procedures handbook for computer system operation and handling.

No. 401, Phone Recorder Recycling. Roger Peck, Code 224, suggests phone recorders be given to Pt. Mugu when we receive voice mail.

No. 402, U. S. Flag for DOD Retirees. Michael Theis, Code 3916, suggests DoD retirees be given a flag flown over the NAWC/NAWS their last day of work.

No. 403, Passenger Bus to Mugu. Wanda Williams, Code 257, suggests a bus to and from Pt. Mugu.

You can reach Bruce MacIntosh or Melanie Truesdale in the IDEAS office at 939-2311, E-Mail at SCF:IDEAS or QuickMail addressed to IDEAS Code\_05.

### TEAM from Page 1

Swasey, Andrew Howard, Alex Quintanilla, Nathan Hannah, Robert Gunn, John Glover, Mark Thomason, Mike Feulner, Gary Erthal, Don Rogers, Denis Weber, James Smith, Fred Stahlman, and Charles Trammel.

Also on the team were: Neil Higgins, Ronald Gilchrist, Monte Dinwiddie, Barry Olson, Lino Esmeralda, Gerald Austin, Gary Newton, Miller Flournoy Jr. and John Branson.

Members of the team not present at the award and photo ceremony included: Charlotte Meeks, Patsy Martinez, Barbara Parsons, David Hawkins, Ezekiel Caldwell, Lewis Lusher, Laura Bass, Steven Shoffstall, Gary Bayless, Alonzo Robinson, Freddie Peacock and Deborah Harper.

## ITEA sponsors RDT&E workshop in Ventura with focus on the interoperability challenges

From May 19-21, the local Channel Islands Chapter of the International Test and Evaluation Association (ITEA) is sponsoring an interoperability workshop entitled "The RDT&E Challenge" at the Doubletree Hotel in Ventura, Calif.

The workshop will focus on problems, issues, testing and solutions all within the context of interoperability. The format will consist of two expert panel discussions, four technical sessions and a fifth session devoted to clas-

sified issues concerning interoperability. In addition, a number of industry representatives will be on hand with technical exhibits to demonstrate new approaches.

An optional short course program will be offered Monday, May 18, addressing test range instrumentation and T&E in the acquisition process.

Registration forms can be obtained by calling Carl Ashley at (805) 989-8988 or Bill Flothmeier at (805) 989-4649.

## New phone number for CO's Desktop questions

Because of the changeover to the Center Telecommunication System, the number to the Commanding Officer's Desktop has changed to 939-4127.

Questions dealing with the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake will be

answered by Capt. B.J. Craig, the commanding officer. Questions dealing with the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division will be answered by RAdm. W. E. Newman, commander, or Capt. D. W. Cook, vice-commander.

# THERE'S SOMETHING NEW AT STATER BROS. MARKET...



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## Wellness Corner

By Betty Miller  
Wellness Coordinator

### Financial wellness advice provided at Training Center

The Wellness Program offers a series of courses designed to improve both your physical and mental health. Some of the classes address financial issues. We know that financial concerns can cause stress which may rob an employee of energy which is needed on the job.

One out of two Americans who turn 65 after the year 2000 won't have enough money to retire. How can you avoid becoming a victim of this unsettling statistic? Learn how to use the financial opportunities available to you. Two upcoming courses taught by Charla Green, MBA, CFP, can help you understand the Thrift Savings Plan. Learn whether you should contribute, where to put your money, how to move your money from one fund to another, and how to get your money out.

Personal Financial Planning on Wednesday, May 6, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., will introduce you to the three Thrift Savings Plan options. You can also learn how to reduce debt and save money on insurance and taxes. On Wednesday, May 20, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., Basic Investing Techniques will cover the Thrift Savings Plan opportunities and risks in more depth. In addition, you will learn about mutual funds and tax-advantaged investments, including IRAs.

May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. In celebration of this month, the Wellness Program will sponsor a two-mile walk/jog on May 13, National Employee Health and Fitness Day. The event will begin at 11:30 a.m. at McBride Park with sign ups taking place at 11:15 a.m. All participants will receive a commemorative ribbon and there will be a drawing for prizes. This is a non-competitive event.

The Wellness Program also hopes to have fitness assessments begin some time in May. As soon as the contract is awarded, we will publish a schedule.

## Compu Chatter

By Donna Hanson  
PC Lab

### New virus alert; System 7 needs extra memory

A new Mac virus is named "CODE 252" (not to be confused with a division in the procurement department) infects system files and applications. The virus does not intentionally harm data or systems. However, a bug in it can damage System 7, and applications may behave erratically when it is active. When activated, a message is displayed falsely claiming the user's hard disks are being erased, and the virus deletes itself. Disinfectant 2.8 is available now in the PC Lab and will detect this new virus.

#### System 7 tips for using memory

1. Under MultiFinder and System 7, you can have more than one program running at the same time. Closing a window does not quit the active program or free much memory. You must choose Quit from the File menu to make more memory available.

2. If you do not use any network services, you can save 100K by turning off AppleTalk in the Chooser.

3. You can save memory by turning off File Sharing in the Sharing Setup control panel.

4. If your System Folder contains system extensions you don't need, you can make more memory available by removing them. For example, if your Mac will never be connected to a host database, you can remove the DAL

extension. To remove an extension, drag its icon out of both the Extensions folder and the System Folder to another location on your hard disk. Then Restart from the Special menu.

5. Another way to save memory is to reduce the size of the disk cache (a portion of the computer's memory set aside to increase its speed). Open the Memory control panel (inside the Control Panels folder). Click the down arrow in the Disk Cache section until the cache is the smallest possible size. Then Restart from the Special menu.

6. Reduce the amount of memory required by the program. First Quit the program if open. Then select the program's icon and choose Get Info from the File menu. Reset the current size by typing a lower value. Some programs will not operate properly with current size smaller than suggested.

7. Programs sometimes have problems printing if there is not enough free memory. In addition to "insufficient memory" dialog boxes, symptoms are the printout does not look correct; bitmap fonts substituted for TrueType fonts or lines missing. You can also free up memory by Quitting the program while background printing takes place: Save your work, choose Print from the File menu, click Print in the dialog box and Quit the program.

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### COMMANDING OFFICER'S PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, May 1st is Law Day U.S.A. in the United States of America, and...

WHEREAS, The United States of America has been the citadel of individual liberty and a beacon of hope and opportunity for more than 200 years to many millions who have sought our shores, and...

WHEREAS, The foundation of individual freedom and liberty is the body of the law that governs us, and...

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the United States of America and the Bill of Rights are the heart of that body of law, which guarantees us many freedoms—including freedom of religious belief, freedom to have and hold property inviolate, freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of press, freedom of petition, and due process of the law among others, and...

WHEREAS, This year marks the 35th annual nationwide observance of Law Day, and the Congress of the United States and the President by official proclamation have set aside May 1 as a special day for recognition of the place of law in American life,...

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Commanding Officer of NAWs, China Lake, CA, do hereby designate May 1, 1992, as Law Day U.S.A. and call upon all military and civilian personnel to commemorate the role of law in our lives.

*B. J. Craig, Jr.*  
Captain, U.S. Navy

### Law Day and Respect for Law Week honored

By Lt. R.J. Hatley  
Staff Judge Advocate

Virtually everyone at some time has secretly wished that the speed limit wasn't 55 or that they didn't have to pay taxes. However, if these scenarios ever came to pass, public highways would be littered with wrecks and the revenues to pay for government services would dry up. A society without laws is analogous to a game without rules—chaos is the order of the day.

Tomorrow, May 1, is nationally recognized as Law Day throughout America. The purpose behind the founding of Law Day 34 years ago was to increase the awareness of the general public that America is, at bottom, a nation subject to the rule of law, not the whim of whoever happens to be in power.

The law touches and concerns almost every aspect of our lives. Granted, our system of law as a whole is often questioned—and it should be—for its effectiveness, efficiency and fairness. Many laws are often confusing, complicated and, at times, nonsensical. Yet, for all the inefficiency and delay, America is still the yardstick by which other countries are judged in terms of the rights and freedoms afforded our citizens.

Friday is a day to reflect on our legal heritage, from the formulation of the U.S. Constitution in 1789, and its subsequent amendment to include a Bill of Rights, to present day issues such as abortion and civil rights. But it is more. Friday is also a day for each of us to reflect on our duties as citizens.

I challenge each of you to become and remain informed on local, state and federal governmental affairs. I encourage you to let your elected representatives know your concerns about modernizing our courts. While I would certainly request that all military and civilian personnel obey and respect the law, I would especially appeal to all of you to support those charged with law enforcement. Finally, this is an election year, if you are dissatisfied with the quality of representation in state or federal matters, I dare you to make a difference and exercise your right to vote.

Law Day, celebrated tomorrow, is the first day of the annual Respect for Law Week, which runs through May 7. Each year the Optimist Club of Ridgecrest - China Lake sponsors Respect for Law Week and recognizes peace officers from the China Lake and Ridgecrest Police departments, California Highway Patrol and Kern County Sheriffs Office.

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