

NHCP Newsletter

Serving those who serve, we care

Vol. 9, Issue 1

Serving the Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton community

Spring 2002

TRICARE Online arrives at NHCP

By Kimberly D. Prato
Public Affairs Officer

A new internet web site called TRICARE Online arrives at Camp Pendleton.

TRICARE Online is a new Internet "gateway" to interactive services and information, designed to allow TRICARE military health care beneficiaries to take command of their own health care in a common, secure, user-friendly electronic environment.

TRICARE Online can be used to make certain types of appoint-

ments with your primary care manager (assigned physician) at the hospital. Appointments can still be made via phone through the Access to Care Center.

All registered users can visit TRICARE Online to keep a per-



sonal health journal. This secure page can be used to record health care data, such as current treatment, immunizations, prescribed

See, "New NHCP TRICARE Online," on page 15.

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Welcome Aboard: New Command Master Chief arrives at NHCP

Master Chief

Sanchez a native of South Bronx, New York was born on September 5, 1963. He joined the Navy on 22 June 1981 and completed Recruit Training in San Diego, California.

His duty assignments include: Striker, Naval Training Center, San Diego, CA. Student, Naval School of Health Sciences, Hospital Corps "A" School, San Diego, CA. Ward Corpsman, Naval Hospital, Camp

See, "New NHCP CMC," on page 3.



Command Master Chief, (Fleet Marine Force), Raphael Sanchez. Official U.S. Navy photo taken by HM2 Sean E. Farrell.

Customer Relations Success Stories and Patient Appreciation Letters



CAPT John F. Monroe,
CDR Marty W. Shields,
CDR Gretchen Taylor,
LT Kelly I. Slater,
LT Elizabeth Britton,
LT Chrisanna Johnson:

These dedicated Naval Officers were recognized in a warm, heartfelt letter sent by a patient who had recently lost his wife here at NHCP. Through a tough decision-making process of the family to not resuscitate, these individual's enabled his wife to die with a complete sense of respect and dignity. The support received by the family from this hospital and these officers, was overwhelming. The husband that sent in the letter has only the utmost confidence in the Naval Medical system. He has trusted his, wife's, his son (a retired

Navy Captain) and his grandson's (an Ensign on the USS John C. Stennis) medical care only to the Navy for over 30 years. LT Slater continued to go above and beyond the call of duty with this family by seeking out the date of the funeral and attending in support of the family.

LCDR C. L. Clarkson:

The family member of a retired Marine sent in an extraordinary letter addressing LCDR Clarkson and the "superior medical care" she has provided to her and her two daughters. LCDR Clarkson has continually made herself accessible for preventive medical counseling as well as treatment scheduling and has many times gone out of her way to contact the patient concerning test results and follow-up care. The letter also stated that she has ALWAYS received excellent care at the OB/GYN Clinic and what a wonderful and caring provider Dr. Clarkson has been. "Both my

husband (retired Marine) and my son (active duty Marine) would not be alive today if it were not for Navy Medicine. Keep up the good work!"

LT Felicia Duffy:

LT Duffy is by far one of the most dedicated staff members on board here today. We received a letter on LT Duffy acknowledging her for her extra effort in getting a sick student seen; enabling them to stay in class rather than being placed on SIQ and missing vital information. This is only one example of her superior performance. LT Duffy has proven to be the epitome of Customer Satisfaction. She is the go-to person for our Customer Relations Department for anything concerning Family Medicine. Her flexibility and "getting to yes" attitude is greatly reflected in the continually rising patient satisfaction levels in Family Medicine.

HM3 James C. Cook:

The command received a letter from the Battalion Chief of the Ventura County Fire Department commending HM3 Cook. During the recent Fallbrook Fires that spread to Camp Pendleton, Fire Fighters from all over Southern California were camped out at Lake O'Neil fighting the fires on base. Fighting large brush fires in February is highly unusual so many of the Fire Fighters were ill pre-

"Customer Relations Success Stories,," continued on page 4.

NHCP NEWSLETTER
www.eNHCP.com

NHCP Newsletter submissions should be sent to mdylewski@open.med.navy.mil or call Public Affairs 725-1271 for more information.

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HM3 Hialia McCree

Commanding Officer
CAPT W.M. Heroman, MC

Executive Officer

CAPT M. P. Hogan, NC

Public Affairs Officer

Kimberly D. Prato

Deputy PAO

JO1 Robert M. Dylewski

“New NHCP CMC,” continued from page 1.

Pendleton, CA. Ship’s company, USS Constellation CV64, Coronado, CA. Staff, Naval Medical Clinic, Treasure Island, CA. Staff, onboard the USNS Mercy for Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Student, Field Medical Service School, Camp Pendleton, CA. Battalion Chief Corpsman, 1ST Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton, CA. Instructor, Field Medical Service School, Camp Pendleton, CA. Student, Senior Enlisted Academy, Newport, RI. Regimental Senior Chief, 1ST Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, CA. Assistant Navy Personnel Officer and Acting Command Master Chief, 1st Marine Division Camp Pendleton.

He holds a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration from Columbia College, Columbia, Mo. Attended the Navy Senior Enlisted Academy, Class 88.

His awards include: Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal with two Gold Stars, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation with one Bronze Star, Navy Battle “E”, Navy Good Conduct with three Bronze Stars, Fleet Marine Force Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Services Medal with one Bronze Star, South West Asia Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, Humanitarian Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Kuwait Liberation Medal from the Government of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait Liberation Medal from the Government of Kuwait, Navy Pistol Expert Ribbon. He is warfare qualified as Fleet Marine Force and is a Master Training Specialist.

Master Chief Sanchez is married to the former Joni Kay Nicholas of Oceanside, CA. ✿

Access to Care Increasing at 52 Area BMC

*By JO1 Robert M Dylewski
Deputy Public Affairs Officer*

Family members from the San Onafre housing areas no longer have to worry about a 30minute comminute to the Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton, (NHCP), for their medical needs. The 52 Area Branch Medical Clinic, (ABMC), in San Onafre recently opened the doors to family Care. NHCP’s Director for Branch Medical Clinics Cmdr. Darlene Burke said that NHCP is meeting the needs of its patient population better by opening the doors to family members.

Some of the primary care services being offered are school physicals, well woman exams, pediatric immunizations and routine medical maintenance. Also available at the clinic is a pharmacy, laboratory and radiology services. Patients need to enroll with TRICARE to 52 ABMC and be assigned a Primary Care Manager



Camp Pendleton’s Commanding General Maj. Gen. David Bice and Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton Commanding Officer Capt. William Heroman ceremonially open the doors to family care at the 52 Area Branch Medical Clinic Official U.S. Navy Photo by JO1 Robert M. Dylewski.

there, according to Lt. Eve Currie the Clinic’s division officer.

In addition to primary family member care, 52 ABMC provides field medical coverage an average of 250 field-training operations a month. ✿



“Customer Relations Success Stories,” continued from page 2.

pared for the cold night weather. Many of them did not have sleeping bags and even fewer of them had tents. On 11 Feb at approximately 2200, the Fire Fighters arrived at Lake O’Neil after fighting fires for 17 hours, where the temperature had already dropped to below freezing. By 2300, HM3 Cook had taken the initiative and gotten approval to have the Firemen sleep in the gym with use of the showers, soap and toilet paper and most of all, shelter from the cold. By the second night, HM3 Cook had set up for use of the EMT training building for use as well. HM3 Cook’s efforts affected the physical and emotional well being of over 75 Firemen enabling them to better respond each day to the arduous task of fighting the fires.

RP1 William C. Hammond:

This Coin of Excellence is presented to RP1 William C. Hammond for his exceptional customer service in his role as Customer Relations Instructor Team Leader and Representative for the Pastoral Care Department, for the last two years. His ability to “walk the talk” is evident in his impact on this command. We are losing a talented instructor who taught approximately 50% of the Customer Relations courses; more than any one instructor over the last two years. It is the hard work of staff members like you that allow programs like this to achieve its goal of “Getting to Yes.”

HM2 Matthew Sutton:

Almost two weeks ago, an HM1 from Hawaii was here TAD for a class and had forgotten to pack one of their regular medications. This HM1 went to three

different clinics seeking assistance before they ended up at the Pharmacy. This is where they met up with HM2 Sutton. Seeing a shipmate in need, HM2 Sutton contacted the HM1’s home pharmacy in Hawaii to verify the prescription. HM2 Sutton quickly filled the prescription and the HM1 was on their way. This HM1 had really gotten the run around and was ready to leave and get on with their day. However, they didn’t leave without writing an absolutely wonderful letter expressing their gratitude to HM2 Sutton “for caring enough to try and get the job done.”

Just since this letter from the 11th of March, HM2 Sutton has been instrumental in two different cases helping the Customer Relations Department and has also received another letter of appreciation from a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel for his outstanding service and his “getting to yes” attitude.

SK3 Will L. Jones:

Upon reporting on board, a new staff member was assigned to the Fleet Hospital Platform. After receiving his new assignment, the LT headed over to Material Management to receive his new issue of Uniforms, which is where he met up with SK3 Jones. The LT sent in a letter to the command stating that in his 12+ years in the military, SK3 Jones had given him the most friendly, courteous, and respectful Customer Service he had ever received and he wished to commend SK3 Jones on his superior professionalism. Keep up the good work!

HN Brian DeWolf:

HN DeWolf spent a good part of his Sunday afternoon being a “good Samaritan.” He had pulled

over to help a stranded vehicle and took one of the passengers to go get gas, which did not turn out to be an easy task. First to find a gas can that is not sold at gas stations and then the trip back to the car. With a small amount of gas, the car was running again. His selfless act really made a difference in someone else’s day and that “stranded couple” will always remember HN DeWolf’s selfless act.

Dorothy Foster:

A few months ago, I received a letter from one of our elderly patients regarding Dorothy. She had come in to the hospital to take care of a few different tasks. She needed to bring in her husband’s death certificate, pick up some medications and get a new identification card. This patient was elderly with a hip and knee problem and was obviously worn out by the walk from the parking lot. Ms. Dorothy took her identification card, went to the pharmacy and got the patient’s medications for her and returned with a hospital corpsman and a wheelchair. The corpsman wheeled her down to Personnel Support Detachment, (PSD), for her new identification card and then took her all the way to her car. The patient was so appreciative for their extra effort. That one extra step can really make someone feel like they are the most important person in the world at that moment and that’s all it took, was just a moment.

Paul Santa Maria:

Paul Santa Maria has on a daily basis put the patients and staffs needs above his own. He has repeatedly stayed late to see patients outside of “regular” working

“Customer Relations Success Stories,” continued on page 15.

News Briefs ...

Naval Hospital Patient Safety Board Notes

Patient safety, freedom from accidental harm, and preventable medical errors are an essential part of quality healthcare. It is a top command strategic goal to ensure safe healthcare for our patients. All staff members are requested to view the Patient Safety Education presentation within the Patient Safety section of the NHCP intranet. Check this section regularly for more information about the command's Patient Safety Program, safety alerts, and reports of patient safety improvements.

Reporting of patient safety events is everyone's responsibility. Reports can be made to your department head using a Quality of Care (QOC) form, electronic QOC on Patient Safety Board section of command intranet, or via the Patient Safety Hotline at 725-0053. Point of contact is CDR Mortensen at 725-8578 or pager 414-8526.

Leave Policy Reminder

Any personnel wishing to adjust or cancel a leave request must inform MPMD as soon as possible. In accordance with NAVHOSP CAMPEN INSTRUCTION 1050.2M, the white copy (Part 1) of the leave request must be returned the next working day following the completion of leave. Any adjustments or cancellations

forwarded to MPMD after the end date of the leave period must be accompanied by a memorandum from the member's department head for a correction to be made.

Convalescent leave: Convalescent leave is not chargeable but requires a leave request. Members must submit a leave request with departmental approval and a doctor's note, prior to getting a leave control number.

Prostrate Cancer Education Class

Are you a male whose at least 50-years-old and wondering if prostrate cancer screening is the right thing for you? Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton, (NHCP), is offering an interactive thirty-minute class to help you answer that question. The class lead by Registered Nurse Mark Beede is held the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m. on the 8th floor of the hospital in the Staff Education and Training Department. Don't hesitate to Sign-up for the class today. Call Mark Beede at 725-1077.

Making Your Appointments

Hours of operation: M - R
0630-1800 and F 0630-1600.

Tips for booking an appointment:

- Please listen to the options available on the voice mail 1.) Family Medicine 2.) Internal Medicine/Referrals/Optomety/ Consults 3.) Pediatrics to route your call to the appropriate booking agent.
- ROUTINE appointments (physicals, follow-up's, etc) please call later in the afternoons M-F.
- For ACUTE appointments

(need to be seen today) call anytime, the earlier you call the better because appointments are limited.

- Night clinic ACUTE appointments are not available until 1100 the same day, and cannot be scheduled before that time.
- ACUTE appointments cannot be scheduled more than 24 hours in advance.
- We encourage all AD staff to use the staff sick call hours 0730-0830.

Residency Grad Ceremony Here Followed With Hail And Farewell

Family Practice, Dental Residency, and Sports Fellowship graduation ceremony will be held June 28th at 1000 a.m. in front of the flags. Attendance is encouraged. There will also be a Hail and Farewell that evening starting at 6 p.m. at the Staff NCO club. Tickets for that event can purchased from Family Practice Residents, Drs. Kimmer and Meister. ❁



Graphic by JOI Robert M. Dylewski

Career Counselor Hotline

By HMC (SW/FMF) Gary P. Henkel, CCC



HMC (SW/FMF) Gary P. Henkel
Command Career Counselor

Greetings shipmates! I am proud to say it has been my distinct pleasure in serving you as Command Career Counselor. I am transferring to 1st FSSG July 2002, HM1 Crisostomo will take the helm until my replace is on board. I want to thank all of you who accepted the challenge and applied for advanced medical training. We still need to continue to set the standards to build an even stronger foundation for the future of our Hospital Corps. The STAR program is currently offering in the following NEC's HM-8427 Reconnaissance, HM-8485 Psychiatry Tech, HM-8493 Dive Med Tech, and HM-8541 Respiratory Tech. If your looking for a challenging job with extensive training and great opportunities for advancement HM 8425 Surface Force IDC, HM-8402 Submarine IDC, and HM-8432 Preventive Medicine are schools for you. These schools offer SRB's and college credit. Stop by my office let us help jump start your career, once again thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you. I will see you around the fleet. ✪

Check out StayNavy.navy.mil and learn why you should stay Navy!

StayNAVY Features:

Pay and Compensation Calculator (PCC)

Ever wonder what financial compensation you get from the Navy? If so, the PCC provides answers. In understandable terms, your Navy compensation is compared with civilian benefits and your retirement earnings are calculated so you can clearly see the value of completing a career in the Navy.

Assignment Research Aid (ARA)

Use this customized tool to explore billet opportunities

in the Navy based on your specialty and projected rotation date. By researching potential U.S. and overseas assignments, you can open a dialogue with your detailer and set career goals for you and your family.

Ratings Research Aid (RRA)

View the career path for your rating to see the average time between promotions, advancement trends, and available commissioning programs. Or explore your Navy career options by entering your ASVAB scores to research other ratings and their advancement trends to see which ones are suitable to cross-rate.

Personalized Content

The StayNAVY site will be divided into three key

See, "Stay Navy," on page 11.

Task Force EXCEL Initiative Gears Up to Reach Its Goal

By JO3 Travis D. Eisele, Naval Station Norfolk Public Affairs

The Task Force EXCEL (Excellence through Education and Learning) initiative is marching towards its goal of developing Sailors professionally and personally.

The initiative was started to help Sailors benefit and have more opportunities in the civilian sector. Task Force EXCEL is working to provide Sailors with the best training they can find, as well as helping them attain college credits and civilian certifications for their Navy training. And by improving military training programs, Sailors will be more well-rounded both professionally and personally.

Rear Admiral Harry Ulrich, the commander of Task Force EXCEL said, "by encouraging our Sailors to be well rounded, we benefit by having better educated and trained Sailors and that leads to better mission accomplishment."

Ulrich added that this initiative goes hand-in-hand with the Chief of Naval Operation's Covenant Leadership initiative.

"We owe it to the Sailors who endure long working hours and deployments to provide them with the best personal and professional development we can," he said.

Ulrich also explained that younger Sailors will not be the only ones to benefit from this initiative.

“Whenever we develop new tools and opportunities for younger or newer Sailors, we will also go back and look for ways to help Sailors who are deeper into their careers,” he said.

One example of this is a beta test that is coming up for the Mess Management Specialist (MS) community. Two groups of 25 students will take a 12-week course at the American Culinary Institute. Some of the students will be straight from “A” school, while some senior petty officers will be sent to finish courses at the school.

Technology is also helping Task Force EXCEL find new avenues for training. Simulators are being developed for many areas of Navy training from security to anti-submarine warfare to non-nuclear engineering. All of these programs are designed to train Sailors in life-like situations they may face in their day-to-day jobs.

Ulrich said many of the programs are in development or being evaluated now, but Task Force EXCEL is on the road to success.

“Our programs have not reached the deck-plates in the way our vision has hoped for, but we’re beginning to get the policies, processes and structures all aligned and organized.” ❁



Mess Management Specialist 1st Class Steve G. Fontanilla prepares a flank steak on board the 3rd Fleet Command Ship USS Coronado (AGF 11) on the ship’s weapons deck, as Chef Larry Banares supervises the procedure. Chef Larry hosts the County Television Network’s “The County Cooks! With Chef Larry” in San Diego, and was on hand to tape a segment of his program aboard the command ship. U.S. Navy Photo Journalist 3rd Class Matt S. Chabe.

MPMD Corner

By HMCS (FMF) Willie L. Seraspe, MPMD



**HMCS (FMF) Willie L. Seraspe
Head of Military Personnel
Management Department**

In accordance with the Military Personnel Manual (MILPERSMAN), Navy personnel may visit any place outside the United States without obtaining permission from the Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM) except to those countries and places specified in BUPERSINST 1050.11G. This instruction delineates the requirements for foreign leave travel of active duty Navy Personnel and lists countries in which permission must be obtained from NAVPERSCOM.

For staff members wishing to visit countries that are not restricted for travel, be advised of the requirements that must be met prior to the commencement of the trip. These requirements are, but not limited to the following:

1. passport and/or visa depending on the country to be visited
2. 15 to 30 days of lead time/notification for country clearance message
3. anti-terrorism training

Foreign leave travel requires adequate preparation, so plan accordingly. Submit your leave request early enough to allow sufficient time for completion of the special requirements for the country that you will be visiting. For further information concerning BUPERSINST 1050.11G, you may access the BUPERS web site at www.bupers.navy.mil. For additional guidance, our staff in MPMD is eager, steaming to assist. Charlie Papa! ❁



ACCOLADES



HM2 Arnold Ballesteros, Certificate of Commendation
HM2 Jude Rosario, Certificate of Commendation
HM3 Zaima Gonzalez, Certificate of Commendation
RP1 William Hammond, Navy Achievement Medal

HM3 Yvonne Marengo, Navy Achievement Medal
HM1 Jeff Cavallo, Certificate of Commendation
HM3 Heath Broderson, Certificate of Commendation
HM3 Joseph Panagakis, Certificate of Commendation



HM2 Sean Farrell, Certificate of Commendation
HM3 Michael Looker, Navy Achievement Medal
Patricia M. Kuckarek Civilian of the quarter

ACCOLADES



HM2 Randall K. Patterson reenlists for orders to Naval Hospital Pensacola, Fla. He is staying Navy.



HM3 Jeffrey S. Sheggrud reenlists for 2 years. He is staying Navy



HMCS Anita Sarmiento-Sison reenlists for 2 years at the ambulance entrance outside of the emergency department. She is staying Navy.



HM2 Shannon Black reenlists at 52 area branch medical clinic for 3 years.



DT2 Tonya Hall reenlists for 4 years. She's staying Navy.

ACCOLADES



HM3 Derek Arrendondo reenlists outside of the Command Career Counselor's office. He is staying Navy. Arrendondo reenlists for 3 years and cardio vascular technician school.



HM3 Felicia Balka, from the Same day surgery department here, reenlists for 3 years.



Pictured above, HM1 Forrest Wells from the ophthalmology department here serves a luncheon guest. U.S. Navy Photos by JO1 Robert Dylewski.



LT Shanna Mitola and HM3 Carmela Guerrerero from the occupational therapy department here fill their plates with gourmet food from the gentlemen chefs.

Women's Appreciation Luncheon

Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton's First Class Petty Officers' Association escorted, cooked and served over 150 women at the Annual women's

appreciation luncheon honoring the women of Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton, (NHCP). Every year a cast of male gour-See, "Women's Appreciation Luncheon," on page 11.

Joyce W. Stewart Memorial Award Winner



Congratulations to CAPT Rebecca B. Nulty, for receiving the Joyce W. Stewart Memorial Award from the Naval Base Ventura County Federal Woman's Program Committee on March 27. The Award was established in 1992 to recognize achievement by a servicemember or civilian at Naval Base Ventura County who exemplifies the following:

- Encourages individuals to

reach their highest potential.

- Has made a significant contribution to the goals of equal opportunity by pursuing positive approaches to acceptance of diversity.

- Promoted an atmosphere that encouraged an awareness of fairness and equal treatment by supervisors, subordinates and co-workers.

- Presented a professional and positive image for employees in the Command. ✨



"Stay Navy," continued from page seven.

areas—Officer, Enlisted, and Family—to tailor information to your needs. From pay and benefits to education and support services, content and supplemental resources are provided. Search all three areas to fully understand the advantages of a Navy career.

Search Tool

You will be able to use StayNAVY's new dynamic search engine to quickly find informative

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content about topics relevant for service members and families.

Quick Online Reference

The improved StayNAVY Website will provide a comprehensive list of links to other websites. Use this supplement to research a range of military, Navy, and quality of life topics. ✨

"Women's Appreciation Luncheon," from page 10.

met chefs is assembled from Camp Pendleton's Naval Hospital staff through NHCP's Special Emphasis

Programs Committee who sponsors the annual event. The luncheon signifies the ideology behind the National Women's History Month.

The luncheon offers opportunities to celebrate and recognize the contributions women have made to the Navy and our country. March this year marks the 15th year in a row since the first Observance of Women's History Month. This year's theme is, "Women Sustaining The American Spirit." The ticket proceeds help fund NHCP's annual multicultural event.

Welcome Aboard

HN Indalsingh Valmiki
HN Lam Navarro
HA Jonathan Vaccaro
HR Nicholas Cowry
HR Epafara Vattautolu
HM3 Ashareen Ritter
RPSN Tina Marie
Deremiah
HM3 Richard Varner
HM3 Dwayne Mitchem
HM3 Larry Brown
HR Umair Iqbal
HA Marco Vela
HR Brad Chapman
HM3 Amor Lumby
HM1 Benjamin Burton
HN Kyle York
HR Argenis Mendoza
HR Reginald Louis
HR Jorge Illich
HN Robert Gooch
HA Miguel Moreno
HN Michael Jones
HA Brian Lynch
HN William Cleary
HA Luis Urbina
HA Daniel Korsah
HA Doris Crosby
HA David Shaw
HM1 Adrian Sandoval
BU3 Rachael Miller
ET3 Thomas Gruver
HN Julius Obinwanne
HA Sergio Flores
HA Erzor Peralta
HN Bri-ann Wright
HM2 Jennifer Simmons
DA Lajuan Johnson
HR Matthew Coon
HR Roxanne Johnson
HN Kirk Patience
HR Tacarra Barrett
HN Tracy Burris
HR Tabitha Silva
HR Carl Hagemann, Jr
HN Felipe

Cameroamortegul
HN Delmar Peters
HR Patrick Palmer
HR Valeriy Kholmanov
HR Yeeleng Xiong
HA Edward Ronquillo
HM3 Jamal Dejli
HA Christina Bermea
HA Robert Maldonado
HR Katherine Jarvis
HA Michael Gibboney
HR Kurt Hauser
HA Joey Hymer
HA Sidni Olea
HR Robert Levonas
HA Michael Danis
HA Araborn Wold
HA Reginald Oden
HR Jamison Lindsay
HN Vivian Mcconnell
HR George Miller
HR Blair Estavillo
HA Kyle Handford
HR Jodi Harrold
HA Ioana Watson
HR B. Courtland
GS09 Archie Lee Jr
GS12 Basilisa Nava
GS06 Monica Ward
GS05 Michelle Gunn
GS05 Eugenia Dopp
WG02 Isabel Ayala
GS04 Magdalena
Richardson
WG02 Donald Dewey
GS09 Mark Wolford
GS04 Claire Chapman-
wright
WG03 Irving Duffy
Gs04 Laura Ward
HM2 Scott Seeden
HN Charles Dillard
HM2 Joshua Sandoval
MS2 Lorenzo Milledge
MS3 Evangeline Lagman
HM3 Guillermina
Lorenzoni
HM3 Sharlean Torgerjon
HM3 Gabreal Sanchez
HM3 Lisa Nartker

HM3 Nathan White
HM1 Earl Smith
HM3 Walter Hernandez
HM3 Adrain Luna
MS2 Eduardo Perry
DT3 Akouasi
Pokuamanfo
SH2 Ranulfo Jacob
HM3 Justin Simien
HM1 Christopher
Visperas
HM2 Gilbert Barron
HM2 Dominique
Covington
HN Rodolfo Mares
HN Cory Sanford
HM3 Seaver Leisinger
HM3 John Chandar Jr
MS3 Real Santiago
HA Sean Isbell
HM1 Fredric Balanag
HN Niah Cortez
HN Victor Corral
HN Tawnya Stout
MS3 Marie Simpson
HM2 Terry Morocco
HA Michael Greene
HM1 Michael Roberts
HN Daniel Murillo
HM3 Edgar Tucker, Jr
HM3 Genevieve
Carbonell
HM3 Michael Looker
HM3 Vincent Edwards
HM1 Kimberley Smith
HM3 Andrea Brasileno
HN Christopher Brown
HR Jared Zieris
HM3 Philippe Manrique
SH3 Phillips Palomino
HM3 Ernest Logan
HM3 Gueillermo Mendez
HM3 Frederick Peregrino
MS3 Steven Whitman
PN3 Deon Williams
HM2 Glenn Wilson
HMCM Patrick Melcher
HMCM Raphael Sanchez
HN Relyea Harris
HM3 Joseph Billett

HM3 Jimmie Davis
HM3 Evan Hale
IT1 Gregory Ridgeway
HM3 Misty Harland
HM3 Jeremiah Angle
HM1 Allan Maluto
HM1 Phillip Confer
HM2 Katesha Payne
HM3 James Fivecoat
HM2 Edward Valdez
HM3 Jose Robles
HM3 Michael Best
HM3 Raymundo Romero
HN Tyler Linneweber
HN Brian Alaniz
HN Roberto Gaona
HM3 Sabrina Malone
HN Rachel Jenkins
HMC Eeron Isip
HM3 Hilda Valenton
HM3 Kathleen Pierce
HR Tremain Gordon
HM3 Evelyn Escalante
HM3 Robert Reyes
HM3 David Toston
CAPT Gerald Demarest
LT John Groblewski
CDR Brian Pecha
LT Thieuha Hoang
LT Stephen Williams
LT Paul Andre
LT Karen Bisogno
LT Patricia Wiese
LCDR Victoria Perez
LT Thomas Dernbach
LTJG Kristine Salang
LT Mary Stewart
LTJG Victor Tu
LT Kathryn Lacher
CAPT Sone-seere Wilson
Maria Mason
Alma Cabebe
Carey Rist
Nancy Lovell
Kimberly Van Natta
Janet Strong
Mikaela Walton
Leanne Kneale

Farewell

HN John Abasta
HN Neil Allen
HA Oscar Alvarenga
DR Michael Arciaga
HR David Ashby
DA Allan Rexazcueta
HR Steven Belcraft
HR Ryan Bonnett
HA Dellon Branford
HR Charles Braswell
DR Jeanniene Burns
HA David Cano
HR Adam Clarke
LT Julie Conrardy
HA Dlurotimi Dada
HN Jason Duty
HM3 Ian Castro
HN Carl Collins
HN Craig Degarmo
HA Robert Dreitz
HN Lakicha Ellzey
Dr. Angel Escobar
Dr. Steven Fearnside
LT Fleming French
HN Daniel Fuller
HR Derek Gaitan
HA Windy Gerringer
HA David Giangrandi
HA Tremain Gordon
HN Matthew Hale
HA Jeson Hall
DA Leonard Henry
LT John Hughes Iii
HN Bradly Jenkins
LT Paul Jennings
DA Jeffrey Lee Jone
HR Bobby Kesterson
HM3 Luis Keys
HR Dhessie Labrador
HN Ron Laganzon
HR Ismeal Angelo
Leonardo
HA Samuel Lester
DA Ferdinand Lucas Jr.
HM3 Susan Lynge
HA Jesus Martinez
HR Samuel Mccoskey
HR Julius Mckinzie

HA Joshua Miller
HR Edward Moncada
HN Jerry Monsey
HR Cesar Munoz-enriquez
HA Taphael Nwojo
HN Mark Palustre
HA Christinay Perez
HA Jay Perez
HA Ivin Philpott
LTJG Glen Pickens
DR Christopher Pinon
HN Ron Quicho
DA Quintton Anderson
HN Merson Reyes
HN Alexandra Riosvega
HR Luciano Rocha
HN Suzanne Rominger
HN Lady Candice Roque
HN Joseph Shannon
HR Luis Siu
HA Conan Sloan
HR Charles Smith
HN Alexander Tabayoyon
DN Jonathan Tablada
HN Nathan Ray Tagnipez
HA Darren Williams
HR Keith Wright
HR J Zamarripa
HR Jared Zieris
HA German Huerta
HR M. Swackerd
HR Eric Acosta
HR Kelvin Alarcon
HR Christopher Anderson
HR Jared Anderson
HN Erly Ang
HA Brandon Atencio
HR Emmanuel Banan
HR Ardon Banks
HA Brian Berthon
HR Benedict Bito
HR Daniel Bookwalter
HR Charles Boylan Iii
HN Johnathan Bryant
HR Carla Burrus
HA Arnie Caballero
HN Andrew Carey
HR Tristan Chapman
HN Julian Chenier

HR Michael Clark
HR Luis Contreras
HA Jacob Coughlin
HN Julita Crowell
HA Christopher Cruz
HR David Daniels
HN Jessie Demonbreun
HN John Edstrom
HR Joseph Enchill
HA Christopher Fairbanks
HN Phillip Faneuf
HA Jon Ferrelli
HN Edgardo Ferrer
HN Farlene Fistler
HR Benny Flores Jr
HN Narciso Fontecha Iii
HN Clinton Furtado
HA Charles Gardner
HR Noel George Iii
HR Quentin Givens
HN David Gloria
HN Gilbert Gutierrez
HA Stephanie Hart
HA Justin Hendrickson
HA Nicholas Huso
HA Da'marcus Jackson
HR Charlie Javier
HR Garrisson Joslin
HA Kevin Keosibounheuans
HN Vinh Le
HR Todd Leopold
HA Joseph Lewis
HR Michael Locke Jr
HR Christopher Luna
HR Glamorous Lyons
HR Dustin Martin
HR Jason Martin
HR Antiwan Maxwell
HR Derek Mccollister
HA Eric Mcdonald

HR Keith Mckelvey
HR Felipe Miramontes
HR Stephanie Moore
HA Edward Mouse
HA David Nanyes
HN Vincent Ng
HN Juan Ortiz
HA Abraham Patlan
HA Christopher Paul
HA Brandon Pea
HA Ryan Pedroso
HN Joel Perez
HN Marcella Perez
HN Eric Piech
HM3 Kathleen Pierce
HR Jeremy Pimentel
HR Samuel Ploss
HR Ricardo Ponce
HR Matthew Porter
HA Jose Punce
HA Jardin Punzalan
HA Peter Quiambao
HN Arjay Ramos
HN Kevon Reid
HR Daniel Roberson
HA Steve Rodgers
HN Luis Rodriguez
HA Jose Romero
HA Adrian Ruiz
HA David Russell
HR Ryan Sadler
HN Miguel Saenz
HA Charles Skaggs
HR Joseph Slason
HN Charles Smith
HR Emanuel Smith
HA Javier Solis
HR Charles Steen
HR Andrew Stevenson
HR Tyson Stewart
HR Hoang Thai
HR Jimmie Thomas

**Hail &
Farewell**

Farewell

HN Rupland Tran
HA Alfredo Valle
HR David Walters
HA Tyler Watson
HN Joshua Webb
HA David Whittington
HA Kano Williams
HA Joseph Yonkman Ii
HA Joseph Zweifel
HA Robert Jenkins
GS04 Jacqueline Flores
WS07 Theodore Anderson
GS05 Cheryl King
GS04 Maria Romero
WG02 Earl Chandler
GS06 Elmer Fitch
GS04 Curtis Hopkins
GS04 Edgardo Bagsic
GS05 Leslie Patterson
GS07 Francis Gardner
WG02 James Viado
GS04 Sammy Fernandez
GS05 Mary Weems
GS09 Leanna Horvath
HM2 Robert Peterson Ii
HM3 Robert Bodaczewski
HM3 Nghia Nguyen
HM2 Garry Tossing
HN Nathan Johnson
HM2 Brian Belk
HMC Allen Vintola
HM2 Roberto Lacson
HM3 James Fejerang
HM3 Ronnie Sawi
HM3 Andrea Dailey
HN Christopher Brown
HN Dario Aguilera
HN Tonya Drake
HM1 Daniel Klembara
HN Rhianna Alton
HM2 Summer Johns
HM1 Wayne Weinhofer
HA Joshua Weed
HM2 Eric Filkins
HMC Mario Ferreira
HM3 Charles Chambers
HM3 Mark Rumsey
HM3 Leah Predum
HM2 Kevin Conway
HMC Alberto Custodio
HM3 Arthur Reyes
HM3 Christina Fiore
HM2 Keith Way
HM2 Lilibeth Long
HM3 Zane Flanagan
HM3 Dadra Jones
HM2 Raymond Diaz
HM3 Kendrick White
HM3 Mina Haghi
HM3 Michael O'connor
HM1 Ressurreccion Macaspac
HM1 Nelson Figueroa
HMC Alane Perrigo
HM3 Michael Baber
HM2 Linda Duque
HM2 Danny Janolo
HM2 Wayne Jose
HN Elisha Mathieu
HMC Luis Delossantos
HM3 Diana Cohn
SH3 Darius Harris
IT2 Francisco Zuniga
HN Michelle West
HA Melissa Edmundson
HM3 Cassy Servantes
HN Nathaniel Wrenn
HR Glenice Gradney
HM3 Juan Trejo
HM2 Charles Borrego
HM1 Ariel Dejesus
HM3 Emilija Welsh
HM3 Jared Malone
HN Laquita McBride
HN Sienna Hollins
HM2 Lance Martin
HA Sheryl Eldredge
HM3 Jason Renz
HN Benjamin Larrabee
HM3 Kurties Schmidt
HM3 Tanya Jones
HM1 Israel Avila
Hmc Lorenzo Parga
HM2 Danilo Wenceslao

LT Corinna Kupper
LT Diana Peterson-liebner
LCDR Melinda Lukehart
CDR Paul Grasso
CDR Diane Daniels
LT Lars Krusholm
LT Julie Hunt
CDR Jeff Disney
Sebrina Honora
Nori Deanda
Emily Martin
Robert Chandler
Dulce Hernandez
Latoya Palmer
Rochelle Headley
Erin Callahan
Katie Teo
Jennifer Gambone
Jennifer Hall
Maude Joseph
Audrey Schley
Darling Paul-richiez
Judy Edge
Dorotea Bowman
Michelle Harding
Rosa Nieto
Melissa Wick
Zarah Magtanong
Debbie Contreras
Laverne Green
Tricia Doughty
Coral Griffith

Promotions

May

LTJG Geroge Dumas
LTJG Francimar Mutya
LTJG Heather Rens

June

LTJG Kelly Grossenbach
LTJG Jay Simmon

“Customer Relations Success Stories,” continued from page 5.

hours to reassure worried parents of injured children and to meet the patients needs. He is patient and caring with all that he comes into contact with. Many patients and staff have requested Paul to be his Primary Care Manager, (PCM), including a retired Commanding General and an active duty General’s wife. They wouldn’t want to see anyone else. For three months, Paul Santa Maria was the only full time provider in the Sports Medicine Clinic. One of those months, Paul saw more patients than any other physician in the hospital (with the exception of the ER). He is an excellent teacher as well. Doctors, Physician Assistants, and Nurse Practitioners have all come to the SMC to train under Paul and learn from his 10 years of experience here at NHCP. We are truly lucky to have such a dedicated and passionate staff member as part of our team. ❁



“New NHCP TRICARE Online,” continued from page 1.

medications, and past medical procedures.

By using a secure password to access this health journal, beneficiaries can retrieve their personal health care information online from any location - even when they are moving, traveling, or away from home on temporary assignment. All family members can be registered with the site. This becomes helpful when keeping track of family medical information.

All TRICARE beneficiaries

can use TRICARE Online to obtain information about their TRICARE benefits and services, check medications for possible adverse reactions, and access 18 million pages of consumer health information from a trusted source.

Camp Pendleton is due to “go-live” with TRICARE Online June 3. All other U.S. military bases are due to go live within the year. Details on how to register for TRICARE Online will be forthcoming. For more information on TRICARE Online before June 3, please check out www.TRICAREOnline.com.

Navy Medicine’s FMC Retires; DiRosa Takes Over

By **JO2 Jodi M. Durie**
*Naval Medical Center
Portsmouth, Va.*

Navy Medicine said farewell to its Force Master Chief Hospital Corpsman (HM) Master Chief (SW) Mark R. Weldon April 12, during a combined change of office and retirement ceremony held aboard USS Portland (LSD 37) on Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek. Weldon served as the seventh Force Master Chief for the Navy Medical Department and Director of Medical Department Enlisted Personnel since June 1998.

HMCM(SW/AW) Jacqueline L. K. DiRosa relieved Weldon and became the Navy’s first female Force Master Chief.

“Master Chief Mark

Weldon has been shepherding the hospital corps and dental technicians of the Navy for the last four years,” said VADM Michael L. Cowan, MC, the Navy’s Surgeon General and Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. “Many of you, particularly you younger ones, have never known a different force master chief. It’s been his guidance, his strength of character, his clarity of the mission and his absolute resolute unwillingness to accept anything but the very finest that has helped mold ... Navy Medicine.”

Weldon’s advocacy and commitment to junior sailors was clearly evident by his selection of HM3 Daniel Henry as the guest speaker.

As the new Force Master Chief, DiRosa will be the advocate for more than 30,000 enlisted sailors of the medical department including dental technicians, hospital corpsmen and other enlisted personnel assigned to medi-

“DiRosa Takes Over,” continued on page 21.



HMCM(SW/AW) Jacqueline L. K. DiRosa relieved Weldon and became the Navy’s first female Force Master Chief.



works directly under the guidance of the commanding officer, Capt. William Heroman. A valuable resource for the Navy family, the ombudsman plays a critical role in finding solutions to the many unique problems that may confront our families. Though not a social worker or a counselor, the ombudsman is able to help the family navigate through channels and direct them to available support and assistance. You can contact The Command Ombudsman by e-mail lamoreno@cpen.med.navy.mil or by pager: (760) 649-6508. ✿



Welcome Aboard New Ombudsman

*By LCDR Fernando Moreno
OB Clinic*

Loren Moreno is newly appointed as Ombudsman for Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton. She was born in New York State and grew up in and around Saratoga Springs. A Registered Nurse, Loren worked on Labor and Delivery at St Vincent’s Hospital in Manhattan and later at corporate headquarters for General Electric. She is currently a Home Visitor for Marine New Parent’s Support Program, (NPSP), and is the Coordinator for Daddy’s Baby Boot Camp. Loren came to Camp Pendleton after almost four years in Okinawa, where she also worked for NPSP and was active in many volunteer activities.

The ombudsman is the link between the command and the Navy family. The ombudsman is the primary point of contact between the families at home and the command during a deployment. The Navy Family Ombudsman program is governed by OPNAVINST 1750.1D, and is designed to provide better communication between Navy families and Navy officials. The ombudsman is appointed by and

Chaplain’s Food For Thought

*By Chaplain LCDR Christopher Buck
Pastoral Care Department Head*

Power To Heal ?

One does not know really what to say when he or she comes to the end of their careers or tours after serving in hospital like Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton. I have experienced incredible and miraculous events while here the last two years. Yes, we have said good-bye to many at the bedsides of our patients, but also, we have experienced the joy of saying welcome back from the dark doors of death. Being a chaplain in a hospital has reminded me of the power of prayer, not only from this chaplain but also from those who gather with me at the bedside of our patients. It has raised the question, “Does prayer have the power to heal?” Jeanne Davis writes the following:

“Scientists have some surprising answers. Could it be possible? Could the prayers of a handful of people



Navy Chaplain LCDR Christopher Buck gives last rites to a simulated casualty during Fleet Hospital Camp Pendleton's Operational Readiness Evaluation. U.S. Navy Photo By JO1 Robert M. Dylewski.

help someone — even someone on the other side of the world — facing heart surgery?

A few years back, Roy L. was heading into his third heart procedure — an angioplasty and stent placement. Doctors were going to thread a catheter up a clogged artery, open it up, and insert a little device, the stent, to prop it open. It's a risky procedure under the best of circumstances. "The risks are the big ones — death, stroke, heart attack," says his doctor, Mitchell Krucoff, MD, a cardiovascular specialist at Duke University School of Medicine in Durham, N.C.

"You're mighty thankful you came out of it," Roy tells WebMD.

Though he didn't know it, Roy may have had some help getting through the procedure, some non-medical help. Later, he learned he was on the receiving end of prayers before, during, and after the procedure — prayers sent from nuns, monks, priests, and rabbis all over the world, with his name attached to them.

"I'm not a church-going man, but I believe in the Lord," he tells WebMD. "If somebody prays for me, I sure appreciate it." And he's doing well now, with his heart problems anyway. The only thing plaguing him presently is the onset of diabetes.

Roy was part of a pilot study looking at the effects of "distant prayer" on the outcome of patients
Spring 2002

undergoing high-risk procedures.

But did prayers help Roy survive the angioplasty? Did they help ameliorate some of the stress that might have complicated things? Or do a person's own religious beliefs — our personal prayers — have an effect on well being? Is there truly a link between mere mortals and the almighty, as some recent neurological studies have seemed to show? "

The question remains in the hearts and souls of those who have passed through the doors of Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton. As chaplains sit at the bedside of our patients, prayers are heard in the quietness of our wards, waiting rooms and pre-operative rooms. Friends gather in waiting rooms, churches assemble the faithful few to pray as our doctors seek to bring peace and relief from the agonizing affects of disease or crisis. Prayer changes lives, summons the ears of the almighty, and activates God's hand on the needy.

Simple people, simple lives seeking the will of God for those in need, simple words... the result is apparent, lives are touched, bodies healed, God answers!

What have I learned in 20 years of ministry, in the last two years as hospital chaplain... I have learned the God still answers... Have you heard the news?



God bless you all!

"Until now you have asked for nothing in my name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be made full" St. John 16:24
NASB ❁

Navy Chaplain LT William Middleton provides words of encouragement and boosts moral during a recent Fleet Hospital Camp Pendleton training Exercise. U.S. Navy Photo By JO1 Robert M. Dylewski.



HM3 M. Willis reads through staff education materials. U.S. Navy Photo By JO1 Robert M. Dylewski.

Eliminating The Scuttlebutt about Advancement

*By HMCM Patrick Melcher
Staff Education and Training*

Greetings, shipmates! I am the newest Master Chief to the Naval Hospital's Team. I look forward in working with each of you. One of the first things I would like to talk about is advancement. The new Hospital Corpsmen Book was put to use in January this year along with the New Basic Military Requirements. All sailors will have to enroll in NETPDTCCentral enrollment to order any Correspondence Courses. Listed below are the

procedures for submitting courses. I would also, like to address the myth that it is no longer required to complete the advancement books. Below is a message sent out by the MCPON.

**MCPON
Minute - Pars/Rate
Training Manuals
Week of 16 July
2000**

Hello shipmates, MCPON Herdt here. There is some confusion in the fleets about the recent NAVADMIN eliminating pars. Pars were a thing of the past, ignoring a fitrep/evaluation

program and a p-q-s system that works very well. We did not, however, eliminate the requirement to complete rate training manuals. We eliminated the requirement to document their completion. I would not recommend a sailor for promotion until they completed their rate training manuals. Making sure sailors are ready for promotion is part of the chief's job. Chiefs know the

Likelihood of being competitive on the rating exam is greatly reduced if sailors don't complete their courses. If a sailor doesn't

have the initiative to do their courses, why should we give them more responsibility? Sailors want to succeed, and it's every leader's job to show them how. Until next time, I'll see you about the fleet.

Steps in ordering your courses:

1. Go to www.courses.cnet.navy.mil
2. Click on STUDENT SERVICES
3. Put LAST NAME and SSN
4. Follow the instructions.

First you have to enroll, fill out the application and then order the courses you want.

5. From now on, any courses will be ordered and submitted for CORRECTION on line or via REGULAR MAIL. After completion of course, Pensacola will send you a course completion paper. Then you can put those courses of completion on your evaluations (Answers can be sent via WEB).

6. This process from time of ordering is 10 to 14 days

Note: If you do not have access to a computer we will let you order it here on the 8th floor. We will not be printing up any



Graphic By JO1 Robert M. Dylewski

advancement manuals here in Education & Training. All manuals are to be ordered from NETPDTC. So order yours today for the upcoming cycles.

- We now have advancement Bibliography for the September advancement cycle, if you provide the CD-Rom we will copy it for you.

- Also we also now have a Advancement Training Guide with over 1600 advancement questions However this guide is available to personnel who have completed their Hospital Corpsman, Basic Military Requirements. There are two other BMR courses one is for Petty Officer, and the other is for Chief Petty Officer..

- In the near future we will also have a BMR training guide with questions.

NOTE: If you do not complete your advancement manuals it will lower your chances of being advanced. Also, on your evaluations in Professional Knowledge Block, it states in the 3.0 mark "meets advancement requirements on time" This includes going to LTC when required. Please read what the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy is saying in the above message.

I am truly dedicated in helping you advance at this command, I look forward in the opportunity to help everyone be successful in their advancement and professional development. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at ext. 1408, again thanks and I look forward in working with you. ☼



HM TAD Opportunity at Mountain Warfare Training Center

*By HM2 Jeremy McCrimmon
Branch Medical Clinic
Bridgeport, CA*

Are you a motivated corpsman looking for a change in your everyday routine? Are you into outdoor activities like hiking, skiing, mountain climbing and trail running? If you are then this is where you need to be.

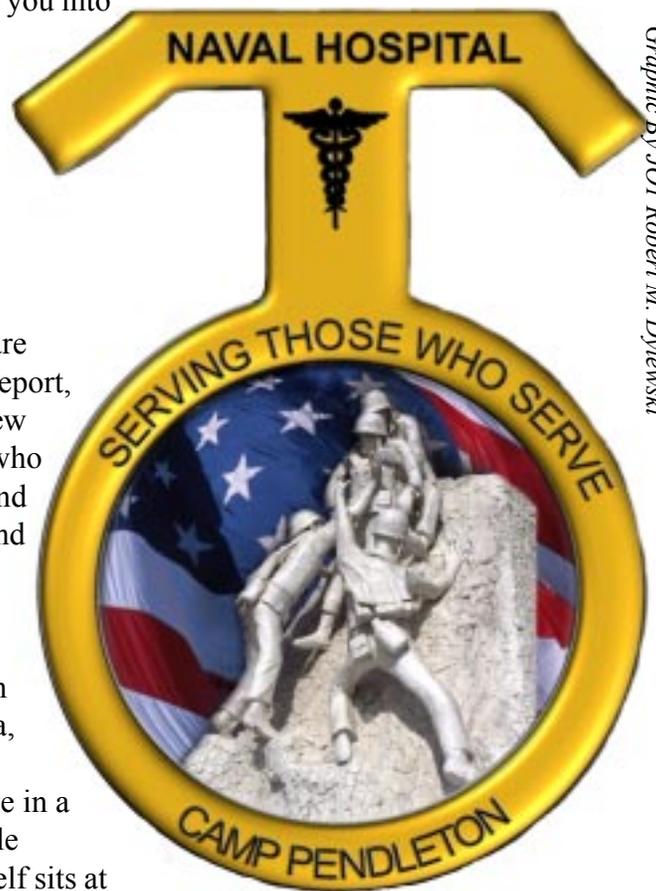
We at the Naval Branch Clinic, Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, Ca, are looking for a few good 8404 corpsmen who want to do all of that and more. Come join us and be a true "Mountain Doc".

Our base, which opened in 1951 to train troops to fight in Korea, is located in the Sierra Nevada mountain range in a little valley called Pickle Meadow. The base itself sits at an altitude of approx. 6,700 ft, while the training areas can reach as high as 10,500 plus ft. We operate year round, summer and winter, training approximately 1,000 formal school students and eight battalions per year. As you can see by our numbers, your help is greatly needed.

If you are chosen to join us here, you will be working in an exciting environment. In the winter months, January thru April, you can

be doing everything from skiing, snowshoeing, learning winter survival skills and cold weather medicine. The summer months, May thru July is even more adventurous. How does rock climbing, rappelling, stream crossing, learning how to trap and snare animals in survival and wilderness medicine sound?

Contact HMCM (FMF/AW) Fiasco for further information, (760) 725-6346/7, DSN 365-6621.



Graphic By JO1 Robert M. Dylewski

The Navy's best-kept secret, Branch Medical Clinic, Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, California is there waiting for you! ☼

Nurse Corps Celebrates 94th Anniversary

By Aveline V. Allen, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

The Navy Nurse Corps celebrated 94 years of service Monday, with a force of 3,125 active duty and 1,859 Reserve members willing, able and ready to utilize their medical expertise in supporting the fleet and Navy Medicine.

“As the 20th director of the Nurse Corps, I plan to continue to align our goals with that of the Surgeon General’s — readiness, optimization and integration,” said Rear Adm. Nancy Lescavage, Nurse Corps. “With that approach in mind, I want to assure that the Navy Nurse Corps is prepared for success in the future.”

Lescavage outlined what she called five “rights” to help implement this alignment.

“I ... will work throughout my tour to ensure that the right number of nurses, with the right skill mix, are trained in the right specialty, at the right time, and are in the right assignment,” said Lescavage.

Keeping in line with goals set forth by Navy Medicine, the Nurse Corps is a key player in promoting the Surgeon General’s Force Health Protection (FHP) initiative.

“For several decades, Navy nurses have been at the forefront of health and wellness programs as health planners, population health advisors, disease management



Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton Senior Nurse Executive Capt. Susan Smalling learns first hand how to operate machinery during Fleet Hospital Camp Pendletons recent training evolution. U.S. Navy Photos by JO1 Robert M. Dylewski.

evaluators, patient educators and individual health assessment

Keeping in line with goals set forth by Navy Medicine, the Nurse Corps is a key player in promoting the Surgeon General’s Force Health Protection (FHP) initiative.

specialists,” said Lescavage.

Another key element the Nurse Corps contributes to FHP is their work in case management.

“Nurse Corps officers are key players in the planning and execu-

tion of this unique specialty that ensures the optimization and integration of medical resources for the enhancement and support of patients’ health and wellness,” said Lescavage.

There are two new programs the Nurse Corps is involved with to enhance their medical expertise in support of these goals. The first is a new Joint Trauma Training program in conjunction with the University of Southern California-Los Angeles County Medical Center, which enhances trauma training. The second is a new perioperative clinical nurse specialist graduate program developed at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

As she reflects back on the efforts put forth by Navy nurses during and after the Sept. 11 attacks, she is pleased at the way they stood up to the test of time during this crisis. She credits this to their ongoing preparation for



Lt.jg. Detrik Harmeyer, Nurse Corps, works with simulated patients during a casualty training exercise. Patients are seen in a surgical Suite staged in a International Standard Organization, (ISO), container which is attached to tent, extendable, modular personnel, (TEMPER), a special tent that is used to house fleet hospital staff and patients. U.S. Navy Photos by JO1 Robert M. Dylewski.

readiness.

“This entails continuous identification of the physical, technical and professional skills needed to practice in all settings and environments, and the ability to remain multi-skilled despite an expanding system of healthcare specialties,” said Lescavage.

Looking ahead to the future, Lescavage envisions great things for Navy nurses, including an expanded role in homeland security.

“I am thoroughly committed to exploring new graduate training programs, new roles for senior

nurse leaders, and new assignments that require the contributions of professional nursing expertise,” said Lescavage.

For more information on the Navy Nurse Corps, go to <http://navymedicine.med.navy.mil>. ☼



“*DiRosa Takes Over*,” continued from page 15.

cal activities.

Previously DiRosa served as the Command Master Chief of the forward-deployed command ship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19). She completed two South Pacific Forward Presence deployments and multiple joint military exercises. Her other assignments include duty aboard Naval Hospitals San Diego, California and Bremerton, Washington, USS Acadia (AD 42), USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) and USS Supply (AOE 6). ☼

Portable Hospital Provides Medical Care For Detainees

By JO1 April Gorenflo,
Naval Media Center Detachment
Guantanamo Bay

Only a stone's throw away from the crystal blue waters of the Caribbean stands a maze of interlocking beige tents that weren't there a month ago.

Fleet Hospital 20 arrived in Guantanamo Bay recently to perform a mission unlike any other they've been asked to accomplish. They were sent here to care for the Taliban and al Qaida detainees.

From the outside, this fully functional hospital looks like something from the television show "M.A.S.H." On the inside, it is an air-conditioned pharmacy, lab, operating room, and recovery and receiving ward where surgeons have performed medically necessary surgery and other emergency procedures for Taliban and al Qaida detainees.

Fleet Hospital 20, based in Camp Lejeune, N.C., is one of 10 fleet hospitals the Navy maintains. Each hospital is completely portable and designed to be transportable and fully operational in 10

days. It's a big job that requires a lot of teamwork to construct.

"It's a concerted effort among the Sailors of Fleet Hospital 20 and the Seabees attached to Fleet Hospital," said Master Chief Petty Officer Clifford Phillips, Fleet Hospital Command Master Chief, out of Camp Lejeune, N.C. "The area where the hospital is now was recently a grass field. In the course of just four days this area was

plowed by Seabees and the hospital was erected by our medical staff personnel."

Two Seabee units train and deploy with Fleet Hospital 20. They play an important part in the success of the mission.

"We join up whenever the fleet hospital deploys and we are with them wherever they go," said Chief Petty Officer William Clark of Rochester, N.Y. "We've trained

together for a while and we just recently had our operational readiness evaluation at Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton. I thought we did really well, and the Seabees and hospital personnel are prepared for this evolution."

In order to construct the hospital quickly, the entire team gets involved.

"Everyone was out here with a sledgehammer and all the needed equipment to put this up. All ranks from our corpsmen to our surgeons who are commanders assisted in the process," said Phillips.

"It was real good," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Bijou Hirkala, of Gig Harbor, Wash. "Everybody worked together, which was important, because everyone has a job that they know and their job is important," he added.

Once the hospital was erected, it was time to put it into service. While the fleet hospital is completely capable of providing care, there still remained some challenges.

"Even as capable as we are, we don't have all the assets we normally have at a regular hospi-



SH1 Alonzo Moore and PNSN Edyne Zephirin work together moving simulated patients during a casualty training exercise. U.S. Navy Photos by JO1 Robert M. Dylewski.

tal,” said Petty Officer 1st Class Clyde Headley, of Colorado Springs, Colo. “We’ve been working with the hospital here and they have been great at helping us out.”

Equipment issues aren’t the only challenges that face Fleet Hospital 20. Guantanamo Bay itself presents unique problems.

“The location and terrain is something we have to deal with,” said Clark. “There’s not actually a lot of resources we can tap into at this site, so we had to come up with our own generation of power, sewer distribution, potable water, that kind of thing.”

Keeping the hospital in service requires more than just doctors and corpsmen. Fleet Hospital 20 deploys with many non-medical personnel who are vital to the success of the hospital.

“It takes many rates within the Navy to run a fleet hospital. We have ship servicemen who are running our laundry service, postal clerks handling our mail, and a journalist on staff handling our public affairs. They are all very important parts of running this hospital,” said Phillips.

Normally, fleet hospitals take care of injured American and allied service members. Although this mission is much different than that, the doctors and corpsmen say they don’t allow the fact their patients are all Qaida and Taliban detainees affect the level of care they provide.

“We’re here to take care of the enemy,” said Headley. “The thing that keeps me going and keeps my focus is every hospital corpsman’s oath to take care of the sick and injured. It doesn’t matter where they’re from. We all took that oath and we all have to stand by that oath. They (Taliban and al Qaida)

are human beings and they deserve to be taken care of,” added Headley.

Once they are healthy, the patients are sent to Camp X-Ray. A detachment provides routine medical care there. The hospital sees the more serious cases.

“Much of what we are seeing on a day to day basis are the remnants of war wounds, gunshot wounds and blast injuries from the war in Afghanistan,” said Capt. Pat Alford, commanding officer, Fleet Hospital 20, of Jacksonville, N.C.

Although most of the staff has treated cases like this before, they are all well aware of the uniqueness of this mission.

“This is something that’s never been done before,” said Headley. “We’re writing the book as we go, and we stumble sometimes, but this is like no mission anybody’s ever gone on before.”

Alford is proud of the way his staff is handling their mission. He said the Navy’s core values are extremely important in situations like this.

“We talk about honor, courage and commitment. We are an honorable nation, and we are treating our enemies honorably. That’s what the Navy is all about,” he said. “Our people have the courage to put aside any personal feelings they may have relative to what happened on Sept. 11, and they have the commitment to stick to their



LT Paul D. Allen checks the seal of his gas mask with help from LT Megan Urffer during Fleet Hospital Camp Pendleton’s annual training evolution recently at Fleet Hospital Training Command. One of about 10 Fleet hospitals the Navy Maintains, fleet hospital Camp Pendleton is currently in a deployable status.

professions and practice as doctors, nurses and hospital corpsmen. We’re here to do our job the way we know how to do it best, and we’re going to do it in an honorable fashion,” he said.

Although Fleet Hospital 20’s mission is scheduled to last only 179 days at Guantanamo Bay, a medical presence will remain as long as the mission continues.

For more information about the Navy in Cuba, go to <http://www.nsgtmo.navy.mil>. ☼

Sports Medicine Helps Injured Get Back to Work Fast

By Brian Badura
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Sailors and Marines train hard every day to maintain operational readiness. High levels of physical activity during training can result in injuries that in the past sidelined them for weeks.

But thanks to the sports medicine fellowship program offered at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton, Navy health care providers are learning to treat physical activity injuries and get Sailors and Marines back to their unit fast.

According to the American College of Sports Medicine, this field is concerned with injuries

sustained in athletic endeavors, including their prevention, diagnosis and treatment. The purpose of injury prevention and treatment is to maintain optimal health and maximize performance.

“Between infantry training and Marine combat training, we treat quite a few injuries, simply due to the amount of physical activity,” according to CDR Kevin Seufert, MC, program director for the sports medicine fellowship. “Our goal is to treat sports related injuries in a non-surgical, timely manner and get them back to their units quickly.”

Because of the physical challenges of operational training, service members often work hard on and off the job to stay fit. Once a Sailor or Marine is brought in to a sports medicine clinic after an injury, they start treatment that same day.

“In the past, the question was, ‘why do sports teams have the

ability to get players back so quickly, but our people are still missing from their duties after weeks of treatment?’” said Seufert.

In contrast to the old paradigm, which focused on what someone can’t do when injured, the new thinking centers on what they can do.

“The Marines love us, from the colonels to the sergeants, because we get their people seen and back to official duty faster than ever before,” Seufert noted.

One great benefit to sports medicine relates to the cost of care. Since most patients are treated non-surgically, expensive invasive procedures are only given to those who require them. Patients who receive care at the clinic are also instructed on techniques to avoid injuries in the future.

The 12-month sports medicine fellowship program, which is endorsed by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, accepts up to two fellows per year from four primary care specialties - family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics or emergency room medicine. Three months of the program are focused on general and pediatric orthopedics and the other nine months give practitioners a chance to enhance their skill sets in other areas.

The fellowship has had 13 graduates since its inception. Many of them are currently working at one of eight clinics operating at Navy and Marine Corps facilities throughout the country. The program graduated its first fellow, CAPT Joe Moore, MC, in 1991. ❁



At sea aboard USS Nimitz (CVN 68) Feb. 4, 1998 — Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Tara Maass, of Moline, IL, jogs in one of the ship's fitness centers to stay in good shape for the semi-annual physical readiness test. Nimitz deployed to the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Southern Watch. U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Christopher G. Ware.

