



# NEWS

## naval meteorology and oceanography

November 1, 2012

### Commander's Corner

By Rear Adm. Brian Brown



I wanted to use this month's column to discuss a topic that affects all of our work in operational oceanography - strategic planning. This is a timely topic, due to recent changes in leadership both here at headquarters and at U.S. Fleet Forces that drives us to reassess our existing strategic plan and make revisions based on changing priorities and resources.

A strategic plan provides a vision of where the organization needs to be in the future and identifies the steps needed to get there. It must be more than just a check in the box when it comes time for inspection; it must be a well-defined plan that unifies the command and moves it forward in a common direction.

According to a study by strategic management pioneers Kaplan and Norton, 95 percent of a typical workforce does not understand its organization's strategy. I believe that the operational oceanography community is smarter and more talented than the "typical" workforce; and I will ensure our strategic plan is adequately communicated to all of you so that you have insight into the reasons behind business decisions and investments. The strategic plan also provides a place for you to see the importance of your daily work in reaching our common strategic goals.

I will be working with the leadership across our enterprise to craft our plan. I expect the new Strategic Plan to be written by spring 2013, after which we will choose a subset of several "focus initiatives" from the plan that best reflect the command priority for the next fiscal year. Those initiatives will be assigned action officers who will develop execution plans and performance measures that will be tracked over the course of the year.

I look forward to sharing the strategic plan with you and reporting on the progress of our initiatives as we continue to evolve our predictive battlespace awareness capabilities to enable warfighting, allow our forces to operate effectively and safely forward, and maintain the readiness of our fleet. Thank you for your vigilance in achieving that goal, and it remains my honor to serve with each of you.

## From the Deputy/Technical Director

### Plastics

By Dr. William Burnett

One of my favorite movies is *The Graduate*. A few weeks ago as I was walking through the breezeway beneath CNMOC's second floor, John Lever walked up to the window above the breezeway and started pounding on the window, mouthing something. I instantly recognized the scene from the movie where Benjamin is shouting "Elaine!" from the church's balcony.

The topic of this article highlights another part of the movie. At Benjamin's graduation party, Mr. McGuire walks over to Benjamin and says one word. Just one word, "plastics." Benjamin looks befuddled and doesn't understand the implications of Mr. McGuire's statement. The rest of us recognize the fact that Mr. McGuire is trying to encourage Benjamin to take advantage of a great opportunity, one that will make him a lot of money if he plays his cards right.



My word, actually two words, "unmanned systems." Not as compact as the two syllable "plastics," but just as powerful a statement. I recently attended the National Defense Industrial Association's Joint Undersea Warfare Technology Conference in Groton, Conn. and talked with people who, over and over again, said that unmanned systems are a disruptive technology. An example of an industry being impacted by a disruptive technology is the Encyclopedia Britannica. In the 1990s the Encyclopedia Britannica sold more than 120,000 sets - the highest sales ever in their history. After 244 years of existence and the ubiquitous door-to-door encyclopedia salesman, in 1996 the company declared bankruptcy and in 2012, stopped printing books entirely. The disruptive technology behind the drastic collapse of the industry was the Internet, and specifically, Wikipedia (which I used to actually look up information on the Encyclopedia Britannica – I do feel guilty about this).

Strategically, every organization must consider how new technologies can increase or decrease their products and services to the consumer. That organization may determine that the cost and time spent restructuring their products and services to meet the new technology may outweigh the benefit or advantage the new technology might provide. The risk might be that competitors who take advantage of the new technology end up providing similar products and services more effectively and efficiently – thus cutting the "old" company out of the market.

Which leads me to unmanned systems and their impact, not just on the Department of Defense and the Department of Navy, but on the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command. We currently operate six manned ships with a seventh to be commissioned in a year. Strategically, we must ask ourselves how we can incorporate new technologies from unmanned systems – that are by design cheaper and more agile than manned ships – while optimizing and maintaining our current fleet.

Fortunately, our enterprise understood the promise and the impact of unmanned systems years ago, and we have been the only community to truly operate unmanned underwater systems for the last 10 years. We need to continue that visionary progress by developing strategic goals and plans that describe how we will operate both unmanned and manned systems over the next 20 years. I ask you to join me in that endeavor. One word, "plastics."

## From the Command Master Chief

By Master Chief Aerographer's Mate (IDW/AW/SW) Ken Walker



In alignment with Rear Adm. Brown's emphasis on improved communication throughout the command, I will be submitting a short article in most, if not all, editions of the NMOC News. Since assuming the position in August, I have been fortunate enough to visit several of our commands. Without exception, I am proud of all the work that is being done at the operational levels of the organization. I understand that you are challenged with limited personnel and financial resources, and are likely already tired of phrases such as "Do more with less" and "Work smarter; not harder", but the one thing I can guarantee going forward is that the challenges are far from over.

As the admiral mentioned in previous editions, we are working hard, through the Enlisted Community Health Integrated Project Team (IPT), to find both temporary and long-lasting solutions to our manpower/manning challenges. As we work through the phases of that IPT charter, I ask that you continue to persevere and can assist by doing the following:

- 0000s – Get ready for AG-C1 School! Getting ready for C-school early is a win for you on both a personal and professional level, and will help us fill seats in the school at a higher level than we have been.
- 7412s – Train your replacement!
- Chiefs – Roll up your sleeves, dust off your C-school notes, and get back to forecasting.
- All – If you have ideas on how to improve things, make them known to your chain of command.

With fiscal restraints and associated manpower impacts our resolve will continue to be tested. If there is any group in the Navy that is capable of overcoming these challenges it is the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Team. We will continue to fall back on innovation, teamwork, ingenuity and dedication as we navigate the challenges that face us in the future. Keep the Navy safe and the advantage to the warfighters!

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...And Enlisted Detailers:

By Master Chief Aerographer's Mate Bobby Picchi, outgoing AG Detailer

It is imperative that command leadership and Sailors become familiar with NAVADMIN 226/12.

The NAVADMIN provided significant information on how detailers will use the Career Management System-Interactive Detailing (CMS-ID) and the effects those changes will have on the distribution process.

All billets advertised on CMS-ID will be filled every month. Every attempt will be made to fulfill a Sailor's selection or preference, but fleet readiness will be the ultimate guiding factor in assignments.

If you need assistance while attempting to apply for orders, please contact me.

Master Chief Aerographer's Mate Mark Mageary will take over as the AG detailer in November.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the AG detailer.

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By Master Chief Aerographer's Mate Mark Mageary, incoming AG Detailer

Perform to Serve (PTS) is an end strength force management tool that utilizes a performance criteria within individual ratings and year groups to ensure long-term sustainment of experience throughout our Navy.

There seems to be a misconception in the fleet that PTS is required for PRD just as it is required for soft EAOS. The PTS window is considered to only be for soft EAOS purposes.

NAVADMIN 352/10, which is the most current guidance other than Business Rules for PTS, says PTS applications shall be submitted for soft EAOS purposes (EAOS as extended) and may be submitted regardless of soft EAOS for PRD, EAOS for SRB, or other special circumstances (decommissioning for example) that would require OBLISERV.

The NAVADMIN goes on to state that PTS approval is NOT necessary for extensions if requests meet requirements of MILPERSMAN 1160-040 – Extension of enlistments, NAVADMIN 242-09 – Modification of obligated service and extension policy, NAVADMIN 007/09 – Control of short term extensions, and Sailor is not within 12 months of soft EAOS.

The two middle references are incorporated into MILPERSMAN 1160-040, so I am attaching it for familiarization. A few highlights:

- Extensions shall be executed in monthly increments of one to 23 months.
- A maximum of two extension agreements per enlistment contract are authorized.
- Circumstances Which Make a Sailor Ineligible to Execute an Extension: Sailors in an overmanned rating (by zone); Sailors who are not retention eligible or fail to meet the minimum requirements of their rating.
- Extensions may be executed with Commanding Officer (CO) or Officer-In-Charge approval for the following reasons: Match Projected Rotation Date (PRD); to obtain maternity care benefits; to obtain OBLISERV required to execute Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders; to acquire necessary OBLISERV to HYT or FLTRES/RET date.

Currently for the AG rating, Zones A (less than six years of active duty) and B (10-14 years) are not over-manned, so the extension can be authorized at the CO level. Zone C (six-10 years) is over-manned, so a waiver would have to be submitted to PERS-811 for my approval to authorize the extension. The other factor for eligibility is that the Sailor cannot be within 12 months of their soft EAOS or they have to be PTS approved to incur any additional OBLISERV. According to PERS-811, zone determination is made by where the Sailor is when the extension agreement is signed.

There is still a flag in CMS-ID that will not allow Sailors that are not PTS approved apply for orders; the best avenue for those Sailors/commands is to contact the respective detailer directly. Additionally, if a Sailor has more than 12 months between their PRD and soft EAOS, they do not need PTS approval to transfer, they just can't be detailed to DOD tours or Special Programs to include Instructor Duty.

Do not delete PTS applications for Sailors applying for PRD purposes. If approved, they can re-enlist to obtain the required OBLISERV if they desire to.

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## Detailer

By Capt. John Okon, Oceanography Detailing and Placement PERS 475

With the turn of the Fiscal Year, we again find ourselves operating under Continuing Resolution Authority. What this means to each of you awaiting orders is that until the FY13 Budget is officially signed there will be limited funds available for PCS moves. For now, expect to receive orders "in hand" approximately two to three

months ahead of a PCS move. Please let us know if there are extraneous circumstances with your move that require (not desire) orders before three months from your scheduled EDD.

The start of the FY14 Promotion Board Season is just around the corner. You have heard it before – “Your record is your responsibility!” Review it at least once per year and no less than 90 days before the board convenes in which you are eligible. We recommend you review your OMPF for FITREP continuity (no gaps) and legibility, awards, transcripts, official photo at current rank, and for Subspecialty Codes and AQDs. Remember, as your detailers we handle items relating to your assignment within the Naval Oceanography Community and professional qualifications. The NPC Customer Support Center can assist with anything related to service record updates, corrections, or board correspondence. If you have any questions on updating your OMPF, ODC or OSR/PSR refer to the Navy Personnel Command (NPC) website sections “Preparing for Boards” or follow the guidance at our [webpage](#).

**FY14 Board Schedule:**

9-18JAN Active O-6 Line  
 9-21JAN Active and Reserve LDO  
 5-15FEB Active O-5 Line  
 2-10APR Active O-4 Line  
 AUG IDC Command and Milestone  
 10-28SEP STA-21

Upcoming OCEANO Opportunities. We still have a number hot fills over the coming months. If you are interested in any of the jobs below, or have any questions please contact myself or Lt.Cmdr. Coke.

Paygrade	Command	Location	Fill Date
O-2	EOD Group One	San Diego, CA	1302
O-2	SPAWARSSYSCEN Pacific	San Diego, CA	1301
O-3	USNA	Annapolis, MD1304	

## Operations

### NAVO Employees Conduct Survey Aboard USCGC Healy

By Becky Burke, NAVO Public Affairs

Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVO) Hydrographic Department employees, Giovanni Morris, Monica Price, Lt.j.g. Nicolas Patria and Lt. Tucker Freismuth, participated in bathymetric surveys aboard U.S. Coast Guard



Cutter Healy in support of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) U.S. Extended Continental Shelf Project. The 34-day survey north of Alaska, was conducted in an effort to extend the U.S.’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) beyond 200 nautical miles. If the foot of the continental shelf can be clearly defined by these surveys, the U.S.’s EEZ may be extended, under Article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, up to 350 nautical miles from the country’s baseline.

From left to right: Monica Price, Giovanni Morris, Lt. j.g. Nicolas Patria and Lt. Tucker Freismuth, Hydrographic Department, Naval Oceanographic Office, participate in a bathymetric survey north of Alaska aboard USCGC Healy.

The NAVO employees aboard Healy worked alongside Dr. Larry Mayer and Dr. Andy Armstrong, co-directors of the NOAA/University of New Hampshire Joint Hydrography

Center and the Center of Coastal Ocean Mapping, standing watch, data processing and data reviewing.

“This was a great opportunity to work with NOAA, the University of New Hampshire’s JHC/CCOM and the Coast Guard to enhance our ability to conduct surveys by learning multi-beam sonar techniques from the best of the best,” said Steve Harrison, hydrographic department director, NAVO.

To date, Healy has collected data on an approximate total of 4,541 nautical miles using the Kongsberg EM122 and Knudsen 320. Continuing progress aboard Healy can be found in a blog hosted on the University of New Hampshire website here: <http://ccom.unh.edu/healy-12-02-research-cruise>.

## 237th Navy Birthday



Rear Adm. Brian Brown, Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command, and Aerographer's Mate Airman Elizabeth Tran, Naval Oceanography Mine Warfare Center, cut the cake following the Navy's 237th birthday celebration held at the Naval Oceanographic Office Oct. 12 at Stennis Space Center, Miss. U.S. Navy photo by Kelly LeGuillon



Fleet Numerical Meteorological and Oceanography Center celebrates the Navy's 237th by reading the Chief of Naval Operations and the Secretary of the Navy's birthday message followed by the bell ringing, Oct. 12.



Capt. Tim Gallaudet, Superintendent, U.S. Naval Observatory, asks Command Chief Quarter Master (SW) Melvin Prescottto, to ring the ceremonial bell during a Navy birthday ceremony, Oct. 12.



Naval Oceanography Anti-Submarine Warfare Center Yokosuka Sailors and civilians gathered Oct. 12 for the Navy's 237th birthday ceremony. Aerographer's Mate 2nd Class Seth Keown (top left) was the master of ceremonies and Aerographer's Mate 2nd Class Brain Kohler (top right) performed the bell ringing.

## Personnel

### Naval Ice Center Holds Change of Command

On September 13, Cmdr. Timothy B. Smith relieved Cmdr. John W. Simms IV, as Commanding Officer, Naval Ice Center, Suitland, Md. Simms retired in the ceremony

Capt. Paul Oosterling, Commanding Officer, Naval Oceanographic Office, presided over the event. Prior to arriving, Smith served as the staff meteorologist at NATO Maritime Headquarters in Naples.

### Former FWC-SD Executive Officer Retires



Cmdr. Michael Kuypers, former Executive Officer, Fleet Weather Center San Diego (FWC-SD), retired on Sept. 28 after 25 years of service, in a ceremony aboard the USS Midway.

Kuypers, a U. S. Naval Academy graduate, is the former commanding officer of Naval Oceanography Special Warfare Center and the former executive officer of FWC-SD.

### AG1 Honors Fallen Heroes

By Kelly LeGuillon, CNMOC Public Affairs

“Guardian Angel,” is the name given to Aerographer’s Mate 1st Class Kimberly Linsley when she rides with the Patriot Guard.

The Patriot Guard consists of motorcycle riders from across the nation whose main mission is to attend funeral services of fallen heroes.

Linsley, a New Jersey native, and the lead petty officer for the Naval Oceanography and Anti-Submarine Warfare Detachment in Norfolk, Va., joined the Patriot Guard in 2011 and has completed 54 missions including funeral, send-off, welcome home, parade and memorial rides.

Her second mission, escorting a soldier killed in Iraq, was one of her most memorable.

“We were requested by the family to stand a flag line when he arrived at the airport,” she said. “We were escorted onto the tarmac to render honors as his coffin was moved.”

Twelve motorcycles and two cars escorted him and his family to the funeral home.

“I was in the middle of the escort and through the entire ride a verse from the Brooks and Dunn song ‘Believe’ ran through my mind- ‘I can’t quote the book, the chapter or the verse, you can’t tell me it all ends, in a slow ride in a hearse.’”

She says that mission has set the tone for all of her other rides.

“I thought my heart broke on Sept. 11th, but the pain and sorrow That I felt for this young man that day was 10 times worse,” she said.



Aerographer’s Mate 1st Class Kimberly Linsley participates in a Patriot Guard event.

## DECISION SUPERIORITY through BATTLESPACE ON DEMAND

Each mission of the Patriot Guard focuses on two objectives; showing respect to fallen heroes, their families and their communities; and shielding those mourning from protestors.

Linsley says there are some common misunderstandings about the group.

“The main misconception about the Patriot Guard riders is that you must own a motorcycle to join,” she said. “That is not true. You don’t even need to own a vehicle. All you need is respect.”

They also only provide services when requested by the families of the service member.

Her favorite types of missions are those welcoming home military members from deployments.

“I was born just as the war in Vietnam ended, but the stories I hear from vets, of how they were treated when they came home... I stand a foot taller knowing that the Patriot Guard will always be there with love, honor and respect for all of our veterans, past and present,” she said.

Linsley has learned a lot about herself and her military family while participating in Patriot Guard.

“Although the missions are not about us, the comfort we give these families during their darkest hour means so much to them,” she said. “I have been approached by at least one person on every funeral mission I have been on, thanking me for taking the time to stand for those who stood for us.”

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## Items of Interest

### **Joint Venture Education Forum Recognizes JTWC**

By Aerographer’s Mate 3rd Class Vaughan Dill, JTWC

The Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) was recognized at the 11th Joint Venture Education Forum (JVEF) for the command’s close relationship with Moanalua Middle School.

The JVEF is a cooperative venture between the U.S. Pacific Command and the Hawaii Department of Education that promotes interaction between the military community and state educators, allowing issues pertaining to the military and the public school system to be raised and resolved.

JTWC and Moanalua Middle School have enjoyed a 20-year partnership that has included reading, teaching earth science, rebuilding the school’s library and mural painting.

### **Alumni Flag Officers Conduct Review of Oceanography and Meteorology Curriculum**

By Mass Communications Specialist 1st Class Grant Ammon

Rear Adm. Jonathan White, Oceanographer of the Navy, and Rear Adm. Brian Brown, Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command; conducted a curriculum review of the Naval Post-Graduate School’s (NPS) meteorology and oceanography academic programs, Sept. 23-26.

During the visit Brown and White, both NPS alumni, reviewed student coursework and academic curriculum, met with NPS leadership, and key faculty from the school’s oceanography and meteorology departments, and participated in student thesis and dissertation presentations.



Rear Adm. Jonathan White (left), Oceanographer of the Navy, and Rear Adm. Brian Brown (top right), Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command; discuss Naval Post-Graduate School’s curriculum.

## Truman METOC Division Hosts Royal Navy Sailors

By Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Taylor M. DiMartino, Harry S. Truman Strike Group Public Affairs

USS HARRY S. TRUMAN, At Sea (NNS) -- Operations department's OA meteorology and oceanography (METOC) division aboard the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) is hosting two Royal Navy Sailors for training, who embarked Sept. 30.

Lt. Anna Townsend of Wales and Leading Seaman Paul Allen of Newcastle, are embarked aboard Truman through a Secretary of Defense initiative that seeks to ensure long-term cooperation between U.S. and United Kingdom military forces and will help the U.K. prepare Sailors to operate its future aircraft carriers. The embark of the METOC Sailors came at the behest of the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command as a part of the command's 2009 US-UK Operational Memorandum of Understanding.

"They are the first in a line of many U.K. embarks on board U.S. carriers," said Lt. Cmdr. Jason Gipson, OA's division officer. "Townsend and Allen have been integrated as members of OA division and Truman's Strike Group Oceanography Team (SGOT). They will learn aspects of Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 10 METOC and will experience life aboard a carrier first-hand."

Townsend said the U.K. does not operate any ships with the capabilities to launch fixed-wing aircraft. She said that by 2018, the U.K. is scheduled to have two aircraft carriers commissioned with capabilities to launch F-35B Lightning II vertical takeoff and landing fighter jets.

"When our carriers are ready, we will have Sailors who are experienced with their operation through programs such as this one," said Townsend. "It's brilliant to be here. We have learned so much about Truman and its operation."

Follow the link to read the whole story: [http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story\\_id=70044](http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=70044).

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## Command Spotlight: USNO

The United States Naval Observatory (USNO) is the Department of Defense authority for astronomical and timing data required for navigation at sea, on land, in space, and in the cyber domain. For the public sector, USNO serves as the time authority for a wide array of civil, legal and economic applications.

USNO carries out its primary functions by making regular observations of selected stars and other celestial bodies to determine and predict their positions and motions; by deriving precise time interval (frequency), both atomic and astronomical, and managing the distribution of precise time by means of timed navigation and communication transmissions; and by deriving, publishing, and distributing Earth orientation and other astronomical data required for accurate navigation, operational support, and fundamental positional astronomy. To continuously improve both the accuracy and the methods of determining and providing these astronomical and timing data, USNO conducts its own fundamental research program.

In addition to its Washington, DC, headquarters, USNO maintains two field activities. The Time Service Alternate Master Clock (AMC) Station at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo. serves as a backup to the Master Clock system in Washington, D.C. The Naval Observatory Flagstaff Station (NOFS) provides a dark sky site near Flagstaff, Ariz., where the 61-inch astrometric reflector, the 52- and 40-inch reflectors, 8-inch astrograph, and 8-inch automated transit circle telescope are located. NOFS, in collaboration with the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) and the Lowell Observatory, also operates the Navy Precision Optical Interferometer (NPOI) on Anderson Mesa near Flagstaff, Ariz. It is a new generation synthetic aperture telescope that can precisely determine the positions of stars to accuracies 100 times better than conventional ground-based techniques,

providing the necessary reference points for precise guidance and targeting systems, as well as for a variety of astronomical purposes.

**USNO Spotlight Employees**



**Chief Quarter Master (SW) Melvin Prescott**

Prescott is the USNO's Command Chief Petty Officer and the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the superintendent. He has been working in the Astronomical Applications Department since 2011. As the fleet liaison for the department, he is responsible for handling questions from the military regarding the almanacs and software products used for navigation and in support of special operations. Last year, he conducted a survey aimed at assessing fleet-wide use of celestial navigation and associated USNO products. One of the key findings from this survey is the need for better training in celestial navigation. As a result, USNO and Her Majesty's Nautical Almanac Office in Great Britain are working to address this training deficiency. Prescott also serves as a leader and mentor to the other enlisted personnel at USNO.



**Wendy King**

King is responsible for creating and maintaining the computer coding behind the USNO's Master Clock System. Eight years ago she won the James M. Gillis Award, the USNO's highest internal award, for over a decade of successful effort. Each of the several hundred components that make up the Master Clock and its time-transfer systems is subject to upgrade or failure. Increased information assurance directives require entirely new approaches. As the clock enters into the picosecond range of accuracy, even more data must be collected, piped around and processed. Each improvement must be planned for in a real-time installation, because the clock cannot stop. If it weren't for King's automated alarm system notifying key staff members, the clock would stop at least once a year.

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