

PEOPLE PLANES PLACES



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Records and Anniversaries

HS-5 surpassed 30,000 Class A mishap-free hours.

HSL-41 marked 120,000 Class A mishap-free hours.

NAS Keflavik, Iceland, achieved 28 Class A mishap-free years of operation.

VFA-94 recorded 50,000 Class A mishap-free flight hours.

VQ-2 flight engineer **AMC Raul Addoms** exceeded 10,000 flight hours in the P-3 Orion.

In March Navy **aviation ordnancemen** (AO) celebrated their rating's 78th anniversary. The AO rating was established on 2 March 1926 and was initially filled by qualified personnel serving as gunner's mates and torpedomen.

An **E-2C Hawkeye** of **VAW-113** launches from **John C. Stennis (CVN 74)** in March during carrier qualifications in preparation for the **Joint Task Force Exercise**.

Awards

AO1(EOD/DSW/SW/AW/PJ) Charles Bryant and **AW1(SW/NAC)** Bill Volk were named the **2004 Atlantic Fleet Sea and Shore Sailors of the Year**, respectively.

NAES Lakehurst, N.J., is the Navy's winner of the **2004 Commander in Chief's Award for Installation Excellence**. The award goes to the installation from each service that has made the best use of available resources to accomplish its assigned mission, increase

workforce productivity and enhance quality of life for its personnel.

NAS Pensacola, Fla., won the **2003 USS Bainbridge Award**, presented annually to the Navy command that exhibits the most outstanding community service. The air station also received the **2003 Secretary of the Navy Environmental Award** for a small station in the Natural Resources Conservation category.

HM1(FMF) Sean P. Ryall, an aeromedical safety corpsman and survival trainer for **MAG-36, MCAS Futenma, Japan**, received the **Robert Graham Enlisted Award** for outstanding performance. The annual award is presented to the sailor who has effectively promoted and supported the Aeromedical

Safety Program, contributing to operational readiness.

Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) and *Nimitz* (CVN 68) were named winners of **2003 Carrier Battle Efficiency Awards**.

Three squadrons from Carrier Air Wing 3 received Commander Naval Air Forces 2003 achievement awards. VFA-105 won the **RAdm. C. Wade McClusky Award**, VAQ-130 received the **Adm. Arthur W. Radford Award** and VAW-126 claimed the **RAdm. Frank Akers Award**. In addition to the squadron awards, LCdr. Damien Christopher was named **Landing Signal Officer of the Year**.

VR-48 received the **2003 Noel Davis Battle Efficiency Award** for reserve squadrons and the **2003 James M. Holcombe Maintenance Excellence Award**.

HT-8 earned three awards: the **CNO Naval Environmental Stewardship Flagship Award** for its work with the state of Florida and local conservation groups in



Commander Sea Control Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet Capt. Ted Algire, left, presents VS-24's Cdr. Thomas J. Fasanello with the United States Fleet Force Command's Retention Excellence Award.

rehabilitating land and waterways; the **CNATRA Training Excellence Award**, designating it the top advanced training squadron; and the **CNO Health, Safety and Fitness Award** recognizing squadrons that display the greatest attention to community health issues.

The Naval Aviation Schools Command, NAS Pensacola, Fla., received the **2003 Retention Excellence Award**, the second consecutive honor, after achieving retention goals set forth by the Chief of Naval Operations.

VFA-82 was awarded the **Top Hook Award** for having the best landing grades among all squadrons in CVW-1 during their 2003–2004 deployment.

Enterprise (CVN 65), *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74), *Iwo Jima* (LHD 3) and NAF Atsugi, Japan, were recipients of the **2004 Capt. Edward Ney Award for Food Service Excellence**. The award recognizes excellence in improving the quality of life for sailors and Marines.

Helicopter crews from CGAS New Orleans, La., and CGAS Houston, Texas, were awarded the **Coast Guard Foundation's Guardian of the Heartland Award**. The award recognizes an individual active duty Coast Guardsman or a group of Coast Guardsmen from the

Four Blue Angels F/A-18 Hornets perform the "Echelon Parade" maneuver for the crowd attending an air show in North Kingstown, R.I., in June 2003.



PH2 Saul McSween

Eighth Coast Guard District who performed an outstanding and heroic act during the calendar year.

Winners from CGAS New Orleans are LCdr. Russell Burnside, Ltjg. David Merriman, AMT3 Kevin Lajeunesse and AST3 Laurence Nettles for rescuing four people during Tropical Storm Bill on 30 June 2003. Winners from CGAS Houston included Lt. Brian Kostecki, Ltjg. John Scott, AMT2 Aaron Nachlas and AST3 Claude Morrissey for their rescue of two fishermen during Tropical Storm Claudette on 15 July 2003.

The aviation community winners of the **2003 Secretary of the Navy Achievement in Safety Ashore** awards are NADEP Jacksonville, Fla.; MCAS Miramar, Calif.; NAS Atlanta, Ga.; and NAS Keflavik, Iceland.



The tree that sits atop the framework of the new control tower at NAS Whidbey Island, Wash., has roots in centuries of construction tradition. A tree placed on the last beam of a structure signifies the project was completed without injuries and provides good luck to the building's future occupants.

MASTER CHIEF RECEIVES HIS OVERLOOKED HEART

By Tony Popp, NAS Whidbey Island, Wash., Public Affairs

Retired Master Chief Radioman (Aircraft Qualified) Glenn Lane was awarded the **Purple Heart** after a 62 year wait through the efforts of Congressman Rick Larsen, 2nd District (D-Wash.). Lane was honored for wounds suffered during combat operations in the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 7 December, 1941, while he was on board *Arizona* (BB 39). At the First Baptist Church in Oak Harbor, Wash., Lane stood in his service dress blues as Capt. Stephen Black, NAS Whidbey Island, Wash., CO, pinned on the medal in the company of Lane's family and friends. Oak Harbor Mayor Patricia Cohen declared 18 April 2004 as Glenn Lane Day, saying, "Recognition of his heart, courage, honor, selflessness and painful sacrifice have been too long overlooked." As a Radioman Third Class aboard *Arizona*, Lane recalled the Japanese attack when he was injured and blown overboard when *Arizona's* forward magazine exploded. He swam to a whaleboat and climbed on board *Nevada* (BB 36), helping man a five-inch anti-aircraft gun.



VAW-117 and Ms. Barbara Wright of NADEP Jacksonville, Fla., received **2003 Adm. Vern Clark Safety Awards**. VMA-223 received the **2003 General James L. Jones Safety Award**.

Scan Pattern

Matthew H. Portz, a veteran aerospace executive who provided a public voice for U.S. defense and space exploration efforts during the critical Cold War period following WW II and the Korean War, died 21 March at his home in Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif., from pancreatic cancer. He was 83.

He retired in 1986 as director of public affairs for the Aerospace Corporation, El Segundo, Calif., which he joined

in 1961. His professional career spanned 40 years, including management of information services for the Department of Defense, the National Committee for Aeronautics and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

A retired U.S. Naval Reserve captain, Portz was a ship's officer and Naval Aviator in WW II and was assigned to an admiral's staff during the Korean War. He later headed the Naval Aviation Periodicals and History office, predecessor of today's Naval Warfare Division in the Naval Historical Center.

A native of Wheeling, W.Va., he attended schools in Springfield, Ohio, and graduated from the University of Ohio. He pursued graduate studies at American University, UCLA, the Naval War College and Brookings Institution.

He is survived by wife, Carol;

three sons, a stepson and a stepdaughter; seven grandchildren; and a brother

Rescues

During night operations on the flight deck of *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) Airmen Frank Fuentesriccardi and Antwan Booker of the air department's aviation fuels division recognized a light flashing on the water as a strobe from a float coat which all flight deck workers are required to wear. They immediately notified flight deck control and initiated man overboard procedures. A sailor who had fallen overboard was rescued and returned safely to the ship.

FEMALE MARINE QUALS AS OSPREY CREW CHIEF

By MCAS New River, N.C., Public Affairs

On 3 May Cpl. Molly A. Muldoon, assigned to Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron (VMX) 22 at MCAS New River, N.C., became the first woman Marine to qualify as a V-22 Osprey crew chief. Muldoon reported to New River in October 2002 after completing Naval Aircrew Candidate School at NAS Pensacola, Fla. Her first stop was the V-22 section at the Naval Air Maintenance Training Unit, where she was one of the first three students to complete mechanic school. Marine Medium Tiltrotor Training Squadron 204 was her next assignment, though the Osprey had not yet resumed flight. The V-22 simulators of the Marine Aircrew Training Systems Squadron played an important role in her instruction. After the training, Muldoon was welcomed to VMX-22 during an activation ceremony on 28 August 2003.



CHANGE OF COMMAND

Bataan (LHD 5): Capt. Nora W. Tyson relieved Capt. Earle S. Yerger, 22 Feb.

CVW-1: Capt. Mark E. Mills relieved Capt. Jeffery M. Cathey, 26 Mar.

CVW-8: Capt. Stephen J. Laukatis relieved Capt. David A. Newland, 31 Mar.

HMLA-269: Lt. Col. Joseph M. Jeffrey relieved Lt. Col. Jeff Hewlett, 2 Apr.

HS-3: Cdr. Steven W. Holmes relieved Cdr. James B. Hopkins, 12 Feb.

HS-15: Cdr. Andrew A. Butterfield relieved Cdr. David R. Swain, 19 May.

HSL-41: Cdr. Matthew J. McCloskey relieved Capt. Steven Greene, 5 Mar.

HSL-60: Cdr. James Pierce relieved Capt. Don Burns, 10 Jan.

John F. Kennedy (CV 67): Capt. Ronald H. Henderson, Jr., relieved Capt. Stephen G. Squires, 8 Apr.

Sea Control Weapons School: Cdr. Mark Sturges relieved Cdr.

Wayne J. Harrison, 22 Apr.

TACRON-11: Cdr. Joseph Beadles relieved Cdr. Allan Lohr, 10 Jun.

Tarawa (LHA 1): Capt. John W. Riley III relieved Capt. John H. Bowling, 22 Jan.

VAQ-131: Cdr. Mike Coury relieved Cdr. John Geragotelis, 26 Mar.

VAQ-141: Cdr. Steven M. Guiliani relieved Cdr. William P. Reavey, 19 Mar.

VFA-151: Cdr. Kevin F. Greene relieved Cdr. Mark A. Hubbard, 17 Feb.

VFA-22: Cdr. Erik M. Anderson relieved Cdr. Jesse B. King, 26 Feb.

VFA-34: Cdr. Jeff S. Haupt relieved Cdr. S. R. Roth, 2 Apr.

VFA-94: Cdr. Todd A. Laessig relieved Cdr. Brian D. Reeves, 15 Aug 03.

VFA-136: Cdr. Patrick Lefere relieved Cdr. Scott Conn, 7 May.

VP-1: Cdr. Leon R. Bacon relieved Cdr. Steven S. Vahsen, 12 Mar.

VP-26: Cdr. Francis W. Doris relieved Cdr. Matthew J. Carter, 26 Mar.

VP-5: Cdr. Sean Cannon relieved Cdr. Scott Dueker, 16 Apr.

VP-9: Cdr. Rodney M. Urbano relieved Cdr. Daniel G. Rieck, 7 May.

VPU-2: Cdr. Bradley D. Skinner relieved Cdr. M. B. Jones, 12 Mar.

VQ-4: Cdr. Gary H. Foster relieved Cdr. Thomas J. Maser, 30 Apr.

VR-1: Cdr. Kenneth W. Skaggs relieved Cdr. Clayton G. Tettlebach, 21 May.

VRC-40: Cdr. Steven Y. Faggert relieved Cdr. Douglas D. Carsten, 29 Apr.

VT-28: Cdr. Will M. Moore, Jr., relieved Cdr. David R. Price, 12 Mar.

VT-86: Cdr. Peter Hall relieved Lt. Col. Justin B. Orabona, 9 Apr.



A PILOT'S-EYE VIEW

Commander Chris Hicks, operations officer for Commander Strike Fighter Wing Pacific, shared some of his photography with *Naval Aviation News*. He began taking photos when he was maintenance officer in Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 25 and found a new “horizon.” Above, the moon rises over a VFA-25 F/A-18 Hornet in the Arabian Gulf, while, below, two Hornets head for *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72). Right and below right, Cdr. Hicks used computer software to “fade to gray,” then “painted” the photos’ focal points to produce the stunning effect.

