

# The Center Post

Navy Public Works Center  
Norfolk, Va.

Better • Faster • Cheaper • Safer

PWC is a  organization

Vol. 46/No. 2

PWC/RE Norfolk's official newsletter

April/May 2004





Capt. George E. Eichert  
Commanding Officer

As most of you know from earlier All Hands notes and meetings, pending final Secretary of the Navy approval, on July 30 we will disestablish PWC Norfolk and simultaneously stand up Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Mid-Atlantic.

Everyone who is in PWC Norfolk today will be in NAVFAC Mid-Lant and I will be the Commanding Officer of this new organization. In addition, approximately 240 people who are with LANT-DIV today will join NAVFAC Mid-Lant.

I am excited about this change, as I'm confident that this organizational transformation will enable us to collectively serve the Navy and our other clients more efficiently and effectively. How? This or-

ganizational transformation will help us in several ways:

- By consolidating the current two facility organizations into one it will be easier for the Regional Commander and other clients to get facility work done. They will know to come to NAVFAC Mid-Lant (us) for all facility-related work. Whatever the work is (facility maintenance, construction, environmental remediation, facility services, project design, planning, real estate, utilities, transportation services, etc.), we will figure out how best to get the work done, do it, and be held accountable.
- We will be able to reduce overhead and standardize technology systems and processes across our enterprise.
- Aligning ourselves internally and externally will enable us to better develop, and then import and export, best business practices across NAVFAC and the Navy to further improve productivity and drive down costs.
- Through our NAVFAC community management program we'll manage, develop and shape our workforce to best support the Navy and maximize our people's growth and development.

NAVFAC and the Navy are committed to driving down costs. This is important — the savings generated will contribute to re-capitalizing the Navy's Fleet. To accomplish this goal, we must collectively focus on finding better ways to do business that lower costs, leverage all of our talent and experience throughout the NAVFAC community, and be bold and take acceptable risks.

Based on the talented people we have at PWC Norfolk today, and the creation of NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic that brings all the capabilities of NAVFAC together into one organization, we can be confident that we will meet the Navy's high expectations.

G. E. EICHERT

**ABOUT THE COVER**—PWC Norfolk makes a tandem lift using two 112 ton floating cranes to pick up a 238,000 lbs. barge for the Naval Station. A tandem lift must be well choreographed and tightly controlled to be accomplished safely and successfully. One barge PWC wharfbuilders had overhauled was taken off the wall and the other barge put on the wall to be overhauled. Transportation (Code 730 and Weight Handling Support Service personnel) and Maintenance (Code 530 Wharfbuilders) worked together to make it happen. (Photo by John Land) □

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**The Center Post** welcomes **Letters to the Editor**, **Ask the CO** questions, and **suggestions** for future articles. **The Center Post** also encourages employees to submit original articles for publication. Articles should include the name and phone number of the author and are subject to editing for clarity and length. Send mail to the Public Affairs Office, Code 09B, 9742 Maryland Ave., Norfolk, VA 23511-3095. Phone numbers are: (757) 445-8732 (ext. 3096) and 445-4495 (ext. 3095); DSN 565-8732. Fax is (757) 444-7989. E-mail is [Willisra@pwcnorva.navy.mil](mailto:Willisra@pwcnorva.navy.mil).

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INFORMATION HOTLINE:**  
444-4406, 7, 8, 9

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# NAVFAC plans major command-wide transformation

Beginning in July, significant changes will occur as the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) transforms to align itself with Navy Regions worldwide.

Last year NAVFAC began evaluating how to become a more efficient and effective organization. One that is better aligned with the Chief of Naval Operations' priorities and supports Fleet, Marine Corps and Commander Navy Installations (CNI) requirements.

This evaluation, in effect, was an aggressive review of NAVFAC global operations focused on standardizing business processes, eliminating duplication, and driving out costs.

After an extensive assessment process, culminating with CNO conceptual approval, NAVFAC is ready to commence a transformational reshaping of its worldwide organization.

"This new organization will deliver our products and services more effectively and efficiently to NAVFAC clients, and at the same time, generate long-term savings that can be reinvested in our Navy-Marine Corps combat team to win the global war on terrorism," explained Rear Adm. Michael K. Loose, NAVFAC Commander. "Our transformation will be fully consistent with CNO's orders to operate 'smaller and smarter,'" he said.

In most areas there have been two organizations providing NAVFAC products and services to clients, a Public Works Center (PWC) and either an Engineering Field Activity (EFA) or an Engineering Field Division (EFD). While each provided different services, there was some duplication.

This reshaping combines and aligns NAVFAC component commands into Facilities Engineering Commands (FECs) under two Echelon III commands: NAVFAC Atlantic in Norfolk and NAVFAC Pacific in

Pearl Harbor.

The Engineering Field Divisions/Activities and Public Works Centers will be consolidated to create Echelon IV Commands within a region to provide the regional commander a single touch point for all NAVFAC products and services.

FECs will enable NAVFAC to better align and focus on Regional requirements, surge support across regional boundaries, globally implement common business processes, eliminate redundancy and duplication, eliminate nine flagpoles, and return substantial savings to the Navy.

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*"We will create an entirely new organization," Rear Adm. Richard Cellon emphasized. "The PWCs and EFAs/EFDs will be disestablished and the new activity stood up. This will not be one taking over the other."*

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For several years NAVFAC has been working to standardize its business practices and organizational structure across the EFDs and EFAs. Although each EFA and EFD provided similar products and services, clients experienced differences when dealing with more than one organization. Public Works Centers report to the regional commander and again, tend to operate differently as they provide similar services.

In February, the Chief of Naval Operations approved a realignment of NAVFAC creating a single activity that will provide all NAVFAC products and services to Navy clients in each region. The Commanding Officer will also be the Regional Engineer.

"This presents a tremendous opportunity to do great things for the Navy and NAVFAC," said Rear Adm.

Richard E. Cellon, Atlantic Division Commander. "We will move from a command-centric organization to a business line-centric organization."

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*A disestablishment ceremony for PWC Norfolk and stand-up of our new command, NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic, is planned for July 30.*

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"We will create an entirely new organization," Rear Adm. Cellon emphasized. "The PWCs and EFAs/EFDs will be disestablished and the new activity stood up. This will not be one taking over the other."

In July PWC Washington and EFA Chesapeake will be disestablished and NAVFAC Washington will be established.

Also in July PWC Norfolk will be disestablished and will form NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic with an expanded Hampton Roads Integrated Product Team (IPT) and the Hampton Roads ROICC offices from the Atlantic Division.

Also this year, NAVFAC Far East and NAVFAC Midwest will stand up, PWC Pensacola will become a detachment of PWC Jacksonville and EFA West will become a forward-deployed IPT of Southwest Division.

Next year NAVFAC Hawaii, NAVFAC Guam and NAVFAC Southwest will stand up. NAVFAC Southeast, Northeast and Northwest will standup in 2006.

A lot of the specific details remain to be worked out.

Commanding Officer Capt. George Eichert has been conducting All Hands meetings with PWC employees since late March to explain how the realignment will impact PWC Norfolk.

A disestablishment ceremony for PWC Norfolk and stand-up of our new command, NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic, is planned for July 30. □

## CNO announces 2003 Environmental Award winners

On Feb. 2, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) announced that the Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (CNRMA) was awarded the 2003 CNO Environmental Quality Installation Award for a non-industrial installation.

CNRMA was recognized for its outstanding environmental stewardship through its commitment to maintaining and improving sound environmental practices in daily operations and its contributions to the long-term improvement of the quality of the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers.

The PWC Regional Environmental Group was instrumental in this noteworthy achievement.

Kristi Unzicker won the Individual CNO Environmental Award in this category and went on to win the Secretary of the Navy Environmental Individual Award in the Environmental Quality category. She will now compete in the DoDFY 2003 Environmental Awards Program. □



Kristi Unzicker receives a Letter of Appreciation from Capt. George Eichert during an All Hands meeting on March 29. Unzicker was also recognized, along with other winners, at a SECNAV Awards ceremony on May 4 in Washington, D.C.

## In Memory

PWC retiree Thomas Gene Batten, 62, passed away March 29.

He was a high voltage electrician and worked at PWC in Norfolk for 15 years before transferring to the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. He became part of PWC again after regionalization in 1992. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and the Virginia National Guard.

"He was truly an outstanding person and a joy to have on my watch for a time," said PWC Utilities Supervisor Bruce Golembiewski.

A graveside service with Masonic rites was held April 3 in Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens. □

## Navy celebrates Earth Day May 2

The weather was a gorgeous reflection on the meaning of Earth Day: to learn how to better care for the beauty and delicate balance of nature.

On May 2, over 30 exhibitors contributed to the promotion of environmental awareness at a Hampton Roads Earth Day Celebration.

An estimated 3,000 people attended the festivities at Mount Trashmore Park, sponsored by the city of Virginia Beach.

The celebration featured exhibits, local entertainment acts, a children's venue and stage, and food.

Spectators were able to walk away with a better understanding of ways to care for the earth while

enjoying an afternoon filled with entertainment.

To demonstrate its commitment to environmental stewardship, Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic highlighted its Recycling, Environmental, Pollution Prevention, and Chesapeake Bay Programs at the local celebration.

Besides having an interactive display for children to answer questions, the Regional Environmental staff displayed posters and handed out environmental educational material.

In addition to the command exhibits, over 25 military and civilian employees volunteered at Earth Day events, helping with logistics, directing traffic, and helping exhibitors. □

## Lawn care that prevents storm water pollution

**L**awns and gardens can be a source of stormwater pollution if proper lawn care practices are not followed. When you apply fertilizer and pesticides to lawns and gardens, excessive rain and watering can wash these materials into storm drains. Fertilizers contain nitrogen and phosphorus. When these nutrients are washed into waterways, they can contaminate drinking water, kill fish, and cause beach closures.

To prevent stormwater pollution:

- Select organic or non-toxic fertilizers, and use them as directed. Carelessly applied fertilizer is not only a waste of money; it poses a major problem for local waterways.

- Don't apply fertilizers or pesticides just before a heavy rain and don't water your lawn just after application unless the directions say to.

- As an alternative to chemical fertilizer, use grass clippings or compost to act as natural fertilizer. You can purchase or make your own compost using garden waste.

- Do not dispose of grass clippings in or near storm drains.

- Choosing plants that are well suited to the soil, sunlight, and moisture conditions of your area reduces the need for fertilizers, pest control, and watering.

- Prior to purchasing and applying pesticides, identify your pest problem and choose the least toxic method for achieving the results you want. Organic pesticides are also generally safer to apply and store than chemicals.

- Minimize runoff and conserve water by using drip irrigation, soaker hoses, or micro-spray systems. Don't over-water or water sidewalks and driveways. □

# RECYCLE

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Please, no trash! If your command has any questions regarding recycling, please contact your local regional recycling specialist.

Norfolk Naval Station	445-8700
Little Creek	462-1447
Yorktown	887-4381
Oceana	433-2454

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Blue Recycling  
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Command!!**

## Clean the Bay Day

**C**lean the Bay Day is a Hampton Roads community event with thousands of volunteers participating annually. The event provides aid to improve the Chesapeake Bay watershed area. The 16th annual Clean the Bay Day will be held from 8 a.m. until Noon on June 12. Volunteers are needed not only for the cleanup of trash from shorelines and tributaries, but collection of valuable data on the amount of trash collected. These efforts foster a cleaner environment for wildlife and provide information that helps officials find ways to prevent future pollution. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Ensign Michelle Carpenter at 433-2848 or 492-6626.

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# EEO Committee Survey results

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By Dr. Bill Grant

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## Background

In May 2003, PWC employees participated in an EEO Committee sponsored paper and pencil survey of attitudes toward EEO at PWC. In accordance with DoD Directive 5400.11, the following information about this survey was provided:

a. The principal purpose for the survey was to collect information on how employees feel about Equal Employment Opportunity issues at PWC.

b. Information provided by respondents has been treated confidentially. The information was used for statistical analysis and to identify specific areas for improvement.

c. No attempt was made to identify any employee.

d. Response to this survey was voluntary.

The survey was conducted PWC wide including the Philadelphia Detachment with 1,184 respondents completing the survey using both computer and paper copy instruments.

Six questions were asked concerning attitudes toward EEO training and support. One "open ended" question was asked concerning how the EEO Committee could have a positive impact on EEO.

To ensure the volunteer sample of responses were representative of the PWC employee population as a whole, five questions were asked concerning place of employment, category of employment, gender, racial/ethnic group, and age group.

The EEO Committee, chaired by Courtland Thompson, examined the survey population characteristics and HRO data concerning the whole workforce and concluded that the

survey represents a valid sample of the PWC workforce. Responses were entered into a statistical analysis software program and results presented to the EEO committee for ongoing review and discussions.

A team comprised of four EEO Committee members conducted an analysis of the one "open ended" question concerning how the EEO Committee could have a positive impact on EEO.

Some 15 categories of responses were identified. The team recommended the five most frequently mentioned categories to the EEO Committee for further consideration and for follow up action. The EEO Committee asked five members to further analyze the responses in each category and recommend EEO Committee actions. This process is currently ongoing.

## Summary

The following represent an analysis of the six EEO attitude questions and the "open ended" question concerning how the EEO committee can have a positive impact on EEO.

When asked, "Have you received any EEO training within the last 3 years (such as sexual harassment, diversity, alternative dispute resolution or discrimination, etc.)?", 53 percent of the respondents indicated that they had received training.

When asked to rate their knowledge of the EEO complaint process as either very poor, poor, above average, good or very good, 48 percent of the respondents rated their knowledge of the EEO complaint process as "above average" or better.

When asked how they think most employees would rate EEO in PWC as either very poor, poor, above average, good, or very good, 52 percent of the respondents indicated that most employees would rate EEO in PWC as "above average" or better.

When asked how they would rate EEO at PWC as very poor, poor, above average, good or very good, 53

percent of the respondents indicated they rate EEO at PWC as "above average" or better.

When asked to what extent they felt PWC is committed to EEO either to a very little extent, to a little extent, to some extent, to a great extent, or to a very great extent, 45 percent of the respondents rated PWC's commitment to EEO as "to some extent" or better.

When asked, "Does your supervisor promote EEO in the workplace?" to a very little extent, to a little extent, to some extent, to a great extent, or to a very great extent, 64 percent of the respondents indicated that their supervisor promoted EEO in the workplace "to some extent" or better.

When asked what can the EEO Committee do to promote EEO, the following five most frequently mentioned categories developed:

- Promote and be an advocate for equality
- Training
- Hiring
- Promotion and Processes
- Improve leadership and management Communications.

## Conclusion

The entire EEO Committee wishes to thank all the employees who participated in this EEO survey. This information will allow the committee to proceed with actions that are based on the workforce's concerns and recommendations.

This survey has also highlighted areas relating to the EEO Committee's role in promoting and being an advocate for equality, EEO training, EEO concerns relating to the current hiring, promotion, and processes, promoting EEO awareness among leadership and management, and finally to improve communications about EEO in PWC.

If you would like to learn more about EEO, please contact either EEO Committee Chairperson Courtland Thompson or Deputy Chairperson Dr. Bill Grant. □

# Transportation Division at Earle earns safety award

**C**ongratulations to our PWC Transportation Division personnel at Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle on their selection for the Command's FY03 Group Safety Award.

During the past 12 months, the Transportation Division provided train, crane, tractor-trailer, and equipment services in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and all other naval Weapons Station functions.

Throughout the entire period, including the on/offload and handling of over 60,000 long tons of ordnance, the Transportation Division conducted their supporting role without time lost to personnel casualty.

Through supervisor involvement in daily safety briefings and the strict adherence to Standard Operating Procedures, the Transportation Division operated over 27,600 man-hours, including round-the-clock operations to support OIF and the fleet, safely and without incident.

"Over the past year, the entire Transportation Division has executed countless mission supporting functions without major mishaps," said Lt. Cmdr. Jeffrey Carter, Public Works Officer, NWS Earle.

"The PWC Transportation Division is the epitome of the station in regard to safety!" He continued. "Their ability to safely execute all of their tasks, including a near flawless crane safety audit and the monstrous ship loading and unloading operations, is only one example of their dedication to the overall safety program."

"Without their safe and conscientious efforts, the station's mission would not have been realized, he continued, "In addition, all 160+ members of PWC, BCE and ROICC were recognized for outstanding efforts in safety." □



**Capt. Bobby Scholley, Commanding Officer, Naval Weapons Station Earle, presents the Command Group Safety Award to Gary Erskine, Railroad Operations Supervisor (left) and Mike Perry, Transportation Equipment Maintenance Supervisor. Looking on are (left to right): Steve Shoen, Transportation Superintendent, Lt. Cmdr. Jeff Carter, Public Works Officer, and Bob Peterson, PWC Site Manager.**

## New buses service the fleet



**PWC Transportation introduces its fleet of new buses to the fleet during the homecoming of the USS Enterprise to Naval Station Norfolk on Feb. 29. Code 700 chose this homecoming as the optimum time to unveil its new buses and provide timely transportation services for approximately 1,200 Tiger Team members, 200 Carrier Wing and Squadron personnel and 200 ship's personnel. In February, Code 700 received 13 new 44-passenger buses into its vehicle inventory. These new buses will be the front line responders for direct fleet support and will replace the aging 36 passenger buses currently being phased out or being used in less essential service areas.**

# Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

**F**or a quarter of a century, May has marked the national observance of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

This year's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month theme is "Freedom for All, a Nation We Call Our Own."

This Annual Observance is in recognition of the rich cultural heritage of the Asian Pacific American Community that helped shape our great nation. It is also a reminder of how the contributions of all Americans have served to strengthen the fabric of our nation.

Asian Pacific Americans comprise approximately 5 percent of our nation's population or 12.5 million people. A like percentage of Asian Pacific Americans is represented in the military services, including approximately 28,000 in the Navy.

As Master Chief Yeoman Armand Rivo, a sailor serving with SPAWARSYSCEN Norfolk Detachment San Diego, Calif., noted, "I volunteered to serve in the Armed Forces, and there is no greater satisfaction than doing my part in providing freedom for all Americans."

—From *CNO Vice Adm. G. L. Hoewing, N1*. □

## Note of Thanks

The family of Andrew "Andy" Wharam wishes to express thanks and gratitude for the overwhelming support and wishes of sympathy and kindness expressed by his many friends and former co-workers.

"He would be pleased to know of and be very proud of the great support provided by so many of you. He will surely be missed by us all," said Kim Wharam. □



Ensign Alf Nuzzolo and Ensign Liz Durika join third-graders at Arrowhead Elementary to enjoy a Volunteer Appreciation Day ice-cream social on April 6. These officers and other Wardroom members of PWC Norfolk, in conjunction with members of the Atlantic Division, Navy Facilities Engineering Command (LANTDIV) Wardroom, have been volunteering at both Arrowhead Elementary School and Brandon Middle School for the past four months. Each week, the officers provide math tutoring to third grade students and junior high students. Both schools greatly appreciate the officers' commitment to help and the students' math grades have noticeably improved. Volunteers not pictured: (PWC Norfolk) Lt. Jennifer Baker, Ensign Michelle Carpenter, Lt. j.g. Elkin Mosquera, Cmdr. Mark Jackson, Lt. Cmdr. Steve Revelas, Lt. Cmdr. Jonathan Siegel, Lt. Merritt Tollison, Lt. Mike Dysart, Lt. Cmdr. Drew Hascall and Lt. Jodi Sewell; (LANTDIV) Ensign Aaron Ripple, Lt. Yvonne Lyda, and Lt. Pamela Eclar.

## Seeking annual leave donations

**T**he following employees are seeking donations of annual leave due to medical emergencies: **Christina Geisler**, Code 90, **Sandra Wilson**, Code 150, **Renee Russell**, Code 400, **Danilo Ilagan** and **David McGilberry**, Code 500, **Tracey Fleming**, Code 700, and **Eric Hodies**, a former PWC employee who now works for LANTDIV. For more information or to donate leave, please call Donna Lathan at 444-4461.

### Thanks to leave donors

"Thanks so much to the leave donors, who through their kindness and thoughtfulness, have helped me and my family during a very hard and tiresome experience of going through chemotherapy for my cancer."

—*Danny L. Ilagan, Electrician, ESU/PM, Oceana, 572 Branch*

# EPDP Report

By Dianne Edwards

The EPDP Committee is made up of officers and site representatives that fall under the Commanding Officer, EEO and Safety Coordinator of this Command. We are currently asking for volunteers, in certain areas, to be on this committee.

Due to attrition, many areas of representation have gone from the Committee due to heavier workloads and no time available for participation. The Committee has an enormous amount of work in the future and needs help in getting out to the different sites. These are collateral duties that require disciplined individuals who would like to make a difference in the work force.

If you're interested in learning more on how you could be an officer or a site representative for the committee, please contact me at 444-5936. I would enjoy talking with you and I hope you will consider volunteering your energy to help others.

Area needs for representation are Code 400, Code 700, Code 800, Little Creek, Portsmouth, Oceana, Dam Neck, Yorktown, Earle, N.J., Lakehurst, N.J., Philadelphia, Pa., and Mechanicsburg, Pa.

For more information, please contact one of the following representatives:

Dianne Edwards, Chairperson (Norfolk) 444-5936,

Charles Vogel, Secretary 444-1222, ext. 313,

Durk Simmons, Code 500, 444-9698,

Remo Harris, Code 140, 444-1222, ext. 316,

Wayne Ballard, Code 140, 444-1222, ext. 317,

Ronald Barber, MTC, Code 600, 444-2293, or

Lt. Pablo Sierra, Military Liaison, 444-7050. □

## Welcome new officers

Ensign Syreeta Martin reported to PWC Norfolk in December 2003 for temporary duty.

She then attended Naval School, Civil Engineer Corps Officers (CECOS) in Port Hueneme, Calif., from January to April 2004.

In April 2004, she returned to PWC Norfolk as the Executive Officer Assistant.

A native of LaGrange, Ga., Ensign Martin earned a bachelor of science degree in Electrical Engineering at Prairie View A&M University in May 2003.

She was commissioned an Ensign in the Civil Engineer Corps on Oct. 10, 2003, through the Officer Candidate School. □



Ensign Syreeta Martin

Ensign Adam W. Christopher reported to PWC Norfolk in October 2003 as a Facilities Operations Officer.

From January to April 2004 he attended Naval Civil Engineer Corps Officer School (CECOS) in Port Hueneme, Calif.

He returned to Norfolk in April 2004 to take over as PW Operations Officer (Code 21H) at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth.

A native of San Francisco, Calif., Ensign Christopher began his Navy career as an enlisted man.

He served 6 years as a nuclear-qualified Machinist's Mate with 4 years aboard USS Enterprise, CVN-65. After being Honorably Discharged in 1995, he spent six years operating and maintaining gas-turbine power plants.

At the same time, he returned to college on the GI Bill program, eventually earning a bachelor of science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Davis in June 2003.

He completed Officer Candidate School and was commissioned an



Ensign Adam Christopher

Ensign in the Civil Engineer Corps on Sept. 26, 2003.

Ensign Christopher is married to the former Easter E. Park of Newport News, Va. His daughter Michele, 13, lives in Camarillo, Calif. with her mother. His sons, Alex, 11, and Narayan, 6, and daughter Saraswati, 3, live with him and his wife. □

# Making a Difference at PWC

## Project remains on track thanks to PWC team

**T**he PWC/RE team pictured here recently received commendation from our customers for their fast response and performance.

The team supported the ROICC to mediate a crisis that would have impacted Gate 3's reopening.

The team's rapid response to the recent discovery of more than 300 linear feet of underground abandoned asbestos insulated pipes insured that the Gate 3 project would remain on track. The response began within 30 minutes of notification of the problem.

The PWC/RE team included Carolyn Vidrine, Environmental Engineering, who collected the samples; Althea Miller Laboratory Services, who performed the analysis; and the Asbestos Abatement crew.

The Asbestos Abatement crew members are: James Peden (Lead-



Members of the PWC/RE team that helped avert a crisis at Gate 3 are: (front row) Barry Leiteritz, Althea Miller, Vanessa Johnson, Steve August and Tom Jenkins; (back row) Jimmy Peden, Nelson Trotter, Walter Pierce, Mark Ahrens and William Taylor. Not pictured: Carolyn Vidrine.

er), Vanessa Johnson, Barry Leiteritz, Nelson Trotter, Mark Ahrens, Walter Pierce, William Taylor, and Tom Jenkins (Supervisor), who worked tirelessly to remediate the site.

This partnership would not have worked without the efforts of many people including John Norman, Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Hascall,

PWO Norfolk Site, Lt. j.g. Michael Golonka, ROICC and Lt. Cmdr. Jonathan Siegel.

"Their contribution to removing the unforeseen AB in a timely manner made a positive impact to keeping a very tight construction schedule on track. Their professionalism and hard work is greatly appreciated. Job well done!" said David Dupree, Engineering Technician, ROICC Sewells Point.

Another kudo goes to Steve August in the Utilities Department. August noticed the pipe lagging on piles of dirt as he was driving in. Using his knowledge and experience, he suspected it might be asbestos. He called Trevor Baker in the Safety Office to report his suspicions.

Together they went out to take a closer look and initiated the actions addressed in the ROICC.

August is commended for his vigilance and willingness to report the suspected hazard. □



## Oil recovery crew helps Army

A USNS vessel supporting the Army notified PWC/RE on a Thursday that the vessel docked at Lambert's Point needed to perform emergency engine repairs.

They were in desperate need of transferring approximately 65,000 gallons of a variety of oily waste by Monday.

Mike Menchaka (USNS/MSC) contacted the PWC Oil Recovery Team.

By coordinating with the Military Sealift Command and creating a convoy of tanker trucks, the team completed the transfer of almost 70,000 gallons by Saturday and staged a tanker for continuous fill at the pier to catch any residual waste.

At one point the discharge pumps failed on the ship and oil recovery again came to their rescue and helped pump the material from the ship to the tanker.

The command was pleasantly surprised to find their final bill was at least \$21,000 less than what it was going to cost them by using a private contractor to position a barge nearby. □



The PWC/RE Oil recovery crew that made a difference to the Army during an emergency are (left to right): Charlie Martin, Albert Buckles, Billy Bradley, Isaac Brothers, Bill Taylor, Terry Bartlett and Doug Moore (Supervisor).



Lt. Cmdr. Robert Fairbanks (left) presents a Letter of Appreciation from PWC customer Northrup Grumman to employees in the Weight Handling Support Services Group. Northrup Grumman extolled PWC's valuable crane support from Nov. 28, 2003 through Feb. 11, 2004, during major repairs to the USS Newport News. Members of the crane crew were commended for their courteous, flexible and dedicated service. Front row (l - r): crane operator Donald Ward, crane operator Joseph Lynch, crane operations foreman Merriett Cox, crane operator Gary Long and crane coordinator Maurice Holland. Back row (l - r): rigger Bradley White, crane operator Kenny Lahaye, crane operator Keith Fletcher, rigger John Visco and rigger Fentress White.





Charles Quick (Code 731) accepts his 40-year Length of Service Award from Transportation Department Head Cmdr. Robert Fairbanks, on April 12.



Capt. George Eichert presents a 40-year Length of Service Award to Charles Kaeprowski in the Transportation Department on March 9.



Capt. George Eichert presents a 40-year Length of Service Award to Bill Pasley in the Safety Office on April 14.



Capt. George Eichert presents a 40-year Length of Service Award to Larry Barnes in the Utilities Department on March 24.

## Length of Service Awards

(April/May)

**35 Years**—Dempsey W. Ballard • Anatola A. Bey • Carroll L. Howard • James E. Perow • Wallace E. Rice Jr. • John E. Spears

**30 Years**—William A. Bailey • William R. Bodner Jr. • David L. Boyd • Clarence B. Crawford • Gary E. Engle • Marshall F. Frierson • Paul R. Jackson Jr. • Karl F. Jarrard • Carl D. Lunde • Randy L. Mitchell • James C. Twine III • Thomas E. Wade

**20 years**—Raymond M. Brandi • Gregory L. Brown • Larry D. Dunning • Michael D. Hogue • Ted Holly • Mark R. Huneycutt • Matthew Jackson • William C. Jeffcoat • Sharon R. Jiggetts • Gregory L. McIntyre • John H. Young

**10 Years**—Harold S. Moore • Joseph A. Vlcek □

*Note: The LOS lists sent to The Center Post may not be concurrent with the actual award presentation.*



**Capt. George Eichert presents 35-year Length of Service Awards to Carroll Howard (left) and Daniel Williams in the Maintenance Department on April 22.**



**Capt. George Eichert presents 35-year LOS Awards to (l - r) Charles Mullen, Robert Jones, Jr., and Robert Brown in the Transportation Department on March 9.**



**(L - r) Larry Cooper, David Seate and Leroy Branch in the Maintenance Department display their 30-year LOS Awards presented by Capt. George Eichert on April 22.**



**Capt. George Eichert presents 30-year LOS Awards to (l - r) Ronald Coyer, Charles West III and Don Forehand in the Utilities Department on March 29.**



**Capt. Eichert presents 30-year LOS Awards to (l - r) Detton Scarborough, Johnnie Turner, Martin Mundy, Jr., Bruce Cooke and Jannette Ferguson in the Transportation Department on March 9.**



**Executive Officer Peter Melin presents a PWC plaque to Geneva Wragg in the Support Services Department at her retirement "open house" on April 2. She retired with 28 of government service, with 12 years at PWC.**

## Promotions

John D. Barrett  
Michael O. Beal  
Kenneth G. Davis  
Robert J. Davis  
Gary Gilliehan  
Barry D. Glover  
William E. Gray  
Nelson E. Irizarry  
Bill A. Jennings  
Kevin E. Josie Sr.  
Kenneth R. Lahaye  
Richard L. Lake  
Joyce B. Linyear  
Keri L. Lomele  
Richard J. Love  
Timothy H. Madsen  
David A. Morgridge  
Dan J. Oros  
Heather E. Overholtzer  
Alex D. Rhue  
Ronald D. Stephens  
Charlie B. Taylor, Jr.  
Lance G. Waldrop  
Charles E. Whitfield

## Retirements

Martin B. Andrews, Jr.  
Bernard N. Harmon  
Julia D. Hobbs  
Curtiss A. Johnson  
Michael L. Kelly  
Alan E. Reinking  
Richard Rossi  
Bernard R. Smith  
Frank Sondej, Jr.

## Welcome

Ronnie L. Beckett  
Justin P. Dinini Sr.  
Wesley A. Herlan  
Wesley C. Johnson  
Ricky L. Labby  
Robert C. McLendon  
Shawn P. Murray  
Edward J. Tillery



Curtiss Johnson, Regional Director of Production Management, accepts one of his retirement gifts from Mark Outman at his farewell luncheon on March 31. Johnson retired on March 3 with 29 years and 9 months of government service. He began his civil service career at Norfolk Naval Shipyard on May 6, 1974, and became a PWC employee in 1993 following regionalization. He worked at the Portsmouth Site for several years before moving to the Code 410 position in April 2000. Capt. George Eichert also attended the luncheon and presented him with a PWC plaque.



Machinery repairman Chief Michael Gresham accepts one of his retirement certificates from Capt. George Eichert on March 15. Gresham also received a Navy and Marine Commendation Medal (Gold Star in lieu of second award) for the superior performance of his duties while serving as Mid-Atlantic Region Self-Help Coordinator and PWC Command Chief from October 2000 to June 2004. He was cited for spearheading an extremely successful Self-Help construction program encompassing five major Navy installations disbursed across 50 miles.



Jon Siegel is promoted to Lt. Cmdr. by Capt. George Eichert on March 10. Lt. Cmdr. Siegel serves the Utilities Department as Operations Officer.



Capt. George Eichert promotes Chris Kim to Lt. j.g. on April 14. Lt. j.g. Kim is the Facilities Operations Officer at the Naval Weapons Station Yorktown.

## Det retirement ceremonies

By **Cmdr. Dan Therrien**  
Philadelphia Site PWO

The sky over South Philadelphia was dark with clouds, and a light but steady rain fell throughout the day. To some, it was typical spring weather in Pennsylvania, but to others it seemed a gentle reminder of the somber meaning for the gathering.

It was April 2, and employees of PWC Detachment Philadelphia were assembled at the Philadelphia Naval Business Center (PNBC) to pay tribute to 33 of their co-workers who were retiring.

In similar ceremonies being held at NSA Mechanicsburg and NWS Earle, PWC employees also gathered to say farewell.

In all, a total of 52 hard-working PWC employees retired that day, part of the transition process from the Det's current structure to the MEO required as a result of winning the recent CA study.

A combined 1433 years of faithful and dedicated government ser-

vice and experience vanished in the blink of an eye.

Pete Mignogna, Philadelphia Site Production Manager, opened the ceremonies at PNBC and welcomed the many friends and family members who were able to attend.

As each retiree came forward to receive their retirement certificate, Pete spoke briefly but fondly about the work they had accomplished and the fine character in which they had performed their job, often embellishing with tales of the past or hearkening an old nickname.

Cmdr. Dan Therrien, Philadelphia AOR Production Officer, remarked that it was a bittersweet day in which folks were saddened to see old friends depart, but an opportunity for those remaining to carry on the work of PWC in the fine manner of those before them.

Among the retirees was Leo Benigni, who 36 years ago was the first apprentice sponsored by Public Works, back when the organization was a department within the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard.

Joe Murray's walk to the podium for his retirement certificate was also notable, as he was joined by no less than a dozen of his family members. The names of the retirees are here. They will all be missed.

**35+ Years of Service**—Kendall Gaymon, Larry Downey, Stephen Howard and Leo Benigni.

**30+ Years of Service**—Richard Willmunder, Leonard Richardson, Linda Shay, Lou Marano, Charles Ravaglia, Elwood Kline, John Battersby, Michael Carano, Donald Zabawa, Adolph Temple, Delles McFadden, Frank Milorey, William McCrary, Jerry Johnson, Warren Williams, and Leonard Deangelis.

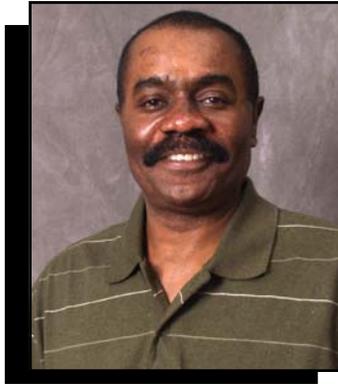
**25+ Years of Service**—Gerry Sheley, Joe Murray, Anthony Derosé, William DiBonaventura, Kevin Holloway, Robert Mentel, Ted Steiniger, James Sellers, James Mitchell, Les Eldridge, Alexander Dyer, Michael Paparo, Robert Nankivell, Dwayne Bender, Brad Harman, Michael Vaughn, and Lloyd Freeburn.

**20+ Years of Service**—John Chabala, Jose Diaz, Rey Ordonez, Gary Crawford, Louis Pelosi, Benedetto Dipatrizio, Nick Mazzone, John Beamenderfer, Irving Hodges, Rocco Masci, Ron Smith, and Albert Piot.

**15+ Years of Service**—Ben Ricci, and Willie James. □

# Unsung Heroes of the Navy Public Works Center

Photos by  
John Land



Tools and parts attendant Claude Chavis receives, stores, and issues inventory and direct turnover material for the Material Department. His extensive knowledge enables him to deliver responsive, flexible and innovative service to meet client's needs and expectations.



Administrative assistant Barbara Viscardi provides outstanding administrative support for the Public Works Office, Peninsula Site. A true professional with excellent communication skills, she ensures consistent delivery of quality service to PWC customers.



Motor vehicle operator Terry Bartlett in the Environmental Services Department is responsible for Oil Recovery Services across four commodities that are critical to the region. He works to prevent client spills and responds to emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Contract surveillance representative Mahlon Blue in the Engineering Department is responsible for the post MEO environmental inspections. His vast expertise in performing QA functions has helped in the establishment of MEO goals and standards.



Plumber Daniel Wells in the Maintenance Department is responsible for the critical maintenance of building water and waste systems at the Sewells Point Site. He is known as a highly motivated, skilled professional who consistently delivers quality service.



Plumber Kenneth Hunter in the Maintenance Department provides critical support repairing piping, plumbing systems and equipment in the Sewells Point area. His resourcefulness, self-motivation and attention to detail have resulted in improved service to customers.



Heavy mobile equipment inspector Dockey Warren in the Transportation Department is a highly skilled professional who provides clients with an exceptional level of quality service. He has often demonstrated his expertise as a member of the Little Creek Disaster Response Team.



Utilities supervisor Merton Turner in the Utilities Department supervises the Mid-Atlantic Regional Preventive Maintenance work center for PWC utilities. He is cited for displaying outstanding initiative and providing exemplary support to restoring power when needed.



Transportation assistant Roy Otey is responsible for all Lease/Rental transactions at the Oceana Site, including the securing of numerous types of vehicles for many commands throughout the U.S. He is a highly motivated and reliable professional who provides quality service.