

# *THE* **MARINER**

2012 Summer Edition

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Chief Of Naval Reserves, VADM Debbink, 2011 RSOY MA1(SCW/FMF) Douglas Newman, 2010 RSOY AWFC(NAC/AW) James Henson, and Force Master Chief Chris Wheeler, at the US Navy Memorial in Washington, DC, for the "MCPON's Sailors of the Year" award ceremony

Photo: Joanne Elliott

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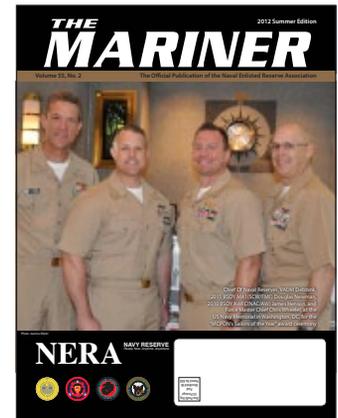
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# THE MARINER

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The Mariner, official publication of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, is devoted to the interests and mutual benefit of its members. Regular Membership is open to all enlisted personnel of the Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Coast Guard Reserve; others may join as Associate Members. Annual dues in the amount of \$3.75 per member is set aside to defray the cost of publishing The Mariner. Single domestic subscription price is \$15 per year. Persons eligible for Regular Membership are not entitled to published subscription rates. Articles, letters, and JPEG photos for The Mariner should be submitted to the Managing Editor/DED via e-mail to: MarinerEditor1@nera.org or NERA Headquarters, Falls Church, VA. Credit will be given for materials used. Letters may be condensed for publication. Articles and letters appearing in The Mariner do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the National Executive Council of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association or the Editor, nor are they to be interpreted as official policy of the United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard, or the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association. The Mariner (ISSN 0164-3029) is published quarterly by the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, 6703 Farragut Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22042-2189. Periodicals postage paid at Falls Church, VA and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address change to The Mariner, 6703 Farragut Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22042-2189. For general questions, advertising or to learn more about NERA, e-mail: vp@nera.org.

# President's Message



by National President Nick Marine



Ray Robison

Hello Again!

**Latest News**— Your NEC just held an in-person meeting May 26–29th at my lake home in Topton, NC, we met there in order to save NERA on hotel expenses. As you know, to reduce costs, we haven't held an in-person NEC meeting in many years. This year we felt that we had to get together to ensure we stay connected. We accomplished a lot at the meeting and are still finding new ways to keep NERA moving forward.

**FYI**— We will be mailing the Fall Mariner to ALL members. We would like to continue doing this, in order to do so we are asking members to donate \$15.00 annually to offset the increased mailing costs. This small donation will help cover layout, printing, and mailing costs of the Mariner. We have over 200 LIFE BENEFACTORS, which is great news. I hope to see more of our PAST Life Members convert to this new program to allow NERA to continue to fight for our people.

**2012 Conference**— We have great speakers set up for our National Conference in Philadelphia, PA (more conference information inside) and hope that even more new NERA members attend. This is a great time to get involved. I would like to see some new officers in the running for the 2013 NEC election in Chicago. If you are interested in running for office, it's a perfect time to show up and take the plunge.

**Switching Gears**— Your NEC and National Staff would like ideas.

We have reduced costs to the point we can't do much more. I hear over and over that we can't get new members, but we can get sponsors who support the military! Please ask around and ask business owners that you know! They may want to advertise in our Mariner Magazine to obtain national access to our military members. Please ensure that new advertisers do not provide the same products or services as our existing advertisers and/or affinity partners. If you have any questions please contact Jennifer Abbott or Steve Sandy.

I believe having a full-time person watching our website and providing fresh up-to-date info is important to our members. We will continue to look for new ideas making our website even better in the upcoming months.

Be sure to read the "Fight Fraud" article on page seven and stay alert out there!

More Later,  
**NERA Nick**

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# Legislative Updates

by Deputy Executive Director Michael Hughes OSC, USNR (Ret.)

The main legislative issue at present is the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal year 2013. DoD submitted, through the President's budget proposal, large increases in TRICARE fees and reductions in several other military benefits that NERA opposes. As of the publication, the House Armed Services Committee and the full House have passed their version of the FY 2013 NDAA and the Senate Armed Service Committee has completed its mark-up, with the full Senate expected to act on it in the coming weeks. So far, both the House and Senate have rejected the Pentagon plan for large increases in TRICARE fees, but let stand plans for increases in pharmacy co-pays for active-duty dependents and retirees. TRICARE fees will rise for retirees however, based on the provision in the FY 2012 NDAA which authorized increases based on the percentage of retirees' annual cost-of-living adjustment. Both chambers also rejected the Pentagon proposal for another round of BRAC closures and approved a 1.7 % pay raise for FY 2013. There are some major differences between the House and Senate versions of the NDAA that will have to be worked out through joint conference:

- The Senate version includes establishment of a commission to study and recommend changes to military pay and benefits that would be fast tracked with an up or down vote w/o debate or amendment similar to BRAC legislation. The House is vehemently opposed to such a provision. NERA supports the House on this.
- The House version adds approximately \$4 billion to the President's request, while the Senate version is virtually the same as requested. This difference is mainly because the Senate and Pentagon want cuts to the civilian and contractor work force which the House doesn't support.

There are many other differences that will have to be worked out, but these are the main points of contention. The President has threatened to veto any final legislation that doesn't include the large TRICARE increases, so it looks like there will be a showdown on this issue since neither legislative body approves of the increases.

There are numerous other bills and proposed legislation which NERA is tracking and supporting which we have addressed in previous articles in the Mariner. One of particular

concern that NERA is strongly pursuing is the issue of restricting the computation of active duty time for purposes of reducing the age of retirement for reservists below age 60. Previous enacted changes to Title 10 of United States Code authorized the reduction of age to draw a reserve retirement for every 90 days of ordered active duty after January 28, 2008, but it restricts the computation to "in any fiscal year". This has resulted in many activated reservists not getting credit towards the reduction in age for all their active service, i.e. A reservist can be activated with less than 90 days left in the fiscal year or separated from active duty with less than 90 days in the fiscal year, or both, and not receive the benefit for reduction below age 60 retirement for that time. There are separate bills currently proposed in the House and Senate, HR 1283 and S 866 to correct this inequity. The house bill simply eliminates the language "in any fiscal year" while the Senate version replaces it with "in any two consecutive years". NERA supports the House version. Ideally we would like to see the start for this benefit to be all ordered active duty after 9/11/2001, but in today's budget atmosphere that's not a likely possibility due to its cost.

Any proposed legislation that has significant costs associated with it is going to be very difficult to get passed for the foreseeable future due to the budget constraints. We will be hard pressed to maintain current benefits. In addition to the cuts already made in DoD's budget there is the issue of sequestration of an additional \$600 billion in cuts over 10 years that would be extremely detrimental to maintaining a viable and effective military. There are bills introduced to modify and delay or cancel these cuts enacted last year that NERA supports, but it is unclear if they have enough support for passage. •



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## Rear Admiral Braun Nominated to be the First Female Reserve Chief

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On May 18, 2012, President Obama nominated Rear Admiral Robin R. Braun to replace Vice Admiral Dirk Debbink as Chief Naval Reserve and Commander Naval Reserve.

RADM Braun will be the first woman to command a reserve component of any of the military services. As of this publication submission there is no word on when the Senate will act on her nomination for appointment. When confirmed she will be promoted to Vice Admiral.

RADM Braun is the daughter of a career naval aviator. She was born Pensacola, FL and is graduate of Northern Arizona University. She was commissioned in 1980 and designated a naval aviator in 1981.

Her duty assignments included VT 31 NAS Corpus Christi, TX as a T-44 instructor; VQ 3, NAS Barbers Point, HI as mission commander, aircraft commander and instructor on EC-130Q aircraft; VR61, NAS Whidbey Island, WA; and VR 51, NAS Glenview, IL.

She was selected as commanding officer of VR-48, NAF Washington, DC. Subsequent commands include: Naval Air Logistics Office; Naval Reserve Carrier Strike Group 10 (support to USS Harry S, Truman, CVN 75); Task Force Katrina; and Tactical Support Center 0793, supporting Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Five.

Staff assignments include: naval intern on Joint Staff (N3); Aviation Initial Assignments detailer at Naval Per-



sonnel Command; facilitator for Naval Safety Center's Cultural Workshop Program; and Chief of Staff, CNO Operations and Plans, OPNAV N2/N5.

Since obtaining flag rank RADM Braun has served as deputy commander and commander of Navy Recruiting Command and as Director, Total Force Management for the Deputy CNO for Information Dominance, OPNAV N3/N5.

She is currently serving as Deputy Director, European Plans and Operations Center, ECJ-3, U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany.

RADM Braun has over 5,800 flight hours in Navy aircraft. •

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# Letters

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## USAA Scholarship

NERA,

I wanted to personally thank you for selecting me as the recipient of the 2011 USAA Scholarship. The award provided needed income for books and tuition. I am thankful an organization exists to fight for Reservists in Washington.

Sincerely,  
Chris McBrayer, USCG

## Sailor of the Year

Mr. Sandy, (Master Chief)

May 24, 2012

I just wanted to take a moment to thank you and NERA for your continued support. Thank you for making the Sailor of the Year week more memorable. And Thank You for your service!

Very Respectfully,  
PRC(AW) Maria Johnson  
2011 CNO Sailor of the Year

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# Fight Fraud

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## State securities regulators released an annual list of the top 10 investment scams they are combating.

### 1. Unlicensed Individuals, Such as Life Insurance Agents, Selling Securities

To verify that a person is licensed or registered to sell securities, call your state securities regulator. If the person is not registered, don't invest. In Indiana, 11 of the 16 "cease and desist" orders issued by the Securities Division in the first quarter of this year have targeted insurance agents who were selling securities without the proper license. Most were independent life insurance agents.

### 2. Group Fraud

Many scammers use their victim's religious or ethnic identity to gain their trust - knowing that it's human nature to trust people who are like you - and then steal their life savings. From "gifting" programs at some churches to foreign exchange scams targeted at Asian Americans, no group seems to be without con artists who seek to exploit others for financial gain. In Texas, an Indian immigrant who taught Sunday school took fellow Indian parishioners - roughly 40 families in all -- for over \$1 million.

### 3. Payphone and ATM Sales

In early March, 25 states and the District of Columbia announced actions against companies and individuals - many of them independent life insurance agents - that took roughly 4,500 people for \$76 million selling coin-operated customer-owned telephones. Investors leased payphones for between \$5,000 and \$7,000 and were promised annual returns of up to 15 percent. Regulators say the largest of these investments appeared to be

nothing but Ponzi schemes. (see # 6)

### 4. Promissory Notes

Short-term debt instruments issued by little-known or sometimes non-existent companies that promise high returns - upwards of 15 percent monthly - with little or no risk. These notes are often sold to investors by independent life insurance agents. In Indiana, 18 elderly investors lost some \$1.4 million in a promissory note scam. An 80-year-old woman lost her life savings of \$324,000. The perpetrators - who diverted the money to offshore bank accounts, made first-class business trips to China, India and Greece and bought expensive cars - even knelt in prayer with their victims to gain their trust.

### 5. Internet Fraud

Scammers use the wide reach and supposed anonymity of the Internet to "pump and dump" thinly traded stocks, peddle bogus offshore "prime bank" investments and publicize pyramid schemes. Roughly half the states have Internet surveillance programs that watch for fraud or investigate investor complaints. Regulators urge investors to ignore anonymous financial advice on the Internet and in chat rooms.

### 6. Ponzi/Pyramid Schemes

Always in style, these swindles promise high returns to investors, but the only people who consistently make money are the promoters who set them in motion, using money from previous investors to pay new investors. Inevitably, the schemes collapse. Ponzi schemes are the legacy of Italian immigrant Charles Ponzi. In the early 1900s, he took investors for \$10 million by promising 40 percent returns from arbitrage profits on International Postal Reply Coupons.

### 7. "Callable" CDs

These higher-yielding certificates of deposit won't mature for 10- to 20 -years, unless the bank, not the investor, "calls," or redeems, them. Redeeming the CD early may result in

large losses - upwards of 25 percent of the original investment. In Iowa, for example, a retiree in her 70s invested over \$100,000 of her 97-year-old mother's money in three "callable" CDs with 20-year maturities. Her intention, she told her broker, was to use the money to pay her mother's nursing home bills. Regulators say sellers of callable CDs often don't adequately disclose the risks and restrictions.

### 8. Viatical Settlements

Originated as a way to help the gravely ill pay their bills, these interests in the death benefits of terminally ill patients are always risky and sometimes fraudulent. The insured gets a percentage of the death benefit in cash, investors get a share of the death benefit when the insured dies. Because of uncertainties predicting when someone will die, these investments are extremely speculative. In a new twist, Pennsylvania regulators say "senior settlements" - interests in the death benefits of healthy older people - are now being offered to investors.

### 9. Prime Bank Schemes

Scammers promise investors triple-digit returns through access to the investment portfolios of the world's elite banks. Purveyors of these schemes often target conspiracy theorists, promising access to the "secret" investments used by the Rothschilds or Saudi royalty. In North Dakota, state securities regulators are alleging a small group of salesmen, including a local pastor, used religion and family ties to bilk investors out of \$2 million in a prime bank scam.

### 10. Investment Seminars

Often the people getting rich are those running the seminar, making money from admission fees and the sale of books and audiotapes. These seminars are marketed through newspaper, radio and TV ads and "infomercials" on cable television. Regulators urge investors to be extremely skeptical about any get-rich-quick scheme. •

# PROTECTING THINGS THAT MATTER



U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Ed Early/Released.



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# Coast Guard EPOY/REPOY

*Photos by Delores Rucker*



Coast Guard Commandant, ADM Robert J. Papp, Ms. June Ledwith, Mr. Curtis Odom, and MCPO-CG, Michael P. Leavitt



Coast Guard Commandant, ADM Robert J. Papp, HS1 Jayme Reed (EPOY), and MCPO-CG Michael P. Leavitt



Mr. Collin Younger, USAA, MSTC Jessica Snyder, HS1 Jayme Reed, and Mr. Greg Pratt (USAA)



MSTC Jessica Snyder, HS1 Jayme Reed, and NERA's Executive Director, Steve Sandy

VADM Sally Brice-O'Hara with VCG, VADM John P. Currier





# Coastie Corner

Story and photos by US Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Monique LaRouche

## The Coast Guard RAIDS Afghanistan: A Look at the RAID Team and What It Does

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – The crew of three Coast Guardsmen collect their tools, grab their coffee and head for the parking lot. Hammers, measuring tools, silicone, rivet set, spray paint and a drill are loaded in the back of their pickup as they start out for another day of inspections.

Once at the inspection sight, the U.S. Coast Guard Redeployment Assistance and Inspection Detachment Team are greeted by a Marine sergeant dressed for the cold winter morning wearing head gear and gloves. He rattles off numbers and points in the direction of the cargo containers to be inspected, and the team of Petty Officer 1st Class Nelson Del Valle, Petty Officer 2nd Class Douglas Williams and Petty Officer 2nd Class Albertico Vargas moves out into the yard of large, steel containers. The RAID Team inspects shipping containers for hazardous materials and seaworthiness.

The team assesses an average of 300 U.S. government owned and leased containers a month. The large blue, grey and red metal boxes, faded by the sun and damaged by innumerable journeys overseas, must be physically and visually inspected to make sure they can complete the trip safely. The team reviews documents with the container and verifies that the hazardous material being declared is properly labeled, and the quantities being shipped are within the limitations.

The current team, embedded with the U.S. Army, is made up of two reservists and one active duty. “As a reservist, every member brings something to the table,” said Del Valle, who, as a civilian, is a police officer in Jefferson Township,

N.J. He said he is originally a native of Los Angeles, Calif.

Williams, a fellow reservist, is also a corrections officer who works as a civilian in Suffolk County, N.Y. He is a native of Bay Shore, N.Y. Both he and Del Valle joined the Coast Guard reserves after 9/11.

“I have known Williams since he reported to our reserve unit approximately two years ago,” Del Valle said. The two have been friends ever since, meeting up with Vargas during pre-deployment training.

Vargas, a native of Philadelphia, Pa., is busy banging out a dent on the door of one of the containers with the sledge hammer. He keeps at it until the indentation is almost back to normal and the door can close without further difficulties. The team works their way around each container filing up the rows, and inspecting every corner, pointing out the rust, dents and holes.

“A container will travel in the host country, via truck, to the port then to the vessel in international and U.S. waters and then through the U.S. transportation system via railroad or highway,” Del Valle said. “If the container is not structurally safe, it is possible that it may cause damage to other containers. An incident like that might



be of significance if they contain hazardous material.”

The three Coast Guardsmen are adept at working as a team. Del Valle takes an inspection tool he calls a “string with a magnet” and draws it to the edge of the rusted perimeter to take a measurement. Williams is busy logging the data on a clip board that has “no toxins” written across it. Del Valle reaches for another type of inspection ruler and the three work their way around the cargo box. Williams touches up a worn-out serial number with a white paint pen, and as they go down a check list, documenting their progress.

After Del Valle steps into a container to check for “light tightness,” Vargas closes and locks the door behind him. After a few minutes, Del Valle taps on the metal door letting his shipmate know he is ready to come out. Williams take notes during the assessment and the team discusses any problems. “A container may fail if there are any cracks, holes or tears in the structural components,” Del Valle said.

“The job is important because it helps the government save money and time when shipping cargo. The cost of (delayed or embargoed) cargo is approximately \$5000 a day,” Del Valle said, adding that ensuring hazardous material is properly identified is vital during an emergency, a fire or a spill on board ship.

The Coast Guard Redeployment Assistance and Inspection Detachment Team is distinct. The job was created in 2003 by the Department of Defense to ensure hazardous materials are properly prepared for shipment and re-entry into U.S. ports as part of the military redeployment process. One of the Coast Guard’s many responsibilities includes port security, so when a container comes through with the seal of approval from the Coast Guard, the cargo is less likely to get stopped.

The RAID Team is the most forward deployed Coast Guard unit in a combat zone. “Not many Coast Guardsman units know about our existence,” Del Valle said. “Being the most forward Coast Guard unit deployed is definitely unique, we get to see what a select few have done in the past, and it puts the Coast Guard on the map when we interact with the other branches of service of the military.”

“We are the only ones who can really say we were out here; all other Coast Guard units mainly get sent to Bahrain,” Vargas said.



Del Valle’s and Williams’ deployments to Afghanistan brought them closer together. “Our families can rest at ease knowing that we are out here together and we will not allow anything to happen to one another,” Del Valle said.

“Having him here definitely helps with my morale, I know I have someone to vent to and someone who understands what I might be going through. I feel he knows that I will be there for him as a friend and supervisor.”

“Getting troops home and their property safe without delays is our mission,” Del Valle said. “Having the opportunity to serve in the Middle East is a great pleasure especially on a mission that helps get true heroes home.” •

# Tips & Clips

by Past National President Joanne Elliott



Ray Robson

## Space “A” Travel

There are two websites that will help you with your questions regarding Space “A” travel. The first is <http://www.amc.af.mil/amc-travel/index.asp>. Halfway down on the right-hand side of the page you will see a heading marked “SPACE-A E-MAIL SIGN-UP.” While you can still sign up by fax or in person signing up via e-mail will probably prove

to be the easiest. If you decide to sign up in person, bear in mind that the airport (McGuire, Andrews, BWI, Dover, etc.) will be the departure site. In other words, you cannot sign up at Dover and then take a hop from McGuire. This page will also provide you with information regarding eligibility, AMC terminals on Facebook, and locations of terminals throughout the world. The other website is [www.pepperd.com/vb/forum.php](http://www.pepperd.com/vb/forum.php). You will need to create a sign on and password for this site. Although the number of military bases has been reduced due to BRAC, there are still connections to Italy, Germany, Japan, etc. The trick is to find the best time to fly Space-A (usually in the Fall and Winter months, when active duty members and families are not traveling). You also need to be flexible. I recently visited some friends in GITMO. To get there I needed a Country Clearance from GITMO. Since I was visiting friends, this worked out for me. I then decided to take the flight from BWI versus Norfolk. The BWI flights rotate out every two weeks, where the Norfolk flights are every week. Both flights lay-over in Jacksonville. The other downside was that I had to be at BWI at 3:30 a.m. for check-in. If any of you decide to give it a try, let us know how you make out and send us your own “TIPS.”

## Direct Deposit for Retired Pay

Shift Colors reported in the Fall 2011 issue that more than 20,000 retirees are still receiving their pay through

the mail. For those of you doing so, you could receive your pay a week sooner if you elect to have it direct deposited. Go to <https://mypay.dfas.mil> to create an account. Once you have your account created, agree to the terms of the User Agreement; go to the Main Menu page and click on the “direct deposit” link; enter your bank routing number, account number and the account type (checking or savings). Then click on “accept/submit”. You will then confirm that the information entered is correct. If you are unable to use myPay on the internet, you can submit your request by mail or fax. Complete an SF 1199A Direct Deposit Enrollment Form (available at [www.dfas.mil/dfas/retiredmilitary/forms.html](http://www.dfas.mil/dfas/retiredmilitary/forms.html)) and mail or fax it to: DFAS U.S. Military Retired Pay, P.O. Box 7130, London, KY 40742-7130. Fax: 800-469-6559.

## Hassle-Free ID Cards

Tired of waiting for hours to get a new ID card? Then schedule your appointment and reduce the wait time from several hours to twenty minutes. Utilize the online appointment scheduler at <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/>. You will need to bring with you a valid state or federal government-issued pictured ID (driver’s license, passport, etc.). For more information and to find the nearest ID card facility near you go to [www.npc.navy.mil/SUPPORT/PAYPERS/ID\\_cards](http://www.npc.navy.mil/SUPPORT/PAYPERS/ID_cards).

## Mail-In Procedures for Renewing Your ID Card

For those of you who cannot physically make it to a facility to renew your ID card, review BUPERINST 1750.10C or Marine Corps Order 5512.11D at [www.npc.navy.mil/reference/instructions/BUPERSInstructions/Documents/1750.10C.pdf](http://www.npc.navy.mil/reference/instructions/BUPERSInstructions/Documents/1750.10C.pdf). After this is done, contact your issuing location by letter, phone or online (Real-Time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS) locator at: [www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl), and explain why you cannot physically go in to renew your ID. They will give you instructions on how to renew by mail. You will need to provide an 8x10 or 5x7 photo (noting your eyes and hair color, weight and height). You will also need to have a notary public verify your signature on a written

*continued on page 19*

# 2011 Reserve Sailor of the Year

Photos by Joanne Elliott



On 18 April 2011, MA1(SCW/FMF) Douglas Newman was selected the 2011 Navy Reserve Sailor of the Year. Below are the biographies of the 2011 top Reserve Sailors of the Year:

**MA1 Patricia A. Blackwell** joined the Navy in June 1988. After Basic Training in Orlando, FL, she completed MR “A” School in San Diego, CA. She reported to her first ship, USS SHENANDOAH (AD-44) and completed her active duty in 1992. Assignments as a reservist included: Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 2, Little Creek, VA from 1992-1994; Army National Guard, 1998-2000; Mobile Ashore Support Team, Gaining Command Rota, Spain from 2000-2004; Mobile Mine Assembly Unit, Gaining Command, Okinawa, Japan from 2004-2007. In April 2007, MA1 Blackwell attended the ASF Academy where she completed her rate conversion to MA1. She was then assigned to Naval Security Force Reserve Component, Navy Supply Corps School in Athens, GA. While serving there, she had the distinct honor of providing escort to the then CNO, Admiral Mike Mullen. In February 2012, she was assigned to a special protective detail with NCIS for the Honorable Mr. Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy during his visit to Jacksonville, FL. MA1 Blackwell’s awards include: Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2 awards), and various campaign and service awards.

Force Wheeler and CNRF, VADM Debbink with MA1 Blackwell, ET1 Johnson, MA1(SCW/FMF) Newman, YN1(AW) Ramirez, and CM1(SCW) Thompson

**CM1(SWC) John E. Thompson** entered the navy as an Equipment Operator Constructionman Recruit in 1997 and completed recruit training in Great Lakes, followed by Heavy Equipment Operator “A” School at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. He was then assigned to the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion One in Gulfport, MS, where he

*continued on page 16*

Collin Younger of USAA presenting to MA1 Blackwell and ET1 Johnson





Showerhead powerfully invigorates while using 40% less water than standard models.

The kids have finally moved out. Perfect time to reclaim the bathroom.

Speed Connect® faucet drains comes pre-assembled, making it the easiest to install.

Toilet engineered to prevent clogs. Largest outlet moves 70% more mass than standard toilets.

Our exclusive Deep Soak™ Max drain allows for more water in the tub for a deeper soak.

Introducing a bathroom that not only complements your lifestyle, but your desire for innovative technology as well. Welcome to *style that works better™* for you.

*American Standard*  
Style That Works Better

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Steve Sandy, Executive Director of NERA with Force Wheeler and the Atlantic, Pacific, and Shore Sailors of the Year

*2011 Reserve Sailor of the Year, continued from page 13*

completed his Seabee Combat Warfare qualifications. He completed three overseas deployments to Guam, Greece and Spain. While with the Battalion, they received the Battle Efficiency “E” award. He was then assigned to Naval Support Facility in Thurmont, MD (Camp David), where the command received the Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation. He also received the Presidential Service Badge



Force Wheeler speaks at the Icebreaker at the Crystal City Sports Pub

while stationed there. In 2005, he left active service and in 2007 joined the Navy Reserve. He then attended Construction Mechanic “A” School in Port Hueneme, CA. He then reported to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Twenty-Six, where he is currently filling the Battalion Embark Chief Billet. CM1 Thompson’s awards include: Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (5 awards), Seabee Combat Warfare Insignia, Presidential Service Badge, Sea Service Ribbon (4 awards), Good Conduct Medal (4 awards), and numerous other personal and Unit awards.

**MA1(SCW/FMF) Douglas Newman** enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps immediately after high school in 1992. He attended recruit training at MCRD, San Diego where he graduated as the Platoon Honorman. After his enlistment in the Marines, MA1 Newman returned to Tuscon AZ to

pursue a career in law enforcement. In 1996 he enlisted in the Arizona Army National /Guard and completed Field Artillery School at Camp Williams, UT. In 1998 he was hired as a Deputy Sheriff in Pima County, AZ. He then enlisted in the Naval Reserve in 2001 and was assigned to NMCB 17 where he served as the Battalion Master-at-Arms, Security Company Commander and Lead Seabee Military Instructor. In 2005 he volunteered to deploy to Fallujah, Iraq with the 30th Naval Construction Regiment, attached to the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force. He served as the Regimental Master-At-Arms and the Protective Security Detail LPO for Admiral

Paula Brown (then Commodore). After his deployment, he moved to Washington State after accepting a new position with a new police agency. In 2010 he re-enlisted with the Naval Reserve and was assigned to NSF Kitsap, where he is currently filling the billets of LCPO and Senior Enlisted Leader. MA1 Newman’s father, Ronald, is currently on active duty with the U.S. Army serving with the Third Army in Kuwait.

**YN1(AW) Jose A. Ramirez** enlisted in the Navy in 2001; attended boot camp in Great Lakes; and completed Yeoman “A” School and Auxiliary Security Force Training. He then went to NAS Meridian, MS to perform physical security. From there, YN1 Ramirez transferred to Strike Fighter Wing Pacific Detachment in Fallon, NV. He relocated to VQ-1 Patrol Reconnaissance Squadron One in Whidbey Island, WA and towards the end of his tour was assigned as the CO/XO Yeoman. He was discharged from active service in 2005 as a YN3. YN1 Ramirez enlisted in the Navy Reserve in 2006 and was assigned to Navy Reserve Commander Submarine Group NINE, Force Protection Detachment TWO (NR COMSUBGRU9 FP2), Alameda, CA as the Unit’s sole Yeoman serving as the Unit’s Admin Department Work Center Supervisor. Upon his advance-



2010 RSOY—AWFC(NAC)(AW) James L. Henson



Juan Garcia, Assistant Secretary of the Navy

ment to YN1 in 2009, he was selected as NR COMSUB-GRU9 FP2's Leading Petty Officer, where he is responsible for the morale and welfare of 48 selected reserve Sailors. He volunteers his time as a "boot camp for Kids" instructor at the Mariner Square Athletic Club, and has organized a unit volunteer program with the USS Hornet (CV-12). He is the Secretary of the Navy Operational Support Center Alameda First Class President Association. He works at Thermo Fisher Scientific as a Regional Supervisor, manag-

ing 19 personnel. His awards include: Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist pin, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal and various service awards.

**ET1(NAC) Ralph E. Johnson** enlisted in the Navy and completed Basic Training in Orlando, Florida in 1989. Upon graduation at the Electronics Technician (ET) "A" School in Great Lakes, IL, he completed ET "C" School (AIMS MK-IFF) at San Diego, CA. In December 1990, he reported onboard USS PHARRIS (FF 1094) homeported in Norfolk, VA. While onboard, he deployed in support of Operation Desert Storm, NATO (STANAVFORLANT) and several anti-drug operations deployments off the coast



Joe Barnes (FRA) with Force 13, Ronney Wright



VADM Debbink congratulates MA1(SCW/FMF) Douglas Newman as the 2011 Reserve Sailor of the Year

of Central America. In May 1992 he transferred to the USS Forrestal (CV 59) homeported in Pensacola, FL, which later transitioned to Philadelphia, PA. He subsequently converted from the ET rating to the Anti-Submarine Warfare (AW) rating. Shortly after completing Naval Aircrew training, he converted back to the ET rating and completed FFG 7 Class Navigation Maintenance Pipeline ET "C" School at San Diego, CA. In April 1994, he reported onboard USS JARRETT (FFG 33) homeported in San Diego, CA. While deployed in the Persian Gulf, he made a decision to pursue his career outside the Navy and was honorably discharged from Active Duty in March 1995. On November 24, 2001, he joined the Navy Reserve and was assigned to Navy Reserve Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command 119 unit where he is currently assigned as Admin. Officer and Leading Petty Officer. He is also a Deputy Program Manager and Senior Instructor for the SPAWAR Net-Ops Support IT-21 Fly Away Team and a Lead Scanner for the Computer Network Defense in Depth Baseline Assessment Fleet Support Team. ET1 Johnson's personal awards include: the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and various service and campaign awards. •

# 2011 MCPON Sailors of the Year

Photos by Joanne Elliott

## Chief Of Naval Operations Shore Sailor Of The Year — PR1(AW) Maria E. Johnson, USN

PR1 Johnson enlisted in the Navy on 11/21/2000 and completed recruit training in Great Lakes, IL. She then reported to NATTC Pensacola for PR “A” School and received orders to HC-11 in San Diego. In September 2001, she deployed onboard the USS PELEIU (LHA 5) in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In January, 2003, she deployed onboard USS BOXER (LHD 4) in support of the Global War on Terrorism earning her Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist qualification and advancing to PR2. In March 2005, she reported to Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) School in San Diego. She earned her Navy Enlisted Classification Codes 9502 and 9505, as well as her Master Training Specialist qualification. In July 2008, she reported to VFA-106 (advancing to PR1) and was assigned as the Paraloft Leading Petty Officer. In June 2011, she was assigned to Maintenance Control where she earned her “Safe for Flight” qualification. She is currently assigned to VFA-131. Her military decorations include the Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal (2 awards), Good Conduct Medal (3 awards), Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal and various unit commendations.

2011 SOY Cake



2011 SOY's, L-R: SHC Angela A. Zamora, USN; SWC(SCW) Louis F. Salazar, Jr., USN; MAC(SCW/FMF) Douglas Newman, USNR; and PRC Maria E. Johnson, USN

## U.S. Fleet Forces Sailor of the Year — SH1(SW/AW) Angela A. Zamora, USN

SH1 Zamora is a native of Ecuador and a graduate of William I. Dickinson HS in Jersey City, NJ. She entered the Navy on June 24, 2000 and attended Recruit Training in Great Lakes. She then attended Ship's Serviceman “A” School in Meridian, MS and was subsequently assigned to USS EMORY S. LAND (AS 39). In December 2001, she was promoted to SH3 and put in charge of S-3 Division. During off-duty time she took college courses in Basic and Advanced Italian. In December 2003, she transferred to the USS ROOSEVELT (DDG 80). During her tenure, she served as Division Assistant LPO and qualified as an Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist. In May 2005, she transferred to Navy Recruiting District New York, and was advanced to SH2 and qualified as a Recruiter-in-Charge. While there she attained a 110% new contract objective, resulting in her selection as the Junior Sailor of the Year and ultimately leading to her being meritoriously advanced to SH1. In July, 2008, she transferred to Norfolk, VA where she attended Resale



National Executive Director, Steve Sandy's presentation to the MCPON's Sailors of the Year

Operational Management School. She then transferred to the USS WASP (LHD 1) as the Leading Ship's Serviceman. In November 2009, she qualified as an Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist. Her decorations include: Navy Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3 awards), Good Conduct Medal (3 awards) and numerous unit commendations, campaign medals and service ribbons.

**Pacific Fleet Sailor of the Year —  
SW1(SCW) Louis F. Salazar, Jr., USN**

SW1 Salazar, Jr. enlisted in the Navy in August of 1999. He graduated from Boot Camp at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes and attended Airman Apprentice School in Pensacola. He reported to his first duty assignment onboard the USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN-72). In 2001, he attended Steelworker "A" School at Naval Construction Training Center, Gulfport, MS. Upon graduation in 2002, he reported to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FIVE, Port Hueneme, CA. He made 4 successful deployments



to GITMO, Cuba; Naval Base Guam; Lambayeque, Peru and Andros Island, Bahamas. In April 2007, he reported to the 31st Seabee Readiness Group, Port Hueneme, CA as an instructor for the Military Training Division. In May 2010, he reported to NMCB Forty, Port Hueneme, CA. AS Detail Operations Chief for Khelegay, Afghanistan, he led 16 Seabees in the planning and execution of \$2.2 million of contingency construction. He led 58 Seabees in two highly successful 48-hour embarkation exercises and a Field Training Exercise. He is currently deployed to Camp Covington, Naval Base Guam. His individual awards include: Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal and Army Achievement Medal. In addition, he is the Navy League's 2011 Admiral Claude V. Ricketts Inspirational Leadership Award recipient.

**Navy Reserve Sailor of the Year —  
MA1(SCW/FMF) Douglas Newman**

See MA1 Newman's bio on the 2011 Reserve-Sailor-of-the-Year page, on page 16. •

*Tips & Clips, continued from page 12*

statement concerning our identity. This procedure is not for the faint of heart so research it thoroughly before proceeding.

**Shift Colors**

The paper copy of Shift Colors will no longer be printed. You can access the newsletter at [www.shiftcolors.navy](http://www.shiftcolors.navy).

mil. You can also sign up for e-mail delivery by sending an email to [MILL\\_ShiftColors@navy.mil](mailto:MILL_ShiftColors@navy.mil) Include the following information: your full name, your e-mail address, your rank, your military affiliation (whether or not you're retired, active duty, a veteran, a surviving spouse, or just someone interested in receiving the newsletter). •

# 55th NERA National Conference

September 19–23, 2012

## Crowne Plaza Bucks County Hotel

4700 Street Road  
Trevose, PA 19053  
800-227-6963  
www.cpbuckscounty.com

**Please note that this form will NOT  
reserve your hotel room.**

**To reserve your room, you must contact the hotel  
directly at either 800-227-6963 or 215-364-2000  
and mention The Naval Enlisted Reserve  
Association, Group Code N6Q.**

The room rate is \$95 per room, plus taxes.  
This includes breakfast, (up to two persons per room).  
The room rate is good for 3 days prior and 3 days post  
conference dates.

### Conference and Awards Lunch Registration

- Meetings on Thursday, Friday and Saturday
- Meet and Greet Mixer at Brady's Pub  
Wednesday Night 1800-2000
- Awards Luncheon on Saturday
- On-Going Hospitality Suite

Please enter number of people attending and  
multiply by amount noted

# \_\_\_\_\_ x \$75.00                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Spirit of Philadelphia

#### Dinner Dance (Thursday Night)

# \_\_\_\_\_ x \$75.00                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### On-Going Hospitality Suite

Donations Accepted                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Conference Booster Roll

Minimum \$5                                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Names will be listed in Conference Book  
as indicated in registration above*

Total    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Registration Information

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (First-MI-Last)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rank (Or 'Civilian')

USN USMC USCG  
Service Branch (circle)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Home

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Office/Cell

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nickname (For Name Tag)

NERA Chapter  
(If no chapter affiliation,  
state 'MAL')

\_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse/Guest Name (First-MI-Last)

Yes    No

Is Spouse/Guest a NERA  
Member or Associate  
Member? (circle)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse/Guest Nickname  
(for Name Tag)

## Payment Information

(Visa, Mastercard, Discover)

\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Exp Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Make checks payable to: NERA, DVC  
(preferred payment method)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Check Number

**Mail to:**    NERA DVC  
Mike Hayes  
584 New Rd  
Southampton, PA 18966

Register Now!!!

# Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

Presents

## 55th Annual National Conference

Hosted by

### Greater Delaware Valley Chapter of NERA

## “A Call to Action”

Don't miss this opportunity to attend NERA's Annual Conference. As military issues dominate the evening news and our rights and benefits are being assailed, it's time to mobilize and take action. Attending this conference begins the process of having our voice heard.

### Who Should Attend?

- NERA members and non-members
- All Sea Service Reservists, active and retired
- All Veterans
- Anyone concerned with protecting the interests and benefits of all those who serve or have served their country

### Why Attend?

- Get the most current updates on the battles being waged on The Hill
- Listen to experts discuss subjects of interest to you
- Interact with prominent leaders representing your interests in Washington
- Make contact with local agencies available to answer your questions, address concerns, and offer services you might not be aware of
- Explore career paths and options

### Invited Speakers Include:

- Chief of Naval Reserve Force
- Senior Enlisted Panel—Force Master Chiefs of Navy, Coast Guard; Sergeant Majors, Marine and Army Reserves

### Preliminary Program Topics Include:

- Agent Orange/Blue Water Navy
- USS FORRESTAL—The Tragic Fire
- VA Benefits
- Wounded Warriors

### About the Destination

There will be plenty of free time for you to take advantage of being in one of the most historic and beautiful regions on the east coast of the United States. We encourage you to plan your visit with an eye to exploring the unique opportunities the meeting's fabulous location affords.

Close to the hotel you will find a wide array of museums and historical sights in Bucks County. You'll find outlet shopping at Franklin Mills and many other options at Neshaminy Mall, and vineyards that welcome guests for wine tastings. You can visit Parx Casino (free transportation to/from the hotel) for dining and entertainment. Head a bit further north to the towns of Peddler's Village and New Hope, PA where a full day of touring, dining, and shopping in the picturesque hills of Bucks County awaits.

Alternatively, head south into the city of Philadelphia where there is indeed something for everyone. Visit world-class museums old and new—including the iconic Philadelphia Museum of Art and the new Constitution Center, go on a walking tour of Old City landmarks such as Independence Hall, head to the heart of Center City and take in the sights and sounds—and tastes—of the amazing Reading Terminal Market. Or head down to South Philadelphia and the 9th Street Italian Market, the oldest and largest working outdoor market in the United States.

These are just a few of the options available to attendees. For more information and to customize your leisure activities start by going to [www.visitbuckscounty.com](http://www.visitbuckscounty.com) and [www.visitphilly.com](http://www.visitphilly.com) for a more comprehensive list of your options. If you have any questions please contact us either by phone 215-431-6372 or email Joanne at [joannemelliott@hotmail.com](mailto:joannemelliott@hotmail.com).

# Faces of NERA

## USMC Post Deployment Event

by Norma von Dohren

Photographs by Howard George

On May 24, 2012, the Gold Country Chapter of NERA participated in honoring the Marine Reservists of Motor Transport Maintenance Company. These Sacramento area Marines provide intermediate maintenance support to Marine Reserve Force units in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, North Dakota, South Dakota and Washington state, as well as operation in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Marines of this company are deployed in groups of ten, twenty, or thirty Marines. Home base for this MTM Company is the Marine Corps Reserve Center Sacramento.

This MTM Company Reservists are supported by the active duty Inspector and Instructor (I&I) Staff under CWO3 Brian Brooksby and 1st SGT Alex Narvaez. The I&I Staff provides ad-

Karen Alexandrou, DoD Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Specialist, who spoke about the ATS, A-Team Solutions



Ty J. Obenosky representing TRICARE



GySGT Drew Graska and CPL Brandon Lunardi

ministrative, supply and training support for this MTM Company. The I&I also makes sure all deploying Marines attend pre and post deployment briefings; and the I&I Staff transports their deploying Marines to the departure airport and meet them there on their return.

The NERA-Gold Country Chapter has been a participant in MTM Family Day events, pre-deployment and post deployment events for many years. On each occasion, this NERA Chapter has presented each returning Marine and his/her spouse a Certificate of Appreciation and a rose tied with a yellow ribbon. •



Julie Baumgartner of Military One Source with SKCS Norma von Dohren



YN1 Carl Wiggins, USN (Ret.)  
from Brandyman University

1st SGT Alex Narvaez addresses  
returning warriors and their families.



American Red Cross, Alicia Altman &  
Barbara Altman



1st SGT Narvaez introducing the next  
presenter/speaker



Albert Revives of the Vet Center

**U.S. Navy WAVES Honored:** A "Tribute to the WAVES" luncheon, honoring the 70th anniversary of the founding of the WAVES, was held at the Joint Women's Leadership Symposium, at the Gaylord Hotel and Conference Center, in National Harbor, MD, on Tuesday, 06 March 2012.

Honoring the women of the WAVES, who laid the foundation and paved the way for women to serve in today's Navy, the special anniversary luncheon was hosted by the Sea Service Leadership Association, in partnership with the U. S. Navy Memorial and the Waves National organization.

The Navy term of "WAVES" stood for Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service and was established with the passing of Public Law 689 (Naval Reserve Act of 1938), which was later amended and signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on 30 July 1942. The WAVES were disestablished in 1972, in order to integrate women into the main functions of the U. S. Navy.

In the back row, second from the left, is League Island NERA member, YNC Jeanne Lemasters, who accompanied World War II Navy women veterans, and other WAVES veterans, to this event. •



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## Amendment Proposals for Consideration at the 2012 NERA National Conference

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### Amendment Proposal for Consideration at the 2012 NERA National Conference

**Proposer:**

U.S.S. Constitution Chapter 121.005

**Contact:**

Deborah Fallon, Chapter President  
603-858-4144  
debbiefallon@msn.com  
17 Sherwood Circle  
Salem, NH 03079-3210

**Date:** April 23, 2012

**Current Bylaw**

**Article 6 National Committees** page 21

6.3.1 The National Constitution and Bylaws Committee shall:

- k. Provide to the National Headquarters copies of all approved amendments to the National Constitution and National Bylaws within thirty (30) days of the adjournment of the National Conference; and, within fifty (50) days, provide a complete, smooth, master copy of the amended National Constitution and National Bylaws.

**Amendment Proposal # 1**

**Whereas:** all successful non-profit organizations rely on up-to-date and strong Constitution and Bylaws, and are required by government regulations to operate according to the policies and procedures presented in these documents, and...

**Whereas:** NERA Chapter Presidents should receive updated Constitution and Bylaw documents every year when amendments have been adopted at the national conference, and...

**Whereas:** members should be able to receive a printed copy from the National Office on request or download a printer-friendly version from the website to have access to the most updated documents at any time, and...

**Whereas:** NEC board elections are held every two years and incoming new board members must be prepared to lead the organization according to the bylaws, and...

**Whereas:** the current version has not been updated since November 2009 and to allow a manageable and reasonable time frame for National Staff / NC&BL Committee (if applicable) to process...

**Therefore be it resolved that:** A printed version of the most current Constitution and Bylaws be completed according to existing format / guidelines by the end of the first quarter of 2013 with all passed amendments from the 2010, 2011 and 2012 National Conferences incorporated

into the body of the document.

**Further, be it resolved that:** Beginning in 2014, the NERA Constitution and Bylaws be updated by the end of each January (following a National Conference), copies of the new documents are mailed to all Chapter Presidents by the end of March, and an online copy is available to general membership by the end of April of the same year.

### Amendment Proposal for Consideration at the 2012 NERA National Conference

**Proposer:**

U.S.S. Constitution Chapter 121.005

**Contact:**

Deborah Fallon, Chapter President  
603-858-4144  
debbiefallon@msn.com  
17 Sherwood Circle  
Salem, NH 03079-3210

**Date:** April 23, 2012

**Current Bylaw**

**Article 6 National Committees** pages 19-22

**Article 9 Amendments and Resolutions** pages 23-26

**Amendment Proposal # 2**

**Whereas:** Resolutions and Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws are critical in addressing necessary changes in operations for the stability and viability of a successful organization, and...

**Whereas:** members should have the opportunity to present changes and have advance access to Constitution and Bylaw Resolution proposals and amendments that will be voted on at the next scheduled National Conference, and...

**Whereas:** advanced information could be important and useful for members to make their decision to attend the National Conference, and...

**Whereas:** members should have access to the final results including the original proposal, NC&BL Committee recommendations, all amendments and the actual voting breakdown, and...

**Whereas:** no procedure or guideline currently exists in the C&BL to consistently and officially inform members of the results of amendments and proposals ...

**Therefore be it resolved that:** instructions, deadlines and official forms for submitting Resolutions and Proposals be printed in the Spring Edition of the Mariner.

**Further, be it resolved that:** the original proposals and amendments will be printed in the Summer Edition of the Mariner as they will appear in the voting process.

**And further, be it resolved that:** the final outcome including the original proposal, all amendments and recommendations, and the actual voting results of passed and defeated articles will be printed in the Winter Edition

of the Mariner in the same format as presented at the National Conference.

### **Amendment Proposal for Consideration at the 2012 NERA National Conference**

**Proposer:**

U.S.S. Constitution Chapter 121.005

**Contact:**

Deborah Fallon, Chapter President  
603-858-4144  
debbiefallon@msn.com  
17 Sherwood Circle  
Salem, NH 03079-3210

**Date:** April 23, 2012

Current Bylaw

N/A

### **Amendment Proposal # 3**

**Whereas:** all non-profit organizations rely on efficient policies and procedures to operate on a day-to-day basis, and...

**Whereas:** to meet the needs of and be responsible to and for its members according to consistent and appropriate management and fiscal standards, and...

**Whereas:** no organizational manual or handbook detailing how to conduct business currently exists or is referred to in the C&BL ...

**Whereas:** there are resources and examples of existing manuals successfully used by other organizations that there is no reason to start from scratch.

**Therefore be it resolved that:** An Operations Manual be developed and completed by National Staff, NEC, committees and individual members with appropriate experience by the end of the second quarter of 2013, distributed to local chapters for review, and then voted on at the 2013 National Conference for implementation January 1, 2014.

### **Amendment Proposal for Consideration at the 2012 NERA National Conference**

**Proposer:**

U.S.S. Constitution Chapter 121.005

**Contact:**

Deborah Fallon, Chapter President  
603-858-4144  
debbiefallon@msn.com  
17 Sherwood Circle  
Salem, NH 03079-3210

**Date:** April 23, 2012

Current Bylaw

N/A

### **Amendment Proposal # 4**

**Whereas:** all non-profit organizations rely on high quality staff to run the daily operations, and...

**Whereas:** staff deserves to be supported by and responsible to the NEC, and...

**Whereas:** staff is responsible to and for its members to meet appropriate management and fiscal standards, and...

**Whereas:** no staff evaluation process (or operations manual) currently exists or is referred to in the C&BL, and ...

**Whereas:** there are resources and examples of existing evaluation forms successfully used by other organizations that there is no reason to start from scratch.

**Therefore be it resolved that:** An evaluation form and process for all staff be developed by the end of 2012.

**Further, be it resolved that:** Beginning in 2013, evaluations be completed by the appropriate Supervisory staff and/or board member(s) by the end of the second quarter of that year and continuing on a regular basis following the same time table of an NEC election year.

### **Amendment Proposal for Consideration at the 2012 NERA National Conference**

**Proposer:**

U.S.S. Constitution Chapter 121.005

**Contact:**

Deborah Fallon, Chapter President  
603-858-4144  
debbiefallon@msn.com  
17 Sherwood Circle  
Salem, NH 03079-3210

**Date:** April 23, 2012

Current Bylaw

**Article 4 Duties of Officers and Members** pages 10-18

### **Amendment Proposal # 5**

**Whereas:** all non-profit organizations rely on informed and committed board members and staff, and...

**Whereas:** board members and staff deserve to understand their responsibilities to and for the membership in the performance of their duties.

**Therefore be it resolved that:** Job Descriptions for each NEC board member will be updated to reflect current organization needs and trends.

**Further, be it resolved that:** Existing Job Descriptions for staff will be updated to reflect current organization needs and trends and new Job Descriptions for other staff will be developed following the same standards.

**And Further, be it resolved that:** All Job Descriptions will be completed by the end of the second quarter of 2013, distributed to local chapters for review and then voted on at the 2013 National Conference for implementation at the start of 2014.

# TAPS

*We mourn the loss of our NERA members and compatriots.  
We suffer for their loved ones, who grieve the loss of vital  
love, companionship, and guidance. Their place will always  
remain vacant among this patriotic assembly. Amen.*

## Member

SKCS (Ret.) Ramon D. Barrett  
ICC(SW) Richard A Bisbee  
PHCM R. R. “Chris” Christensen  
GMG1 Robert J. Johnson  
BRCM James W. Johnson  
MRC Theodore Klym  
PCC George T. Machacek  
ENCM Arthur F. Prochaska  
GMCM Rudolph Reid  
ICCS Henry J. Schecher  
Mrs. June Tederman  
YNC Mary Elizabeth Zumberge

## Chapter

Alaska MAL  
John D Wood  
Gold Country  
Windy City  
Windy City  
Mile High  
Florida State MAL  
Windy City  
Greater New York  
Edmund Couto  
Leo J Milobar  
Minnesota

## Help Secure the Future of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

### Suggested Language for Making a Bequest to the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association (NERA)

You may include a bequest to support NERA when preparing your will or by adding a codicil to your present will. Bequests may be of cash, securities, real estate or other property. Bequests of all sizes are welcome, whether they are outright, contingent or residual.

Your request should be directed to The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association. The following language may be useful to your attorney:

**Specific Bequest** – “I give The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, Falls Church, Virginia, 22042, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be used for the general support of NERA.”

**Residual Bequest**– “I give The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, Falls Church, Virginia, 22042, \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the residue of my estate to be used for the general support of NERA.”

**Contingent Bequest** – “In the event that \_\_\_\_\_ predeceases me, I give The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, Falls Church, Virginia, 22042, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (or, alternatively, \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the residue of my estate) to be used for the general support of NERA.”

If you are considering designating how your bequest will be used by NERA or establishing an endowed fund through your estate plans, please contact (or have your professional advisor contact) Stephen R. Sandy, Executive Director of NERA, at 800-776-9020 or neraexec@nera.org.

Please note: This information is not intended to be legal or tax advice. We recommend that you consult with a qualified estate planning attorney when drafting your will. •

# Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

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*A Tribute to HMCM Manny Ratner*

A distinguished group of NERA lifetime members whose outstanding dedication and support continues to fortify the legacy of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association thus inspiring future generations to absolute greatness.

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