

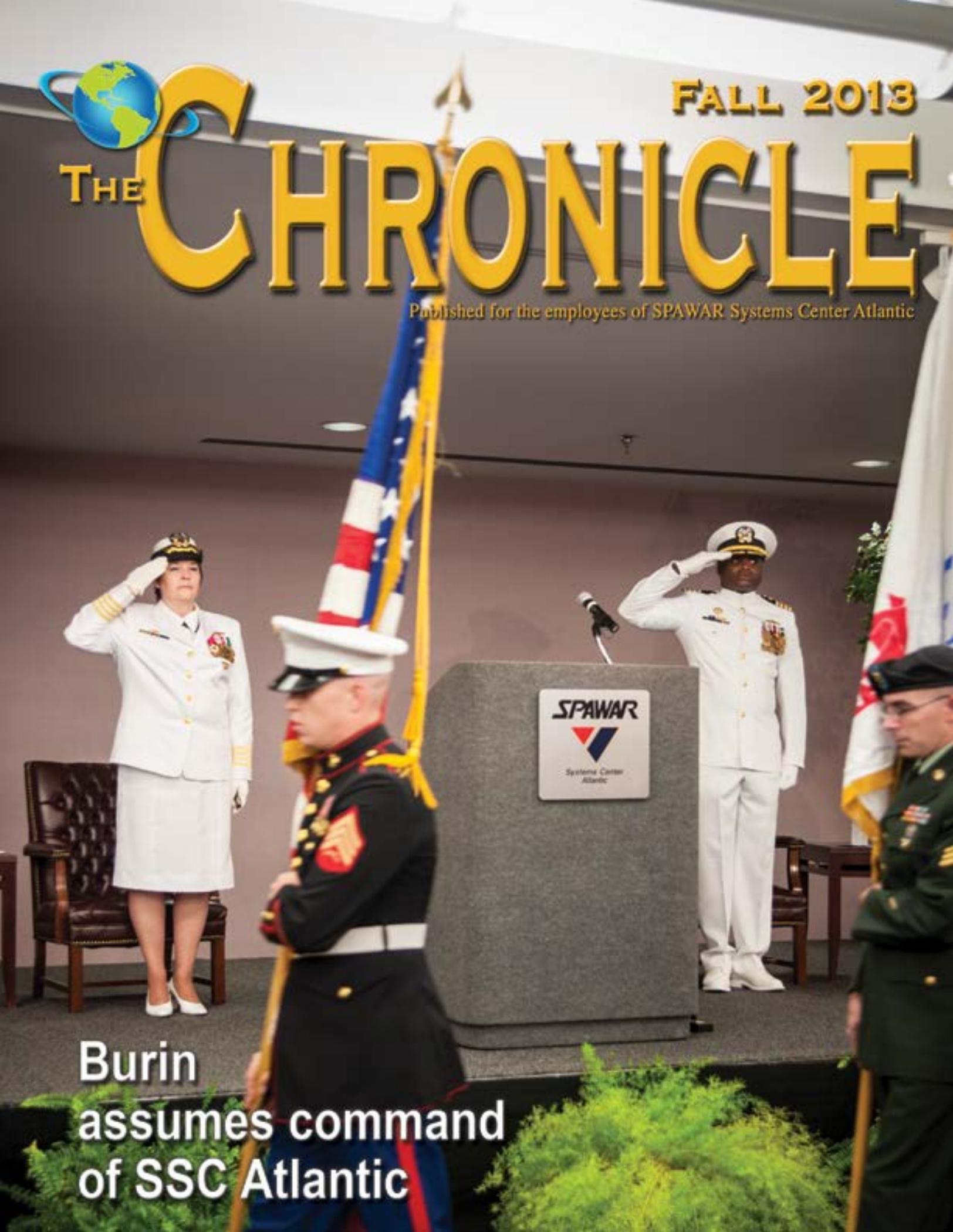


THE

CHRONICLE

FALL 2013

Published for the employees of SPAWAR Systems Center Atlantic



**Burin
assumes command
of SSC Atlantic**

**SSC Atlantic Commanding
Officer Capt. Amy
Burin talks to media
representatives following
the change of command
Aug. 8. Story on page 3.**



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Photo by Joe Bullinger

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Capt. Amy D. Burin and Capt. Mark Glover salute as the color guard retires the colors during the Aug. 8 SSC Atlantic change of command ceremony in the conference center in Charleston. Story on page 3. Photo by Joe Bullinger.




**Systems Center
ATLANTIC**

P.O. Box 190022
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Commanding Officer..... Capt. Amy D. Burin
Acting Executive DirectorDavid Monahan

**SSC Atlantic
Mission, Vision and Values**

Mission: To rapidly deliver and support solutions that enable information dominance for our Naval, Joint, National and Coalition Warfighters.
Vision: Make IT Count for the Warfighter and the Nation.
Values: Service to our country, Excellence and Credibility, Transparency in the way we conduct our business, Responsiveness and Accountability, Diversity and Teaming.

THE CHRONICLE

EditorSusan Piedfort
Command PhotographerJoe Bullinger

Goals

Strategic effects that provide innovative solutions for today, tomorrow and beyond.
Operations management that delivers solutions with quality, speed, agility and value.
Organizational development that empowers each individual to make a difference.

The Chronicle is a quarterly publication designed for SSC Atlantic employees. Its purpose is to inform, educate, entertain and generate new ideas.
Contents of *The Chronicle* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or SSC Atlantic.



CAPTAIN'S CALL

CAPTAIN AMY D. BURIN, USN
COMMANDING OFFICER, SSC ATLANTIC

A new beginning

As I mentioned at our change of command last month, I'm extremely honored and incredibly excited to take command of this incredible organization. I am especially grateful for the warm welcome I've received in the Lowcountry and at the SSC Atlantic sites I've visited thus far. I also appreciate the insights many of you have given me during my turnover and first weeks here. As the learning process continues for me, please continue to share your thoughts; I have found them to be eye-opening and of great value.

These are momentous times for SSC Atlantic and our Navy. I truly believe the future holds great promise; but we need to add a dose of realism to our optimism. The current state of the Department of Defense, with decreasing resources, an unsettling economy and the existing global security environment, poses great challenges. I am confident we will meet these challenges head on – by hard work, determination, proactivity, open communication and teaming. As long as we stand together, side-by-side, with our heads held high – and remain vigilant, guided by the Navy's core values of honor, courage and commitment, and supported by the CNO's Sailing Directions: Warfighting First, Operate Forward, Be Ready.

The CNO recently laid out his 2014-2018 Navigation Plan, and in it are several key points we in the Information Dominance Community must embrace to ensure future success. The Navigation Plan is a follow-on to the CNO's 2012 Sailing Directions, describing in great detail how our Navy will sail safely and effectively to new destinations. It highlights Navy investments supporting the missions outlined in the Defense Strategic Guidance. Of significance to us in the Information Dominance Community is the CNO's emphasis on defeating adversary radar jamming, using advanced infrared sensors, and linking ships, tactical aircraft, and command and control aircraft. The CNO charges us to fully exploit cyberspace and the electromagnetic spectrum as a warfighting domain, and to expand our offensive cyber capability and active cyber defense. The CNO also wants us to improve our platforms' reach using new payloads of

more capable weapons, sensors and unmanned vehicles.

The entire SSC Atlantic team – government employees, industry partners and shipmates working a multitude of sites worldwide, in the field and on the seas, side-by-side with our Warfighters – must be familiar with this Navigation Plan. The CNO established a reliable gyro we can steer to, to get us to where we need to go. I encourage you to read the CNO's Navigation Plan, at the CNO's website, http://www.navy.mil/cno/130813_CNO_Navigation_Plan.pdf, or at SPAWARSSCOM Commander Rear Adm. Patrick Brady's blog, <https://blog.spawar.navy.mil/pbrady/2013/08/cno-navigation-plan.html>.

The importance of what we do to provide information dominance to the Warfighter cannot be overstated. That is a fact I fully appreciate. Having seen the competence, versatility and professionalism of the men and women of SSC Atlantic, I can honestly say I look ahead to the next few years with tremendous optimism and enthusiasm ... optimism that I know SSC Atlantic can overcome any challenge and will continue to provide the most effective and efficient IT solutions to our Warfighters.

By necessity we have set our aim very high at SSC Atlantic. I pledge to you that I will do my very best to serve you and our common goal of excellence – to rapidly deliver and support solutions that enable information dominance for our naval, joint, national and coalition Warfighters, all the way from under the sea to the cyber and space domains.

I believe strongly in a sense of duty – my duty – to consider first and foremost the good of SSC Atlantic, our Navy and our nation. I pledge to you my best effort always to try to make the right decisions; to be an active listener, to learn and to know when to lead and when to follow. The Navy has entrusted me with yet another great leadership opportunity with this assignment at SSC Atlantic. I am so very proud to serve alongside you as we bring the best IT solutions to the Warfighter and our great Nation!

“Having seen the competence, versatility and professionalism of the men and women of SSC Atlantic, I can honestly say I look ahead to the next few years with tremendous optimism and enthusiasm”



Photos by Joe Bullinger

SPAWARSSYSCOM Commander Rear Adm. Patrick Brady speaks as, from left, Joint Base Charleston-Naval Weapons Station Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. Rob Heckathorne, Capt. Amy Burin, and Capt. Mark Glover listen.

BURIN TAKES COMMAND

Capt. Amy D. Burin assumed command of SSC Atlantic during a change of command ceremony held Aug. 8 at Joint Base Charleston-Naval Weapons Station.

More than 400 people – including local military and community leaders and national officials – gathered to witness SSC Atlantic’s third change of command and watched it streamed via VTC throughout the command

Burin comes to Charleston from Washington, D.C., where she served at OPNAV N2/N6 as resource sponsor for Navy Space Systems.

Rear Adm. Patrick Brady, keynote speaker for the ceremony and commander of Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, noted that, “For a Navy organization, there are few events that compare to the transition of authority that occurs as one leader steps down and another takes command.

“As I look back over the past few years during Capt. Glover’s tour, I think about tempo of operations our Navy and military has maintained during what may end up being called a transition period for the U.S. military,” Brady said.

“The work you do here at Charleston, Hampton Roads, New Orleans and around the globe has been, and

will continue to be, extremely important to support the overall security requirements for our Navy and nation,” he added. The admiral lauded Glover’s accomplishments, including the 2012 Navy Acquisition Excellence Award; the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Workforce Development Silver and Gold awards; promoting science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) through robotics and other activities in elementary, middle and high schools; and establishing officer-in-charge billets at New Orleans and Washington, D.C., with Hampton Roads to follow.

He noted that Glover leveraged SSC Atlantic’s experience with C4I and enterprise IT integration for new ship construction to now include platform integration lead for the Marine Corps, lead for development of the Consolidated Afloat Network Enterprise Services (CANES), core services and application integration lead for Distributed Common Ground Station Navy and Marine Corps.

“I mentioned the importance of cyber to the Navy’s warfighting capability, and under Mark’s leadership, SSC Atlantic has provided essential capabilities including developing and executing an end-to-end network management ar-

Continued on next page



Capt. Amy Burin salutes Rear Adm. Patrick Brady as she officially assumes command of SSC Atlantic.



At top, Burin enjoys a pre-ceremony moment with, from left, her brother, friend Brian Hack and her father; middle, Brady presents the Legion of Merit to Glover; at right, YN2 David P. Gates stands by to ring the bell as the boatswain pipes the side during the traditional ceremony.



Continued from previous page

chitecture to provide Fleet Cyber Command/10th Fleet the capability for command and control of the Navy enterprise network through tactical switching,” Brady said.

“Managing the scope and complexity of networks, and providing for cyber security and defense, is a key task for the Navy and an area of expertise that SSC Atlantic has demonstrated time and again,” he added.

The admiral also lauded Glover for SSC Atlantic’s support of returning veterans and wounded warriors. In 2012 SSC Atlantic hired 165 wounded warriors (23 percent of all hires), and by early August of calendar year 2013, 62 had been hired, which leads the SPAWAR enterprise in wounded warrior hiring.

Brady presented Glover the Legion of Merit award for his accomplishments as commanding officer of SSC Atlantic.

“We are also very fortunate to have an exceptional naval officer ready to take Mark’s place,” the admiral said as he introduced Burin to the audience.

“With a distinguished career as an Integrated Undersea Surveillance System (IUSS) officer, followed by tours directing IT and communications efforts in Iraq and Bahrain, Amy brings a wealth and diversity of experience with information dominance systems to SSC Atlantic,” Brady said.

After reading her orders and official assumption of command, Burin thanked the SSC Atlantic team for the warm welcome and said she looks forward to meeting the team at all locations where SSC Atlantic resides – including: Hampton Roads, New Orleans, Washington, Tampa, Stuttgart (Germany), Rota (Spain), Naples (Italy), Bahrain, and even the South Pole, where SSC Atlantic supports the National Science Foundation.

“I’d also like to thank the people who are not here. All the SSC Atlantic government employees, industry partners and Sailors in the field and on the seas, working side-by-side with our warfighters, ensuring they have access to the information they need, when they need it,” Burin said.

The captain emphasized that she is guided by the Navy’s core values of honor, courage, and commitment, and supported by the CNO’s Sailing Directions: Warfighting First, Operate Forward, Be Ready.

Today’s decreasing budget environment, sequestration, furloughs, the unsettling economy and an unknown future will continue to present challenges, she said.

“Everyone’s contribution to the team affects the outcome, and external factors play a huge role. We will have to work even more diligently, even more as a team, and communicate clearly over the ambient noise level to declare victory. We can do that – and I am so very proud to take the lead and walk lock-step with you as we bring the SSC Atlantic team through challenges to future successes that await us; as we continue to flawlessly provide IT solutions to the warfighter, all the way from under the sea to the cyber and space domains,” she added.



Above, Burin addresses change of command ceremony attendees, as Brady and Glover look on. At middle, the captain reads her official orders. Below, SSC Atlantic Public Affairs Officer Lonnie Cowart chats with former U.S. Senator Ernest (Fritz) Hollings before the ceremony.

“I now stand before you, with the assurance that SSC Atlantic’s vigilance will not wane,” Burin said. “We will remain innovative and flexible, with the ability to deliver information dominance with quality, speed and agility.”

Burin, the first Information Dominance Corps (IDC) Warfare Officer to command SSC Atlantic, is a Detroit, Mich., native. She began her military career in 1984 as an enlisted member in the Hospital Corpsman rating, U.S. Naval Reserve, while attending the University of Michigan’s College of Engineering. She graduated in the Class of 1987 with a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering science (bioengineering) and was commissioned a Navy ensign in 1988.

She began her officer career as a graduate of the Ocean Systems officer course and is an experienced IUSS officer with subspecialties in intelligence and antisubmarine warfare.

In December of 1996, she graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School with a master’s degree in astronautical engineering (space systems engineering). Burin was twice selected as a naval astronaut candidate to the NASA’s astronaut candidate program.

She recently served tours in Baghdad, Iraq as the Director of Information Technology for the Department of State’s Project and Contracting Office, and Bahrain as the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Communications and Information Systems and Deputy Director of Communications.

Burin is a recipient of various personal and campaign awards including the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), and Meritorious Service Medal (two awards). She was awarded the National Reconnaissance Office Director’s Circle Award for exceptional dedication to duty and the National Reconnaissance Office Silver Medal Award for excellence in leadership and performance.

Glover, who has commanded SSC Atlantic since July 28, 2011, reports to his next assignment as Major Program Manager for the Communications and GPS Navigation Program Office, PMW/A 170, at PEO C4I in San Diego, Calif.

Continued on next page





Above, outgoing commanding officer Glover praises the SSC Atlantic team during his farewell remarks. At right, Burin, Brady and Glover perform the ceremonial cake cutting during the reception.

Continued from previous page

In his final address to the SSC Atlantic workforce as their commanding officer, Glover noted that the SSC Atlantic team has delivered with flying colors, and because of the dedication and perseverance of its people, the organization has grown exponentially on numerous fronts.

“It is the support of the people in any organization that is key. In my particular case, these are the dedicated SSC Atlantic team of more than 13,000 civil servants, military personnel and industry partners located in Charleston; New Orleans; Hampton Roads, Va.; Washington D.C.; Tampa, Fla.; Patuxent River, Md.; Europe and various locations along the Eastern seaboard,” Glover said.

He praised SSC Atlantic’s competency leaders, portfolio managers, project leads, military personnel, industry partners, installation and fleet support teams, along with finance, contracts, legal, program management, science and technology, and corporate operations teams.

“In a command as big and as complex as ours, the only way we can continue to deliver capability is through trust in each other and executing our assigned tasks. Every single person plays an important part in an installation of new capability or fleet technical assistance,” the captain said.

He also thanked community leaders, noting that the sense of community that exists between the military and Lowcountry is unparalleled. “This strong affiliation greatly enhances SSC Atlantic’s ability to support the warfighter and our great nation. Our SSC Atlantic team and surrounding community is an admirable example of unity of effort,” Glover said.

“There has been an incredible amount of churn over the



past several years in DoD,” he added. “But there is one thing that I have seen that has remained steadfast – SSC Atlantic’s genuine dedication and fervor for the warfighter. Somewhere along the history of this organization, that characteristic was ingrained in your DNA. It is not a superficial thing, not some slogan, you can feel it. It is a sense of genuine dedication and connectedness to the warfighter.”

Glover, a native of Walterboro, S.C., enlisted in the Navy in 1982. His sea tours were onboard **USS Antrim** (FFG 20) and **USS Halsey** (CG 23). He earned a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps scholarship and was commissioned an ensign after graduating from Norwich University in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering.



Above, the vocal stylings of John Monroe and bass guitarist John Ryan, at the microphones, are complemented by the rest of the SSC Atlantic band, featuring Mark Durham on guitar, James Ratcliffe on the drums, Tim Culp on lead guitar, Michael Lind on saxophone, William Paggi on keyboard and Jonathan Ashdown on violin and guitar. At right, guests enjoy a buffet and cake during the reception, held in the atrium of Bldg. 3147.

His other tours were as a propulsion plant examiner on Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet's Propulsion Examining Board; on the first DoD Joint Task Force for Computer Network Defense; at SSC Pacific; as an assignments officer at Navy Personnel Command in Millington, Tenn.; as Principal Assistant Program Manager for GPS Navigation in PMW/A 170, PEO C4I, in San Diego, Calif.; in Baghdad, Iraq with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and as the PMW/A 170 Deputy Program Manager, responsible for the design, acquisition and life-cycle support of Navy Satellite Communications and Global Positioning System (GPS) programs.

Glover earned Master of Science degrees in Information Technology Management and Computer Science from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. He is also a DoD Acquisition Corps member and holds Level III Qualifications in Program Management and Systems Engineering.

The ceremony, held at SSC Atlantic's conference center in Charleston, was attended by numerous guests of honor, including former U.S. Senator Ernest Hollings, Medal of Honor recipient Maj. Gen. James Livingston (Ret.), active duty and retired flag officers, Hanahan Mayor Minnie Newman-Caldwell, Congressional staffers, former SPAWAR commanding officers and executive directors, chamber of commerce leaders and Charleston area commanding officers.

- Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor



FY12 DoN Acquisition Excellence Award winners recognized

Members of the team instrumental in SSC Atlantic's winning of the FY12 Department of the Navy Acquisition Excellence Award (AEA) were honored during an Aug. 7 All Hands ceremony featuring SPAWARSSCOM Commander Rear Adm. Patrick Brady.

SSC Atlantic earned the award "for developing acquisition expertise to drastically improve the effectiveness and efficiency of procurement actions by increasing the focus of two competencies on acquisition processes: Logistics Competency and Program and Project Management Competency," the award citation noted.

Award winners were announced May 14, 2013 after three individuals and 10 teams were selected from a field of more than 75 nominations.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, De-



Photo by Joe Bullinger

From left, then-commanding officer of SSC Atlantic Capt. Mark Glover poses with 43000's Danielle Holmes, Brad Hoisington, Tami Willis, Rear Adm. Patrick Brady, Kay Swann, Kathy Muckenfuss, Ken McCullough, Frankie Brown, Harry Bowser and Cliff Costa.

velopment & Acquisition Sean Stackley congratulated SSC Atlantic for "upholding your profession's highest standards to ensure our Sailors and Marines are the best equipped fighting force in the world." Stackley also noted that these awards demonstrate progress in meeting the Secretary of the Navy goals for improving acquisition processes.



Photos by Joe Bullinger

Ens. Holly Quick, USNR

SSC Atlantic 85's own Holly Quick takes the oath of commissioning from SPAWARSSCOM Commander Rear Adm. Patrick Brady in an Aug. 7 ceremony. The Norfolk, Va., native now embarks as a Public Affairs Officer in the U.S. Navy Reserve. A graduate of the University of Mary Washington, Quick has been with SPAWAR since August



of 2008. She served as a public affairs specialist at SSC Atlantic's Hampton Roads site, was a New Professional Council member, and is currently part of the SSC Atlantic Public Affairs team in Charleston. On hand to help Quick celebrate this achievement and show off her collar devices, above are her aunt, left, and mom, right.



Tracy Haselden, above, and Sherri Anderson, at right, of SSC Atlantic's training team deliver the Sexual Assault Prevention class during an Aug. 19 session.



Photos by Joe Bullinger

Mandatory SAPR training underway at SSC Atlantic

A rigorous classroom training schedule is now underway at SSC Atlantic to ensure all federal civilian employees complete a mandatory Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) class.

The focus of the training is to ensure civilian personnel clearly understand that sexist behaviors, sexual harassment and sexual assault are not tolerated, condoned or ignored. The training stresses that every member of the Department of the Navy (DoN) will be treated with dignity and respect; all allegations of inappropriate behavior are treated with utmost seriousness; victim privacy is protected, and they are treated with sensitivity. The training motivates bystanders to intervene and stresses that all offenders will be held appropriately accountable. Military personnel received similar training in various forms, including a Secretary of Defense-directed mandatory SAPR Standdown.

The course for civilians, entitled Sexual Assault Prevention: One Team, One Fight, was developed by the DoN Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) to meet Congressional, Department of Defense and DoN requirements for civilians

813 Trainer Sherri Anderson stressed the need for renewed awareness about sexual assault and sexual harassment prevention in the workplace. "This is a societal issue," she said. "We want people to walk out of this training being able to prevent sexual harassment and assault, and know how to intervene when they see it.

"This dips down to our core values. If an incident of this nature happened to one of your family members, you would not hesitate to do something," Anderson said. "We are a Navy family, and we cannot tolerate it."

Co-trainer Tracy Haselden said that many people don't differentiate between sexual harassment and sexual assault,

and discussed how to disrupt the continuum of harm that begins with gender-focused jokes, comments or vulgar pictures and continues to sexual assault and physical force.

SSC Atlantic's command training team established a comprehensive schedule starting in July to deliver the one-hour course which includes video, guided discussion and Q&A. The training is conducted face-to-face at major SSC Atlantic sites using facilitators specifically prepared for this program, and employees at other SSC Atlantic sites participate via DCO sessions in smaller groups to encourage active participation.

The Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations have stressed zero tolerance for sexual assault and sexual harassment and ordered the re-focus on prevention and response. "Sexual assault is a crime. . . . It hurts a shipmate and affects the readiness of the entire unit," said Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert, Chief of Naval Operations.

"To uphold our core values of honor, courage and commitment, we must do all we can to protect our people from those who would wish to do them harm, especially if they reside within our own ranks," said Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, adding that all available resources will be used to prevent, aggressively investigate and prosecute all cases.

Resources include the DoD Safe Helpline, with live, one-on-one help. It is confidential and available worldwide 24/7 at www.SafeHelpline.org, by texting 55-247, or by calling 877-995-5247 or 202-470-5546 outside the U.S.

All active duty service members and DoN civilians have access to Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs) and SAPR Victim Advocates (VAs). Civilians can also use the Civilian Employee Assistance Program (CEAP), at www.eapconsultants.com, or by calling 800-869-0276.



Photo by Joe Bullinger

From left, Mike Reski, Gabe Leblanc and Phil Hartlieb show off the trophy they won as Hack Warz victors.

SSC Atlantic team dominates Hack Warz

How do you teach employees to think like cyber attackers so that you can protect against them? How about a competition that makes them hackers themselves?

Hack Warz was initiated in early 2012 to do just that, and at the most recent competition in August, an SSC Atlantic team took top honors.

SPAWAR Team 2, which included Mike Reski, Gabe Leblanc and Phil Hartlieb, was victorious in the Hack Warz competition. The team is part of the Medical Health Systems (MHS) IPT under Charles Stephens, supporting veterans and deployed warfighters with health care and records.

“Our group specifically deals with external assessments,” Reski said. “The MHS has a collection of groups that work to defend the MHS networks, and we’re the ones that play the bad guys. We go out to sites and assess their networks in the mindset of real life adversaries.” The team performs the full spectrum of penetration testing, from physical to social engineering and everything in between.

“We also do remote (Red) assessments where we will attack the target as an adversary would. We do complete Open Source Intelligence Gathering (OSINT) and use whatever social engineering mechanisms required for us to gain access to the customer’s site,” Reski added.

The team’s goal is to identify and highlight findings, vulnerabilities and misconfigurations that the Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIGs) and checklists do not identify. “Our team tries to uncover hidden cracks within the enclave that may have been missed by the defense community at large,” Reski said.

As the Hack Warz competition grew in popularity and complexity, it was opened up to others at the Military Open Source Software (MilOSS) Working Group and was held during the Charleston chapter’s annual training summit Aug. 6 to 8. The summit brought together military and civilian government employees, contractors and industry experts to discuss defense industry open source advocacy and security.

For the Hack Warz event, 13 Virtual Machines (VMs), some Linux and a few Windows, were set up to contain major vulnerabilities that could be exploited due to service misconfigurations, lack of system patching and easy-to-crack passwords. Competing teams captured tokens for points and gave a presentation detailing how they exploited system vulnerabilities and how to better secure those systems. Competitors’ skills were tested in Reconnaissance, Discovery and Exploitation using tools such as nmap, metasploit, openstego, exploitdb, openvas, wireshark, and firebug. Flags (tokens) were found by analyzing files that contained Personally Identifiable Information (PII) such as social security number and date of birth, by logging into a system using a cracked password, or conducting a Structured Query Language (SQL) Injection attack on a wordpress site. Many other scenarios were possible and competitors made their way through some complex scenarios often seen in industry.

The Mil-OSS LANT summit also included presentations and participation by SSC Atlantic personnel from 5.4 and 5.8 competencies on developing secure Open Source Software, cloud and mobile apps.



9/11 remembered

A Patriot Day ceremony held at SSC Atlantic Sept. 11 honored the memory of those who lost their lives on 9/11 12 years ago. Held in the atrium of Bldg. 3147 on the Charleston campus, the ceremony was streamed to all sites.

Patriot Day is an annual observance held in memory of the nearly 3,000 people who died during terrorist attacks in New York, Washington D.C., and Shanksville, Penn., in 2001.

The ceremony, emceed by Cmdr. Baldomero Garcia of 50E, began with a reading of the Presidential Proclamation designating Sept. 11 as Patriot Day and a National Day of Service and Remembrance.

“On September 11, 2001, amid shattered glass, twisted steel, and clouds of dust, the spirit of America shone through. We remember the sacrifice of strangers and first responders who rushed into darkness to carry others from danger,” read Garcia from the proclamation. “We remember the unbreakable bonds of unity we felt in the long days that followed

-- how we held each other, how we came to our neighbors’ aid, how we prayed for one another.”

After a bell ringing, the Pledge of Allegiance and singing of the National Anthem by Kirstin Tanner of 894, the assembled crowd observed a moment of silence to honor those lost in the terrorist attacks. After a prayer by Chaplain (Lt. Cmdr.) Rob Heckathorne, Tanner sang “God Bless America.”

“Those who wear the cloth of our nation -- uniformed service members -- and also the government civilians and industry partners who work for and with the military -- we all understand that sacrifice is part and parcel of our profession. September 11 reminds us that sometimes no one can predict the profound sacrifices that will be required of us,” said SSC Atlantic Total Force Director Gary Scott, who spoke at the event. “It is fitting that we remember and honor the past, and that we also rededicate ourselves to our

shared future, to the blessings of liberty.”

The ceremony also featured music by SSC Atlantic’s bagpipe and drum team, John Weed and John Guerry.



At top, left, John Guerry and John Weed perform; at right, Kirstin Tanner sings the National Anthem. At left, employees line the rails of the second deck balcony to watch the atrium ceremony.

Photos by Joe Bullinger

Hands-on activities for students during the Palmetto Cyber Security Summer Camp included building a desktop computer, at right, and remotely navigating a robotic device around a screen and away from hazards such as toy Army men, at far right.



Cyber summer camp: fun & learning

**By Holly Quick
SSC Atlantic Public Affairs**

SSC Atlantic partnered with the Lowcountry Tech Academy in downtown Charleston for the inaugural Palmetto Cyber Security Summer Camp June 24 to 28. Twelve teachers and 50 students from Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester school districts participated in the weeklong camp, which provided hands-on experience and classroom learning in the fields of cyber security and information assurance.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about cyber security and network technology. We depend on our networks today in everything we do," said then-SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Glover, who kicked off the camp with his opening remarks. "If you think about transportation, finance, energy, education, medical -- everything we do today -- is dependent on the infrastructure of our networks. It's important that we have folks who understand how we protect those systems."

The camp was comprised of two primary tracks split between a Train-the-Trainers program for teachers and a Cyber Warrior program for students.

The Train-the-Trainers track provided teachers with the knowledge, skills and abilities to teach the Cyber Security Fundamentals course for the newly adopted Cyber Security CATE program. Courses centered on data communication, host and network security, organizational security as well as threats and vulnerabilities.

Students who attended the Cyber Warrior program participated in various modules on topics such as computer network



The cyber challenge started with a short quiz that helped gauge participants' increased cyber knowledge at the end of the summer camp.



Photos by Joe Bullinger

defense, command and control systems, digital forensics, wireless communication, and more. The goal of the student program was not only to create excitement in the area of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) with an emphasis on cyber security, but to introduce and expose students to exercises that could start them on a pathway to become future cyber warriors in the field of cyber technology.

“The students experienced hands-on training from experts in the field who work every day to provide IT solutions in cyber security to our warfighters” said STEM Outreach Coordinator Shanda Johnson. “We are trying to make it fun and expose them to the types of jobs that are available, and teach them to use the technology in the proper way.”

More than 30 SSC Atlantic employees volunteered for the camp and their involvement ranged from designing the curriculum to instructing classes and leading hands-on activities for teachers and students.

The Gamification activity, a student favorite, gave



Representatives from colleges and universities were on hand with information on educational opportunities in the study of computer science and cyber security.

students an opportunity to virtually learn in a potentially dangerous situation, such as walking through a city searching for improvised explosive devices, while in a safe augmented reality environment. “I have never seen this kind of equipment before and it was just amazing how it was brought into the school,” said Clarence Singletary, a 12th grade student.

There was an ongoing independent challenge for the students, and an opportunity to be named Cyber Warrior. Throughout the week, students selected different activities, ranging from building a desktop computer to encryption and biometrics, and were scored based on their performance, using both short written quizzes and hands-on activities. One of the most challenging exercises involved

students acting as special agents with a mission to find obfuscated data in hidden devices such as a USB pen or lighter. On the last day of camp, the top three students with the most points were deemed first, second and third place Cyber Warriors, and received a coveted Cyber Warrior trophy and heavy duty backpacks donated from the South Carolina Army National Guard.

“It was truly great to see high school students get excited about learning cyber security and even participate in conducting live exercises using some of the same tools we use in the IA workforce,” said Bill Littleton, Cyber Security Outreach IPT Lead for SSC Atlantic.

Information Assurance Competency Lead (Code 58000) Erick Fry concluded the camp with his closing remarks. He explained that the security professional position is listed in the top 10 most in demand jobs for graduating college students, with about a 25 percent growth rate. “You could work for the Department of Defense or other government agency and get involved with protecting our nation’s assets, our nation’s information, our nation’s network,” said Fry.



First Place Cyber Warrior Noah Rynearson, left, is congratulated by Bill Littleton and Maj. Robert Gresham of the Army National Guard, right.

USS JOHN C. STENNIS CARRIER STRIKE GROUP

Persistent ISR enhances carrier ops

The commanding officer of the Navy's seventh Nimitz-class aircraft carrier visited SSC Atlantic recently to give a CO's perspective on how IT solutions that enable information dominance were used to mitigate threats in theater during recent deployments.

Capt. Ron Reis, then-commanding officer of USS **John C. Stennis** (CVN 74) traveled from the carrier's homeport of Bremerton, Wash., to brief SSC Atlantic leaders July 22. **Stennis** returned to her homeport of Naval Base Kitsap in Bremerton May 3 after completing an eight-month deployment to the U.S. 5th and 7th Fleet areas of responsibility as part of the **John C. Stennis** Carrier Strike Group (JCSCSG). While deployed, **Stennis** traveled more than 66,000 nautical miles while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, maritime security operations, theater security exercises, and participating in multiple community engagement events.

The most recent deployment came only five months after **Stennis** had

returned from a previous deployment to the U.S. 5th and 7th Fleets. "We spent 17 of 22 months underway," said Reis, adding that it was the most aggressive operational pace since the Vietnam War.

"I thought it was important to come here to talk to the civilians and local industry to allow them to understand what the threats are to the U.S. Navy and to give feedback on the innovative ways we used IT solutions while pursuing persistent intelligence, reconnaissance and surveillance (ISR)," the captain said.

Their success in giving the right information at the right time to the right decision maker was recognized when the JCSCSG intelligence team was presented the 2012 Excellence in Intelligence and Information Warfare Award April 10. The newly-created Commander Naval Air Forces (CNAF) award recognized the carrier strike group team that best demonstrates superior afloat intelligence, information

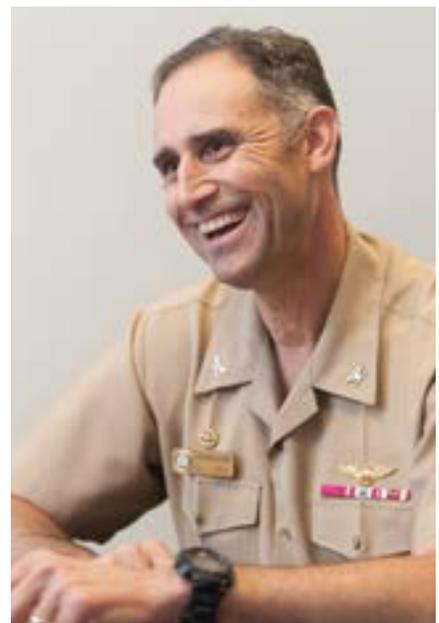
warfare readiness and performance in support of operations.

"It is validation and recognition for the excellent work we've done," said Cmdr. Craig Whittinghill, **Stennis** Intelligence Officer. "To compete against all the other carriers, air wings and strike group staffs and be selected as the best is truly rewarding." The JCSCSG intelligence team has more than 90 people from 12 different commands and is responsible for mission-oriented objectives such as intelligence gathering, dissemination and defense of the strike group.

More recognition for **Stennis** personnel's contributions to naval warfare in C4I, information systems and information warfare came this year in the form of the Copernicus Award for Lt. Ken Jones, **Stennis**' Information Warfare Officer. The Copernicus Award is sponsored by AFCEA International and the U.S. Naval Institute. Jones was praised for providing actionable intelligence afloat to forward-deployed



Capt. Ron Reis



Photos by Joe Bullinger



USS John C. Stennis

U.S. Navy photo

warfare commanders during the most recent deployments. The award cited his synergetic approach to using tactical cryptology.

“His technical leadership and unparalleled foresight ... paved the way for new tactics, training and procedures to be developed across all levels of cryptology,” the citation noted. Jones is credited with redefining how information warfare afloat can be fused with other intelligence disciplines.

The carrier’s recent success also builds on system interoperability testing performed in 2011 by a team led by former SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Red Hoover, who was at the time major program manager for the command and control program office at Program Executive Office for Integrated Warfare Systems (PEO IWS). A cross-PEO, cross-program initiative to improve Navy interoperability for the JCSCSG led to the installation of a near-term solution on all carrier strike groups by March 2012. Hoover and his team also delivered the first “core solution” across six programs to correct the

Fleet “Big 6” interoperability issues. Hoover led the Navy’s effort in developing the Joint Track Management Capability (JTMC) bridge between Navy Integrated Fire Control and Army Integrated Fire Control Systems. This is the first Single Integrated Air Picture at the fused track management level for use by the joint services. For this Hoover was also awarded the prestigious Copernicus Award.

During his visit to SSC Atlantic, Reis gave some details on how these improvements affected every pillar of tactical and information operations for the carrier group operations. “I am very thankful to efforts of SSC Atlantic civilians and industry partners who helped develop systems that allow us to keep peace in the region,” Reis said.

The persistent intelligence, reconnaissance and surveillance (ISR) information these systems give the carrier strike group allows them to respond to potential multi-tiered attacks from under the sea, on the sea, in the air, in space and in the cyber realm. “I think it’s so important for the folks at SSC

Atlantic who develop these systems to see how they are employed by warfighters,” Reis added.

As the Information Warfare Commander of the JCSCSG, Reis shared with then-SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Glover, IDS Portfolio Management and SSC Atlantic ISR/IO engineers information about the effectiveness of current naval and national intelligence systems to provide the continuous, near real time, actionable intelligence needed for tactical decision making.

Reis explained how leveraging a combination of ISR assets organic to the carrier strike group with a number of additional ISR assets during his recent deployment enabled warfare commanders to increase their reaction time to better posture and maneuver forces. He also provided recommendations on specific improvements to naval and national intelligence systems to increase their effectiveness to provide truly persistent ISR capabilities.

- *By Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor*



CTO CORNER

DR. AL EMONDI

SSC ATLANTIC CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER

Focus on the Forest, Not the Trees

We have all heard the expression “couldn’t see the forest for the trees.”

I personally have used the term to help get the point across in various discussions where I felt we may be missing the bigger picture, when we are too focused on individual components or data sets. While working on a project recently at home I was listening to Ray Kurzweil on an NPR broadcast. Between that talk and one I heard him present at the Society for Neuroscience a few years back, it made me pause for a moment in my workshop to think about how we are approaching the problem of advanced human interfaces within the Multidisciplinary Research Center (MRC).

In the field of neuroscience, many of us are focused on individual neurons...how they work, under what environmental conditions do they fire, and what that firing pattern means to the neural network in which that they reside. The latest peer reviewed estimate puts the number of neurons in the human brain at just around 86 billion...that’s a lot of trees! But what are all these neurons doing and what is their role in the larger neuronal structure... the forest?

Taking into account neuronal transmission speeds and reaction times, and for the brain to process and act as quickly as it does, it has long been postulated that it must be very efficient at pattern recognition and simultaneous parallel processes. In the NPR talk, Kurzweil hinted he and other researchers have a theory that the brain is organized in

“modules.” These modules are made up of ~100 neurons each, are repeatable throughout the cortex and are built to recognize complex patterns.

While I am not sure if these claims are accepted yet in the scientific community, there is relatively broad acceptance that the brain is indeed organized in a modular fashion and that these modules are arranged in a partially innate and partially learned hierarchy.

So what does all this mean for our research here in the MRC? Well, it’s good news, and it assures me that we are on the right track.

Part of the human systems research in the MRC is focused around a few real time environment questions: How can we efficiently present complicated data to the human? How can we harness cortical activity for a more natural integration of the human with autonomous systems?

As research in human systems integration matures, it points more and more toward the need to understand neuronal activity that emerges from larger groupings of neurons (modules) rather than the neuron itself. As an ensemble of neurons fire, it creates a field potential that can be detected external to the scalp. This has huge implications in experimental design and the ease of which hypotheses can be explored through noninvasive techniques.

Additionally, new advancements in electroencephalogram

Continued on next page



Photo by Dave Bonar

NOLA employees complete year-long class

Pictured above, SSC Atlantic New Orleans Detachment employees celebrate completion of the Naval War College's (NWC) Continuing Distant Education (CDE) college through the Fleet Seminar Program (FSP). The year-long class is one of three taught to complete the training for the NWC's Command and Staff College program. New Orleans is one of approximately 20 sites where this training is offered. Course professor Cyril

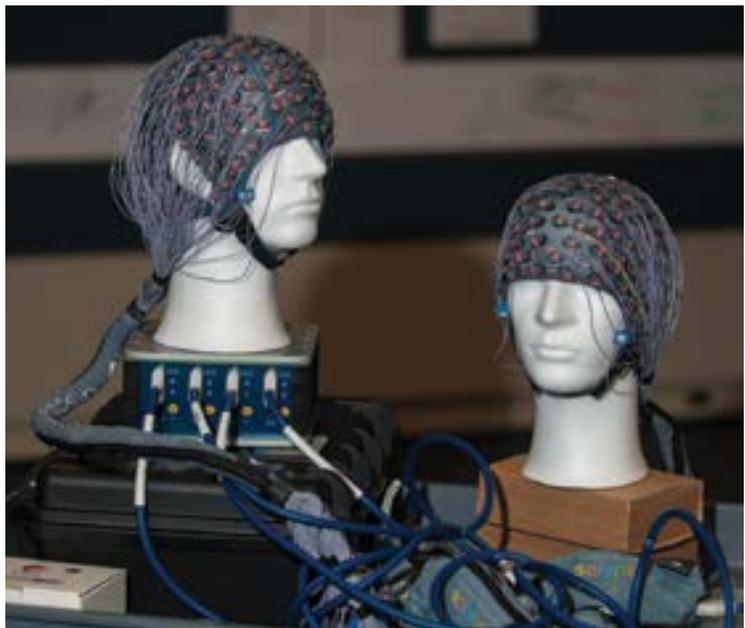
Lagvanec, seated in front, left, poses with the SSC Atlantic students. The class runs from the beginning of September through the middle of May. In addition to the New Orleans employees pictured above, CDE students are from other Navy and Marine Corps commands and the Coast Guard, Air Force, Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation, ATF, NOAA and other government agencies.

CTO CORNER

(EEG) systems, along with their software development kits, have enabled affordable and extremely capable real time wearable systems that are either tethered or wireless. Industry and research organizations have taken steps to explore new applications of the wearable EEG, and we are seeing working prototypes now emerging in the gaming industry as well as augmentation for humans with disabilities.

Our research in the MRC employs similar devices that we will be using to initially explore the feasibility and accuracy of human thought to control robot interaction as well as exploring advanced multi-modality human system interfaces.

At right, wearable electroencephalogram devices that will be used in human systems research in SSC Atlantic's MRC.





Volunteers take a break from working on the helo at the Military Magnet Academy in North Charleston.



A crane moves a rotor in place over the Huey as volunteers prepare to attach it.

SSC Atlantic volunteers put finishing touches on MMA helicopter display

A historic Huey transferred to the Military Magnet Academy (MMA) in North Charleston last year as a static display has been restored with painstaking attention to detail, thanks to volunteers.

The helo, which had been used several years ago in an SSC Atlantic project, needed some finishing touches when it was moved to the display site. SSC Atlantic volunteers, MMA students and faculty, volunteers from retired Rear Adm. Bob Besal's Aviation Maintenance Technology class at Trident Technical College, and Boeing volunteers started restoring and preparing the helo for display in front of the Norman C. Toole building on the MMA campus in October.

When the helo first arrived at the school, the students found its serial number and researched its history of wartime flights and rescue missions. Yet the condition of the Vietnam-era aircraft left much to be desired. All useable equipment had been removed from the interior of the helo, the inside was practically an empty shell and the rotors had been removed.

After surveying the condition of the helo, volunteers got busy with its restoration, which began in earnest with the arrival of rotors. Volunteers also sanded and painted the exterior and replaced dials and gauges.

The helo was transferred to the MMA as part of an educational partnership SSC Atlantic has had in place with the school since 2009, according to SSC Atlantic's Michelle Rehr-Matash. The education partnership



agreement (EPA) is in accordance with public law which authorizes defense laboratories to enter into EPAs with U.S. educational institutions in order to improve science, mathematics and engineering education.

Established in 1997, the MMA includes grades six through 12 and prepares cadets to become academically competent, disciplined and responsible citizens. The partnership enhances the educational experience for cadets by providing access to the staff, expertise, facilities and equipment related to naval warfare systems technology at SSC Atlantic.

On his way to church former MMA Commandant Lt. Col. Joseph Dawson drove by the site where the old helo was being stored temporarily. After a while he started thinking it would make a great display at the school. Coincidentally, SSC Atlantic's Bob Miller approached the school about transferring the helo, and soon the paperwork was prepared to make it happen. Dawson has since retired, but the authentically restored Huey helo is there to stay for the enjoyment of the cadets, thanks to SSC Atlantic volunteers and others.



Volunteers work atop the helo to attach the rotor, while a fresh exterior paint job and new interior dials and gauges restore authenticity to the Vietnam-era display at MMA.





MCLP class two now underway



At top, MCLP participants perform team building and trust exercises before taking to the Challenge Course at James Island County Park. Above, Waleed Barnawi leads the way on the ropes.

SSC Atlantic's second Mid-Career Leadership Program (MCLP) class is now underway.

This challenging six-month program focuses on developing employees who model command values and apply leadership to influence and effect positive change, empower each individual to make a difference, and instill a teaming and learning culture across SSC Atlantic. Participants develop and strengthen skills outlined in the SPAWAR Leadership Competency Development Model and the Department of Defense Leadership continuum to help them prepare for roles of increasing responsibility.

Selected from more than 80 applications for the class were, from Hampton Roads, Christina Paulitz (59120) and Payton Trantham (42110); and from Charleston, Waleed Barnawi (56130), James Bowlin (58A00), Harry Bowser (43250), Willie Cantrell (87000), Silvia Dolecki (12250), Rolland Fitch (59180), Jason Goss (59410), Jar-



The Challenge Course is designed for teams and focuses on developing different skills, from communication to problem solving to leadership.

rett Grant (58400), Justin Jackson (521E0), Mark Jansen (52110), Adam McCann (59180), Lane Melton (87000), Joshua Nealy (56110), John Oldfield (56220), John Reed Sauter (41120), Michael Stapleton (63210), Mark Troop (52510) and Jeffrey Woodard (52110).

Core program content consists of six modules focusing on scientific and research-based exemplary leadership practices, self awareness, trust, communication, values and team building. The program includes interactive lectures, guest speakers/mentors, and guided discussions. Participants engage in hands-on, activity-based, experiential learning to reinforce leadership concepts. The program includes interactive lectures, guest speakers/mentors, reading assignments, guided discussions, personal leadership journals, several leadership assessments and a shadowing project.

During the six-month program, participants spend approximately 90 duty hours in and out of the classroom, 60 to 70 (2 to 3 hours per week) non-duty hours on assignments between modules, and 40 to 80 hours working on a shadowing project. Participants also take a walk in the warfighter's shoes aboard USS Yorktown to strengthen ties with naval history and culture as part of a Patriots Point Institute of History, Science and Technology leadership program.



Silvia Dolecki makes her way up the net. MCLP participants start the course by climbing up an inclined cargo net, before taking to the ropes to cross from one tree house to another.



Executive Director Miller appointed PEO for DHMS



Miller

SSC Atlantic's former Executive Director, Christopher Miller, was appointed Program Executive Officer (PEO) for the Department of Defense (DoD) Healthcare Management Systems (DHMS) and began his new position Sept. 16.

In his new role as PEO DHMS, he reports directly to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics as the DoD Milestone Decision Authority for the Integrated Electronic Health Record program.

SPAWARCOM Commander Rear Adm. Patrick Brady said, "Chris has been instrumental in the transformation of SSC Atlantic to meet the

Navy's demands for greater efficiencies and effectiveness. His selection as PEO DHMS is a direct reflection of the impact he's had at SPAWAR and across the Navy. His vast experience and insight will be a tremendous gain for DoD."

Miller was appointed to the Senior Executive Service (SES) in May 2006, and became SSC Atlantic Executive Director in early 2010. Prior to assuming those duties, he served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Command, Control, Communication, Computers, Intelligence (C4I), and as the Navy's PEO for C4I.

Miller served as a U.S. Marine Corps intelligence officer from 1995 to 1999, completing a deployment to the Western Pacific and serving as the Intelligence Officer for the largest Marine Aircraft Group in the Marine Corps.

Dave Monahan, Director of Management Operations, was appointed as acting SSC Atlantic Executive Director.

Feds Feed Families nets 3,698 lbs. for those in need

SSC Atlantic employees collected approximately 3,700 pounds of food in this year's Feds Feed Families drive.

In Hampton Roads, 2,183 pounds of goods were collected in efforts coordinated by LS1 Alexander Chapman, ET1 Eric Sawenko, LS1 Nicola Brown, and Ashley Savage, with collection boxes at St. Juliens Creek, Little Creek and Norfolk. Twenty-five employees in Bldg. 11 alone collected 1,197 pounds. The Southeastern Food Bank received these donations.

In Charleston 829 pounds were collected in efforts coordinated by Jessica Malcolm and Lt. Matthew Horton. Charleston's drive benefited the Low-country Food Bank.

New Orleans netted 425 pounds of food, with IT1 Tomas Rodriquez leading the drive; collections were donated to Second Harvest.

In Washington, D.C., 174 pounds were donated in a drive led by Jeffrey Welch and Loretta Archie. The Capital Area Food Bank distributed these donations to those in need.

In Tampa, Michael Kasarda led the drive; 87 pounds of food were donated to the Emergency Care Help Organization (ECHO).

Non-perishable items collected included rice, canned tuna, grits, cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, dried or canned beans, canned fruits and vegetables, diapers and personal hygiene items.

"Thanks to your outstanding support, we will continue to make a difference for our communities, neighbors and families in need," said SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Amy Burin.

"Your generosity is especially commendable in light of our current times, the recent furloughs and the effects on personal budgets. Your donations show hearts that are open and caring," she added.

SSC Atlantic Toastmasters attend TLI

Leaders from SSC Atlantic's Toastmasters club attended Toastmaster Leadership Institute (TLI) training July 27 on the Isle of Palms, S.C. Attending from SSC Atlantic's Toastmasters club were David Osborne of 63210, secretary, and Gibson Hopper of 52320, club president.

Twice a year, Toastmasters conducts the TLI to provide leadership training for members holding various leadership positions in the club. The fundamental objective of Toastmasters International is to educate men and women through the process of self-improvement and leadership training so that they may increase their usefulness in business, professional and community life.

The mission of a Toastmasters Club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every individual member has the opportunity to develop oral communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

To learn more about the SSC Atlantic Toastmasters Club in Charleston, send an email to janice.alster@navy.mil or david.hillman@navy.mil.

Visit www.toastmasters.org for more information about Toastmasters and to find a club near you. Clubs are abundant in nearly every city and town in the United States and also around the world.

James welcomed to SSC Atlantic, promoted to O-4

Lt. Cmdr. Forrest B. 'Tres' James III has new shoulder boards attached to his summer whites by Jenni, his wife of 18 years, during a promotion ceremony Sept. 3. James, who recently reported to SSC Atlantic, serves as fleet liaison for the Navy's TACMOBILE program. He comes to Charleston after a tour as Helicopter Element Coordinator for Commander, Carrier Strike Group Nine, embarked aboard USS Ronald Reagan. The Albuquerque, N.M., native is a former enlisted Sailor commissioned through the Navy's Limited Duty Officer program. In his 23 years of active duty service he has been assigned to helo squadrons HC-5 in Guam, HSL-47 in San Diego,

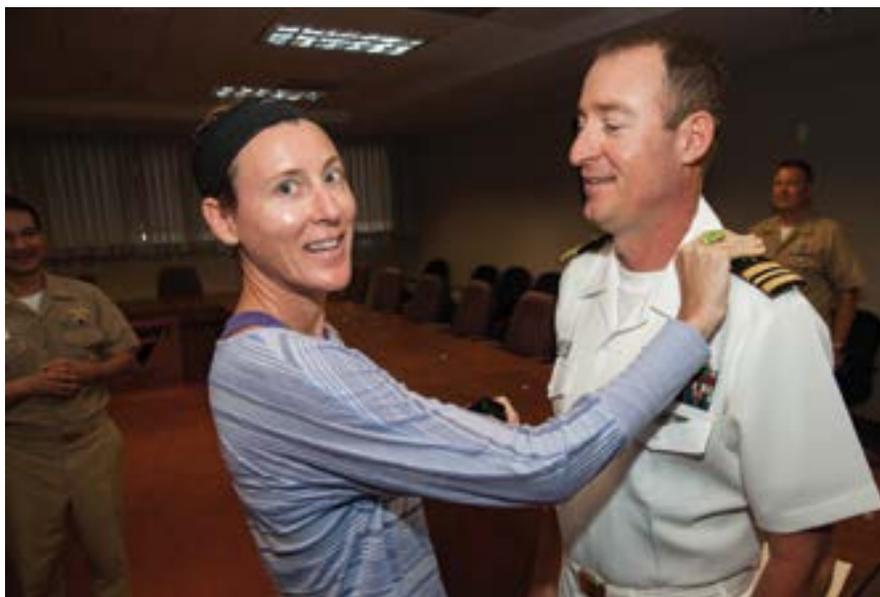


Photo by Joe Bullinger

Calif., and VX-1 in Patuxent River, Md. He also completed tours on USS John C. Stennis and USS Abraham Lincoln in Washington state, and at Mobile Tactical Operation Center

(MTOC) 7 in Sicily. Cmdr. Baldomero Garcia, 50E, served as the presiding officer for the promotion ceremony and administered the oath to James.



Photo by Dave Bonar

Pizza pizza!

Sailors attached to SSC Atlantic in New Orleans held a Military Pizza Lunch Special in the lobby of Bldg. 3 Aug. 29 to raise money for this year's Christmas outing. Pictured above, from left, are IT1 Victor Morquecho,

IT1 Tomas F. Rodriguez and IT1 Geoffrey D Box, all of 58; DPS1 Hardy D. Arp of 54300; Lt. Sayre Jeannet of 58; and ITC Dennis L. Byrd.

Flapjack Friday flipping finesse

Frank McAlhany, SSC Atlantic Director of Corporate Operations (80) shows his flapjack flipping prowess during an Employee Services Association (ESA) fundraiser held in Charleston in May. Visitors to the Bldg. 3147 atrium enjoyed made-to-order piles of flapjacks flipped by a variety of SSC Atlantic volunteers, including then-SSC Atlantic Executive Director Christopher Miller; SSC Atlantic Comptroller and 11 Local Competency Lead Virginia Pitts; Integrated Cyber Operations Business Portfolio Manager Ryan Gunst; Public Affairs Officer Lonnie Cowart; Computer Applications, Services,



Photos by Joe Bullinger

Integration and Infrastructure (54) Competency Lead Kathryn Murphy; 59 Lead Systems Engineer Steve Schaefer; Human Resources Director (811) Rich Hooks,

and SSC Atlantic Local Competency Lead for the 52 Net-Centric Engineering and Integration Competency Steve Lariviere.

Dodgeball tourney proceeds benefit sexual assault victims

Players scramble to grab dodgeballs during a spring dodgeball tournament at SSC Atlantic which helped promote sexual assault awareness and prevention. More than 75 people took to the tennis courts behind Bldg. 3147 in Charleston for the 17-team tournament. Tournament entry fees paid by each five-person team were donated to the Sexual Assault Awareness Month toiletry drive. SSC Atlantic's "Ball of Duty," which features Bldg. 198's Ben Riley (6323), Omar Coley (59), Shane Kinyon (54), Jeff Bramble (59) and Josh Mellow (43), was the winning team. The tournament gave participants a chance to have fun while hurling dodgeballs at each other in the name of charity, and proceeds raised from the event benefited women and children in crisis because of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse.





At The Citadel awards convocation May 2, SSC Atlantic's Bob Miller and his family pose with Ens. Derek Bernsen, third from right, as he proudly displays the Miller Sword, and is joined by his grandparents, Barbara and Jesse C. James. Not pictured but joining them for the graduation was Bernsen's father, Michael J. Bernsen.

Miller Sword recipient a new cyber warrior

When he graduated from The Citadel last spring, Ens. Derek Bernsen was presented the Miller Sword, an award which honors the father of an SSC Atlantic employee. But that was just one of his ties to SSC Atlantic that would prove to be career enhancing for the Naples, Fla., native.

The Miller Sword honors Robert "Robbie" George Miller, an Army veteran who served as commander of the Palisades Power Squadron in New Jersey and taught public boating classes until his death in 1996. He and his wife Dorothy raised four children in Teaneck, N.J. The Miller Sword honor was established by SSC Atlantic's Bob Miller, a senior systems engineer in 72, and his three siblings as a memorial to their father. The award is presented annually to The Citadel Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) sea services candidate who has excelled in a Navy battalion leadership position, is in the top 25 percent of the graduating class, and embodies Robert Miller's leadership skills, dedication to public service and love of the sea.

Bernsen majored in computer science with a minor in cyber security on an NROTC four-year scholarship. While at The Citadel, he was also presented the Marine Corps League Leadership Award (for Navy officer candidates) and was named to Who's Who Among Students in American University and Colleges.

In his senior year he was also elected captain for The Citadel's cyber defense team. Bernsen and his team took part in the Palmetto Cyber Defense Competition, eventually taking second place among the colleges and universities represented. As cyber team captain he had met many SSC Atlantic employees, including Shann Ladiser, Bob Miller, Jeff Sweeney and Jeff Bullock.

In the spring of 2013 Bernsen had to choose a specialty community in the Navy that he would join upon graduation and commissioning as an officer. His SPAWAR friends encouraged Bernsen to investigate the Cyber Warfare Engineer, or 1840 community designator. "They gave me great insight into the C4ISR roles that SPAWAR and the Navy play," Bernsen said.

When the Navy offered him the opportunity to interview for this designator, Bernsen realized he needed a classified site to video teleconference for the interview. That's where Miller came into the picture again, and helped set up the interview at SSC Atlantic. Bernsen also talked with Ladiser and his other SSC Atlantic contacts to help study and prepare for the interview.

A few weeks later when he came to SSC Atlantic and had the interview, he "blew it out of the water," Bernsen said. "About two minutes after the interview was over I was notified of my selection to the Cyber Warfare Engineer community."

After graduation May 4, Bernsen was also able to get temporary additional duty orders to work at SSC Atlantic before reporting for training. "I was able to meet many others I'll be working with and made many invaluable professional connections," he said. "I was also able to get hands-on technical experience in the field I'll be working in once I enter the Cyber Warfare Engineer community," he said.

Now undergoing training at the Navy Information Operations Command at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland, Bernsen said he will not soon forget his friends at SSC Atlantic who helped guide him to a Navy career as a cyber warrior.



Photos by Joe Bullinger

Raking, mulching and planting were among the activities of SSC Atlantic volunteers at the Day of Caring at North Charleston High School Sept. 13.



Day of **CARING**

SSC Atlantic employees came out in force once again Sept. 13 for the 2013 National Day of Caring. Twenty-three hard working volunteers took time off that day to take part in a beautification project at North Charleston High School (NCHS).

They dug out grass and weeds, shoveled dirt, pressure washed sidewalks and benches, planted flowers donated by generous SSC Atlantic employees, and spread mulch donated by Lowcountry Mulch in the front of the school and the back bus ramp area. They also helped students plant a new crop of fall vegetables in the gardens SSC Atlantic employees built last year. Under the tutelage of Mike Long, supervisor and horticulturist from The Greenery who was also volunteering his time, SSC Atlantic volunteers worked diligently in the hot sun planting day lilies, knock-out roses, lantanas and other flowers and plants – almost 100 total - livening up the campus with color and life.

“Thanks especially to everyone who came out to help us on Friday to show NCHS again how much we care for them,” said Stephanie Stewart of 80, project organizer, pictured at right. “We have formally ‘adopted’ NCHS and will hold an interest meeting in the next couple of weeks to lay out mentoring, tutoring, STEM and other project opportunities to help the school in the future. We are really making a difference here!”





Photos by Joe Bullinger

Biking to work = happiness

It's official: riding a bike to work results in uncontrollable happiness, as evidenced by the smiles on the faces of the participants pictured above during May's National Bike to Work Day. The bikers met then-SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Mark Glover at Gate 4 of Joint Base Charleston-Weapons Station to ride together to Bldg. 3147. At right, the captain chats with the bikers. To learn about the growing community of SSC Atlantic bicycle commuters visit <https://blog.spawar.navy.mil/spawarsprockets/>.

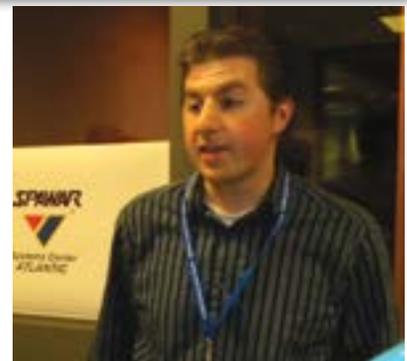


Bartkowiak selected for FCC/C10F rotation

SSC Atlantic's Nicholas Bartkowiak of 54540 was recently selected among 15 candidates for a Fleet Cyber Command (FCC)/Commander Tenth Fleet (C10F) rotation opportunity to take place from January to June 2014.

Bartkowiak will support FCC/C10F full-time for six months at Fort Meade, Md., in a role that will give him first-hand understandings of the Navy Cyber environment, so he can return that expertise to the SPAWAR engineering centers.

The command will continue to offer this rotation as a career-enhancing opportunity every six months. Those who wish to apply or reapply for this opportunity, an announcement for the July to December 2014 rotation will be released in January 2014.



Bartkowiak



Middle school students, laptops, teachers and cheering sections fill the conference center during DimensionU.

SSC Atlantic hosts 2nd DimensionU competition

Fifty Charleston area middle schoolers gathered at SSC Atlantic recently for the Tricounty DimensionU competition.

DimensionU features computer games that test students' skills in algebra and pre-algebra. The event is part of SSC Atlantic's educational outreach program aimed at developing science, technology, engineering and math skills in kids from elementary to high school levels.

Students from Oakbrook Middle School took top honors in the competition. Gregg Middle, Oakbrook Middle, River Oaks Middle, Hanahan Middle and Cane

Bay Middle schools also participated in the competition. Funded by the National Defense Education Program, DimensionU features video games that focus on core skills and objectives that align to state standards and classroom instruction.

"This is one of the few times a year when we bring in students, their families and educators to see the command up-close and how we make IT count for the Navy every day," said then-SSC Atlantic Executive Director Christopher Miller. "We really want to get these students excited about science and math and future careers in IT."



Photos by Joe Bullinger

Hanahan Middle students run the gamut of emotions -- from surprise to coolness -- during DimensionU.



U.S. Rep. Sanford visits SSC Atlantic

U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford, representing South Carolina's First District, listens as then-SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Glover makes a point during Sanford's visit May 29. Below, then-SSC Atlantic Executive Director Christopher Miller chats with Sanford and Retired Maj. Gen. James Livingston, USMC, Medal of Honor recipient, in the executive conference room. Sanford was at SSC Atlantic to receive a command overview and to discuss several key projects.



Photos by Joe Bullinger



Pipeline Project promotes S&T careers

Tom Sessions of 59440, left, explains the importance of anechoic chamber testing to members of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Pipeline Project during a visit to SSC Atlantic in late March. Among the visitors were Dr. Lady June Cole, PhD, Allen University Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Dana B. Stebbins JD, Esq., director of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)/HBCU Pipeline Project.



Photos by Joe Bullinger



Career and technology center students, teachers visit SSC Atlantic

Twenty-five students and teachers from the Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center (TCTC) in Walterboro, S.C., visited SSC Atlantic in Charleston recently to see how the science, technology, engineering and math disciplines are being used to make IT count for the warfighter. Top left, they visited the unclassified Gaming Research Innovation Lab and were given a demonstration of a training application. During a tour of the Multidisciplinary Research Center (MRC), above, Tom Glaab demonstrated a robot in action and the students were shown energy harvesting applications. In a visit to the Maintenance Depot Lab, left, the visitors saw how SSC Atlantic employees engineer circuits and systems from the component level up, including developing firmware, and how they test equipment. Among the technical career clusters found at TCTC are engineering and Project Lead the Way.



Photos by Joe Bullinger

Learning about networking

Craig Sosbee of 5513 takes visiting students on a tour through SSC Atlantic's data center in Charleston. The students also toured the forensics lab and Electromagnetic

Environmental Effects (E3) testing lab during the tour. The visit to SSC Atlantic was part of a week-long camp at the new Lowcountry Tech Academy in which the students learned about computer networking.



Cainhoy Tigers on board

Students from Cainhoy Elementary/Middle School in Huger, S.C., got a first-hand look at SSC Atlantic during a May visit that included a tour of the Vehicle Integra-

tion Bay, above, led by Ray Brown, right. In the photo at right a student takes a look through the Pocket Scope, the lightweight infrared system developed in 2003 at then-SSC Charleston for warfighters' use in Iraq.

Pennsylvania man's obituary puts service in perspective

This year had been one of extraordinary fiscal challenges that have affected government employees in various ways, yet our mission to make IT count for the warfighter has stayed in sharp focus.

SSC Atlantic's Doug Mueller, of Code 4211 at St. Juliens Creek in Hampton Roads, saw something in a small Pennsylvania town's weekly newspaper recently that really helped put federal government service and our recent challenges in the right perspective.

Mueller's wife grew up in Mifflinburg, Penn., a borough in Union County with a population of 3,543. (According to Mueller, the town features two traffic lights, and that's about it.) Though his wife has not lived in Mifflinburg for more than 35 years, she still receives the **Mifflinburg Telegraph** in the mail weekly.

When perusing a recent edition of the paper, Mueller's wife took notice of the obituary for Clair C. Yagel.

Yagel, of Wheaton, Md., formerly of Mifflinburg, passed away June 8, 2013 at age 92. He had played fullback on the varsity soccer team and center for the basketball team at Mifflinburg High School, where he was active in many other activities as well, his obituary stated.

In December of 1942, he graduated from Penn State University with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. He went to work in Washington, D.C., for the Navy Department, where he worked virtually his entire career, including more than 15 years as a GS-15, and retired from the Naval Electronics Systems Command (NAVELEX).

Yagel had married his hometown sweetheart Sara on June 12, 1943, and together they had four children. Sara passed away nearly 23 years ago.

At the time that Doug Mueller read the obituary in late June, government employees were looking ahead to as many as 22 furlough days, curtailments on travel and awards, and a hiring freeze.

"As we struggle with all the churn and the challenges we face as government employees, I thought it was really meaningful that this man and his family had such respect for his federal government service, and specifically for his service to NAVELEX, that they mentioned it in his obituary," Mueller said.

"I think it really helps put things in perspective, when you look over a life lived well and what's really important to you in the long run," he added.



Yagel

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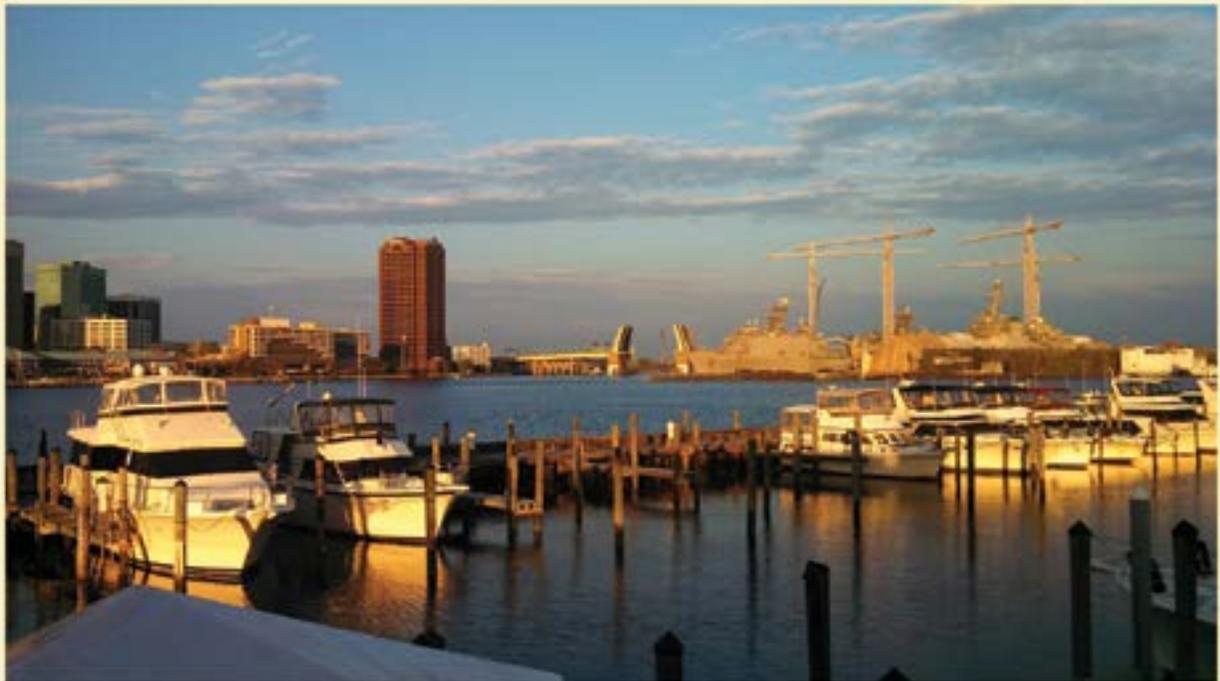
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