

TALON TIMES

Mission: Plan, direct and control all air operations in support of amphibious forces, and provide combat-ready-detachments to deployed Amphibious Ready Groups.

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FROM THE CAPTAIN'S DESK...

TACRON TWELVE
OCT/NOV/DEC 2012

Dear Talons, families, and friends,

With every passing day in Command I am continuously impressed with your dedication, maturity, and camaraderie. I am convinced that we have the best morale in the Navy, and intend to continue that trend. I am also glad that the Mayan Calendar did not cut my Command tour short, as predicted by some, and that we did not fall off the Fiscal Cliff to date.

This Fall our mission continued in the Pacific with Detachment (DET) FOUR embarked aboard the USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD-6) in support of Amphibious Squadron ELEVEN and Amphibious Forces, SEVENTH FLEET. They completed a successful detachment in December after participating in several multinational/bilateral exercises highlighted by a Presidential support mission in Burma, and were able to conduct port calls in Guam, Subic Bay, Philippines, Sepangar, Malaysia and Hong Kong. We were also glad that we were able to bring the majority of them home for the Holidays.

In December we received an early holiday present by welcoming AC3 Ward back from his Individual Augment Assignment to Djibouti, Africa. The Air Traffic Control professionalism and impact on the Horn of Africa mission that AC3 provided was exceptional. His selfless volunteerism was noteworthy and he returned with high accolades from the leadership in Djibouti. Well done AC3!



Last month I was able to advance two of our best and brightest Talons to the next rank through the Navy's Command Advancement Program. We promoted IT1 Constance Gilbert and AC2 Shayne Spicer for their sustained hard work, outstanding dedication, and demonstrated leadership. Congratulations on your accomplishment. Promoting deserving Sailors earlier than expected has been one of my proudest moments in the Navy.

It was great to see you and your families at the Children's and Squadron Holiday parties in December. These first-class events were only possible through the dedication of our MWR team and their outstanding initiative on a shoestring budget. My family and I truly enjoyed these events and look forward to more in the future. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to those who volunteered for the fundraising opportunities leading up to these exceptional events.

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FROM THE CAPTAIN'S DESK... *(Continued)*

Of note, our Talon athletes came through and captured the Fall softball title after playing our way out of the loser's bracket. This was truly a title by committee, in that I believe we never fielded the exact same line-up twice. Your teamwork and support from the Talon crowd made all the difference.

This Spring, our Command Ombudsman will be transferring and I would like to invite all interested potential replacements to contact our Command Master Chief, Ombudsman, or myself directly to discuss the necessary steps to get you into the position. No experience is necessary. However, the experience gained will be tremendous. All training is provided, and you will very likely gain a unique perspective on Navy life. This is a golden opportunity to gain some valuable experience and keep in touch with the Command leadership while helping our Talon families. Thank you for your consideration.

In closing, I wish each and every one of you a prosperous Spring. It continues to be an honor to serve with you. As always, continue to set the example and do things the TALON WAY!

Best Wishes,
CDR Dan "Disco" Hopkins
Daniel.hopkins@navy.mil
619-437-2594

FROM THE MASTER CHIEF'S DESK

By CMC ELLIS

Greetings, Talons and Happy New Year!



I'm thankful that current feedback indicates most everyone in the Talon Family had a safe and happy holiday season. It's great to see everyone back and ready for the coming year. With the New Year comes new opportunity, new challenge, and change. I hope that everyone is prepared to take full advantage of all the opportunities available this year – qualifications, advancements, new assignments, and possibly some awesome port visits along the way.

We accomplished quite a bit in 2012 and have great positive momentum behind us as we forge ahead into 2013, and the operational challenges that await us. With one detachment recently returned from deployment, another detachment having departed this month, and the next detachment already waiting in the wings, change seems to be the only constant in the squadron these days. Changes in Homeguard staffing seem to occur daily, as we have personnel checking in and out of the command as fast as we can process them. Especially during times such as these, it is important that we all keep an eye on our Shipmates and do everything in our power to ensure that everyone gets the proper training and mentorship to accomplish their goals. Make sure to treat all Talons with respect, and continue to be sound professionals both on and off duty.

A couple of hot topics in current Navy discussions are sexual assault and alcohol abuse. We will all continue to receive timely and relevant training in these areas, but if we don't put what we learn to good use, we haven't accomplished much. I ask that we all keep our eyes and ears open, whether at work, at home, or on liberty, so that we may recognize and voice any situation that is not in line with good order and discipline. By doing so, you will help us take appropriate action in such situations before anyone is affected in a negative way.

One personnel change of particular interest is that of our Ombudsman, who will be leaving us this Spring. Our Ombudsman has provided absolutely stellar support to our Talon Family for quite some time now, and as she departs we are earnestly looking for candidates to assume her roles and responsibilities. The Ombudsman is our liaison between families of our squadron members and the Command leadership. He/she works closely with the Command Master Chief and reports directly to the Commanding Officer. It is a high-visibility position that is very rewarding. All the training necessary to do the job is provided free of cost. Those interested may contact the Ombudsman, the Executive Officer or me for more information.

Enough with the business stuff. I had a fantastic holiday season and hope each of you did as well. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your service as a squadron member or your support as a family member. If you're new to the Talon Family, welcome aboard! Let's have some FUN this year!



The Ombudsman Corner



Phone: 1-619-796-2478

www.tacron12ombudsman@gmail.com

Hello Talons! 2013 is here and this year I look forward to “opening the doors” for you to the great programs, information, and resources that the Navy and our communities have to offer military families. I recently attended an Ombudsman Resource Fair in which I was educated on and given access to literally hundreds of resources and services available to military service members and their families. These services include, but are not limited to, childcare, financial services, spousal employment, tutoring services, tuition assistance, counseling services, etc. I encourage you to start taking advantage of all of these wonderful programs.

As your Ombudsman, I am here to assist you in any way that I can! Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns you may have. I can be reached by e-mail or phone any time, day or night. Have a safe and happy Spring everyone!



FOCUS: Family Resiliency Training™ for Military Families

Strengthening the Home Base!

FOCUS (Families Over Coming Under Stress™) provides resiliency training to military children and families. It teaches practical skills to meet the challenges of deployment and reintegration, to communicate and solve problems effectively, and to successfully set goals together and create a shared family story.

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Site Location

Naval Base San Diego

Dolphin Alley San Diego, CA 92136 Fax 619.556.6076

Naval Base Bldg. 265 Phone 619.556.6075

SanDiego@focusproject.org

Fleet and Family Support



FFSP provides services through the Fleet and Family Support Centers (FFSC), such as relocation assistance, new parent support, deployment services, clinical counseling services, financial management counseling, family employment services, family advocacy, and the transition assistance programs to assist service members and their families in need.

*****One Call Serves All!*****

For 24/7 appointment scheduling for clinical counseling, relocation assistance, Resume assistance, and financial consultations at any Navy Region Southwest FFSC, call 1-866-923-6478. For more information on Fleet and Family Support Programs, please [visit their website](#).



San Diego Military Outreach Ministries

San Diego Military Outreach Ministries is a community supported charity that reaches out to young enlisted military families in San Diego with a broad range of helping services. (For more details, visit www.sandiegomom.org, or call 619-461-4164)

FFSC JOB FAIR

*Come dressed for success and bring copies of your resume!
The Job Fair is open to all service members on active duty,
Reservists, retirees, spouses, and family members.*

Date: Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Time: 10 am-2 pm

Location: Scottish Rite Center; 1895 Camino del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108

How to Effectively Work a Job Fair

9-9:30 am or 9:30-10 am

Resume Critiques

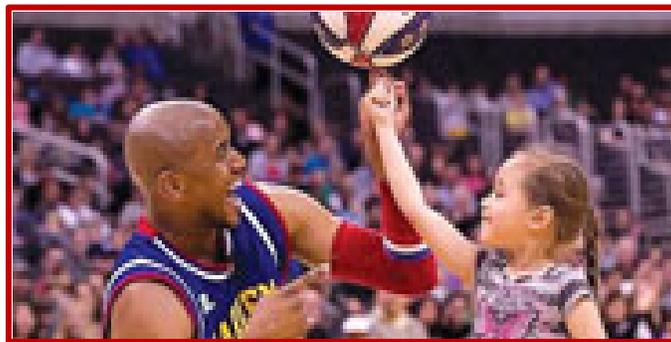
10:30 am-1 pm

www.cnmc.navy.mil/navylifesw

San Diego Things to Do!



The Harlem Globetrotters 2013 "You Write the Rules" World Tour!



Friday, February 15 • 7 pm • MWR Price \$20.75 • Valley View Casino Center (formerly San Diego Sports Arena)

The world-famous **Harlem Globetrotters** return to San Diego for a fun-filled night of basketball magic featuring an amazing display of fancy footwork and ball-handling wizardry.

The "Ambassadors of Goodwill"[®] continue to captivate the hearts of basketball fans with their hilarious antics; and this year, fans will decide the rules for the game that could affect the final outcome.

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This could be anything from playing with two basketballs at once, to getting double the points for each basket made. Don't miss this must see family fun event!

Get your tickets NOW at your base MWR Ticket Office or call 619-556-2174 for more information.



Family Fitness & Movie Night

Friday, March 8 • 5:30-8:30 pm • **FREE** • NMAWC Fitness Center
(Bldg. 42 Basketball Court)

Parents and children of all ages are welcome to join MWR Fitness for an evening of fun family fitness followed by a movie.

T-shirts, goodie bags, and snacks are provided for all participants, plus prizes and more! For more details contact the NMAWC Fitness Center, at 619-553-4259.

[Register Online](#)



~***2013 Little Italy Carnevale***~

<http://www.littleitalysd.com/events/little-italy-carnevale/>

Region: **Downtown**

Date: **February 9, 2013**

Time: **5:00 PM - 9:00 PM** Price: **Free**

Follow Us On:  

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*****Grab your traditional Carnevale regalia and head to Little Italy for the 10th Annual Little Italy Carnevale. This year's event takes place on India Street between W. Fir and W. Cedar Streets with the main stage on W. Date Street. This family oriented version of the Carnevale in Venice features live music and dancing, stilt-walkers, art, and mask-making for kids, as well as great Italian food!*****



The mission of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is to provide, in partnership with the Navy and Marine Corps, financial, educational, and other assistance to members of the Naval Services of the United States, eligible family members, and survivors when in need; and to receive and manage funds to administer these programs.

Our Vision: We are a private, non-profit, volunteer, service organization. As a Center of Excellence, we are committed to ensure that all available resources are used to assist personnel of the Naval Services - active, retired, and their eligible family members to achieve financial self-sufficiency and find solutions to emergency needs.

NMCRS San Diego, FSO

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

Bldg. 270, 3115 Dolphin Alley

PO Box 131470

Naval Base San Diego

San Diego, CA 92170

e-mail to: Barry

White, barry.white@nmcrs.org

Hours: Mon-Fri 0800-1600

Phone: (619) 238-1587/1589

DSN: 526-8283

Fax: (619) 531-0083

Additional Services: [Thrift Shop](#)
[Information, Visiting Nurse](#)



NAVY COLLEGE **OPPORTUNITIES**

Visit your local **Navy College office!** Navy College professionals provide educational services world-wide, anytime, anyplace to Sailors and their families, supporting their life-long learning goals and the Navy's mission. The following link provides information regarding the SOCNAV program and other benefits available to military families. Take full advantage of all of the awesome resources **Navy College** has to offer and go back to school!



American Red Cross

As a reminder, the American Red Cross announced that it will move to a single telephone number for its emergency communication services.

All military members and their families can use one number: **877-272-7337 (U.S. Toll Free)** to send an urgent message to a service member. This means that all military members and their families can use this single number to initiate an emergency communication, regardless of where they live.

A call to **877-272-7337** allows Red Cross emergency communications services to put military personnel in touch with their families following the death or serious illness of an immediate family member, the birth of a service member's child or grandchild or when a family faces other emergencies.

Additional Red Cross services such as case management and emergency financial assistance also are available. For those stationed overseas, the three options for calling will remain the same: calling **877-272-7337** direct, accessing the number through a military operator, or calling the local Red Cross station.

****For more information about the American Red Cross, and how you can reach out and donate, visit their website at <http://www.redcross.org/>****



SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS!

By LT Omar Torres

In the military we become intimately familiar with the significance of teamwork and its importance to the successful mission of the Armed Forces of the United States. As the TACRON TWELVE Softball Team stood on the Turner Field diamond merely a few weeks ago, winning this year's NAB Coronado softball championship title, I could not help but think that teamwork itself was the reason why we were there.

As a unit responsible for multiple deployments, the Talon softball team faced the uncertainty of constant personnel changes throughout the season. Without hesitation, Talons with all levels of softball experience, volunteered and took to the fields in support of our proud outfit. They filled vacancies left by those unable to participate due to operational commitments, and some even volunteered to cheer and heckle us from the stands. It is because of those volunteers that we were able to fight every inning, and often succeed. Occasionally we failed, but at the end of the day we never gave up hope and we refused to settle for forfeits and mediocrity.

As the season progressed, glimpses of a great team surfaced, but consistency was difficult to achieve. Only a few games before the playoffs, we finally found our stride and equipped a championship softball team. The first playoff game was a hard fought battle- we came only one run short of success! With our backs to the wall, and only one game away from elimination, we dug our cleats into the clay and through perseverance and teamwork, won every game leading to the championship finals.

For the championship game, we faced a tough team that we were unable to defeat during the regular season. However, thanks to the support of countless Talons, both on and off the field, we finally overcame ACB-1 to claim the 2012 championship trophy. It was a great feeling knowing that we earned this as a team battling the odds and overcoming adversity.

As one of the newer Talons, I would like to personally thank all of those who came out to support our Talon softball team. Whether you stood in the stands, cheering and heckling us or whether you took it to the field at one time or another, this championship is for you!

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(2012 NAB Softball Champions - TACRON 12 Talons) Though not pictured (deployed, leave, or moved on to other units) there are many more Talons who earned the right to be in this picture. Their assistance will forever be appreciated.

COMTACGRU ONE 2012 HOLIDAY PARTY

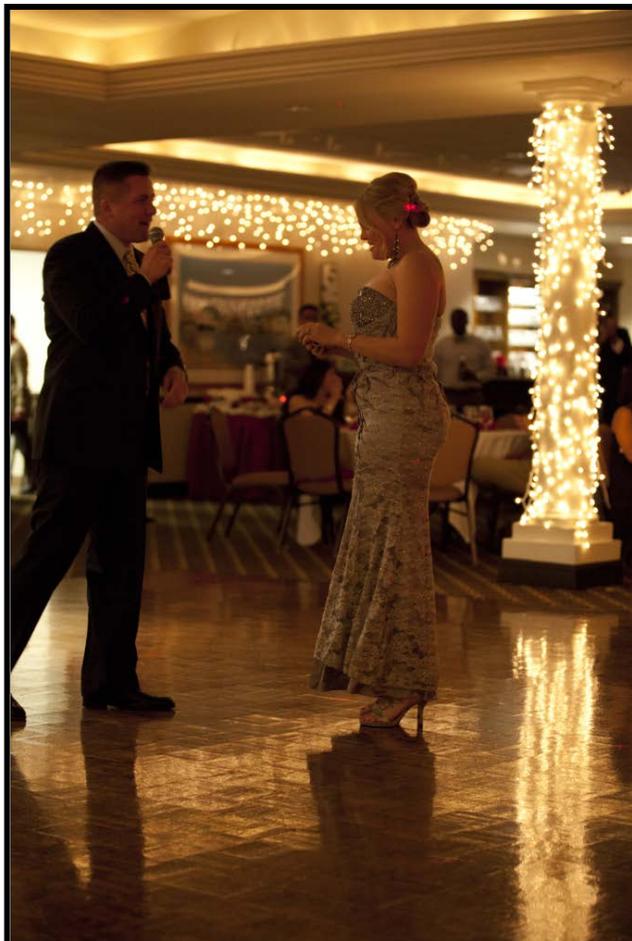
By IT1 Constance Gilbert and IS2 Ashley Parsons

COMTACGRU ONE, TACRON ELEVEN, and TACRON TWELVE celebrated the Command Holiday Party on Thursday, December 6th. It was an extremely successful event! The valiant and consistent efforts of the MWR Committee, along with the hard work of volunteers, helped to create a magical night filled with delicious food, fantastic door prizes, and dance floor fever.

We had an astounding turnout of more than 230 Sailors and family members. Everyone in attendance received a raffle ticket with an opportunity to win one of many gifts available, such as a 50" television, an IPAD mini, a home theatre system and much more! As luck would have it, many of our Talons did win prizes.

Upon entering the celebration at Admiral Kidd Conference Center, each party was given a chance for a beautiful complimentary photo by the Christmas tree, taken by TACRON ELEVEN's PAO, OS2 Crown, who made sure that our memories of the wonderful Holiday Party would never be forgotten. Everyone had a great time socializing and celebrating the holiday season with their shipmates and families near.

As a command, we will continue to work throughout the year to ensure we have an even more successful and exciting 2013 Holiday Party. Many thanks to the MWR team for coming together and providing such an extravagant and stunning event, and thanks also to the DJ, Admiral Kidd Conference Center, and many others that were involved in making the Squadrons Holiday Party a huge success!



Pictured above: TACRON TWELVE's CO, CDR Dan Hopkins selects Constance Gilbert to advance to First Class Petty Officer with the Command Advancement Program, one of the most highly-anticipated portions of the Holiday Party and something the CO looks forward to, along with the entire command.

WELCOME ABOARD!

CDR BANDINI
LCDR COWART
LCDR FLEMING
LT MICELI
ACC MOBLEY
OS3 WINSTON
ACAN SEATON
AN AYALARIOS
CSSA HOLLEY

Fair Winds and Following Seas...

CDR MARTIN
LCDR MORALES
LCDR BASS
LT COOK
AC1 KLINE
AC2 MAINVILLE
AC3 LE

A W A R D S

Navy Commendation Medal

LCDR MORALES
LT COOK
ACC MOBLEY

Navy Achievement Medal

LCDR BASS
AC1 JONES
AC1 KLINE
IT2 RICHARDS
AC2 MAINVILLE
AC2 GIBBS

Flag Letter of Commendation

AN FRIGO
AC3 NGUYEN
AC3 LE

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Good Conduct Medal

IS2 PARSONS
OS2 CRUMP
OS2 CROWE
OS2 MIRANDA
AC3 CHHAY

Huminatarian Assistance Service Medal

OSC ROWLANDS
AC1 JONES
AC2 TIETJE
AC2 LAESSIG
AC2 MCINTOSH
OS2 CRUMP
YN3 STEINKE

Enlisted Air Warfare Specialist

OSC LEMAK
IS2 JERAN
AC2 BERTELS
AC2 PULA
AC2 KRAMARCHUK
AC3 HALL
ACAN BROWN
ACAN JONES
FN LOPEZ

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist

AC2 BERTELS
AC2 DAIGLE
OS2 GOOSSEN
IT2 RICHARDS

Enlisted Information Dominance Warfare Specialist

AC3 WARD



ADVANCEMENTS

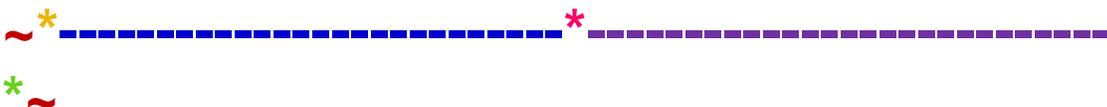
IT1 GILBERT
IS2 PARSONS
OS2 CROWE
AC2 BOLOSON
AC2 EARLY
AC2 ONEVATHANA
AC2 SPICER
AC3 SUAREZCAMPOS
AZ3 MARROQUIN



TACRON TWELVE has had an eventful 1ST Quarter of FY-13 and embraced change as we met the New Year.

We have gained countless personal achievements, many memorable occasions and excelled in every single aspect of the Navy, whether it has been in-rate advancements, or showing what we are made of on the softball field. Let us unite and continue to travel down that same road of starting a chain reaction of many great Quarters to follow! Keep up the outstanding work Talons!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



JANUARY

CAPT EARHART

AC2 ALI

ENS PENNINGTON

IT2 RICHARDS

AC2 JIMENEZ

ACAR WALLER

FEBRUARY

CDR BANDINI	AC2 YBARRA
YN1 MOSBARGER	AC2 SCOTT
AC3 CHHAY	OS2 COOK
YN3 STEINKE	OS2 DYER
ACAN JONES	OS2 GOOSSEN
AC2 KRAMARCHUK	OSSA COLASITO
ACAR GOMEZ	

MARCH

LCDR THRELKELD	AC2 GIBBS
LT TORRES	AC2 ANDERSON
ACC MOBLEY	AC3 NATIVIDAD
LS1 SALAMANCA	ACAN HICKMAN

