



Abe Sailors still earn warfare pins during PIA

By MCSN JAMES CELLINI
Penny Press Staff

With USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) in a shipyard environment, there is a misconception among Sailors that it is impossible to earn an Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS) or Enlisted Air Warfare Specialist (EAWS) pin. However, with hard work and some dedication of extra time, Sailors can still earn their warfare pins.

So far during PIA, 50 Sailors have earned a warfare pin. Getting a pin can be more challenging in the shipyard, but these Sailors have proved it can be done.

“If you work around the production schedule, utilize off duty time, and duty days, it takes effort, but it can be done,” said Senior Chief Electronics Technician (SW/AW) Darren Taylor, the ship’s ESWS coordinator.

“Some people just think there’s not enough time, you just have to be creative in finding the time to do it.”

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class (SW/AW) Ashley Snodgrass, of Raymond, Wash., is one Sailor who earned a Warfare pin during PIA. Snodgrass, a general duty corpsman with Lincoln’s Health Services Dept., said getting her EAWS pin while Lincoln was in the yards took some extra effort.

“I have a family, so I couldn’t study after work. I had to get it all done during the day,” she said. “During lunch, and on duty days, that’s when I got a lot of the work done.”

Snodgrass said she feels extra pride for having completed her Warfare qualifications during PIA.



Official US Navy photo

Underway, Sailors generally have more time to study for warfare qualifications.

“It is more challenging, tracking people down and everything. So I am even more proud that I got the pin,” she said.

Some of the signatures needed for a pin require observing things that won’t take place until after we are out of the yards, such as flight operations and observing an anchoring. Taylor said Sailors should still work on the other aspects.

“If you can get 90% of it done while we are here, then you could finish it very soon after we leave,” he said.

According to Taylor, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Rick West plans on making primary warfare pins mandatory for every sailor.

“If you’re at a sea command then your ESWS pin will be required at some point in the future,” said Taylor. “Why wait on rules to get passed to get started?”

Each Sailor is given 18 months to get qualified once they’ve started working on a pin and 12 months to get re-qualified once you have one. There are many resources at your disposal such as study guides and your shipmates. Sailors can also meet with their department coordinator for a list of signers, Taylor said.

Getting a warfare pin can be very beneficial to one’s Navy career. It helps during boards and makes you more competitive when going up for promotions, said Taylor.

“Don’t wait, get rolling, get started,” is Taylor’s advice.



Photo by MC3 Brandon Wilson

Some areas of ESWS and EAWS require observation of flight operations. However, many sections can still be signed off while Lincoln is in PIA.

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Know Your Shipmates



Photo and information gathered by MC3(SW/AW) Patrick Bonafede

**OSSN
Aaron Smith
OPS/OI**

Hometown:
Atchinson, KS

Quote:
"'Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all."

Hobbies:
Football, pool, basketball, 4-wheeling, cliff diving.

FACEBOOK



Visit USS Abraham Lincoln's fan page to get up-to-date information on the ship's status, and check out new photos.

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Outdoor Activities

Tacoma Museum of Glass: a unique experience

STORY BY
MC1(SW) AHRON ARENDES
Penny Press Staff

Tacoma is home to The Museum of Glass: International Center for Contemporary Art, the only American museum that features contemporary glass art. The glass museum is a “must-see” for anyone living in the Northwest.

This is not your typical museum. The museum, resting on Thea Foss Waterway in the Puget Sound, offers 13,000 square feet of exhibition space, a glass-blowing hot shop, a theater, a cafe, and a store to purchase souvenirs.

One of the museum’s most unique features is a “glass bridge” at the top of the museum, which connects the Museum to downtown Tacoma, including the Washington State History Museum, Union Station, and the Tacoma Art Museum.

Opened to the public in 2002, the building was designed by a team of architects and engineers led by internationally-known architect Arthur Erickson. Its sleek, four-story structure offers several levels of outdoor plazas. Reflecting pools and seating areas make these plazas perfect for relaxing and enjoying views of the waterfront, the Tacoma Dome, and Mount Rainier.



In the “hot shop amphitheater,” you can watch glass artists at work. They’ll heat up and blow glass right in front of you. They’ll even blow one up too much and let it shatter. To me, the exhibition was the most intriguing part of the museum experience.

If glass art isn’t enough for you, the Museum exhibitions feature many more items. Contemporary paintings, sculpture, ceramics, and installations com-

prise the majority of the art on view in the museum’s gallery.

The museum was interesting, but the tour around the place went pretty quickly. Before I knew it I had seen every piece of art the inside portion of the museum had to offer. My last stop on the museum tour was a trip to the top to walk across the Chihuly Bridge of Glass.

The bridge is a unique walk into the downtown area of Tacoma. It has numerous glass sculptures on display as you walk through over a street. Visitors should take their time through here as there is plenty to see. There are sculptures of various plants and flowers and numerous other unique objects all with lots of color.

Overall, the museum was a very pleasant experience and a great place to bring friends and family. With the museum’s glass artists showing off their skill and the many works of art on display, it was both educational and enriching.

The museum is located at 1801 Dock St. in Tacoma and is open Wednesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm.



Around the Navy

Sailor involvement key in orders negotiation

BY NAVY PERSONNEL COMMAND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Special to the Penny Press

According to the NAVADMIN, the most relevant change is that the detailing window will be seven-to-nine months before one's projected rotation date (PRD), providing a three-month window to negotiate for orders before a Sailor is considered to be eligible for an involuntary "needs of the Navy" assignment.

Career Management System/Interactive Detailing (CMS/ID) is the tool for negotiating assignments. In July, the Web-based system introduced a Sailor self-apply option. While visually CMS/ID and the advertising mechanics stay the same, most changes will be apparent.

Currently Sailors negotiate from nine-to-five months prior to their

PRD. If a billet isn't selected by the fourth month, "needs of the Navy" applies.

"This change encourages more aggressive participation by Sailors in negotiating orders. It also allows NPC better responsiveness to fleet demands and current Global War on Terror Support Assignment deadlines," said Rear Adm. Shoemaker, the head detailer at NPC.

One benefit is that Sailors placed into "needs of the Navy" assignments will know at the seven-month window where they are going instead of the five-month window. Assuming a stable PCS budget, another advantage is earlier issuance of orders, giving Navy families more time for PCS moves.

Sailors in their negotiation window now will not be disadvantaged by this change. Detailers are ensuring

applicants have no less than three months to consider options:

* Sailors with a PRD between August 2009 and January 2010 are unaffected and should already be under orders or pending separation.

* Sailors with a PRD between February 2010 and April 2010 will be managed as if their "needs of the Navy" window is January 2010.

* Sailors with PRDs of May 2010 and beyond will fall under these new rules.

Planners built in a buffer zone of time so Sailors can react. They emphasize that Perform-to-Serve (PTS) and the CMS/ID process go together.

"The key," said Randy Miller of BUPERS 3, "is for Sailors to put in their PTS applications 12-to-15 months prior to EAOS or PRD. Doing this will give them a full three months to negotiate."

SecNav Mabus visits USS Constitution

BY MC1 ERIC BROWN
USS CONSTITUTION PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Special to the Penny Press

CHARLESTOWN NAVY YARD, Mass. (NNS) -- Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus toured the USS Constitution, the oldest commissioned warship afloat in the world and met with the ship's crew Sept. 11.

Constitution's ensign flew at half-mast as Mabus' flag was broken on the port halyard, signifying his arrival aboard the ship. Eight sideboys rendered honors as Mabus crossed the quarterdeck,

accompanied by Constitution's Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Timothy Cooper.

"I think that having the secretary of the Navy come here and see the ship as it is undergoing restoration as we get ready for the bicentennial of the War of 1812 is a fantastic time for him to visit," Cooper said. "I hope [Secretary] Mabus walks away with a heightened sense of heritage, and an impression that the Sailors here are dedicated to maintaining that heritage and conveying that as part of our message of what the Navy does for our country every day, and what the

Navy has always done for them."

Following his tour of the ship, Mabus held an all hands call with Constitution's crew.

"I want to thank you for your service to the Navy, to your country," Mabus said. "From the time USS Constitution fought to today, we have had the finest Navy in the world."

USS Constitution was launched in the Boston Harbor on Oct. 21, 1797. In her years of active service, from 1798 - 1855, the three-masted frigate fought in the Quasi-War with France, the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812.

navy.mil/cno

navy.mil/mcpon

FROM THE CNO...

"Remain diligent in your duty and look out for your shipmates."

"Whether you are serving at home or abroad, take pride knowing you are providing for the safety, security, and prosperity of our Nation."

"The holidays provide a welcomed opportunity to spend time with family, friends, and loved ones, and I urge each of you to take advantage of every opportunity."

"We will endure no matter what the future brings."

"No other service is capable of doing what the Navy can do."

"Our Navy has never been more important, and now, with the current issues of piracy, it has shown how important we are."

...FROM THE MCPON

Layout by MC3 Colby K. Neal



Congrats

Sea warriors



Around the Navy

NEX customers to see bigger savings

BY NAVY EXCHANGE SERVICE COMMAND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Special to the Penny Press

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA (NNS) -- A recent survey conducted by an independent group recently proved that the average price of retail goods sold at Navy Exchanges save customers an average of 26 percent on products purchased, in addition to the tax-free benefits.

"I am so thrilled with these results," said Tess Paquette, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) senior vice president, and chief merchandising officer. "The 26 percent savings is the average amount customers will save when they shop at their NEX. These savings, combined with our 'Best Brands, Best Buys' and 'Price Cut' pricing strategies, help customers stretch their budgets even further. These are real savings that customers can achieve when they shop at the NEX."

Retail Data, the independent research firm that conducted the survey, compared the prices

of approximately 400 items in the Navy Exchange against major retailers across the continental United States and Hawaii. The results determined that NEX customers save between three and 86 percent over well-known civilian retailers.

To determine the percentage of savings, the same items were surveyed from region to region and included items such as major appliances, consumer electronics, furniture, clothing, house wares and sporting goods. The different stores shopped comparatively were categorized as discount stores, mass merchants, full-line department stores and category-killer stores.

According to the annual survey, in each of the 36 departments shopped during the survey throughout comparative civilian retail outlets, the Navy Exchanges clearly provided a better level of savings to its customers. In the video games and computer software departments, customers saved an average of 87 percent; in domestics, an average savings of 50 percent; boys clothing, 42 percent; in girls clothing, an

average of 29 percent; house wares, 27 percent savings; cosmetics, nearly 21 percent in savings; and in major appliances, an average of six percent.

"Our mantra has always been 'to take care of our Sailors and families by offering quality merchandise at a savings and providing the best customer service ... especially during these tough economic times,'" said Paquette. "It's just the right thing to do and the reason NEXs exist. It's great knowing that we're delivering on what we work so hard to provide for our customers."

Retail Data's detailed survey also classified savings based on which region of the country customers live. For instance, customers in Pearl Harbor saved 29.68 percent; customers in Bethesda, Md., saved 27 percent; in San Diego a 26.22 percent savings; Everett, Wash., 26 percent savings; Jacksonville, Fla., 25.83 percent savings; in Pensacola, Fla., a savings of 25.66 percent; Great Lakes, Ill., 25.04 percent; and customers in Norfolk, Va., saved 23.55 percent.

A word of thanks...

Dear Captain Hall,

I am a life time resident of Bremerton and live across the street from the Manette Playfield, a city park. The park's budget is tight this year and some of the maintenance at the park has had to wait. This morning I was awoken to the noise of many young people descending on the park. When I looked out the window I saw that they were painting and re-roofing the bathrooms. I

wandered over to say 'hi' and met Chief Hawkins who told me that he, Chief Diega, and the "select crew" from the USS Abraham Lincoln were doing several community projects around town today.

I wanted to write and thank you and your crew for the many services you provide our country, not least of which is fixing up the park. I am proud to live in a Navy town and with such great neighbors. The young men and women I met today are a credit to your crew and our country. I hope that you will pass my gratitude and good wishes to these fine people.

Thank you!
Robin Henderson



Around the Navy

Navy Carriers project US power around the globe

BY REAR ADMIRAL JAMES SYMONDS
COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NW

Special to the Penny Press

It's become common knowledge that whenever a world crisis happens, the first question our national leadership asks is "Where are the carriers?" Since tipping the balance of power in World War II, the U.S. Navy's aircraft carriers have proven themselves, in war and peace to be our nation's pre-eminent power projection platforms. We mostly think of carriers in their combat roles... turning the tide of war at Midway, holding back the onslaught in Korea, and firing the first shots against Taliban targets in the global War on terror.

When force is needed, nothing takes the place of a carrier. These ships, however, have also proved their worth in "showing the Flag" like no other. In the Taiwan Straights, the Mediterranean, the North Pacific, the presence of a U.S. carrier sends a message to friend and foe alike that our country is interested, engaged and ready.

The carrier force provides the unique ability to overcome political and geographic barriers to project power ashore without infringing on a nation's sovereignty. Carriers and their embarked air wings respond to threats including piracy, terrorism, weapons proliferation, drug trafficking, and other illicit activities. They've also had tremendous success in humanitarian assistance and disaster response. Countering threats and helping allies far from our nation's shores protects the American homeland enhances global stability and secures freedom of navigation for all nations.

Today our carriers are busy around the world routinely carrying out all missions of the Maritime Strategy. While deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, aircraft from Carrier Air Wing 8, the striking arm of USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) expended more than 61,000 pounds of precision guided ordnance to support "Troops in Contact."

In the wake of Typhoon Fengshen, which hit the Philippines in June 2008, the Navy quickly provided a carrier strike group to assist the Armed Forces of the Philippines in humanitarian relief efforts on Panay Island.

USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) was on station off Doilo, Philippines, within 36 hours of tasking. During eight days of continuous flying, Reagan's aircraft delivered 519,000 lbs of supplies, such as rice and water.

Our Region is fortunate to have USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) and USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) homeported at Naval Station Everett and Naval Base

Kitsap, respectively. Stennis returned to Bremerton in July after completing a six-month deployment to the western Pacific. It marked the first time the Navy's next-generation, multi-mission helicopters. The MH-60S and MH-60R, were integrated into the carrier strike group, providing a new strategic maritime security capability to warfare commanders.

"Where are the carriers?" Right now, these multi-purpose platforms are everywhere...in the Indian Ocean, the North Pacific the Persian Gulf, and right here in Navy Region Northwest, able to project power and provide sustained presence for whatever mission our country requires.

BRAVO ZULU TO THE FOLLOWING LINCOLN SAILORS WHO COMPLETED COLLEGE COURSES THIS SEMESTER:

ABEAA AOKI
PS3 AGYEMANG
PS1 AUSTIN
PSSN BADAWAY
PSSN BAILEY
QM2 CAHAIL
ABE2 CASTRO
SH3 COATS
QM3 DEGRAW
YNCS DOHERTY
AO3 FEARON'
AS1 FRIEDMAN
DC3 FRYE
SK2 GHOLSON
AE1 HANGSTROM
ABH2 HENRICKSON
PSSN HAJOS
PSSN HOWELL

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
20 <i>Lake Chelan Tour</i> <i>NFL Sunday Football</i>	21 <i>Job Search Strategies</i>	22 <i>Effective Communication</i> <i>Anger Management</i>	23 <i>Damage Control for Relationships: Fighting Fair</i>	24 <i>7th Annual Oktoberfest</i> <i>IA Family Event: Operation Prepare</i> <i>Patio Party</i>	25 <i>Intro to Sea Kayaking</i> <i>SAC Parent's Night Out</i> <i>Teen Late Nights</i> <i>Ombudsman Appreciation Dinner</i>	26 <i>Intro to Sea Kayaking</i> <i>Swing Dance Lesson</i> <i>NCAA Game Day</i> <i>Autumn Leaf Festival</i> <i>Stepping Up: Budgeting Now to Save for Later</i>
27 <i>NFL Sunday Football</i>	28 <i>Women's Volleyball League Begins</i> <i>Oktoberfest Flag Football Tourney Registration Deadline</i> <i>Resume Writing</i>	29 <i>Ombudsman Basic Training</i> <i>Conflict Management</i> <i>Operation Prepare Fair</i>	30 <i>Ombudsman Basic Training</i> <i>Damage Control for Relationships: Intimacy 101</i>	Special Event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In support of September as "National Preparedness Month", FFSC encourages everyone to get on board with Operation Prepare. Participate in the Race to Prepare game which will run all month long, culminating in a finish-line event - Operation Prepare Fair at noon on Tuesday, September 29. Chance to win great prizes for participating. 360-396-4115 <p>Visit us online at: www.navylifepnw.com</p>		

SEPTEMBER 2009

Naval Station Everett Fleet & Family Readiness Program

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
20	21 <i>Paintball Monday</i>	22 <i>Sponsor Training</i> <i>Relocating in an Emergency</i> <i>It's Fun to Learn! Science is Cool</i> <i>Tournament Tuesday: Call of Duty</i>	23 <i>Movie at Pierside</i> <i>National Hispanic Heritage Celebration</i>	24 <i>Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) and Careers</i> <i>Post 9/11 GI Bill</i> <i>Start Smart Football</i> <i>Whirleyball</i>	25 <i>Advanced Ombudsman Training: Operation Prepare</i>	26
27	28 <i>Retirement TAP</i> <i>Salvation Army Volunteer</i>	29 <i>Retirement TAP</i> <i>It's Fun to Learn! Science is Cool</i> <i>Tournament Tuesday: Wii</i>	30 <i>Retirement TAP</i> <i>Movie at Pierside</i> <i>Spouse Appreciation Dinner</i>	Special Event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's Fun to Learn! Science is Cool, September 8, 15, 22, 29, Smokey Point FFSC POW/MIA Remembrance Run, September 9 Spouse Appreciation Dinner, September 30, The All American <p>Visit us online at: www.navylifepnw.com</p>		

Final Thoughts

Editor's Top 10

Top 10 reasons to be thankful for football season:

10. It's better than baseball. Much better.
9. Makes a good excuse for sitting around all day Saturday and Sunday.
8. Cheerleaders & halftime shows
7. The antics of T.O., Ocho Cinco, and others.
6. Watching the Huskies play (and not having to wear a bag on your head).
5. Fantasy Leagues allow the overweight and uncoordinated a little taste of glory.
4. The drama and pageantry of the Superbowl.
3. Tailgating.
2. There's always something to argue about with your co-workers.
1. There are no other real sports between January and September.



Shipmates

The strength of a warship lies in the hearts and hands of its crew.



Photo by MC3 Brandon Wilson

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Christopher J. Lynce from Lincoln's Health Services Department, receives a commission as an ensign through the Chaplain Candidate Program, Tues at Naval Station Bremerton, Wash.

Lynce will next report to the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he'll earn a Master's Degree in Divinity. "This has been a long time coming," said Lynce. "I've been working toward this for two years now. I feel great that I set this a goal and got it accomplished."

Lynce had some words of wisdom for Sailors interested in changing their path. "Never give up," said Lynce. "Keep pushing, stay prayerful and see it through to the end."

Job Fair

Human Resources Service Center, Northwest is hosting a veteran's job fair Saturday, Sept. 26, from 10a.m. to 2p.m. at Jackson Park Community Center, 90 Olding Road, Bremerton. Admission to the fair is free. Applicants should be prepared to fill out job applications on site.

Call Arlene Monzon @ 315-8146
 arlene.monzon@navy.mil