

Currents

Please post or route

March 10 - 21, 2003

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 11

Averett University's informational session/registration B 500/2 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

March 12

Norfolk Admirals vs. Hershey Bears 7:15 p.m. Norfolk Admirals special discount for shipyard employees. Show company ID at the Norfolk Scope box office or Ticketmaster outlet and get \$2 off all seats

March 16

Peninsula Fine Arts Center Community Days Admission: Free The center celebrates Native American culture 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. "Where Have We Been and Where are We Going?"

March 18

St. Leo University's spring II registration B500/2 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

March 19

Learning Resource Center Open House B 500/2 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Currents is a weekly publication for employees of

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☛ Employees honored for customer satisfaction

Jim Tarrant, senior engineering analyst technician in E67, and Leora Patterson, X31 foreman, recently earned from Commander, Naval Air Forces Atlantic (COMNAVAIRLANT) the honor of being recognized as "Honorary United States Navy Air Traffic Controllers." This award goes to individuals who are not Air Traffic Controllers, but have made a significant contribution to the well being and goals of this community. Tarrant and Patterson are among a very few who earned this distinction for air traffic control on aircraft carriers. They received their awards at a ceremony on the carrier *Ronald Reagan* late last month. Patterson earned this honor as a longtime supervisor of Carrier Air Traffic Control Center who works tirelessly to provide the Navy with an excellent product. Her employees are responsible for installing and wiring virtually every electronic component in these compartments. She listens to the customer and goes the extra mile to ensure an extraordinary job is performed in installing the systems. Tarrant has worked with Navy Air Traffic Controllers who work in the Carrier Air Traffic Control Center on every carrier built or overhauled at the shipyard since 1987. His primary job has been as a technician responsible for testing and maintaining the Air Traffic Control and Air Traffic Control Communication systems. He says he's gained knowledge that has allowed him to provide training and understanding to the Navy controllers regarding the overall functions of the systems. "The shipyard environment can be very chaotic for even experienced Navy personnel," Tarrant says. "I have tried to go the extra mile for our customer pointing out areas of concern that they may not have considered. By doing this, I have gained their trust. They are comfortable that they are getting the best possible product and will understand how it functions." Customer Satisfaction is one of the Northrop Grumman Newport News values. To view the values, go to the Yardnet home page.

Below left to right: Jim Tarrant, (E67) Master Chief Domingo Gonzales, (COMNAVAIRLANT Force Air Traffic Control, Sea), and Leora Patterson (X31)



☛ Apprentice School banquet

The 71st Apprentice School Alumni Association banquet will be held at 6 p.m. on March 28 at the Hampton Radisson Hotel. The 50-year graduating class of 1953 will be honored at this year's event. Tickets may be purchased from department alumni representatives or through the Apprentice School by contacting Judy Hester at 8-2512.



☛ Reminder: President's Model of Excellence

The deadline for submitting nominations for the President's Model of Excellence is just two months away - March 17, 2003. Submit any exemplary work in the following categories: Leadership, Project Management, Customer Satisfaction, Cost/Quality/Schedule, Innovation and Creativity, or Environmental Health & Safety. To submit the exemplary work, use nomination forms that can be found in the Model of Excellence brochures or Best Practices Guidebooks. Please call Dianne Spears at 0-4351 with any questions.

Currents continued

✦ Gary Lisota promoted to president of AMSEC LLC

Gary Lisota (*right*) has been promoted to president and chief operating officer of AMSEC LLC following the recent approval by the AMSEC Board of Directors. Carl M. Albero will continue as the chief executive officer, chairman of the board of directors and SAIC sector vice president. Lisota has been with AMSEC since its inception and has progressed through the organization serving as director of corporate marketing to most recently, chief operating officer before becoming president. Albero will concentrate on acquisitions, strategic planning, and interfacing with internal and external clients. AMSEC LLC is a partnership between San Diego-based Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) and Northrop Grumman Newport News. AMSEC LLC is a full service supplier to the commercial and Navy maritime industry, providing such services as naval architecture and marine engineering, combat and electronic systems engineering, and naval ship systems assessments. SAIC is the nation's largest employee-owned research and engineering company, providing information technology, systems integration and eSolutions to commercial and government customers.



✦ Work complete on the *Infinity*

X18 Welder Thomas C. Everett sent a harmless cascade of sparks onto the port propeller of the Celebrity Cruises Inc. ship *Infinity*, which arrived at Northrop Grumman Newport News on February 13 and departed March 6. Everett was arcing off lifting pads that had been used during the repair of the ship's main propulsion motors, called

Mermaids. The repair involved removing the 90-ton electric rotors from both of the Mermaid propulsion units. Northrop Grumman Newport News work included disassembly and overhaul of the Mermaids, changing the vessel's paint scheme from blue to white, modifications to fire doors and the hotel steam system and fuel system.



✦ USS *Minneapolis-St. Paul* commanding officer to speak at a Propeller Club meeting

CDR David Ratte, commanding officer of the *USS Minneapolis-St. Paul*, will speak at a March 19 Propeller Club, Port of Newport News meeting and discuss the role of the submarine he commands. The *USS Minneapolis-St. Paul*, a *Los Angeles-class* fast attack submarine, is undergoing dry-docking work at Northrop Grumman Newport News that includes replacement of the tail shaft; inspection and repair of all external and internal tanks; and removal and overhaul of the main and auxiliary sea valves among other work. The Propeller Club, Port of Newport News includes many Northrop Grumman Newport News employees, as well as local business members who work in the maritime industry. The club supports the maritime industry and the American Merchant Marines. The meeting social period begins at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7:15 p.m. The price is \$20. For reservations, call Chris Doherty at 380-7410 or by email at doherty_ca@nns.com by March 17.

✦ Apprentice School women's basketball team advanced to championship game

For the third straight year, the Apprentice School women's basketball team advanced to the championship game with a 73-66 victory over Robert Morris-Springfield College on Friday. The team played in the championship game Saturday against Mount Aloysius College, losing 67-64. "This was an incredible basketball game and I couldn't be any prouder of my girls," Apprentice School Coach Judi Overbey said. "If we had to go down, we went down with a fight." Making the All-Tournament team from the Apprentice School were Anita Allen and Victoria Lancaster.

✦ This is the week to start winning \$1000 Visa Gift Card with OFI idea

Got an idea? Will it prevent waste, improve a process, or reduce cost? If so, we want to hear about it, and for each suggestion you submit March 11 - March 29 you will earn one drawing entry to win a \$1000 Visa Gift Card. The winner will receive the card at the end of the month. The first 1,000 participants submitting a valid OFI in 2003 will receive a **FREE embroidered baseball hat** whether your idea is approved or disapproved. For more information, go to the OFI website on Yardnet or contact Yasmine Robinson at 380-2428.