

CURRENTS

Please post or route

February 23 – February 27, 2004

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 26

Bloodmobile
Building 103

7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Appointments: Call 8-9191,
select option 9.

Questions: Call 0-3011.

March 3

Strayer University
representatives will visit the
shipyard to advise and
register students for the next
semester, which starts
March 29.

Building 500/2 (Training
Conference Room)
2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

March 16

St. Leo University will visit
the shipyard to advise and
register students for the
spring semester that
starts March 29.

Building 500/2 (Training
Conference Room)
2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

March 22

The Florida Institute of
Technology will visit the
shipyard to advise and
register students for the
summer semester that starts
April 26.

Building 500/2 (Training
Conference Room)
2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

*Currents is a weekly
publication for employees
of*

NORTHROP GRUMMAN
Newport News

Please send information for
Currents to
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Dept. O29; B520/1
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☛ **Bobo arrives**

The Motor Vessel 2nd Lt. John P. Bobo arrived at Northrop Grumman Newport News the morning of February 17 for various repair work, which will include repair to the ship's cranes, cargo hold hatch covers and overhaul rudder steering engine. Work will also include underwater hull and freeboard steel replacement, cargo tank

cleaning, and deckhouse, freeboard and underwater hull painting. The ship arrived at Dry Dock 2 in the midst of snow flurries. Work is scheduled to be completed and the ship is scheduled to undock in mid March. The ship's namesake posthumously earned a Medal of Honor for his service in Vietnam.



Photo by Chris Oxley

☛ **Employees on winning EH&S Task Teams highlighted in local paper**



Northrop Grumman Newport News will highlight winning Environmental, Health and Safety Task Teams in upcoming editions of the Daily Press. Be on the lookout for eight different advertisements. They will run on the following dates: Feb. 25, Feb. 27, March 1, March 3, March 5, March 8, March 10, and March 12. The first feature will focus on the O43 First Shift Task Team, which earned the Best Communication Project. The group created a presentation and articles about reducing injuries, particularly eye injuries. They reminded coworkers of safe work habits. The team is pictured above. Sitting from left to right are **James R. Ozmer Jr., Gary M. Wilson, Clarice S. Diggs, Brian Bruce, Frankie Holliman, Horace C. Brown.** Standing from left are **Joe Dvorak, Monroe Craddock, Michael L. Williams, Glenn Wade, Dwayne Banks.** Not Pictured: **James C. Baines, Hugh D. Byrd Sr., Timothy R. Hood, Constance A. Pellum, Reginald L. Perry, Duane D. Smith, Donald L. Smith Jr., Jayston E. Stamper.**

☛ **Employee elected president of local Society for Protective Coatings**

X51 Production Engineer **Charlie Ayres** has been elected to a one-year term as president of Hampton Roads Chapter of The Society for Protective Coatings (SSPC). Founded in 1950, SSPC has 25 local chapters in the United States and Canada. The headquarters are located in Pittsburgh. The organization's purpose is to advance the technology and promote the use of protective coatings to preserve industrial, marine and commercial structures, components and substrates. It is the only non-profit association that is focused on the protection and preservation of concrete, steel and other industrial and marine structures and surfaces through the use of high-performance industrial coatings. SSPC is the leading source of information on surface preparation, coating selection, coating application, environmental regulations, and health and safety issues that affect the protective coatings industry.

CURRENTS continued

❖ 2004 holidays and annual leave holiday shutdown schedule

Both the 2004 holidays and the holiday shutdown schedule are listed below for planning purposes. For salaried employees, 16 additional hours of annual leave will be required for December 28 and 29. Those hours will be reserved and deducted from each salaried employee's leave time balance. This will be reflected on the pay stub received on March 10, 2004. Eight hours were already reserved and used for January 2.

2004 Holidays

January 1	New Year's Day
May 31	Memorial Day
July 5	Independence Day
September 6	Labor Day
November 25	Thanksgiving Day
November 26	Day after Thanksgiving
December 23	Christmas Eve (observed)
December 24	Christmas Day (observed)
December 27	Floater Holiday
December 30	New Year's Eve (observed)

Annual Leave Holiday Shutdown

December 22	Last Day of Work
December 23	Christmas Eve (observed)
December 24	Christmas Day (observed)
December 27	Floater Holiday
December 28	Annual Leave
December 29	Annual Leave
December 30	New Year's Eve (observed)
December 31	New Year's Day (observed)
January 3, 2005	Return to Work

❖ Northrop Grumman Newport News sponsors Womengineers Day

Northrop Grumman Newport News is one of the sponsors of the March 6 Womengineers Day, which will be held on the campus of Old Dominion University. The event, which is free and open to the public, is geared toward encouraging high school girls to pursue careers in math and science. Some Northrop Grumman Newport News employees will volunteer their time to participate in the event, including members of the New Hire Community of Practice. The New Hire Community of Practice was launched in the summer to give entry level employees a chance to meet new people and learn about the community. Some members of this shipyard program will lead a hands-on activity, entitled "Test Your Shipbuilding Skills." Students who join in this activity at Womengineers will be divided into teams and asked to construct a ship from raw materials. While they are working, they will receive a brief lesson on buoyancy and the center of gravity, and their effects on ship design. Once construction is complete, the teams will test their ships to determine how much weight they can carry. The most weight wins. The New Hire Community of Practice members who will be volunteering are **Bettina Agnor, Julia Groff, Donnelle Bever, Josh Sterling, Alicia D'Aurora, Elizabeth Spillane, and Ben Partlow**. For more details about the event and to register students, go to <http://www.odu.edu/engr/womengineers/>.

❖ Learning Resource Center open house

The Learning Resource Center will hold an Open House March 10 in building 500 on the second floor from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and a door prize will be awarded. For more information, call 380-7991, 380-2149, or 688-7246.

❖ Apprentice School basketball news

Apprentice School women's basketball senior Anita Allen (*pictured right*) became the first player, male or female, in the modern era to have 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds for her career as she hauled in 15 rebounds in a 76-69 loss on February 18 to Virginia Wesleyan. She finished her career with 1,245 points (third all-time for the women), 1,025 rebounds (first all-time) and 307 steals (first all-time). In other news, the men's basketball team earned a bid to the United States Collegiate Athletic Association National Championships to be held March 2-6 in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. They will be the top seed in the 11-team tournament and will start playing on March 4.



CURRENTS continued

☛ Midway Magic

Employees at Continental Maritime of San Diego, a subsidiary of Northrop Grumman Newport News, have recently described feeling proud to have been a part of the historic event to prepare the *USS Midway* as the centerpiece for the nation's biggest museum devoted to carriers and naval aviation. The San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum obtained possession of the Aircraft Carrier *USS Midway* (CVA-41) from the Navy secretary in August 2003. This marked the culmination of a 12-year campaign to bring *Midway*, a Newport News built carrier, to San Diego for outfitting. In early November 2003, the museum asked all shipyards in San Diego for support to repair and restore three brow platforms and two brows they had obtained. Continental Maritime was the only shipyard to respond to this request. Continental Maritime's Structural, Coating, and Rigging departments spent many hours of labor doing this work. Meanwhile, the ship's hull was being painted in Oakland, Calif.



On January 5, 2004, tugs pulled the 67,500-ton decommissioned warship to Naval Air Station North Island. Restored vintage aircraft were taken on board January 8, 2004, and then the restored brows and brow platforms were transported across the bay on a Continental Maritime barge for the arrival of *Midway* at Navy Pier Downtown. As a thank you to Continental Maritime for its contributions and efforts, Dick Beavers, Gene Heldenbrand, and Paul Trussler (*pictured above*) were invited to board *Midway* for her final voyage across the bay on January 10, 2004. This was a "sentimental journey" for Beavers, as *Midway* was the first ship he served on as a young sailor during his Naval career. A crowd lined the waterfront at the Navy Pier to welcome *Midway* when the ship arrived. *Midway* will officially be open to the public in the spring 2004. Guided tours will include a visit to the hanger bays, flight deck, and bridge along with various exhibits, flight simulators, etc.

☛ Win a free \$1,000 Visa Gift Card

Employees can win a \$1,000 Visa gift card for submitting valid OFIs written during the promotional period of March 11 through March 29. On April 15, one name will be drawn from the pool of employees who submit valid OFIs. Whether an idea is approved or disapproved, employees can still qualify for the gift card. There are also many other awards for valid OFIs, including the new \$20 Olive Garden/Red Lobster dinner certificate. Employees can view the promotional cards at the home page of Yardnet.

WIN A FREE \$1,000 VISA GIFT CARD

March 11th - March 29th

On April 15th one name will be drawn from the pool of employees submitting valid OFI's written during the promotional period. The winner will be awarded a \$1,000 VISA GIFT CARD.

No Hassles! It looks like a standard VISA Card, and works like a gift certificate. Ideal for Shopping.

Whether or not your idea is approved or disapproved, you still qualify!

This offer applies only to OFIs written during the time period of March 11th through March 29th, 2004.

For more information call your OFI Coordinator or Yasmine Robinson at 380-2428, Bldg. 70/2



NORTHROP GRUMMAN
Newport News

Participation Has Its Rewards

Level 1 Award Options

- \$20 Olive Garden/Red Lobster Dinner Certificate
- \$20 Outback Steakhouse Dinner Certificate
- \$20 Ruby Tuesday Gift Certificate
- Leeds Leather Paddles
- Seasonal Denim Shirt
- 2 AMC Movie Passes

Opportunity for Improvement

For more information on Northrop Grumman's OFI Program, visit our web site on Yardnet, email or call Yasmine Robinson (930) 380-2428.

*Award are subject to change without notice.



Currents continued

What's New at Northrop Grumman?

Northrop Grumman Newport News is one of seven sectors of the Northrop Grumman Corporation. Currents periodically provides a look at some of the recent top news at the other Northrop Grumman sectors.

✿ **Electronic Systems**

Northrop Grumman to Adapt DIRCM Systems

The Defensive Systems Division was selected by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to participate in the next phase of the department's aggressive program to develop and test anti-missile systems designed to protect commercial aircraft. Northrop Grumman will adapt its proven Directional Infrared Countermeasure (DIRCM) systems for commercial aircraft application. The anti-missile devices are currently deployed on a variety of U.S. and U.K. military aircraft operating worldwide, including C-17 and C-130 military transports.

✿ **Information Technology**

IT to Implement Homeland Security Project

Information Technology will direct the installation and implementation of the Delaware Electronic Reporting Surveillance System (DERSS), which will establish a communications system to help safeguard citizens' health and welfare during a communicable disease outbreak or other public health threat, cutting reporting time from potentially 14 days to 24 hours. DERSS will enable the IT sector to offer resources and experience in public health emergency preparedness and response at the state, local and federal levels to speed the reporting of health threats and communicable diseases.

✿ **Mission Systems**

Tracking System Earns Award for Innovation

A Mission Systems-developed system that produced a wireless "tactical Internet" on the battlefield during Operation Iraqi Freedom has been selected as the "Most Innovative U.S. Government Program" by the Institute for Defense & Government Advancement. The system, called Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below Blue Force Tracking, bested six contenders to win the award, which was one of four presented in January at the Institute's Network Centric Warfare 2004 conference in Washington, D.C.

✿ **Integrated Systems**

Sector Celebrates Restart of EA-6B Production

Integrated Systems celebrated the restart of the EA-6B Prowler outer wing panel production line at Airborne Early Warning & Electronic Warfare Systems' St. Augustine Manufacturing Center in December. Work on this production line has not been performed by Northrop Grumman for 15 years. The sector now expects to produce 54 shipsets of the outer wing panels, thanks to a culmination of efforts between the U.S. Navy and Northrop Grumman.

✿ **Ship Systems**

Ship Systems Christens New Aegis Destroyer

More than 1,000 guests attended the christening of the Aegis guided missile destroyer *Halsey* (DDG 97) in Pascagoula, Miss., on Jan. 17. Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour, who spoke at the event, called the Ingalls Operations the "shipyard of the future" and thanked the employees for "what you do for our state and most of all, what you do for our country." The ship honors Fleet Adm. William Frederick "Bul" Halsey Jr., a World War I and World War II Naval hero who was present when Japan formally surrendered on the deck of his ship, USS Missouri (BB 63), in 1945.

✿ **Space Technology**

Sector to Work on TCM Contract Award

The U.S. Air Force has awarded a Lockheed Martin/ Northrop Grumman team a contract valued at approximately \$472 million to enter the Risk Reduction and System Definition phase of its Transformational Communications MILSATCOM (TCM) Space Segment. The system will support the future battlefield by eliminating bandwidth as an operating constraint, providing networked access to TCM users such as mobile forces and unmanned aerial vehicles. During this phase, Space Technology will perform end-to-end communication systems engineering and payload system definition and demonstrate the maturity of key transformational payload technologies.