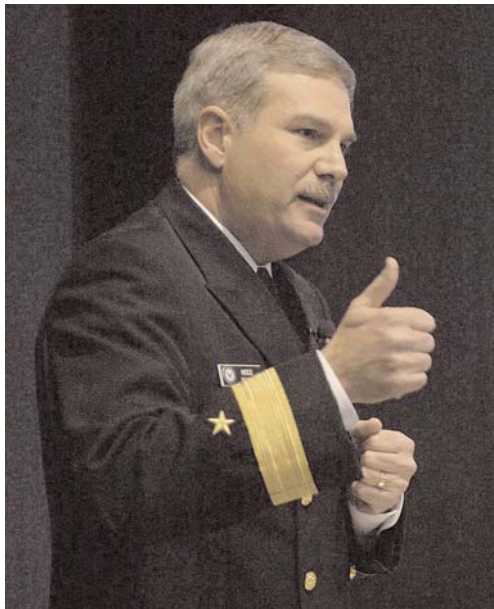


A weekly publication of Northrop Grumman's Newport News sector

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

 *Our Values: "We Regard Our Suppliers As Essential Team Members."*

Newport News Hosts Submarine Suppliers Conference



Rear Adm. Mike Klein, the U.S. Navy's deputy director of submarine warfare, talks about the current and future needs of the sub force at the Virginia State Submarine Suppliers Conference. Photos by Chris Oxley

Nearly 100 suppliers participated in Newport News' Virginia State Submarine Suppliers Conference on Feb. 28.

Speakers included Sector President **Mike Petters**; **Becky Stewart**, vice president, Submarine Program; Rear Adm. Mike Klein; and U.S. Reps. Jo Ann Davis and Thelma Drake.

Petters, Stewart and Klein thanked the suppliers for their contributions to the Virginia-Class Submarine (VCS) Program, calling it "the most efficient Navy shipbuilding program ever." They said their goal is to increase production from one sub per year to two.

"Our intent here is to make sure our positions are well understood," Petters said. Davis and Drake, who serve on the House Committee on Armed Services, said they are fighting for VCS funds. "It simply does not make sense to reduce the number of submarines being constructed," Drake said.

Sub Program Meets Deadlines

Newport News' Submarine Program met two major milestones in February: the Auxiliary Machine Room (AMR) for *North Carolina* (SSN 777) left via sea shuttle for delivery to General Dynamics Electric Boat on Feb. 15, and Module 1/2, the bow section of *Hawaii* (SSN 776), left on Feb. 26.



Stewart

"We're committed to meeting schedule and budget expectations, so this is a significant achievement," said **Becky Stewart**, vice president, Submarine Program. "This is a real milestone for us."

Bob Meyer, manager of Virginia-class construction, added, "To be able to nail down a date and meet it requires a real team effort. Everyone really pulled through."

Bartschi and Hunley Promoted To Vice President

Newport News Sector President **Mike Petters** announced on Feb. 28 the promotions of **Rolf Bartschi** to sector vice president and chief nuclear engineer, Waterfront Nuclear Engineering and Test, and **Danny Hunley** to sector vice president, Trades, Education and Training.

Bartschi joined Newport News in 1981 as a test engineer in the fast attack submarine new construction program. He has held a number of positions during his career, including engineering manager of nuclear test for submarine new construction, nuclear construction superintendent of new construction carriers and director of nuclear services and testing. He most recently served as director of waterfront



Bartschi



Hunley

nuclear engineering and test and chief nuclear engineer.

"Rolf is responsible for nuclear engineering services and test engineering programs," Petters wrote in a memo to employees. "He brings experience, expertise and leadership to the nuclear aspects of our business, a critical component in satisfying our U.S. Navy customer."

Hunley began his career at Newport News in 1974 as a welder. He is a graduate of the Apprentice School and most recently served as director for trades, education and training.

"Danny is responsible for the sector's Apprentice School, instructional design, and production and maintenance training," Petters wrote. "His leadership of our more than 7,500

trades employees and their training is an important part of our business focus today and for the future. We must continue our tradition of providing a highly-skilled workforce to build our nation's submarines and carriers, and Danny will be instrumental to our success in this endeavor."

Datebook

- ✓ **March 2:** The Apprentice School baseball team will play at Washington and Lee University at 3 p.m.
- ✓ **March 4:** The Apprentice School baseball team will host College of Staten Island at 2 p.m.
- ✓ **March 5:** The Apprentice School baseball team will host College of Staten Island at 1 p.m.
- ✓ **March 6:** The Apprentice School baseball team will host College of Staten Island at noon.
- ✓ **March 6:** The Mariners' Museum will host a keel-laying ceremony for the *USS Monitor* replica at 3 p.m. Newport News employees and their families are invited and will receive free admission to the museum.
- ✓ **March 11:** The deadline to apply for the spring session of Night School. Classes will run from April 4 to June 11.
- ✓ **March 11:** The Apprentice School baseball team will host a double-header against Castleton State College at 1 p.m.
- ✓ **March 12:** The Apprentice School baseball team will host a double-header against Castleton State College at 1 p.m.

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Currents is published weekly for employees of Northrop Grumman's Newport News sector. The deadline for submission is noon Friday for publication the following week. Submissions and comments should be sent to: jim.roberts@ngc.com.

Anchor Hardison Retires After 46 Years Of Service



Hardison

Bob Hardison, director, Quality and Technical Services, retired from Newport News on Feb. 28 after more than 46 years of service.

Hardison joined Newport News Shipbuilding in 1958 as an apprentice. After completing college, he rejoined in 1967 as an engineer.

"His leadership in Quality and Technical Services has been critical to the success of Northrop Grumman Newport News," Sector President **Mike Petters** wrote in a memo to employees. "The quality of our products is something that distinguishes us from any other shipbuilder in the world. For more than four decades, Bob has personally contributed to our commitment to quality and helped lay the foundation for our future."

"A Master Shipbuilder, he has been a part of many ships, some that will continue to sail the seas for generations to come. These ships are a testament to the quality of Northrop Grumman Newport News and to the best shipbuilders in the world. One of those shipbuilders is Bob Hardison."

Anchor McKercher Promoted To Director Of Facilities

Newport News announced on Feb. 25 the promotion of **David B. McKercher** to director of facilities and waterfront support. He is responsible for all shipyard facilities, plant engineering, plant maintenance, crane

Anchor February Yardlines Available

The February edition of *Yardlines* is now available at usual distribution points and at: http://yardnet/divisions/o29_new/YARDLINES/YL0205.pdf. It includes a story about the 2005 Business Forum and an interview with Jennifer Boykin, vice president, Process Excellence.



McKercher

engineering and waterfront support services. He will report to **John Shephard Jr.**, senior vice president, Operations.

"Dave's extensive experience in plant operations will help us continue to improve cost and efficiency across the waterfront," Shephard said. "He'll also be responsible for successfully executing the largest array of facility upgrades that we've undertaken in the shipyard in many years, including a new multi-purpose pier and CVN 21-related investments."

Anchor Gunter Accepts PEC Award

Bob Gunter (left), senior vice president of Aircraft Carriers at Newport News, accepts the Peninsula Engineers Council (PEC) Engineer of the Year Award at the group's annual banquet on Feb. 26. Gunter is pictured with (left to right) **John Lin**, PEC president; **Karen Poole**, chair of the Eastern Virginia Section of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; and **Jim Hughes**, chair of the local chapter of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers. Poole and Hughes are also Newport News employees. *Photo courtesy of the PEC*



City Of Newport News Announces Street Improvements

The City of Newport News announced on Feb. 24 that street improvements will take place in March and April on 45th, 46th, 47th and 48th streets between Washington Avenue and Huntington Avenue and on 45th and 47th street between Huntington Avenue and Warwick Boulevard. New traffic patterns may be in effect until the work is completed.

Deadline For Internship Applications Is March 10

Newport News' Human Resources Operations & Employment Dept. (O20) is accepting applications for the 2005 Summer Intern Program. The program offers salaried jobs to college students from mid-May through August.

Preference is given to applicants who have education in engineering or business disciplines that could lead to full-time employment. Preference is also given to former interns, dependents of employees and candidates who will help build the diversity of the workforce.

For more information, visit: www.definingthefuture.com. Select "Internships" (at the top) and then "Newport News" (at the left). The application deadline is March 10.

Volunteers' Input Wanted For 'Community Report'

Newport News' Community Relations (O18) and Communications (O29) departments are seeking employee input for the "2004 Report to the Community." Employees who participated in volunteer activities in 2004 are encouraged to submit stories and photos. Send submissions to: jim.roberts@ngc.com.

Apprentice Basketball Teams End Season With Wins

The Apprentice School basketball teams both ended the season with wins. The men's team routed rival Southern Virginia University, 100-56, and the women's team beat Meredith College, 66-58.

The men's team ended the season with a 6-19 record. Senior **Charles Holiday** led the team in scoring with 21.8 points per game and set school records for points scored (541), scoring average (21.8) and free throw percentage (85.3).

Senior **Curtis Pender** ended his career with modern era school records for free



The Apprentice School's basketball teams finished the season 6-19 (men) and 10-14 (women).

throws made (126) and attempted (154), and freshman **Michael Dunston** set modern era records for three-pointers made (55) and attempted (184).

The women's team, which included 10



newcomers, won five of its last seven games and ended with a 10-14 record. Sophomore **Whitney Lassiter** led the team in scoring with 10.6 points per game, and sophomore **Brandi Coffey** led the team in rebounding, averaging 8.3 per game.



Monitor Keel Moves To Mariners' Museum

The 18-ton keel unit for the *USS Monitor* replica was transported from Newport News to the Mariners' Museum on Feb. 26. Newport News employees are invited to attend the keel-laying ceremony, which will take place at 3 p.m. March 6. Employees and their families will receive free admission to the museum the day of the ceremony. *Photo by Chris Oxley*

Discount Tickets Available For Globetrotters Performances

Newport News employees may purchase discount tickets for the Harlem Globetrotters' performances on March 4 and 5 at Old Dominion University's Ted Constant Convocation Center in Norfolk.

Employees will receive \$6 off \$23.50 tickets on March 4 and \$4 off \$23.50 tickets on March 5. A limited number of VIP seats are also available for \$32.50, but the employee discount does not apply. To order tickets, call 683-5000 or 683-6545 or e-mail: kgoldman@odu.edu.