



**Annual Advocacy Trip
Community Report**

*Norfolk, Virginia
22 February 2010*

*Washington, DC
23 – 26 February 2010*



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Continuing a Proud 64-Year Tradition

The Puget Sound Naval Bases Association (PSNBA) ensures that the Navy and Congress never forget that Kitsap County is where the Navy's past, present, and future were meant to be.

Lieutenant Ambrose B. Wyckoff, First Commandant of Puget Sound Naval Station (1891-1893) once said,

...During my years of service on Puget Sound, I became deeply impressed with its wonderful natural advantages, splendid geographic position, and abundant resources...it was at once apparent to a naval officer that this was the place for our principal naval establishment on the coast.

On December 6, 1945, the Bremerton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Bremerton Metal Trades Council committed to maintaining a liaison in Washington, D.C. to stay informed on Navy and congressional activities that affected the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

On April 19, 1946, the Metal Trades Council "Navy Yard League," the Chamber's "Naval Affairs Committee," and the Shipyard's civilian management established the Puget Sound Naval Bases Association, approved a set of bylaws, and a clear set of objectives.

64 years later, the objectives remain the same:

- PSNBA promotes your economic welfare—our work supports the civilian workforce, our sailors, their families, area businesses, and the local communities in Puget Sound
- PSNBA encourages and furthers mutual confidence between managers and employees working at the naval installations in Kitsap County
- PSNBA facilitates policy dialogue—we work to establish policies with positive benefits for our members and the naval installations they support. In this role, we interact with the proper authorities and senior Navy leaders.
- PSNBA assists our legislators—we help our congressional representatives with issues so they may effectively represent the needs of our members and the naval bases in the Puget Sound.

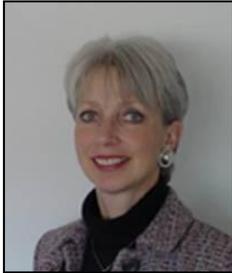
For 64 years, PSNBA has championed the Navy's future. Specifically we:

- Facilitated the arrival of nuclear work at PSNS&IMF, the Navy's key nuclear installation on the West Coast
- Advocated that Naval Base Kitsap (NBK) Bangor – a strong home for the Navy's fleet of Trident submarines – locate where the Bangor Ammunition Depot once stood
- Drove the evolution of a torpedo shop into the Naval Undersea Warfare Center at Keyport, which maintains the preeminence of naval technology
- Promoted the development of military housing at Jackson Park. The idea was conceived during a PSNBA delegation visit with Senator Henry M. Jackson.
- Supported the creation of a first class homeport at Bremerton, now home of the USS John C. Stennis
- Encouraged the Navy to homeport three Seawolf Class submarines at NBK – Bangor
- Endorsed Navy investments at local bases. Of the 24 Navy construction projects in FY 2011, 18 are at Bangor.
- Alerted Navy attention to childcare needs, resulting in a new facility at NBK.



PSNBA Delegation

Wendy Miles, PSNBA President



Wendy Miles is the Director of Military & Continuing Education at Olympic College where her programs support service members and family members achieve academic goals. Olympic College has been recognized as one of the top military friendly schools in the nation. She joined PSNBA in 2005 and served as a Vice President from 2006-2008.

Previously, Ms Miles established an award winning telecommuting program for Seattle based Holland America Cruise Line where she worked for 17 years. She later worked in the high tech industry in Seattle as a Senior Project Manager.

Ms. Miles has a bachelor's degree from Western Washington University and recently earned a Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership from Chapman University. She has served on the boards of the Kitsap Community Resources Capital Campaign, the Bremerton Symphony Association, and Mayor Bozeman's Economic Roundtable.

AnnaLee Todd, PSNBA Immediate Past President



Established in 1998 by AnnaLee Todd, EHT Enterprises, Inc. (EHT) is a Pacific-Northwest general contractor recognized for producing high-quality projects and satisfied clients. As a minority, HUBZone-certified, and woman owned business, EHT entered the SBA's 8(a) program in 2001 to expand their IDIQ and design/build expertise. They have continued to focus on general construction at federal facilities and successfully performed hundreds of projects for federal and commercial clients. Her company's project experience is diverse and encompasses new construction, renovation, demolition, alteration, repairs and design/build

projects.

As President of EHT, AnnaLee has orchestrated growth and diversification with continued focus on expanding EHT's client base. Beginning with a contract for the Navy at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, under AnnaLee's leadership, EHT now serves additional naval bases as well as the Army, Air Force, GSA, USPS, FAA and USACE. She has personally facilitated the expansion of EHT to include multiple Western and Northwestern states, including Alaska.

Currently serving as Immediate Past President of the Puget Sound Naval Base Association, AnnaLee recognizes and embraces her role as a dedicated, responsible citizen and community leader. In an effort to promote and support her neighbors, she is an active member of the Economic Development Council for Kitsap County, Society of American Military Engineers, the American Cancer Society, Kitsap County Home Builders Association, and is a Past President of the Bremerton Chamber of Commerce.



Chelsea Grace, PSNBA Vice President for Base Relations



Chelsea Grace joined PSNBA as the labor representative of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE) and serves on the Board as the Vice President for Base Relations.

Chelsea was hired to work as an Environmental Engineer in the Hazardous Waste Program at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PSNS & IMF) in 2006. She is now the Pollution Prevention Program Manager for PSNS & IMF.

Raised in Minnesota, she graduated from Watertown-Mayer High School in 2002 and obtained a Bachelor's of Science in Chemical & Biological Engineering from Montana State University-Bozeman in 2006. She lives in her 1918 home with her fiancé, Pete and dog, Harley, in Bremerton, Washington.

Jim Nall, PSNBA Director



Jim Nall has been the President and CEO of Paladin Data Systems Corporation since co-founding the company in 1994. Paladin is an award winning software development company that provides custom services for both the government and commercial sectors. Paladin has earned many industry awards and was recently awarded the "Top 5 Department of Defense (DoD) Software Program Award" by the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) for its ASMIII product. The Advanced Skills Management (ASM III) system is a personnel development tool created to support the mission of the military by improving the capability of our deployed forces and managing readiness of military personnel.

Mr. Nall is a consistent proponent of local activism within Washington State and spearheaded the development of Paladin's EKO-System (Environmental Knowledge Organizer) product, designed specifically for the Natural Resource industry to manage conservation projects.

Prior to Paladin, Mr. Nall worked in the US Navy fleet ballistic missile (FBM) program with Lockheed Martin for 15 years. Mr. Nall served as Project Leader and Senior Systems Architect of three mission critical FBM projects. Mr. Nall has served the Puget Sound Naval Bases Association as a Past President and board member at large.

Born in Wenatchee and raised near Seabeck, WA, Mr. Nall received his AS degree from Georgia Military College and his BA from Valdosta State University. Mr. Nall currently resides on Bainbridge Island with his wife Carolyn. He has three grown children and 2 ½ grandchildren.

Guy Stitt, PSNBA Ambassador



Guy Stitt is the founder and President of AMI International, an open source naval intelligence and consulting firm (www.amiinter.com). Mr. Stitt's 32 year background in the naval market includes five years as a Torpedoman aboard a diesel electric submarine, four years in various production, engineering, contract, and management positions with a large shipyard involved in naval frigate (FFG- & Class Frigates) new construction and surface combatant overhauls, and 23 years as an advisor to navies, governments and industry in naval industrial and program issues.

Mr. Stitt is recognized as a naval shipbuilding expert and has served as an advisor to nine Governments in their naval shipbuilding industrial policies and seven navies in their acquisition processes in the last eight years. Further, Mr. Stitt has



personally consulted for 41 shipyards and 62 System and Equipment manufacturers worldwide in guiding their participation in the international naval marketplace over the last two decades. Mr. Stitt developed and published the World's first assessment of worldwide naval construction projects both current and projected - Worldwide Naval Projections Report (WNPR). This publication has been continuously maintained and updated since 1992 and now reflects some US\$600 Billion in detailed naval market forecasts used worldwide in 70 different countries.

Mr. Stitt is a life member of the U.S. Navy League, U.S. Naval Submarine League, U.S. Submarine Veterans, U.S. Naval Institute, and American Society of Naval Engineers. Mr. Stitt is an avid river fly-fisherman (www.guyandjohnfish.com) and collects antique naval books and oil paintings. Mr. Stitt is married to Mary Ann (Grangroth) of Minnesota, and they have two sons - Michael Andrew Stitt (24), and Jeremy Ryan Stitt (21).

Steve Bauer, Kitsap County Commissioner



Steve Bauer was sworn in on July 9, 2007 to fill the seat vacated by Chris Endresen. A former Lt. Commander for the U.S. Coast Guard, Steve most recently served as Bellevue's city manager and as director of finance and administration for Portland, Oregon.

In 2006, Steve completed a comprehensive evaluation of Kitsap County's Department of Community Development and his active leadership in his Hansville community includes serving as president of the Hansville Community Center Board.

Steve holds a masters of public administration from the University of California, Berkeley and a B.A. in government from Columbia University in New York City.



Summary

On our annual advocacy trip, the PSNBA delegation was warmly received in Norfolk, at the Pentagon, and on the Hill to discuss the latest “hot topics” from our region. Please review the complete list of topics in the section “2010 Briefing Issues.”

We visited numerous senior commanders in Norfolk, VA and Washington DC for mutually successful discussions. We recount these sessions in our report. We also had the opportunity to carry your messages to members of our legislative delegation. The report captures these stops in the section “Legislative Delegation Meetings.”

The two highlights of our trip were an unprecedented, hour-long meeting with Admiral Gary Roughead, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), and two meetings with Congressman Norm Dicks, Chair of House Defense Appropriations Committee. Both individuals made late adjustments in their schedules to extend their time with us.

Locally, PSNBA recognizes the proactive leadership of Rear Admiral James Symonds, who has been instrumental in strengthening relationships with communities in Navy Region Northwest (NRNW). In addition to his formal assignments, Rear Adm. Symonds, together with his wife Anne, have been superb advocates of educational opportunities for active duty military and their families. This delightful couple has made a lasting friendship with the Pacific Northwest, which reflects highly upon them personally and further cements the Navy’s position in the community. PSNBA highly commends their efforts and wishes them “fair winds and following seas.”

As the PSNBA delegation delivered our briefing to these military and political leaders, the following ten topics rose to the top.

Top Ten Topics

1. PSNS has a strong order book over the next four years, repairing and modernizing ships, providing work for our members. However, PSNBA is not complacent. Since the Navy schedules this work years in advance, we commit to keep planners mindful of PSNS, its workers, and their capabilities.
2. Maintenance was a regular topic, with particular focus on surface ships and shore infrastructure. The CNO requested a 7% increase in his maintenance budget.
3. Energy Conservation was a common theme. Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS), Naval Base Kitsap (NBK), and Navy Region Northwest (NRNW) were commended for their recognized leadership in energy conservation and efficiency. Some expressed interest in community partnerships to support energy initiatives.
4. Of the 24 approved Military Construction (MILCON) projects for FY12, 18 are at Bangor.
5. Explosive Handling Wharf 2 (EHW2): The Navy is committed to this project and is reviewing options for funding sources as the current \$715M estimate has a large impact on the annual MILCON budget.
6. The Ohio Class Replacement is a high-cost project and critical to keeping our submarine count at target levels. Design work has begun.
7. The life of submarines is being extended. Specifically, SSN’s will serve 33 yrs while the Ohio Class (Tridents) will extend to 42.
8. The Navy responded to the childcare need that PSNBA identified in 2009 by PSNBA. This November a new facility will open at NBK to serve 65 children.
9. PSNBA delegates toured the Norfolk Naval Shipyard and met with their leadership.
10. The Navy recommends that women be allowed to serve on submarines. At the time of our meeting, Congress had not voted on this initiative. If approved, the first female submariners will begin training this year.



Norfolk, VA

While in Norfolk on 22 February, the PSNBA delegation visited the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, US Fleet Forces Command, and the US Submarine Force Headquarters.

Norfolk Naval Shipyard

Our delegation was delighted to tour the historical areas of the shipyard with Jeff Cunningham, Public Affairs Officer. We later met with Bob Harrell, Executive Director, and other Norfolk shipyard leadership to learn about each other's shipyards. We explored how an organization like PSNBA could affect Norfolk.

Fleet Forces Command



Figure 1 – PSNBA Delegation at Fleet Forces Command with Admiral Harvey

The PSNBA delegation (Nall, Miles, Grace, and Stitt) met with Admiral John Harvey, Commander, Fleet Forces Command, and other senior leadership there to discuss issues of common interest. From left to right in Figure 1, Marc Anthony (Shore Installations), Rear Admiral Clarke Orzalli (Fleet Maintenance), Jim Nall, Wendy Miles, Admiral Harvey, Chelsea Grace, Ryan Dumm (Office of Congressman Dicks), Guy Stitt, and Mark Hoenecker (Executive Director).

- EHW2: The Navy supports this project which is a 'must have' for national security. It is expensive compared to King's Bay due to seismic challenges in the Northwest and the additional dimensional requirements (crane tolerances, approach for subs, deeper waters, etc.). The FY 2012 increment, the first year of spending and one solution to address the costs, is estimated to be \$225 Million. However, the CNO has already spoken for 83% of the FY 2012 budget amount. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) decides if incremental funding will be allowed.
- The level of surface ship maintenance is inadequate for the current operational tempo (OPTEMPO). What were once cosmetic issues have evolved into structural issues due to the shortfall in maintenance funding (for surface ships). To assure satisfactory ship



conditions, the Navy conducts technical reviews at the ship level. First review was on the LSD (Landing Ship Dock) Class. The second review is on the DDG (Destroyer Guided Missile) Class.

- For FY 2011 an additional \$200 Million was added to the surface ship maintenance budget. Another \$200 Million was added to the 2012 and 2013 budgets.
- Several shipyards could benefit from the Apprentice Program in San Diego to balance workloads.
- PSNBA can help by:
 - Supporting the 7% maintenance budget increase in conversations with Congressional members.
 - Supporting sustaining training.

Submarine Forces

The PSNBA delegation met with Admiral Jay Donnelly, Commander, US Submarine Force. The highlights of our conversation included these points:

- Sixty percent of the Navy's submarine forces are on the West Coast.
- PSNS/IMF is the largest home port by crew population (helped by the two crews assigned to each ballistic missile submarine).
- The Navy supports the pier extension at IMF (servicing pier) to moor all three SEAWOLF submarines together.
- We need to ensure that the EHW2 project does not undermine Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) objectives.
- There were concerns about funding for the Ohio Class submarine replacement program.
- Warshot Torpedoes (Heavyweight) are made in Yorktown, Hawaii, and Keyport. There was concern expressed about the ability to produce these weapons. They support the exercise workload. Spent torpedo bodies are recovered and manufactured into new warshots. MK-48 warshot production needs to increase.
- We are getting to the point where the active submarines in the force are older than the age at which we had retired in the past.



Washington DC

While in Washington DC, the PSNBA delegation visited the following Navy leaders and commands. (The list is presented in chronological order.)

- Submarine Warfare Division
- Nuclear Propulsion/Naval Reactors
- Strategic Systems Program
- Air Warfare Division
- Naval Operations
- Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations & Environment
- Fleet Readiness and Logistics
- Surface Warfare Division
- Naval Sea Systems Command

Navy Leadership Meetings

Submarine Warfare Division, Pentagon

The delegation started its DC meetings with a visit to Rear Admiral (Select) Richard Breckenridge, the Deputy Director, Submarine Warfare Division (N87B) and Captain David Kriete, former Commodore, Submarine Squadron 6.

Three topics dominated the conversation: the Ohio replacement, torpedoes, and EHW2.

Ohio Class Submarine Replacement: The platform must have “stealth characteristics and an aura of invincibility.” The R&D investment will be significant. For example, the shipboard systems must anticipate future weapons and be adaptable to them. The design will assume a life cycle of greater than 50 years, which presents technical challenges.

Torpedo Programs:

- One of the Navy’s highest priorities is heavyweight torpedoes. In the next decade, they want to build torpedoes from the ground up.
- MOD-7 SEABASE is the next torpedo upgrade.
- Shooting more torpedoes for training is a priority.
- SSNs: current count is 53, while 48 is minimum number of SSNs they can have.
- SSNs will be deployed for a longer amount of time, starting in 2030.

The Navy supports the EHW2 MILCON project.

Nuclear Propulsion/Naval Reactors, Washington Navy Yard

The delegation next visited Admiral Kirkland Donald, Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion and Stephen Trautman, Deputy Director. The main “takeaways” were:

- SSN lifespan will increase to 33 years.
- Trident lifespan will increase to 42 years (from 30).
- EHW2 is a national asset. The requirements need to be understood by all.
- EHW2 is supported by the Navy community as well as Congress.
- Announced that the Navy supports women on submarines. This will be a phased approach, and needs to be approved by Congress.



- LCS (Littoral Combat Surface) – will start in San Diego, and then move to Norfolk/Mayport. It has a unique training architecture due to the support infrastructure in Mayport. The ship and crew are kept at higher availability at all times.

Comments from PSNBA included:

- Thank you for supporting the Haiti relief mission from the USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70). A non-nuclear carrier could not have gotten there as quickly.

Strategic Systems Program (SSP), Crystal City

The PSNBA delegation was pleased to confer with Rear Admiral Stephen Johnson, Director, Strategic Systems Programs, and Captain Steve Lewis about the following topics:

- Missile tube for the Ohio Replacement is being welded in the United Kingdom. It will be modular and therefore more moveable. The first Ohio Replacement is estimated to be operational by 2029.
- Major missile compartment contractors will be selected around August 2011. The Request for Procurement (RFP) and Request for Information (RFI) processes for missile tubes, actuators, motors, and pipes will start in August 2011.
- EHW2 concrete prices are expected to decrease in the next estimate.

Air Warfare Division, Pentagon

The delegation next met with Rear Admiral Michael Manazir, Head, Naval Aviation Programs (OPNAV N880) and Rear Admiral David Philman, Director, Warfare Integration/Senior National Representative (OPNAV N8F). Highlights of this conversation included:

- Hanger and simulator for training will be available at Whidbey NAS to support field flying.
- The FY 2012 budget includes BAMS (Broad Area Maritime Surveillance) for Jacksonville, Whidbey, Kings Bay, and Pearl Harbor.
- Prowlers will be re-capped to become Growlers, EA-18-G.
- Four Squadrons will be stationed at Whidbey NAS.

Naval Operations, Pentagon

The highlight of our meetings with Navy leadership was a pleasant discussion with Admiral Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations. Topics of interest included:

- The Growler mission is good; 4 squadrons stationed at Whidbey.
- Women integration in Boomers and SSN is positive.
- Maintenance budget will increase approximately 7%. This is instead of pursuing supplemental funding to support maintenance, bringing clarity of actual costs.
- Unmanned underwater vehicles (UUV) – we need to shift focus from sensor issues to power issues to increase time and distance underwater.

Secretary of the Navy, Pentagon

The delegation met with Roger Natsuhara, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and the Environment. The main conclusion to this discussion was:

- Naval facilities and the communities around them must collaborate to benefit from the technologies that address the Navy's energy requirements and its stewardship of the environment. These technologies directly relate to combat effectiveness.



Fleet Readiness & Logistics, Pentagon

The PSNBA delegation met with Vice Admiral Michael Loose, Deputy CNO for Fleet Readiness and Logistics (N4) and Rear Admiral Thomas Moore, Deputy Director for Fleet Readiness (N43B) to review relevant topics.

- EHW2 – This project has been re-priced several times and will be again. The last cost estimate was 9 months ago. Costs are expected to drop on their upcoming evaluation.
- SLCM (Surface Life Cycle Maintenance) is based out of Norfolk Naval Shipyard and will have representatives at San Diego and PSNS.
- Maintenance needs to be first priority, followed immediately by operations.
 - Today we have 287 ships in the fleet. The goal is 313. To meet this goal 220 active ships need to go through service life extensions.
- In November 2012, the USS Enterprise (CVN-65) comes offline for defueling in Newport News, VA with an anticipated arrival in Bremerton in 2015/2016 for decommissioning. Additional workers will be needed to complete this work.
- FY 2012 through 2015, there will only be 10 carriers. This means that there will be competition between ports and shipyards for CVN's.

Surface Warfare Division, Pentagon

The delegation visited Rear Admiral (Select) Ann Phillips, Deputy Director, Surface Warfare (N86B) and Commander John Wilshusen to receive a briefing on surface warfare priorities.

- Looking forward to the delivery of Mark 54 LT (Lightweight) torpedoes to the fleet.
- DDG-51 modernization (removing steamers) is in final stages of contract negotiations. Maintenance actions are expected to start in 2010. Modernization will be MSMO (Multi-Ship Multi-Option) contracts with the work performed in homeports.
- Alpha Victor 15 – starting with Japanese ships – will include significant upgrades.
- Location affects some installation costs. For example, the cost of applying non-skid deck material in Everett, WA is almost double the cost of doing the work in San Diego, CA, particularly in the winter. Humidity affects work, such as painting, in San Diego and Pearl Harbor. High humidity adds additional time to painting projects.

Naval Sea Systems Command

The final meeting with Navy leadership was at NAVSEA. The delegation enjoyed meeting with Vice Admiral Kevin McCoy, Commander, NAVSEA, Rear Admiral William Hilarides, Program Executive Officer for Submarines, Rear Admiral Thomas Wears, Commander, Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Rear Admiral David Johnson, Deputy Commander for Undersea Technology (SEA 073), Deputy PEO Submarines for Ohio Class SSBN Replacement (PEO SUB-OR), Rear Admiral Joseph Campbell, Deputy Commander Logistics, Maintenance, and Industrial Operations, Rear Admiral (select) Pat Brady, Deputy Commander Undersea Warfare (NAVSEA 07), and senior civilians Steve Schultze, Jack Evans, Don Hoffer, and Dave Miskimens.

- Navy is impressed with and appreciates PSNBA.
- USS George Washington (CVN-73) arrival in Japan was successful. Work is going well there.
- USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) overhaul at PSNS was a success, delivered on time.
- The lightweight torpedo program is on track for spring delivery.
- Pleased that SEAWOLF maintenance is on schedule.



- Navy is focused on surface ship maintenance. They expect more maintenance funding to come to each shipyard, following the maintenance model used for submarines and naval air.
- By FY 2012, expect funding for torpedoes to be back on track.



Figure 2 - PSNBA Delegation with NAVSEA Leadership

Figure 2 features (L – R) RADM Hilarides, Jack Evans, RADM Campbell, Ryan Dumm, Guy Stitt, RADM Wears, Chelsea Grace, Wendy Miles, AnnaLee Todd, VADM McCoy, RADM Johnson, Steve Bauer, Steve Schultze, RADM (select) Pat Brady, Jim Nall, Dave Miskimens, and Don Hoffer.

Legislative Delegation Meetings

While in Washington, the PSNBA delegation made calls upon the following legislators (most of whom attended our 2010 Kickoff Breakfast on 29 March) and their staffs:

Rep. Jay Inslee (Washington State's First Congressional District)

Rep. Rick Larsen (Washington State's Second Congressional District)

Senator Maria Cantwell

Senator Patty Murray's Staff

Rep. Norm Dicks (Washington State's Sixth Congressional District)



Figure 3 - PSNBA Delegation Visits with Congressman Larsen

(L – R) Jim Nall, AnnaLee Todd, Wendy Miles, Congressman Larsen, Steve Bauer, Guy Stitt



Figure 4 – PSNBA Delegation Visits with Senator Cantwell

(L – R) Guy Stitt, Wendy Miles, Senator Cantwell, AnnaLee Todd, Steve Bauer, Jim Nall



Figure 5 – PSNBA Delegation Visits with Congressman Dick
(L – R) Jim Nall, Wendy Miles, Congressman Dicks, AnnaLee Todd, Guy Stitt



2010 Briefing Issues

Introduction

The mission of PSNBA is to ensure that the Navy and Congress never forget that Kitsap County is where the Navy's past, present, and future were and are meant to be.

To meet that mission, PSNBA sends a delegation to Washington D.C. each year to meet with Navy and Congressional officials. This year's delegation included:

President Wendy Miles, Immediate Past President Anna Lee Todd, President for Base Relations Chelsea Grace, Director Jim Nall, Ambassador Guy Stitt, Kitsap County Commissioner Steve Bauer, and Congressman Norm Dick's representative Ryan Dumm made up this year's delegation.

Every official visited received the PSNBA briefing issues prior to the meetings. The briefing book included sixteen formal issue papers (included with this report), a history of PSNBA, and biographies of the delegation.



Issue 1: Acknowledging Success

PSNBA notes with pleasure the success of our members and Navy Personnel in their support of the Navy's mission.

Background

PSNBA celebrates the awards recognizing the excellence performance of the following Commands:

- Navy Region Northwest (NRNW)
 - Presidential Award for Leadership in Federal Energy Management
 - Civilian Law Enforcement-Military Cooperation Award
 - CY08 Chief of Naval Information Merit Award (Honorable Mention)
 - Navigator Newspaper (Awarded in FY-09)
- Naval Base Kitsap (NBK)
 - Presidential Award for Leadership in Federal Energy Management
 - Secretary of the Navy Energy and Water Management Award for Large Shore Facility, NBK – Bremerton, Platinum Level
 - Federal Energy Management Program Award – Team Bangor and Bremerton
 - NBK Bachelor Housing maintained "Five Star" level service for 2009
 - NBK Navy Gateway Inns & Suites received their 8th consecutive Zumwalt Award, receiving a Five Star accreditation during 2009
 - Bangor Galley received their 8th consecutive Five Star accreditation
 - Platinum Level of Achievement for Tenant Facilities at PSNS/IMF
 - Navy Fire and Emergency Services Program Certificate of Life Saving – two recipients
 - National accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children for Jackson Park Child Development Center. (All NBK CDCs are now accredited.)
 - Operation Prepare Public Awareness Campaign recognized by CNIC as best practice (Emergency Management Recognition)
 - Fire and Emergency Response received three CNIC Life Saving Achievement Awards
- Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS) and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (IMF):
 - Secretary of the Navy Award for Excellent Achievement in Energy and Water Conservation, Platinum Level
 - FY 08 Secretary of the Navy Achievement in Safety Ashore for the Large Industrial Activity Category
 - Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Star Site designation at the Bangor site
 - VPP Star Site recertification at the Bremerton site
 - National CFC Innovator Award
 - Washington State Commute Smart Award, Bangor site
 - Navy Superior Civilian Service Award – Mr. Dan Schremser, Executive Program Manager for IMF, retired
 - DON & DOD Outstanding Employee with a Disability – Mr. Bill Russell, Welder IMF
 - National CFC Heroes Award – Ms. Dawn Dalesio, PSNS & IMF Bremerton Site



- Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC), Keyport Division
 - Presidential and Secretary of the Navy Awards for Energy Conservation and Leadership
 - Secretary of the Navy's Energy Award
 - Navy Energy and Water Management Award, Platinum Level
 - Virginia Class Tech Refresh Team recognized for outstanding team achievement by the Department of Defense Working Group for Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages (DMSMS)
 - Top 5 Department of Defense Program Award for excellence in systems engineering software applications – Advanced Skills Management Version 3 program
 - Navy Civilian Meritorious Service Awards – Jodi Johnston, Director of Command Staff, and Jeff Trent, In-service Engineering Department Head.
- Naval Air Station Whidbey Island
 - Department of Defense Pollution Prevention, 1st Place
 - Secretary of the Navy Energy Award, Platinum Level
 - CY08 Aviation Rescue Unit of Year (Awarded in FY-09)
 - Aviation Rescue Swimmer of the Year – Individual
 - Air Traffic Control Association Specialist of the Year – Individual
 - Galley Five Star Accreditation – 9th consecutive
 - 5-Star Zumwalt Award – Navy Gateway Inns & Suites
 - Sexual Assault Response Coordinator of the Year – Individual
- Naval Station Everett
 - National Real Estate Customer Service Award – Bachelors Quarters A List and Crystal Awards
 - Secretary of the Navy Energy Award, Blue Level
 - Armed Forces Culinary Arts Competition – 2nd place overall, 2nd place Sugar Art and 3rd Place Iron Chef
- Naval Magazine Indian Island
 - Secretary of the Navy Energy and Water Management, Gold Level



Issue 2: Carrier Homeport

PSNBA understands the issues surrounding the home porting of aircraft carriers in the Pacific and Atlantic, and the reasoning behind these decisions, and believes Bremerton is the best homeport location for the additional Pacific Fleet aircraft carrier.

Background

- Bremerton is the best-equipped, most efficient, and lowest cost location to homeport aircraft carriers. For aircraft carriers going through overhaul and home ported in Everett, the commuting time is a hardship on the crew and an expense to the Navy. Home porting these vessels and their crews in Bremerton addresses both concerns.
- Pier space, maintenance facilities, and other support activities currently exist for an additional carrier.
- Appropriate housing is available. Jackson Park is currently operating at 60% occupancy and will transition to accommodate families.
- Bremerton offers a good quality of life, as well as easy and safe access to 'big city' social activities for sailors and family members.

Recommendations

PSNBA recommends the Navy strongly consider NBK – Bremerton as a viable location for the home porting of aircraft carriers coming to PSNS & IMF for overhaul.

Issue 3: Carrier Battle Group Transfer

PSNBA supports the transfer of complete Carrier Battle Groups to the Naval Station Everett in Puget Sound to support home ported aircraft carriers in the area.

Background

- The Navy has not named the ship(s) that will replace USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) when she leaves Naval Station Everett.
- There is a maintenance provider network in the Puget Sound that is capable of performing repair and modernization work on Ticonderoga class cruisers and Arleigh Burke class destroyers, if the ships were home ported in the Puget Sound.
- Experience over the last 30 years has demonstrated that sustaining a qualified cadre of ship repair workers, technicians, and engineers at naval activities and within private industry is vital to the health of the US Navy.

Recommendations

- PSNBA believes it is in the best interest of the Navy and the nation to disperse the surface fleet homeports and have fleet modernization and maintenance done in the dispersed homeports.
- PSNBA recommends home porting more surface combatants at Naval Station Everett.



Issue 4: Military and Civilian Shore Billets

PSNBA advocates the creation of new Navy shore duty billets in the local area in order to prepare for post-economic upturn retention of sailors stationed in Puget Sound. In addition, PSNBA advocates consideration of Puget Sound as a preferred location for the establishment of Navy Civilian jobs due to the area's lower overall costs compared to San Diego, Norfolk, Pearl Harbor, or Washington, DC.

Background

- While the Pacific Coast hosts 60% of the surface fleet, it appears that the new naval shore facilities are being established on the East Coast.
- DoD will be adding 50,000 new civil servant jobs. Some portion of those jobs will fulfill Navy requirements.
- Kitsap County supports one of the largest ex-military communities, which provides a mission ready workforce with a much lower cost of living than other large Navy communities.
- Kitsap County offers affordable housing, a high quality of life, and easy access to "big city" social activities.
- As the US Navy explores ways to reduce personnel costs, the Pacific Northwest with its lower cost of living for sailors and Navy civil servants presents a significant part of the solution.

Recommendations

- PSNBA recommends that the Navy consider our community's rich resource of skilled labor, high quality of life, lower cost of living, and positive engagement with our military families and bases when evaluating locations for new missions and the consolidation or transfer of work.

Issue 5: Maintenance to Support Operations

PSNBA recognizes the US Navy's high Operations Tempo (OPTEMPO) particularly that of our submarine assets, and the negative impact it will have on maintenance availabilities and their budgets.

Background

The OPTEMPO of US Navy submarines, aircraft carriers, and other surface ships has been very high in the last several years. PSNBA is concerned that this consistently high OPTEMPO multiplies the potential for emergency repairs, higher maintenance requirements, and extended availabilities, all of which create higher or unforeseen costs. We support the Navy Leadership in addressing the OPTEMPO impacts on ship schedules and maintenance budgets.

Recommendations

PSNBA recommends the Navy maintain its proactive stance in support of our intermediate and depot level maintenance facilities ashore. These must be prepared for anticipated this growth in maintenance as they plan and schedule their workload.



Issue 6: Extended Stay Assignments

PSNBA supports efforts to offer extended stay assignments where possible and encourages continued review of the Joint Travel Regulations to better support shipyard employees working overseas.

Background

PSNS & IMF plays an integral role supporting Navy activities in the Pacific Northwest. Specifically, it provides maintenance and upgrade service to the surface and submarine fleets. PSNS & IMF has demonstrated an excellent record of job efficiency that positively affects timelines and costs. PSNS & IMF is the only public shipyard in America that repairs all classes of nuclear ships on its waterfront.

- PSNS & IMF work on the George Washington is an ongoing effort. It is important to continue facilitating and encouraging travel to Japan.
- Efforts to attract engineering personnel to Yokosuka have been challenging due to the travel regulations.
- The foreign exemption to the Fair Labor Standards Act does not allow non-exempt, general schedule employees (e.g., engineers) working overseas to receive time and a half for overtime work. PSNS & IMF has brought this problem to the attention of the Navy and has received support for a change that allows PSNS & IMF workers in Yokosuka, Japan to receive time and half for overtime work.

Recommendations

- PSNBA supports efforts to revise the Fair Labor Standards Act to permit non-exempt, general schedule employees to earn time and a half for overtime work wherever in the world the employees are repairing Navy ships or equipment.



Issue 7: Improving Childcare for Military and Civilian Families

PSNBA supports work-life balance efforts to encourage job satisfaction and improve worker retention at PSNS & IMF. PSNBA continues to advocate for adequate childcare centers, serving all workers at PSNS & IMF and NBK.

Background

- Worker retention at all naval shipyards is an on-going challenge. Civilian workers are 95% of the shipyard work force and provide continuity at PSNS & IMF.
- The PSNS & IMF Professional Women's Employee Networking Group (PWENG) was founded in 2008. It identifies and advocates for issues that affect the quality of life for shipyard workers. PWENG addresses issues key to attracting more women into the PSNS & IMF work force.
- In 2009, PWENG was instrumental in seeking leadership and financial support to develop a childcare center for PSNS & IMF workers. When the Center opens in November 2010, it will serve 65 children (ages up to 3 years old). Adequate childcare has become an essential worker recruitment and retention tool.

Recommendations

- PSNBA encourages the Navy to pilot innovative personnel practices and work place flexibilities in the Puget Sound.
- PSNBA encourages continued efforts by the PWENG and similar organizations at other bases, especially those supporting worker retention and job satisfaction. In addition, we seek support from Mission funding sponsors to accept and recognize the importance of the issues and efforts.
- PSNBA supports efforts to ensure adequate childcare facilities are available to workers, at or near the base, whether active duty or civilian.

Issue 8: Expanding Apprenticeship Program Opportunities

PSNBA supports NAVSEA's efforts to develop an apprenticeship program that will support the PSNS & IMF and Norfolk detachments in San Diego, California.

Background

- Several shipyards (public and private) send or oversee work teams in San Diego.
- PSNS & IMF has proposed to increase the permanent staff at its San Diego detachment.
- There is no on-site apprenticeship program for Navy maintenance providers in San Diego.
- Local apprenticeship training is projected to improve local trade skill recruiting and retention.

Recommendations

PSNBA supports the development of an apprenticeship program in San Diego, California.



Issue 9: Maintaining the Weapons Inventory

PSNBA recognizes that torpedo inventories are insufficient to meet current requirements for Fleet readiness and training.

Background

- PSNBA recognizes the demand for increased torpedo inventory levels for war-fighting readiness.
- PSNBA recognizes that the use of exercise torpedoes is essential to maintaining Fleet readiness and proficiency.

Recommendations

PSNBA supports Navy program priorities that increase torpedo inventories and supports torpedo exercise firings to maintain Fleet proficiency.

Issue 10: Investing in Advanced Undersea Vehicles

PSNBA encourages increased Navy Investment in Unmanned Undersea Vehicles. UUVs have strong potential for improving Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) mission performance and for increasing the mission capabilities of submarine and surface ships. UUVs will provide expanded mission capabilities, extend the areas of effectiveness of existing platforms, and reduce the risk to manned platforms.

Background

- Pacific Northwest Naval Activities are well suited to support Navy needs by performing test and evaluation, maintenance, life-cycle support and operations of Navy UUVs.
- The co-location of NUWC Keyport's technical capabilities and facilities with COMSUBDEVRON 5 operational expertise uniquely qualify the Pacific Northwest to help realize NAVY UUV program goals.
- The Navy's investment in developing a world-class testing site at Keyport for UUVs should be leveraged to help support the evaluation of future UUV systems.

Recommendations

PSNBA encourages Navy investment in UUVs and believes that the unique capabilities of Pacific Northwest Navy Activities should be used to evaluate, maintain, and operate UUVs.



Issue 11: Acknowledging Local Leadership

- PSNBA applauds the new Technical Director at NUWC Keyport for his leadership in setting and working towards significant goals for the command and himself.

Background

- The NUWC Keyport Technical Director has set the following goals:
 - Support mission objectives through staffing levels that are increasing by approximately 50 employees for each of the last two years, and are expected to do the same in 2010.
 - Maintain skill sets and levels by hiring from national pool, which also supports diversity goals in workforce, and ensures continuity of knowledge resulting from natural attrition.
 - Become one of the Top 50 employer locations by creating the first smoke free facility, and supporting work-life balance objectives.
 - Stimulate student interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) in local public school system to develop future labor pool. This is being addressed through an ROV program introduced in the high schools and junior highs, and in partnership with ten other organizations including engineers from PSNS & IMF and Keyport. This unique program has doubled the number of students, schools, and school districts participating every year since its inception.

Recommendations

PSNBA commends the wide-ranging efforts at Keyport that support mission objectives as well as goals to increase base quality of life and their community outreach.

Issue 12: Vital MILCON for Strategic Defense

PSNBA continues to support the MILCON objectives of the Strategic Systems Program as they relate to Strategic Weapons Facility, Bangor.

Background

- Funding for the Explosive Handling Wharf (EHW) 2 has been approved by Congress, pending further studies.
- Environmental Impact Study (EIS) scoping work has been completed and a draft report is due end of 2010. EIS public hearings are in the next phase. The Record of Decision (ROD) is targeted for September 2011.

Recommendations

PSNBA encourages continued investment in the overhaul of the current EHW and supports the continued planning and construction of a second EHW, which will ensure that the nation's strategic defense is not interrupted. Because of EHW-2 national support role to the U. S. Strategic Command, PSNBA also supports the investigation for alternate funding strategies to lessen the global impact on Navy MILCON.



Issue 13: Maximizing Infrastructure and Financial Stewardship

PSNBA applauds Navy Region Northwest's efforts in the Regional Mission Integration Plan to adopt the total ownership cost philosophy of maximizing building utilization and effectively using funds over time.

Background

- Regional commanders have focused on strategies to ensure that funding and facility effectiveness are maximized over time.
- As MILCON projects are completed, efforts will be focused on the second and third order effects of projects.
- They will seek funding to support economic and environmentally sound activities such as upgrades to 'red' buildings, and researching smaller construction - with a goal of reducing the footprint.
- Planning will include moving services and building activities closer to service points to create efficiencies.

Recommendations

PSNBA congratulates Navy Region Northwest's strategic thinking to maximize building longevity, refurbish aging facilities, and to re-purpose space to maximize funding and increase efficiency.

Issue 14: Waterfront Improvements for Operational Efficiency

PSNBA advocates re-positioning of the USCG Transit Protection System (TPS) and pier operations at NBK – Bangor to increase operational efficiencies and enhance base security and safety.

Background

- Use of the Servicing Pier is oversubscribed. The USCG Transit Protection System (TPS) and its operations are based at this pier. Significant submarine maintenance is conducted at the Servicing Pier. This creates congestion and jeopardizes base and waterfront security.
- The magnetic silencing pier is an old wood and creosote pier at the north end of the base. Since this pier is at risk of failure due to its age, it is vacant and unused. Further, the magnetic silencing pier represents a potential environmental and safety hazard.
- Replacing the aging magnetic silencing pier with a cement pier would allow relocation of the USCG TPS and its operations to new pier. This would reduce congestion, increase operational efficiencies, and enhance base security and safety.

Recommendations

PSNBA advocates a two-phase re-positioning effort of the USCG TPS and pier operations to increase operational efficiencies and enhance safety and security at NBK – Bangor.



Issue 15: Traffic Safety Improvement

PSNBA advocates the enhanced routing of commercial vehicles entering the south gate of NBK – Bremerton (Project P-827 Charleston Entrance Renovation).

Background

- Charleston Entrance is the only access into NBK – Bremerton for commercial vehicles.
- SR 304 is highway leading to the South Gate Entry Control Point. Commercial vehicles often queue on SR 304 and adjoining streets while waiting for approval to enter.
- This staging of commercial vehicles along SR 304 and neighboring streets is unsafe and illegal.
- Future MILCON projects on base will result in heavier commercial vehicle traffic.
- The City of Bremerton supports a resolution to reduce traffic congestion and improve safety at the Charleston Entrance.

Recommendations

- PSNBA recommends funding Project P-847 to stop illegal staging practices and to eliminate the related safety issues by creating an improved routing option for commercial vehicles entering Naval Base Kitsap Bremerton.

Issue 16: Acknowledging Training Excellence

PSNBA commends the outstanding submarine training at Trident Training Facility, Bangor to ensure readiness and excellence.

Background

- Coordination of busy mission and training schedules is essential.
- Quality of training delivered ensures excellence in warfare readiness.
- Ongoing funding of training ensures submariners are prepared for all situations while underway.

Recommendations

PSNBA applauds the high quality of training and support of submarine schedules to ensure mission readiness, and supports continued funding for training.