

## NEWSLETTER

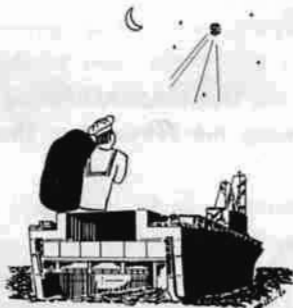
## Christmas away from home

by Chaplain (Cdr.) Christopher B. Young

I asked a young sailor, "What does the holiday season mean to you?" He replied that for him it was a time to be with his family, a time to give and receive gifts, a time to wipe the slate clean, forgiving past hurts and asking forgiveness for hurts he gave, and starting the new year off fresh.

"But what if you have the duty, or have no leave on the books, or just can't afford to go home?" It didn't take him long to say that he would be miserable, but he'd just have to make the best of it. He'd still be able to wipe the slate clean and mail gifts and cards home, and to know that someday he would be home.

The happy expectations of this holiday and holyday season are tempered by the fact that some of us will have to celebrate Christmas or Hanukkah or the New Year aboard NASSAU. Christmas commemorates the birth of Jesus. Hanukkah for the Jews is a festival marking the first recorded battle for religious liberty and the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem. The real sailor knows that distance and time cannot separate him from those he loves, nor them from him. His faith reassures him that the meaning of the holy season is there for the believing, for the recalling, whether back home or on watch. Most of the world is at peace now because people have stood watch, have endured separations, have believed, and have made the best of it.



The USS NASSAU (LHA 4) Commanding Officer is Captain Henry C. Atwood, Jr., USN. The NASSAU Newsletter complies with NPPR P-35. The content does not necessarily reflect the official views of the Department of the Navy.

# Newsletter Staff

Captain Henry G. Atwood, Jr., USN.....Commanding Officer  
Commander Robert J. Ianucci, USN.....Executive Officer  
LTJG Alex M. Alban, USNR.....Public Affairs Officer  
JO2 Daniel G. Simon, USN.....Editor

The USS NASSAU Familygram/Newsletter has been awarded the 1980 Chief of Information (CHINFO) Merit Award as the best Familygram in Category I competition (large commands division).

The yearly award judges entries in a number of areas including: content, style, and lay-out and is the highest Navy award given to a familygram (Familygrams are unique to the Navy and do not enter interservice competition).

Our staff would like to thank the many people who have contributed to the past issues of the Familygram and Newsletter:

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| PH1 Jerry R. Pritchett   | LISN "Mac" Van Hoesen    |
| PH2 Kevin M. Davis       | LISN Otis S. Batzel      |
| PH2 Chuck P. Smith       | DM2 Robert E. Whiting    |
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| PH3 Ed L. Shoup          | AZC Coy O. York          |
| PHAN Warren F. Guss      | AZ1 Willie A. Gatchalian |
| LIC Thomas R. Morey      | "Harvey"                 |
| LI3 Dave Harris          |                          |

and the USS NASSAU crew whose outstanding performance has given us a standard to maintain.

The Nassau Newsletter is published by the USS NASSAU Public Affairs Office. Any questions or comments concerning the Newsletter should be addressed:

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# NASSAU Crewman Saves a Life

AD1 Ricky Shogf, a USS NASSAU crewman, recently put eight years of emergency rescue experience to good use when he helped save the life of a Norfolk man.

Petty Officer Shoaf, along with another Navy Search and Rescue Aircrewman, was returning to the Norfolk Naval Station around noon on October 17 when they witnessed a five car traffic accident.

The two sailors left their vehicle and rushed to aid the victims. The vehicles involved in the accident were traveling at a low speed and only one person needed assistance.

His condition, however, was seri-

ous and Shoaf and his companion quickly realized the man was suffering from a heart attack. They rapidly began Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

Though unsure how much time had elapsed between beginning CPR and the arrival of an Emergency Medical Team, the two sailors had the victim's heart beating on its own again along with restoring his breathing.

Doctors at DePaul hospital where the victim was treated credited Shoaf and AW1 John Watts (assigned to FASOTRAGRULANT) with saving the man's life.

## Onboard Navy Relief Office Spotlited in "Telescope"

The Navy Relief Office onboard NASSAU will be spotlighted in an upcoming edition of the Atlantic Fleet's "Telescope."

Telescope, a TV news magazine, is broadcast over shipboard closed circuit TV stations of Atlantic Fleet ships.

The NASSAU's Navy Relief Office has been the subject of several news stories in both local and Navy-wide publications, but this is the

first time it has been covered by the electronic media.

Featured in the NASSAU segment are: Chaplain Christopher Young, DPC Harvey Lawson and SMC Luis Alderman (Navy Relief Onboard representatives).

Chaplain Young helped set up this unique service on NASSAU, and Chiefs Lawson and Alderman have been NASSAU's Navy Relief representatives since the office was officially opened last January.



## NASSAU Special Services Visits Disneyworld

"A steal for 30 bucks; a very good trip!" This is one of the many comments made concerning the NASSAU Special Services trip to Orlando, Florida's Disneyworld (7-11 Nov.).

The trip, which included visits to the Lake Buena Vista shopping village and the space complex at Cape Kennedy, suffered a delay on the way down when the borrowed bus broke down due to a transmission failure.

"I really expected the trip to be cancelled and all of us heading back on the first bus back to Norfolk," said YN3 Joe Donovan, but LTJG Alex M. Alban, NASSAU's Special Services Officer, was able to charter a bus from a local charter bus service and the trip continued after a four-hour delay.

Arriving the next afternoon, they quickly checked into their motel rooms and were off to enjoy Disneyworld's rides and attractions.

Several of these made a special impression on the NASSAU crewmembers and their dependents. Rides such as Space Mountain (an enclosed roller coaster) and exhibitions like the Hall of Presidents (mechanical lifesize models of past presidents) drew most of their comments and praise.

In particular the attention to detail shown in the creation of these attractions was impressive.

"What impressed me the most was the realism of the characters," said one NASSAU crewmember, "all the mechanical animals and people presented a very lifelike appearance."

The trip came to an end early Veteran's Day morning when the chartered bus arrived back at the shipyard around 7 a.m. after a long 16 hour bus ride.



## **LOE To Test NASSAU**



October 15 marked the halfway point of Nassau's Post Shakedown Availability (PSA) here at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY), and so far PSA is progressing right on schedule, according to LCDR George Rogers, Jr. ship's PSA coordinator.

During the month of December, however, Nassau will face one of our biggest PSA tests, the Light Off Examination (LOE).

The LOE consists of oral and written exams for our engineering personnel along with comprehensive material inspections of all the engineering spaces, said Rogers.

Another part of the LOE will include program inspections dealing with Nassau's Tag-out, PQS, and PMS programs.

Nassau's Fire Parties and Rescue and Assistance teams also come under scrutiny during this exam and they face a number of drills designed to test their ability at defending the ship from fire, flooding, and any other emergency which might arise.

Nassau's first LOE date is scheduled for Dec. 11 and will involve testing of general knowledge. This part of LOE was originally intended to involve much more, but because NASSAU will be in drydock (scheduled approximately for 23 Nov.-20 Dec.) it has been scaled down. NASSAU will face a second LOE date early in the new year (probably during the period 14-16 January).

During February 1981 Nassau will face another test. This test will be our sea trials and should take place during the third week of February. The successful completion of these tests should allow completion of our shipyard stay on the scheduled date of March 15, 1981.



# OCTOBER

October was a banner month for reenlistments on NASSAU as 12 of our shipmates extended their Navy careers.

The twelve sailors, who reenlisted for a combined total of 49 years and over thirty-three thousand dollars in bonuses, obtained different incentives. Some received bonus money, others guaranteed schools, and others their choice of duty stations.

The highlight of the month of October was a flight deck ceremony on 15 October when six NASSAU sailors were reenlisted by Capt. Atwood.

Congratulations to all the NASSAU crewmen who reenlisted during the month of October.

# REENLIST



Six NASSAU crewmembers reenlisted during a flight deck ceremony during the month of October. From left to right are: OSC Batton, AGC Easterling, ICC Edmundson, HM1 Hanson, DS2 Morris, and RM2 Smallwood.

## GUARANTEED REASSIGNMENT (GUARD III)

|                             |         | New assignment                 |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| HMC Willard B. Walston, Jr. | 4 years | NRMC Charleston, S.C.          |
| HM1 Douglas K. Hanson       | 4 years | Boone Clinic Little Creek, Va. |
| BM2 Frederick Polumbo       | 4 years | NAS Lamoore, Ca.               |
| RM2 Darrell G. Smallwood    | 5 years | NAS Pax River, Md.             |
| ABH3 Joseph R. Kospiah      | 4 years | NAS Cubi Point, P. I.          |

## SELECTIVE TRAINING AND REENLISTMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

DS2 Gary L. Morris 6 years Trident Computer and Peripheral Equipments Technician School

## REGULAR REENLISTMENTS

|                         |         |               |
|-------------------------|---------|---------------|
| ICC Joseph B. Jordan    | 3 years |               |
| ICC Frank "A" Edmundson | 4 years |               |
| OSC Jerry D. Batton     | 4 years |               |
| AGC Jay D. Easterling   | 3 years |               |
| MS1 Leonard A. Fera     | 4 years |               |
| AT3 Wayne P. Andexler   | 4 years | AVIC 7 School |

The following message was received from Commander Amphibious Group II, Rear Admiral W. C. Hamm, Jr.: "Congratulations on NASSAU's Force Retention Superstar Status for September 1980. I am particularly pleased to note that September marked your 11th straight month as a Superstar. Well Done and keep charging." Members of the Ship's retention team, as well as our reenlistees themselves, should be proud of the record we are establishing. NASSAU's Retention rates for the past 12 months from OCT 80 are: First Term—51%, Second Term—73%, Career 100%.

November has started out as another good month for NASSAU retention. Seven NASSAU crewmembers have already reenlisted during the first two weeks of the month.

Three STAR reenlistments for a combined total of eighteen years and over forty-thousand dollars in bonus money, three Guard III "re-ups," one of which received a \$16,000 bonus, and a benefits of rate reenlistment are keeping NASSAU's retention rate as one of the best in the surface force.

Congratulations to all the NASSAU crewmen who have reenlisted so far during the month of November.

## GUARANTEED REASSIGNMENT (GUARD III)

BM1 William R. Fowler 4 years  
FTM2 Robert A. Wehmer 6 years  
Larry Copeland 4 years

**New assignment**  
USS Fort Fisher (LSD 40) San Diego, Ca.  
FT-A Phase 2 School and MK92 Fire Control Systems School  
NAS Norfolk and ABF "C" School

## SELECTIVE TRAINING AND REENLISTMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

FTM2 Anthony Martin 6 years  
OSSN Martin B. Larson 6 years  
EM3 Bruce J. David 6 years

## REGULAR REENLISTMENT

ABH3 Michael H. Sanders 4 years Aviation Firefighting School in Memphis, Tenn.



(left to right) OSSN Larson, EM3 David, and FTM2 Martin sign on the dotted line for a combined total of eighteen more years of service and over forty-thousand dollars in bonuses.

## Wives Club in Action

The NASSAU Wives Club installed new officers during an October 16 meeting in the Ship 'n Shore Room at the NOB Hobby Shop.

The new officers are Pat Warren, president; Anita Williams, vice-president; Donna Lumpkin, secretary; and Barbara Baur, treasurer.

On November 1 the Wives Club held a very successful bake sale at the Oceanview Shopping Center.

Currently the Wives Club is planning to sell candy to raise funds for Christmas baskets which will be distributed by Chaplain Young during the Christmas holidays. They are also planning the children's Christmas party.

Membership in the NASSAU Wives Club is open to all wives of Nassau enlisted men. Dues are fifty cents a month and the first meeting attended is free.

Any NASSAU spouse interested in becoming a Wives Club member can call one of the following people. (note—nursery service is provided in the Hobby Shop building and the club can help you with transportation).

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Anita Williams | 489-1978 |
| Pat Warren     | 588-0936 |
| Brenda Brown   | 486-5165 |
| Barbara Baur   | 499-3371 |
| Donna Lumpkin  | 543-1079 |

P.S. Husbands are also invited to attend.

## Cruisebook Notes

The NASSAU's first-year-in-commission cruisebook will soon be delivered to over three hundred NASSAU crewmen.

The book, which covers the events from commissioning through the first change of command, highlights NASSAU's Guantanamo Bay Reenforcement operation and Caribbean cruise, along with many other events from our first year as a navy ship of the line.

Designed by NASSAU's Public Affairs Office with the help of the Tiffany Publishing Company the book will be 128 pages long with 16 full pages of color photographs. While orders are still being taken for the cruisebook, there are only a limited number of subscriptions left.

## 6000-mile Sailboat Cruise Ends in Portsmouth

Lt. Gary Owen and OS2 Dale A. Deason, both members of NASSAU's Operations department, completed a six-thousand mile sailboat adventure this past September.

The cruise began in San Diego, Ca., transiting along the coast of Mexico and making its way through the Panama Canal into the Atlantic Ocean before reaching Portsmouth, Va. Both NASSAU crewmembers were tanned and leathery in appearance and said they were glad to be back.



## ENLISTED AVIATION WARFARE SPECIALIST

AZC Coy York became the first NASSAU crewman to qualify for the Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist insignia on Aug. 6, 1980. It is believed that Chief York is the first sailor in the Atlantic Fleet surface force to qualify for the award. Another NASSAU sailor, AE1 Geary Heidman has also recently qualified for the award.

The insignia is similar to the surface force's Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist insignia and requires the aviation specialist to be thoroughly knowledgeable in all areas of naval aviation and related subjects.

In order to qualify for the award a sailor must have at least two years of sea duty (six months of which are at his current command), complete Personnel Qualification standards for damage control, Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation, and attend an Aviation firefighting course other than the one attended in Basic Training. When all the above requirements have been met he then undergoes an oral examination by his commanding officer, after which if successfully completed, he is then awarded the insignia.

## NASSAU CPOs Earn College Degrees

Chief Master at Arms Michael Shinn dropped out of high school while in the eleventh grade. However the "Sheriff" wasn't very proud of this and over the years he has managed to do something about it.

Granted, the educational road was very long and Chief Shinn was only able to travel it in short steps because being a sailor in the United States Navy is a demanding trip of its own.

His persistence, however, has set an example for many of us who are too lazy or too "busy" to further our education (yours truly included), for on Sept. 15 Chief Shinn received his Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree

in law enforcement from the University of Maryland College Park.

Unfortunately (for the rest of us, that is) Chief Shinn doesn't know when to quit and is currently planning on adding a Bachelors degree. Granted, it may take a little longer than usual, but most of us have the feeling he'll do it.

Another NASSAU CPO, SMC Luis Alderman, has received his Associate of Sciences (A.S.) degree from the University of the State of New York Albany Cultural Center.

Chief Alderman's degree is in the area of Business/Personnel Management.

# NASSAU Leads in Admiral's Cup Athletic Competition

As the last month of Admiral's Cup competition draws near NASSAU holds a commanding 144 point lead over our nearest rival in the large afloat division.

NASSAU has scored points in 12 of the 20 events played so far. Only two other ships have scored in as many as six events.

Five more events remain in this years' competition: racquetball, badminton, handball, squash, and basketball. NASSAU crewmembers are entered in all these events.

Individual and team championships have been won by NASSAU athletes in the five events: Slowpitch softball (team), bowling (team), swimming (team), sailing (team), and track and field (team).

In addition, EWCS Larry Burgin took top intramural honors in archery, and a racquet sports team comprised of Captain (USMC) Richard Cavallaro, Ensign Dody Santos and FTGC Zachery K. Calles captured second place in a racquet sports competition of tennis, table tennis, racquetball, squash, and badminton.

NASSAU crewmen also participated in: tennis, horseshoes, golf, flag football, and a decathlon.

Admiral's Cup competition is a series of intramural events which determines a Navy base's top overall athletic command. NASSAU is competing for the championship of the Little Creek Naval Amphibious Base.

## SOFTBALL

HT1 Gerhardt  
HT2 Wynn  
AS1 Turpin  
MR2 Cole  
AG3 Browning  
GMGSN Henry  
BMSN Gonzalez  
ABH2 Hass  
ABH2 Miles

ICC Edmundson  
HM1 Hanson  
BMSN Rimer  
HT2 Gura  
EM3 McKinney  
MM1 Grant  
SH1 Rasque  
IC3 Lonski  
IC3 Osiecki

## BOWLING

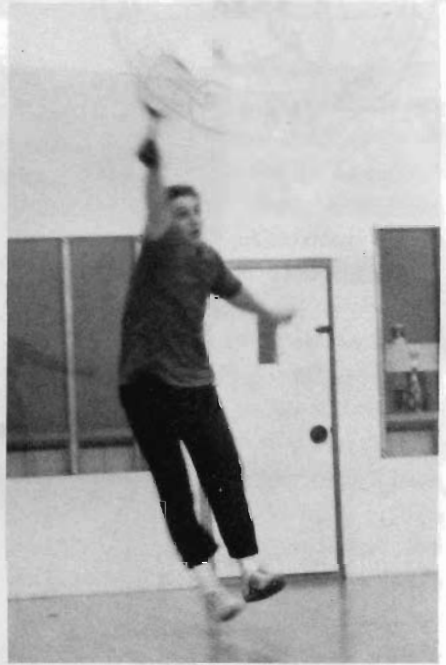
Capt Cavallero (USMC)  
LT Arnold  
CWO2 Barr (league high  
game, 246)  
EMC Rhodes

MSGT Bunting (league high  
average, 181)  
DPSN Ralston  
ACC Schonig  
QMC Simmons  
AS1 Turpin

## SWIMMING

LTJG Fitterer  
LT Arnold  
DS2 Austin  
DS2 Stolze  
ET3 Barber

DS2 Abritton  
GMG3 Braxton  
ET3 Gerken  
DS2 Wilber



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