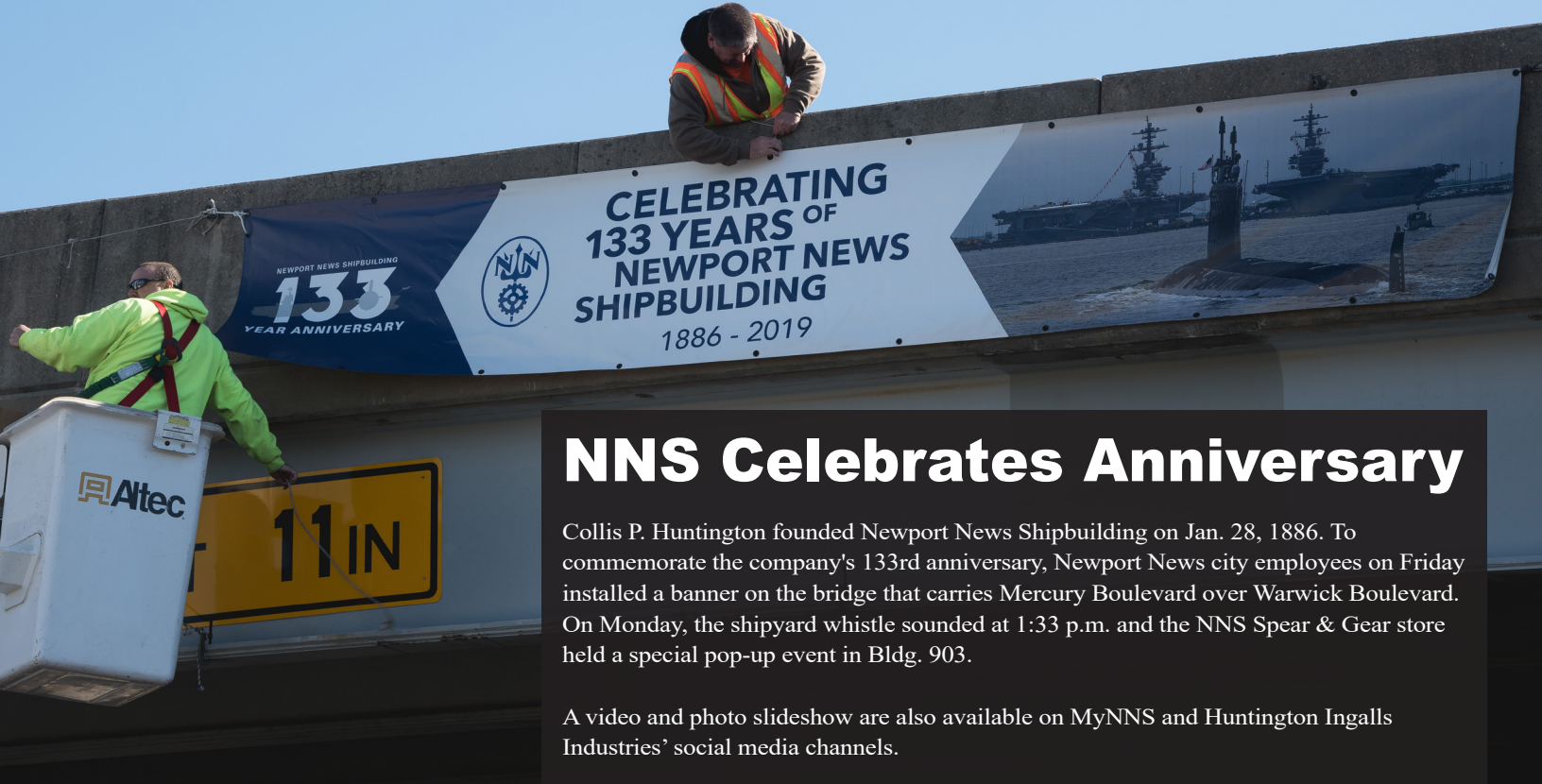


# CURRENTS

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A weekly publication of Newport News Shipbuilding



## NNS Celebrates Anniversary

Collis P. Huntington founded Newport News Shipbuilding on Jan. 28, 1886. To commemorate the company's 133rd anniversary, Newport News city employees on Friday installed a banner on the bridge that carries Mercury Boulevard over Warwick Boulevard. On Monday, the shipyard whistle sounded at 1:33 p.m. and the NNS Spear & Gear store held a special pop-up event in Bldg. 903.

A video and photo slideshow are also available on MyNNS and Huntington Ingalls Industries' social media channels.

Photo by **Matt Hildreth**

## Live Video Streaming to Launch in February



Next month, Newport News Shipbuilding employees will have new options to facilitate face-to-face communication when Technology Services (T54) and Security and Emergency Management (O15) roll out new live video streaming capabilities in support of the NNSFORWARD Strategy.

Beginning Feb. 8, internal, unclassified live-video streaming will be available for WebEx and Jabber applications. In addition to the applications' text and document sharing features that are available today, the new capabilities will allow authorized computer or conference room cameras to display NNS employees and objects to other company computers.

“Adding video functionality to these tools makes this a game changer that will enable the workforce and allow users to execute more efficiently,” said **Andrew Key**, Networking, Unified Communication and Telecom manager. “There is power in seeing something or someone; feedback becomes better, explanations become clearer and demonstrations become more impactful. It will also help eliminate time wasted traveling to meetings and searching for parking.”

To use these capabilities, shipbuilders must be authorized camera users and have an authorized company camera-enabled device.

The authorization and identification processes used for taking photographs, recording video and live-video streaming on NNS property are also changing. To become an authorized camera user or request that a company camera-enabled device be authorized, shipbuilders will need to complete the Camera Authorization Request form via RequestIT instead of the old paper form. Security is no longer affixing camera seals to company-owned smartphones, tablets and laptops. Digital seals are now being deployed to these devices electronically.

To get a head start, see how-to guides for video streaming with Jabber and WebEx by searching “video streaming” on MyNNS, then selecting the NNS Video Streaming link.

Lists of frequently asked questions regarding video streaming and the new camera authorization process also are available on MyNNS at the same location.

## Technology Drives Safety, Efficiency and Engagement



Across Newport News Shipbuilding, technology is transforming the way shipbuilders do their jobs. That's true for the employees in Bldg. 222 responsible for load testing tens of thousands of pieces of nuclear-handling gear at NNS, including the Kesselring site in New York.

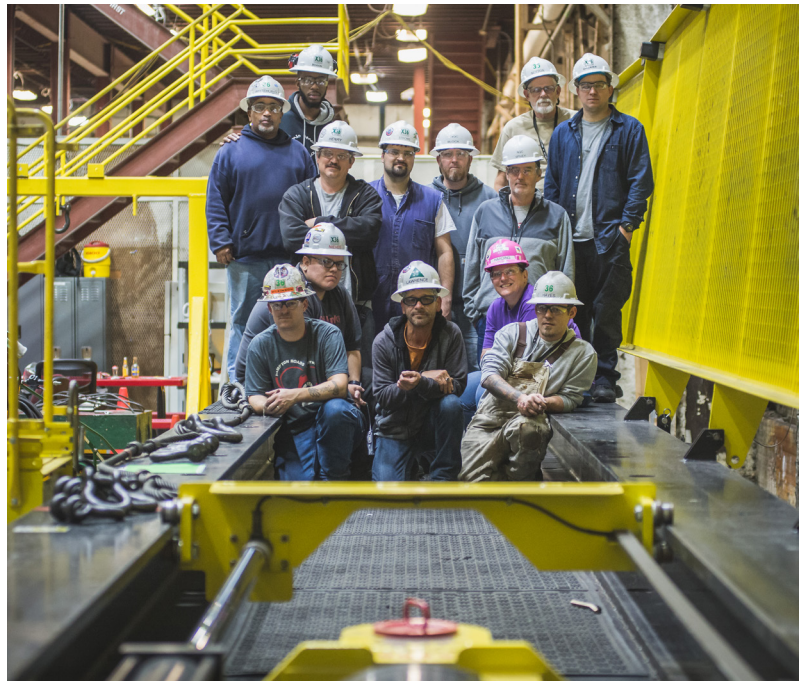
The crew makes sure special purpose service nuclear-handling gear like wires, shackles, nuclear safety hoist rings, chain hoists and spreader beams are able to handle either 125, 150 or 200 percent of the working load.

"They do very unique work in here to make sure equipment is safe for the people in the shipyard and the Navy," said X36 Foreman **Harold Lawrence**.

In 2017, the team received a new computerized load test machine. It replaced a 1960s-era machine that shipbuilders had to crank by hand. "It looked like something you'd see on Star Trek," Lawrence said of the old machine, which could load test up to 150,000 pounds.

While 150,000 pounds may sound like a lot, it often wasn't enough, forcing the team to use cranes in the yard that would allow the testing of heavier loads. It was a frequent disruption for Lawrence's team and for crane operators. The new machine can load test up to 500,000 pounds.

"We've used every crane in the shipyard for load testing,



Shipbuilders with the new load test machine. Photo by Ashley Cowan

including Big Blue in the North Yard," he said. "Now, we've eliminated about 90 percent of our outside crane use. In the long run, it's going to be a major cost savings. It's also safer for our guys."

The new machine has also helped improve engagement on the team. "Before, nobody really wanted to run the machine, now everybody wants to do it," said **Kenny Hayes** (X36).



Pictured from left are Joshua Wilson, Justin Brock, Quintin Langley, Harriet Holloway, Gary Rego, Gregory Bailey, David Hamilton, Michael Gramby, Joseph Braxton and Morris Shaw.

Bailey was walking through the Modular Outfitting Facility (MOF) Jan. 3 when his boot touched a piece of aluminum, causing a spark. He immediately notified a foreman, and X31 temporary power electricians came to investigate and secure the hazard. The piece of aluminum had cut into the jacket of a 440-volt cable. With the cable internals exposed, the aluminum provided an alternate conductor. It is likely a shipbuilder would have eventually come into contact with this hazard had Bailey not notified management.

During the Second Shift VCS Safety Task Team's quarterly meeting, Bailey was thanked for his actions and received a safety recognition certificate and an EH&S coin.

"Mr. Bailey is a great example of the bright new generation of shipbuilders who are leading the way," said VCS Construction Supervisor **Harriet Holloway**. "Mr. Bailey has only nine months of NNS experience. He and other new shipbuilders represent the future of this company."

## VCS Program, EH&S Honor Shipbuilder

**Gregory Bailey** (X36) was recently recognized by the Virginia-Class Submarine (VCS) Program and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) for speaking up and likely saving a fellow shipbuilder from serious injury.

## Application Deadline Approaching for Ability Internship Program

Newport News Shipbuilding is committed to recruiting and hiring individuals with disabilities. As an extension of the summer internship program, Talent Acquisition is accepting applications for the Ability summer internship program through Friday, Feb. 1. Opportunities are available for both NNS and the Huntington Ingalls Industries corporate office.

To qualify, students must have a documented

disability on file with their university and a minimum 3.0 GPA. Students must be enrolled in bachelor's or master's degree programs. Interns will work full time for a minimum of 10 weeks in the summer.

For more information, search the "Students & New Graduates" portal of the HII Careers website ([www.buildyourcareer.com](http://www.buildyourcareer.com)) for job requisition No. 26775BR.

## Download the NNS to Go App

Shipbuilders are encouraged to download the NNS to Go app. It is designed to give employees immediate information regarding shipyard operations, including delays, closures and warnings, as well as access to company news, employee resources, photos and videos, careers, special events and employee discounts.

NNS to Go is available for download in both the Apple App and Google Play stores.

## A Shipbuilder for 62 Years, Sinclair Begins New Chapter

Dec. 21, 2018, marked the end of an era at Newport News Shipbuilding. It was the day Master Shipbuilder **Vincent Sinclair** (O43) worked his last shift at the shipyard. After 62 years at NNS, Sinclair – the second-longest serving employee on the company's rolls – decided to kick off 2019 as a retiree.

"The shipyard has really changed from the time I came in here until now. It's almost like a new world," he said. "I've had some good times and some bad times, but I mix them together and it still was a good time. I learned to enjoy what I did and the people I did it with."

Sinclair's career at the shipyard began in 1956 when he was hired to work in the Maintenance Department, delivering packages and cleaning buildings. With an eye on advancement, the Hampton native applied to transfer to the Welding School. "From there, I went from the bottom to the top," he said. "I learned how to weld, and I became good at it."

He worked his way up to become a welding instructor and a welding supervisor. He later moved to Welding Services, where he remained until retirement. Sinclair encourages shipbuilders to treat everyone with respect, pay attention to cleanliness and safety and keep a positive attitude.



Vincent Sinclair recently retired after a 62-year career at NNS. Photo by John Whalen



Vincent Sinclair is shown at the Feb. 22, 1975, USS Mississippi (CGN 40) keel-laying ceremony. He counts welding the ship's keel among his proudest moments at the shipyard. NNS Photo Archive

"I never come to work mad. If I'm going to be mad, I might as well stay at home. Don't come here and make somebody else miserable," he said. "I'm always smiling, laughing and trying to have a good attitude."

Sinclair's proudest moments at NNS include the opportunity to meet former President Barack Obama in 2013 and welding the keel for USS Mississippi (CGN 40) in 1975.

"I've had a good life," said Sinclair, who still enjoys dancing and only recently stopped playing basketball regularly. He and his late wife are the parents of three daughters, and he is now a proud great grandfather.

While Sinclair's days of entering NNS' gates are now over, he doesn't plan to sit at home in front of the TV in retirement. Plans include building decks for friends and family and lending a helping hand to elderly people in the community.

"I can find something to do," he said with a smile.



Dian Betkowski joined the Weight Watchers at Work program at NNS two years ago. Photo by Ashley Cowan

## Weight Watchers at Work: A Shipbuilder's Story



Losing weight can seem overwhelming, but **Dian Betkowski** (T54) found a way to not only lose weight, but also improve her health and boost her confidence—all in less than a year.

Tired of hiding from mirrors and avoiding clothes shopping, Betkowski decided to make a change. In January 2017 she joined the Weight Watchers at Work program at Newport News Shipbuilding, hosted by QuadMed's BeWell for Life team and available to all employees.

"The program is about lifestyle change versus dieting, so you lose weight and keep it off," Betkowski said. "The weekly meetings gave

me accountability and support, and I didn't have to guess what to eat on my own. The meetings were convenient and since they're at work I see and work with the other attendees on a regular basis. The collaboration is huge."

Through Weight Watchers at Work, Betkowski followed the program's point system to track the foods she ate. Using an app, she could log both home-cooked meals and food from restaurants.

"The tools they offer make tracking points easy," she said. "Weight Watchers has tons of foods in their tracking system and the app even has a barcode scanner."

By tracking her eating, Betkowski was able to make simple changes which made a big impact.

"The goal is not deprive yourself," she said. "I lost 61 pounds in eight months and I could eat what I wanted. Since the weight loss I don't have to take cholesterol medication anymore and I feel confident now. It's empowering."

Weight Watchers at Work will hold weekly meetings for new members starting Feb. 20. The meetings will take place on Wednesdays from 4:15 to 4:45 p.m. at the HII Family Health Center. The 26-week series costs \$217.80, which is a 10 percent discount exclusive to NNS' at-work program. All employees are eligible to participate, regardless of your medical plan. All personal information is confidential and weigh-ins are private.

If you're interested in the program or want more information, contact Becky Tow at [rtow@quadmedical.com](mailto:rtow@quadmedical.com) or 327-4196. She can also assist with discounts at Weight Watchers meetings closer to home if you cannot participate at work.

## Team Recognized for Successful Hiring Efforts

In December, the Engineering and Design Division Hiring Team recognized the support team whose efforts contributed to the hiring of 253 entry-level designers during a 26-month period.

Engineering and Design leaders identified a large hiring need for entry-level designers in 2016 that the traditional requisition process would be challenged to support. To meet the need, Engineering and Design worked with Talent Acquisition to develop and host 21 block interview hiring events through November 2018.

During the events, candidates were taken on a windshield tour and exposed to the graphic tools they would use if they were hired. The team used a post-interview discovery session



A team of shipbuilders was recognized for helping to hire more than 250 entry-level designers at NNS in a 26-month period.

to allow candidates a chance to hear first-hand accounts from both recently hired and seasoned NNS designers.

The overall open requisition to offer rate was above 75 percent, with a job acceptance rate of more than 85 percent. The event format streamlined the overall hiring process, provided a more focused hiring approach and substantially increased the overall roll of entry-level designers for the division.

## AROUND THE YARD



Pictured from left are Susan Jacobs, Brittany Pollock and Dave White.

### Shipbuilder Steering the Way

**Brittany Pollock** (K21) recently was honored with a Level One On-the-Spot Ethics award for going above and beyond the call of duty.

Pollock is a recruiter for the Electrical Department (X31). She contacted department leadership to make special arrangements ahead of the arrival of a new hire who was “down on his luck” and living in a local shelter. Since the shelter closes its doors at 10 p.m., Pollock asked that the employee be assigned to first shift to ensure he would have a place to stay. She also requested that he be assigned to work in or near the South Yard since it was closer to the shelter.

As a result of Pollock’s inquiries, the employee was assigned to first shift and is now working in the South Yard. **Susan Jacobs**, vice president of Human Resources and Administration, and X31 Trade Director **Dave White** met with Pollock to present her award and to thank her for her actions.

### Free Webinars Available for Parents

Huntington Ingalls Industries' new benefit, Rethink, is hosting free webinars on parenting to help parents practice positive reinforcement with their children. Webinars are available Tuesday, Feb. 5 at noon, Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 2 p.m. and Thursday, Feb. 14 at midnight.

To register, visit [go.rethinkfirst.com/benefits](http://go.rethinkfirst.com/benefits). No charge will be provided.

### AASA Seeking Artists for Black History Month Celebration

The African American Shipbuilders Association (AASA) is seeking artists who would like to display their work during the annual Black History Month Celebration in February. This year is even more special as AASA celebrates its 10th anniversary.

All media and genres by employees, families and friends are welcome. Shipbuilders who are interested in participating should contact **Roslyn Long** (E32) at 688-1351 or via email as soon as possible with the number of pieces, sizes and media.

The Black History Month Celebration is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 21, in Bldg. 520. Look for more information about the Black History Month Celebration in upcoming editions of *Currents*.

### Nominate a Shipbuilder for a Security Star Award

Do you know an employee who should be nominated for a Security Star Award? The quarterly recognition program is designed to recognize an employee for outstanding performance of security responsibilities at Newport News Shipbuilding. See MyNNS for more information.

Nominations for the first quarter of 2019 must be submitted using Form NN 9722 (located in the Forms Viewer) and are due by Friday, March 29.



### L.E.A.R.N. Recognition Class Honored

Congratulations to the 2018 L.E.A.R.N. Recognition Class that received a certificate and was acknowledged at the L.E.A.R.N. year-end event in December. Shipbuilders can be a part of a future prestigious recognition class after attending their first five L.E.A.R.N. events. Will you be part of the 2019 L.E.A.R.N. Recognition Class? Visit the L.E.A.R.N. website on MyNNS for more information.

Shipbuilders in the 2018 Recognition Class include: **Jan Pendleton** (O36), **Bill Rinehart** (E46), **Pat Kennedy** (T53), **Brian Kain** (E17), **Robert G. Hardman** (N307), **Ronald T. Lafrenierre** (O82), **Patrick Hines** (E44), **Otis L. Cypress** (O68), **Danyelle L. Saunders** (O41), **Tonia Smith** (X54), **Paul Hecker** (X82), **Douglas R. Delgado** (O56), **Brian T. Williams** (O04), **Anne G. Lewis** (O20), **James Swann** (X89), **Wanda L. Mills** (O63), **Sara L. Skaggs** (X04), **Adam D. Krininger** (M40 PEER), **Nicole M. Lawrence** (O31), **Eric Olsen** (O57), **Helen Dennie** (O28), **Christopher D. Brown** (O35), **Lawrence Baranowski** (O26), **Jiten Patel** (T56), **Heinz Trulley** (X82), **Marcus Jackson** (E81), **Ephel Jules** (E25), **Moriah Montoya** (O51), **Gordon L. Burr** (E25), **Willie Clark** (X11) and **Rodney L. Hill** (K05).

## DATEBOOK

### JANUARY 31

The Newport News Shipbuilding American Cancer Society 2019 Relay For Life Committee's first meeting will be held Jan. 31. The committee is seeking volunteers to support and participate in this year's Relay For Life event. The committee is also looking for employees who would be interested in sharing stories about how cancer has affected them or their loved ones. Shipbuilders who would like to attend the meeting or volunteer should contact **Adam Krininger** (M40 PEER) at 380-4286 or via email. Visit [www.RelayForLife.org/nns](http://www.RelayForLife.org/nns) to register to participate in Relay For Life events.

### FEBRUARY 7

Solera, Huntington Ingalls Industries' free lifestyle change program, is hosting a 30-minute webinar at 2 p.m. about mindful eating. Attend the webinar to get techniques to eat healthier and feel better. Visit [www.hiibenefits.com](http://www.hiibenefits.com) to register. Shipbuilders must attend on their own time. No charge will be provided.

### FEBRUARY 11

Talent Acquisition is accepting applications for the 2019 summer internship program through Feb. 11. To qualify, a student must be enrolled in fall 2019 bachelor's or master's degree programs in business, computer science, engineering or information technology with a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA. For more information and to apply, search the "Students & New Graduates" portal at [www.buildyourcareer.com](http://www.buildyourcareer.com) for job requisition No. 26622BR.

### FEBRUARY 21

The African American Shipbuilders Association's 10th anniversary Black History Month celebration will be held at 4 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room). All shipbuilders are welcome to attend. Look for more details in the coming weeks.

### FEBRUARY 23

The graduation ceremony for The Apprentice School's Class of 2018 will be held at 11 a.m. at Liberty Baptist Church, located at 1021 Big Bethel Rd. in Hampton. No tickets are required to attend. Business attire is required. Interested in volunteering to help make the ceremony special for graduates? Visit [assagradvols.eventbrite.com](http://assagradvols.eventbrite.com) for details. Volunteers must be available for a volunteer training social from 4:15 until 5:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22 and from 8 a.m. until approximately 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23.

Find the nearest shuttle or taxi with NNXPRESS

Available on the iPhone **App Store** **ANDROID APP ON Google play**

## SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

Visit [www.buildyourcareer.com](http://www.buildyourcareer.com) to search for the latest NNS job openings.

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
CNC Machinist	24205BR	M53	Newport News
Experienced Blaster	26320BR	X33	Newport News
Experienced Inside Machinist	27490BR	X43	Newport News
Experienced Insulators	26968BR	X33	Newport News
Experienced Outside Machinist	27491BR	X43	Newport News
Experienced Refueler	27493BR	X43	Newport News
Experienced Ship Safety Watch	27495BR	X43	Newport News
Experienced Structural Welder	27147BR	X18	Newport News
PLC Programmer	26434BR	E44	Newport News
Computer System Security Analyst 2	26074BR	E19	Newport News
Software Business Analyst/Requirements Developer 3	24782BR	E44	Newport News
General Foreman	27847BR	X10	Newport News
Accounting Manager 2	27556BR	N365	Newport News
HRIS Manager 3	28049BR	O13	Newport News
Construction Supervisor 2	27256BR	X09	Ballston Spa, NY

Employees are encouraged to use the "Current HII Employees" portal to apply. The company continues to offer cash bonus awards for referrals to select positions, visit [www.huntingtoningalls.com/careers/refer-a-friend](http://www.huntingtoningalls.com/careers/refer-a-friend) for more information.



## Help Us Improve *Currents*

The Communications Division is beginning an effort to redesign *Currents*, and we want to hear from shipbuilders. How can we improve *Currents*? Are we providing the information you need? Are there stories you would like to see more often? Do you prefer to receive news about Newport News Shipbuilding digitally or via *Currents* hardcopies? Send feedback to [currents@hii-nns.com](mailto:currents@hii-nns.com) or fill out this form and send it via Yardmail to **Nicholas Langhorne** (O29) Bldg. 520-1.

# LONG SERVICE

## MASTER SHIPBUILDERS

JANUARY



Marty Bodziak  
40 years



Linda Bruce  
40 years



Tim Robinson  
40 years



Ronnie Savage  
40 years

## LONG SERVICE

JANUARY

### 45 YEARS

William Cox O19  
Karl Michaelis Jr. O43  
Billy Perkins X84

### 40 YEARS

Martin Bodziak O53  
Linda Bruce E70  
Joyce Richardson X47  
Timothy Robinson O48  
Timothy Saunders M53  
Ronnie Savage M53

### 35 YEARS

Jeffrey Adams E85  
Mark Allen K46

David Babcock X57  
Thomas Bales O40  
Van Beasley X33  
James Blackwell E86  
Joseph Brackin E33  
James Bramble E33  
Roger Breedlove X76  
Cole Brundage E70  
Steven Cannard X32  
Donald Dresler X71  
Kevin Egler X31  
Cynthia Fox E72  
Rosemary Hayes E24  
Ronald Hendrickson Jr. X47  
Daniel Keefe III T54  
John Kranz E61

Kenneth Kurtz Jr. E25  
Margaret Laubach O14  
Vaughn Lewis Jr. X31  
Joseph Massimino X83  
Daniel Moretz K71  
Joseph Owens X69  
James Page X22  
John Pendergast X71  
Theresa Powell E32  
Harry Pugh Jr. E12  
Iris Rawles O14  
Gary Schuler X43  
Stephen Simpson X43  
David Starek E21  
Orsby Thomas O43  
Jeffrey Thompson O53

George Toth K48  
Angelia Turner O53  
Leonard Vanhook K46  
Ricky Wiggins M10  
Thomas Wild E25  
Paula Young O68

### 30 YEARS

Jeffrey Adelman E05  
John Capin E42  
Rickie Estes E82  
Harold Lawrence X36  
Bruce Mccord E85  
Richard Pickett T52  
Dennis Pytash O67  
Norma Sparks X44

Raymond Williams Jr. X32  
David Ashworth X74  
Jeffrey Parker T55  
Michael Wilson X47

### 25 YEARS

Eric Giddinge E49  
Michael Greenberg X32  
Michelle Kirby E57  
Stanford Locus X36  
James Mack E16  
Marcus Mcneil X46  
Eric Neese O19  
Robert Nichols E63  
Tony Slaydon X42  
Ryan Stevenson E13  
Billy Thompson E82  
Obadiah Thompson Jr. X32  
Bach Tran E83  
Tracey Wilson O67

### 20 YEARS

Richard Beverley X18  
Thomas Blount X42  
Russell Bradshaw O26  
Winford Brinkley E57  
Anthony Brown X70  
Matthew Butler X73  
William Campbell X43  
Richard Clayton X43

## RETIREMENTS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Christine Amos X44  
Robert Arthur O43  
Larry Artis X11  
Sallie Banks O14  
Mark Basnight X32  
Jimmie Bishop X11  
Wayne Boone X10

William Booth X36  
Nelson Brantley A572  
Darryl Brown X42  
Edward Cunningham E17  
John French O41  
Christopher Gelfand O36  
Percell Grant O43

Steven Hare X36  
Michael Hicks O53  
Robert Jarrett O46  
Reginald Johnson X32  
Anthony Lee X36  
Warner Lee X11  
Michael Lentz T54

Michael Martin X47  
Elbert Outerbridge X36  
Stasia Perryman E65  
Carl Reffo A572  
David Robinson X18  
Hersey Sears X36  
Richard Spitzman X42

Lorreen Thon O04  
Tyrone Thorne X74  
Nelson Turner X36  
James Uzzle K48  
Michael Waddell E27  
Jarvis Wade X32  
James Ward X73

Frederick Whitfield X18  
Bobby Williams X18  
Benjamin Woodruff T53



### 40 Years Ago

Work was underway on tankers *U.S.T. Atlantic*, in the foreground, and *El Paso Howard Boyd* in January 1979. NNS Photo Archive