

CURRENTS

2 | 11 | 2019

A weekly publication of Newport News Shipbuilding



Photo by Matt Hildreth

OBRP Team Celebrates Perfect Audit



For the first time, Newport News Shipbuilding's Onboard Repair Parts (OBRP) team scored 100 percent on a recent audit performed by the government. Navy officials examined parts made for the *Virginia*-class submarine *Delaware* (SSN 791). The audit is required before fast cruise testing, a simulated Navy training effort done before sea trials and is important to NNS because it helps avoid potential delivery delays.

The 5,363 audited items included nuclear and non-nuclear parts. Each item is broken down to its smallest unit and labeled by Logistics (O53). Shipbuilders verify that proper labels are on materials and that quantities are correct. In the past, the OBRP team has consistently scored 98.6 percent or higher.

"I've worked on six submarines and two aircraft carriers and this is the first time that I've seen the team score 100 percent on this audit," said **Paul Grudt** (O53), a material handling supervisor. "We've come close in the past, but this is an outstanding accomplishment."

On a daily basis, O53 shipbuilders receive, re-package, store, issue, transport and load out to specific ship board locations as required. Their roles also include quality checks and data monitoring.

"We always strive to receive a great score," said **Tina King** (O53). "It's a team effort to make sure all labels match the correct materials. Getting a perfect score shows that this group came together and did exactly what they were supposed to do."

Calvin Saunders (O53) has worked at NNS for 36 years. As part of the process, he transports the materials required for specific locations as they become ready during construction from the NNS warehouses to the submarines in the shipyard. "In all the work that we do, we have to be accurate," he said. "We have lives at stake on the submarines; therefore, it's important to have the right parts."



Six Newport News Shipbuilding employees were honored during the BEYA Conference. Pictured on the top row, from left are **Roclun Barber**, **Christopher Belton** and **David Elliott Jr.** Pictured on the bottom row, from left, are **Eddie Ireland**, **Ashlei Owens** and **Ernestine Thompson**.

Shipbuilders Honored at Conference

Six employees from Newport News Shipbuilding were recognized last week for achievements in the STEM fields during the 33rd annual Black Engineer of the Year Award STEM Global Competitiveness Conference in Washington, D.C.

Everyone Owns It QUALITY We Protect It

Quality Control Introduces New Vision



Newport News Shipbuilding's Quality Control leadership team spent months brainstorming, writing and revising a new vision for the division. The result? "Quality, everyone owns it, we protect it."

"Everyone at NNS is expected to work diligently, take ownership of the quality of their work, and get it right the first time," said Quality Control Director **Brandi Smith**. "That means the whole organization, down to each person, delivers their best, and Quality Control becomes just the final check in a self-sustaining quality organization."

Quality Control ensures that deficiencies are found and corrected before ships are turned over to the Navy.

The new aspirational vision defines what Quality Control is about and embodies the



Shipbuilders model their new hoodies. The backs of the hoodies feature the new Quality Control logo and vision.

basic reason the team exists, according to Smith. The more than 500 shipbuilders who work in Quality Control recently received logoed hoodies emblazoned with the vision.

"Everything we do, every action we take, every decision we make needs to be in support of this vision. If it is not, we probably shouldn't be doing it," Smith recently told her team. "As someone once said, 'The quality of our expectations determines the quality of our action.' In other words, we will only accomplish that which we set out to do. I believe our vision of 'Quality, everyone owns it, we protect it' sets that expectation."

To learn more, visit Quality website on MyNNS.

Shipbuilders Honored at Conference

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Lead Test Engineer **Christopher Belton** (E25) received the Admiral Michelle Howard Legacy Award. The award is named in honor of Howard, whose ground-breaking 35-year naval career was marked by many firsts, including becoming the first African-American woman to command a U.S. Navy ship and the first to achieve the two- and three-star ranks. In 2014, she became the first African-American and first woman to reach the rank of four-star admiral.

"It is a great feeling to know that the work that you do – whether it's in the office or out in the community – doesn't go unnoticed, especially in a company that employs so many people," Belton said.

Five other shipbuilders received Modern Day Technology Leader awards, which recognize their efforts in shaping the future of engineering, science and technology. They are Test Engineer **Roclun Barber**, Electrical Engineer **David Elliot Jr.**, Electrical Engineer **Eddie Ireland**, IT Systems Engineer **Ashlei Owens** and Test

Engineer Manager **Ernestine Thompson**.

"I'm extremely appreciative of the recognition and believe that diversity in STEM fields allows our organization to benefit from varied thought and unique ideas to stay relevant in this world's changing climate," Thompson said.

Ireland said he also was honored to receive the award and for the opportunity to represent NNS at the conference. "Attending the conference provides the chance for me to see the different things being accomplished in the world of STEM. The workshops and presentations provide opportunities for me to receive information that can be a benefit not just in the workplace but also in life," he said.

Elliott also said he was honored and that the award "demonstrates HII's commitment to diversity and inclusion in STEM and provides continued promise for the future generations in this field of study."



**Newport News
Shipbuilding
Gives**

Do You Have a United Way Story?

Newport News Shipbuilding's 2019 United Way campaign is quickly approaching. NNS' United Way team is looking for shipbuilders who are willing to share their motivations for giving or how United Way programs have impacted them or their families. If you would like to share your story with fellow shipbuilders, email UnitedWay@hii-nns.com.

Spotlighting Employee Engagement



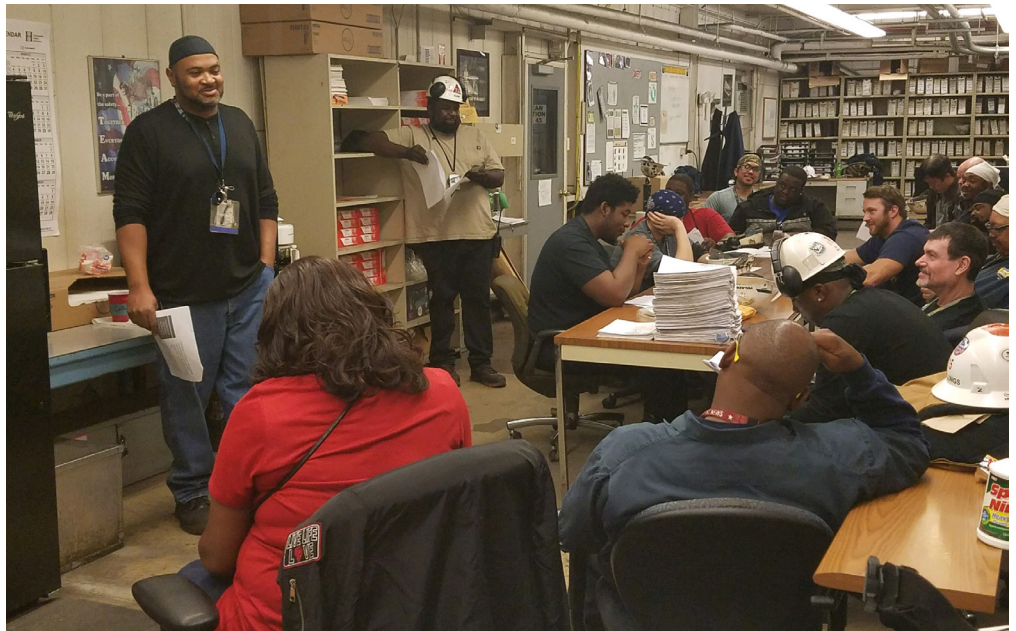
Second-shift crews in the Steel Fabrication Shop have introduced new initiatives aimed at increasing employee engagement.

“If you’ve got an engaged team, you’ve got a productive team,” said X15 Foreman **Vincent Majette**. During crew talks on Thursdays, shipbuilders participate in open mic, peer-to-peer recognition, Gallup study and crew involvement game sessions. Foremen even step back and have craftsmen and craftswomen lead crew talks.

Open mic sessions allow shipbuilders to express issues, concerns and ideas. They facilitate brainstorming and group problem solving. Craftsmen and craftswomen are also participating in crew talk rotations. This allows them to take part in a crew talk with a different crew and facilitates the exchange of ideas and information.

“I want them to feel free to talk about whatever is on their mind and not feel like they’ll be judged,” said X15 General Foreman **Connie Young**. “I can see a difference when I go to the meetings and during our briefing at the start of the shift. It’s more upbeat.”

Tony Goodman (X15), who serves as an engagement champion, took a lead role in the initiatives for Foreman **Timothy Adams**’ crew. He led a recent crew talk and broke down questions from the Gallup employee



Tony Goodman, standing left, leads a crew talk with fellow shipbuilders. Photo by Nicholas Langhorne

engagement survey with his coworkers.

“People want you to listen to them, and they have the right to feel the way they feel. I try to encourage them and give some insight to see things from a different perspective,” Goodman said after leading his crew in an engagement-themed game of “Jeopardy.”

With more than 40 years of service at NNS, Master Shipbuilder **Edward Curfman** (X15), who works on Majette’s crew, has witnessed dramatic change in terms of engagement. “They didn’t want to hear a lot of your opinions back in the day,” he said. “It seems now they want to know more about what you think and how we can do things better.”

Young said all X15 Gallup scores improved in 2018 across first and second shifts. Shipbuilders plan to continue and expand engagement efforts moving forward. “It’s important for us to be on the same page so we can accomplish our goals,” said fellow Master Shipbuilder **John Harris Sr.** (X15), who works on Foreman **Phelan Gonzalez**’s crew.

Live Video Streaming Now Available



Technology Services (T54) and Security and Emergency Management (O15) rolled out new live video streaming capabilities in support of the NNSFORWARD Strategy last week.

Internal, unclassified live video streaming is now available for WebEx and Jabber applications. The new capabilities will allow authorized computer or conference room cameras to display NNS employees and objects to other company computers.

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

As a reminder, 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.

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.



Pictured from left are Jason Roach, Kenton Meland, Tina Sledge Valentine, Mark Johnson, Robert Boucher, Willie Turner, George Bradby and Angela Alphin. Photo by Matt Hildreth

Quality Management System Audit Begins Feb. 25

The American Bureau of Shipbuilding Quality Evaluations (ABS-QE) will conduct a surveillance audit of Newport News Shipbuilding's Quality Management System (QMS) Feb. 25-28.

The audit team will review work documents associated with many of the areas of the shipyard, including records for equipment calibration, training, production control, product testing, internal audits and corrective and preventive actions.

Auditors may also request to randomly interview employees in both nuclear and non-nuclear work areas. Basic information that all shipbuilders should know for the audit:

- The NNS quality policy, stated below and in procedure Q-1000
- Your department's quality objectives
- Your job/work practice
- The procedure(s) that govern your work
- Where your procedure(s) are located

Employees should also be familiar with NNS' Quality Policy, which states "It is the policy of NNS to deliver products and services that meet customer requirements. NNS shall continuously strive to improve the first-time quality of its products and services through continual improvement techniques as a key component of its QMS."

A successful audit will maintain the shipyard's ISO 9001 certificate for the Quality Management System. The shipyard was first certified to ISO 9001 in 1993 and has renewed the certification every three years since. For more information, contact **Remona Price** (O04) at 380-2889.

Security Officers Receive Safety Recognition Awards

Newport News Shipbuilding's Environmental Health and Safety Department, along with the Foundry management team, recognized security officers **Mark Johnson** (O15) and **Robert Boucher** (O15) and presented them with the company's new Safety Recognition Award for helping to prevent what could have been a serious event.

Last November, Johnson was on duty at around midnight when he noticed a strong odor of propane coming from the Foundry. He reported his concern to the Command Center and was notified that the smell was the result of routine cleaning operations. However, when the odor remained strong, Johnson found a Facilities employee and asked him to investigate the issue. Boucher later exchanged posts with Johnson and continued to follow up on the issue.

It was determined that a vent pipe was expelling excessive amounts of propane. Since the odor was not detectable inside the Foundry, and oven temperatures showed no sign of an issue, the leak would not have been discovered during normal operations.

"Although it was not part of their usual job duties, both officers took the effort to follow up on an unsafe condition, which they believed required further investigation, and potentially averted a major event," said Foundry General Foreman **Jason Roach**. "Officer Johnson followed his instincts, and his persistence spurred the discovery of the leak."

Johnson and Boucher are among the first recipients of the Safety Recognition Award, which recognizes exemplary work and actions that positively impact safety in the workplace, and the new safety coin. **Carol Keeve** and **Bruce "B.J." Lawrence**, both X36 foremen, came up with the idea for the award and designed the coin while participating in Environmental Health and Safety's foreman rotation program last year. To nominate a fellow shipbuilder, fill out form NN9783 and submit it to **Ebony Webb** (O27).

Check Out New NNS Overview Video

Check out a new video overview of Newport News Shipbuilding, its people and products on MyNNS, the company's external website or the NNS to Go app. The video features a number of recent milestones, including the two-ship buy announcement, the *Delaware* (SSN 791) christening and Integrated Digital Shipbuilding initiatives. Visit nns.huntingtoningalls.com/videos/nns-overview to download the video, which is approved for internal and external use in presentations or on social media.

AROUND THE YARD

Check Shuttles From Your Desktop



Shipbuilders who want to find the nearest Newport News Shipbuilding shuttle or taxi now have an additional option. Visit nns.rider.peaktransit.com using Google Chrome for the real-time location of shuttles and taxis. This information is also available via the NNXPRESS app, which can be downloaded for free on the Google Play and Apple app stores.



X36 Foreman **Greg Howell** presents a check from shipbuilders to Kate Ryan, Corporate Relations development officer at Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters.

year's end in lieu of receiving gifts from each other.

Last year marked the third year that X36 has directed its offerings to Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters (CHKD) in Norfolk. "CHKD is a great organization right here in our community that has helped many," said X36 General Foreman **Greg Howell**. "Just about all of us either have been personally helped within our family or know someone whose child has received care at CHKD."

Howell met with Kate Ryan of CHKD just before shutdown to present a \$4,855.17 check from X36 shipbuilders from across the yard. The money raised this year brings X36's total giving to CHKD over the past three years to more than \$10,000.

"We are all very fortunate, and nothing makes us feel better than being able to help others," Howell said. "I'm very grateful to be a small part of this great team."

Waterfront Support Services Supports CHKD

For the past several years, shipbuilders in the Waterfront Support Services Department (X36) have chosen to give to charities at

ESHP Safety Task Team Gives Back

As temperatures dropped at the end of last year, members of the Electrical, Sheet Metal, Hangar and Pad (ESHP) Safety Task Team came together to support a particularly vulnerable segment of the community.

The team solicited donations of cold-weather clothing and accessories as well as toiletries for the nonprofit Community Housing Partners. The organization operates the Warwick Apartments on West Avenue, which provides housing, employment training and educational opportunities for formerly homeless individuals.

"There were blankets, hats, gloves, shoes," said ESHP Safety Task Team member **James Johnson** (X32). "Some of it was brand new stuff that people bought to donate."

They aren't sure exactly how many items were donated, but it was enough to fill the bed of a pickup truck although the



ESHP Safety Task Team member **Kai Smith** stands next to some of the items donated by shipbuilders.

drive only lasted about two weeks. Some members of the team said their personal experiences with homelessness in the past made this drive even more meaningful.

"When I was younger, I was in the same situation with my grandmother so I know how important it is to give back," said ESHP Safety Task Team member **Jasmin Davis** (X32).



Shipbuilders Promote Maritime Trades Training Program at the General Assembly

On Jan. 31, **Ashia Gurley** (X32), **Dave White** (X32), **Larry Horne** (O36) and **Landon Symons** (X32) visited the Virginia General Assembly with a group from Tidewater Community College (TCC) to talk to elected officials about the value of the Maritime Trades Training (MTT) program.

The MTT program is run in partnership between TCC, the Virginia Ship Repair Association and Newport News Shipbuilding. It allows prospective shipbuilders the opportunity to learn a trade at a community college before being onboarded at NNS. Gurley and Symons are graduates of the MTT sheet metal program.

Flu Shots Still Available

Shipbuilders who haven't yet received the flu vaccine can get a free flu shot on a walk-in basis at the HII Family Health Center from 7 to 10 a.m. and from 2 to 5 p.m. on Feb. 13 and Feb. 20. Also, flu shots will be available at the health center's meet and greet Feb. 26, from 1 to 6 p.m.

DATEBOOK

FEBRUARY 14

The "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club will host a meeting from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Room 247 of The Apprentice School (Bldg. 1919). The event is open to all Newport News Shipbuilding employees and no RSVP is required. The event will provide a forum for employees to learn how to become more effective communicators and leaders. For more information, contact **Jason Paquette** (E83) at 534-2770.

FEBRUARY 15

The company's Pride in What We Do team encourages shipbuilders to unite by wearing red, white or blue and participating in a group photo at 12:10 p.m. at The Rock for Newport News Day. For more information, contact **Adam Krininger** (PEER M40) at 380-4286.

FEBRUARY 19

Attend the "Love and Money" class from SmartPath to learn how to balance your relationship, shared goals and individual financial freedom. Classes are offered from noon until 1 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room) and from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the VASCIC 2 West Dining Area. Email BeWell@hii-co.com to register for your preferred class time or ask your foreman to register you. Management-approved PTO/Flex is required during scheduled work hours.

FEBRUARY 19

Newport News Shipbuilding President Jennifer Boykin will kick off a Female and Builder (FaB) Talk session at 4 p.m. at The Apprentice School (Second Floor, Student Commons). The event will include a panel of women in various positions throughout NNS that will share experiences, provide guidance and answer questions. The FaB Talk is open to all NNS employees. To RSVP, visit fabtalk.eventbrite.com. For more information, contact **Latasha Jarrett** (O22) at 380-2005.



Friday Pop-up Planned

NNS Spear & Gear, Newport News Shipbuilding's online company store, will host a pop-up from 6 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15, at Bldg. 227 (Applebee's). Don't miss the chance to score big savings on a wide variety of company-logoed apparel, products and merchandise. Can't make the pop-up? Shop 24/7 at www.nnsSpearAndGear.com with free shipping.

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 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.

FEBRUARY 20

The Veterans Employee Resource Group (VERG) will hold a general membership meeting from 4:30 until 5:30 p.m. at The Apprentice School (Alumni Room). For more information, contact **Adam Krininger** (PEER M40) at 380-4286.

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. The celebration will include an art show, including all media and genres by employees, families and friends. Shipbuilders who are interested in featuring their work should contact **Roslyn Long** (E32) at 688-1351 or via email as soon as possible with the number of pieces, sizes and media.

FEBRUARY 26

Shipbuilders are invited to meet the HII Family Health Center's newest doctors at a meet and greet event from 1 until 6 p.m. Eligible employees and their families can visit with the staff, learn about the health center's services and enter a drawing to win a YETI cooler. Free flu shots will also be available with no appointments needed.

FEBRUARY 28

The "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club will host a meeting from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Room 247 of The Apprentice School (Bldg. 1919). The event is open to all Newport News Shipbuilding employees and no RSVP is required. The event will provide a forum for employees to learn how to become more effective communicators and leaders. For more information, contact **Jason Paquette** (E83) at 534-2770.

MARCH 26

Newport News Shipbuilding's American Cancer Society Relay For Life team will host a kickoff event from 4:15 until 6 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room). Employees who are interested in participating in Relay For Life can sign up at the kickoff. For more information, contact **Adam Krininger** (PEER M40) at 380-4286.

SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

Visit www.buildyourcareer.com to search for the latest NNS job openings.

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Industrial HVAC Repair Technician – Maintenance Dept.	25600BR	O43	Newport News
CNC Machinist	24205BR	M53	Newport News
X10/X18 Foreman – Second Shift	26731BR	X10	Newport News
Process Improvement Analyst 2	27074BR	O39	Newport News
iDS IT Systems Engineer 2 – Siemens Teamcenter	28442BR	T55	Newport News
SharePoint Application Analyst 3	25057BR	T54	Newport News
Designer 3	25745BR	E75	Newport News
Engineer Facilities 3	23163BR	O41	Newport News
Mechanical Engineer 3	28445BR	E64	Newport News
Quality Engineer	25661BR	E44	Newport News
Senior R&D Engineer 5	27324BR	E35	Newport News
Coatings Test Inspection Manager 2	27585BR	X67	Newport News
Manager Programs 3	28163BR	X80	Newport News
Solutions Development Manager 3	28477BR	T55	Newport News
Subcontract Administrator Manager 3	28305BR	X69	Newport News

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 for more information.