



Photo by Ashley Cowan

Technology Transforming Training



A mobile trailer from the Society for Protective Coatings (SSPC) spent two weeks in May at Newport News Shipbuilding and offered a glimpse into the future of training for blasters at the shipyard.

“The SSPC Abrasive Mobile Training Trailer provided a way to engage our workforce and improve ‘time to talent’ with our blasting operations by increasing safety awareness, proficiency and techniques,” said X33 Trade Director **Walter Williams**. “We will continue to leverage technology and our workforce to transform the X33 department.”

The trailer is a self-contained craft worker classroom with current blasting and painting equipment. Intended to provide onsite hands-on training, it was equipped with an NNS-approved GoPro camera that broadcasted to an outside monitor. The outside monitor allowed

trainers or more experienced blasters to watch trainees complete blasting work in real time and even provide instant feedback via headsets.

“If you were to send me in a tank with someone who was blasting and ask me to critique their work, I couldn’t even talk to them, let alone view what they were doing, said **Jim Morris** (O26). “Now, I can do both from outside.”

Longtime Blaster **Donald Crenshaw** (X33) watched the monitor as **Ryan Levisy** (X33) went through the trailer. “I’ll step in if I think there’s a better way that he can cut his pattern to get even profiles,” Crenshaw said. “Normally, they’re by themselves and we can’t see them. But this allows me to watch and help them improve.”

CONTINUED ON PG 2

Enable Our Workforce Expo is Tuesday



Newport News Shipbuilding's engagement and inclusion and diversity champions are partnering to host an Enable the Workforce Expo on Tuesday, June 18.

There will be three sessions – from 6 to 8 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. – in Bldg. 4931. No charge will be provided. The expo will include a variety of exhibitors on topics specifically

designed for shipbuilders. Door prizes, free food from Aramark and more will be offered. The expo is open to all shipbuilders. Registration for volunteers and attendees is recommended via the Quality of Life – Engagement website on MyNNS.

Another expo will be held in the fall. Contact **Danyelle Saunders** (K49) at 688-7762 or via email for questions or to volunteer.

Join NNS' Fleet Support Team



Building good ships will always be Newport News Shipbuilding's core business, but like any successful company, NNS must become better at what it does well and find ways to evolve and innovate to secure long-term stability. One of the ways NNS is growing the business base is by expanding its fleet support operations. NNS currently has teams at five naval facilities providing maintenance, repair and modernization work on U.S. Navy submarines and aircraft carriers.

NNS' fleet support organizations work hand-in-hand with public shipyards to ensure fleet readiness is maintained. This includes supporting the fleet at the Navy's four shipyards in Portsmouth, Virginia; Portsmouth, New Hampshire; Bremerton, Washington; and Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. Additionally, each of these shipyards supervise work at other locations where NNS provides support, including San Diego, California; Groton, Connecticut; Yokosuka, Japan; and Guam.

If you are interested in learning more about fleet support and opportunities to be a part of the team, complete the NNS Offsite Work Opportunities survey on MyNNS or on the NNS to Go app. As NNS' fleet support organization grows, opportunities will continue to become available.

Service Desk Launches Mobile Chat



A new chat capability for the IT Service Desk is available for the Newport News Shipbuilding mobile platform within the Samsung Knox Workspace on company-owned devices. Both the Chrome and Internet browsers now have a chat bookmark that takes users directly to an NNS chat agent.

The new service supports the company's NNSFORWARD Strategy and offers shorter wait times and faster resolution than calls to 688-HELP. In addition, NNS chat hours recently expanded and are now from 6 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Shipbuilders attend the second-shift Food Truck Roundup on June 5.

Hundreds Attend Second-Shift Food Truck Roundup



Between 350 and 375 shipbuilders attended Newport News Shipbuilding's first-ever second-shift Food Truck Roundup on June 5.

"This opportunity went above and beyond what anyone had seen during our lunchtime and was very special to a lot of great night-shift shipbuilders," said X82 Construction Supervisor **Jon Willard**.

The event, held between the *Virginia* Class Submarine Program's Modular Outfitting Facility and the Supplemental Modular Outfitting Facility, included vendors like Aramark, Chick-fil-A, Bojangles', Kabobs on the Go, Empanada Express and Sweet Frog.

"I was impressed by the vendor options available. I am a Bojangles' and Chick-fil-A kind of guy, but I had to give it some real thought before I got in line. I went back for the Sweet Frog ice cream, which was great," said **Vadal Barnes** (X11).

Dwain Jenkins Sr., manager of Food Service Operations, was pleased to see such enthusiastic support and hopes to offer even more options for second-shift shipbuilders. There will be additional second-shift Food Truck Roundups in others areas of the shipyard in the coming months.

Technology Transforming Training

CONTINUED FROM PG 1

Xavier Beale, vice president of Trades, also had an opportunity to visit the trailer. "The energy and learning generated during the nearly two weeks the SSPC mobile training center was onsite was infectious," he said. "It was a clear demonstration of shipbuilders helping shipbuilders learn and grow."

While the training trailer was only onsite for a short period of time, Morris said NNS is looking for ways to incorporate new training technology in the near future.

"We're marrying today's technology to old process training," he said. "Blaster technique has a lot of variables, but for the most part we want to see them act safely and in a way that allows them to accomplish the standards that are set in place."

NNS Welder Named Senior Tradesperson of the Year



Dirk Parker (X18), a welder at Newport News Shipbuilding since 1982, was recently named Senior Tradesperson of the Year by the Virginia Ship Repair Foundation.

“Over the years, I just always wanted to be the best at everything that I did,” he said.

The Tradesperson of the Year awards recognize excellence in the shipbuilding, ship repair and related maritime industry workforce. Two awards are given out each year – a senior award for a tradesperson with more than five years of experience and a junior award for a tradesperson with less than five years of experience.

A second-generation shipbuilder, Parker came to NNS out of high school, following in the footsteps of his father. “My dad worked in here for 33 years as a locomotive operator. He raised three men. He always taught us to be the very best that we could possibly be, no matter what it was or where it was. Always respect others, and always try to help others. I’m thankful for everything that my parents taught me,” he said.

Parker now exerts that same kind of influence with younger shipbuilders, his own children and grandchildren and in the community, where he has coached youth and high school football.



Pictured from left are **Xavier Beale**, **Dirk Parker**, **Joe Sabol** and **Craig Hooten**. Photo by **Ashley Cowan**

“I’ve learned a lot, and I try to teach the younger generation,” he said. Parker has had no safety violations or injuries in his 37 years at NNS.

Last week, Parker had lunch with **Xavier Beale**, vice president of Trades, to celebrate the achievement. “You are the epitome of a team member leader. Leadership is at all levels of the organization. And just as we have leaders in the boardroom, we need leaders at the deckplate,” Beale told Parker.

Joe Sabol, X11, X18 and O68 trade director, said Parker has always been a “go-to guy and willing and able to help someone else and to find ways to do things better.” That’s why it was no surprise to Sabol when he learned that Parker had won the award, despite the stiff competition.

“I’m just really proud of you. I appreciate the way you represent not only us, but yourself, too. You’ve always been a first-class guy, and I couldn’t think of a better person to win this award,” Sabol told Parker.



This year’s speed mentoring sessions boasted the largest turnout to date for the annual event. Photo by **Ashley Cowan**

NNS Speed Mentoring Event Draws Crowd



More than 100 employees from across Newport News Shipbuilding recently participated in a speed mentoring event sponsored by the Hispanic Outreach and Leadership Alliance (HOLA) and Asian Shipbuilders Including All Nationalities (ASIAN).

During the event, shipbuilders participated in 12-minute mentoring sessions and rotated to leaders from across the company. Mentors ranged from the manager 2 level to vice presidents and Newport News Shipbuilding President **Jennifer Boykin**.

“An event like this helps remind us that although our individual paths may look different, we are all on the same journey,” said HOLA board member **Isaac Wigfall** (X51). He added that this year marked the biggest turnout to date for the annual event.

Everyone Owns Cleanliness

Shipbuilders in Newport News Shipbuilding's Blast and Coat Facility are coming together as a team to keep their work area clean.

Blast and Coat Superintendent **Charles Wilson** led the charge, and other employees have embraced the idea of walking the grounds of their campus to pick up trash on a monthly basis or as needed.

"I believe that doing this has a contagious effect. When our production workforce sees management leaning in, they will see that we are not just talking the talk, but walking the walk. All of us own cleanliness," Wilson said. "We should all take pride in the products we build and the area in which we work."

Kevin Phillips (E33) called the effort proactive and said it "promotes team building from the office to the deckplate."



Shipbuilders in the Blast and Coat Facility are working to keep their campus clean and hope to inspire others to take pride in their work areas.

NNS Continues HRT GoPass365 Program

Newport News Shipbuilding is currently accepting applications for the 2019-2020 Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) GoPass365 boarding pass, which can be used on all HRT services, including Tide light rail, bus, ferry, VB Wave and the MAX from July 1 until June 30, 2020.

This year, NNS is increasing pass requirements. Employees who hold passes will be required to use HRT services at least 14 times per month, which is equivalent to seven days of use to and from work.

"The reason for increasing requirements

is to ensure we are assigning passes to employees using HRT as their preferred means of transportation," said **Ronald Parker**, who is on PEER rotation with the Facilities Transportation team. "NNS will distribute 1,250 passes this year to employees at no cost. We want to ensure these passes are used as much as possible."

Shipbuilders who consistently met requirements for the HRT GoPass365 during the 2018-19 year are automatically eligible for a new pass. These employees can pick up their pass from Parker in Bldg. 103-1 between 6:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday

through Friday. Passes must be picked up by July 8 or they will be redistributed to other employees.

All other employees interested in a pass should complete the application in this edition of *Currents* or visit the MyNNS Parking and Transportation website.

Employees previously issued an HRT GoPass365 who did not meet usage requirements are not eligible to enter the lottery and/or receive a new pass. Email ParkingSolutions@hii-nns.com for questions.



VERG Hosts Army Birthday Celebration

The Veterans Employee Resource Group (VERG) celebrated the Army's 244th birthday on June 14 with a cake. Shipbuilders appreciated the lunchtime event that honored those who have served or currently serve in the Army.

"The shipyard has been very supportive and my supervisors have always let me have time off, if needed. I am honored to serve and build ships," said **William Halverson** (X51), who has served in both the Army and Navy.

To learn more about VERG, visit the website on MyNNS or contact **Adam Kringer** (PEER M40) at 380-4286. Photo by **Ashley Cowan**

United Way Emerging Leaders Society Hosting 2019 Kickoff

The United Way Emerging Leaders Society is hosting its 2019 kickoff and partnership celebration at Tradition Brewing Co. from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 24.

This event allows young professionals to connect and learn more about the partnership between United Way of the Virginia Peninsula

and the Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, including the upcoming year of events. The Emerging Leaders Society is a group of individuals in their 20s and 30s who want to make impactful change in their community. The group focuses on three areas: professional development, volunteerism and social/networking.

AROUND THE YARD

Uber and Lyft Pickup Locations

Newport News Shipbuilding's Security team has recently seen an increase in the number of Uber and Lyft drivers attempting to gain access into the shipyard through vehicular entrances at the gate – especially in the North Yard.

“These drivers and their vehicles are not credentialed to enter the shipyard and therefore our officers must turn them away,” said Capt. **Trent Sturgis** (O15). “This causes frustration to the drivers as well as the employees who requested the service. It also causes unnecessary delays for NNS vehicles and our suppliers entering the shipyard.”

The team would like to remind all employees using these services to ensure their arranged pickup location is located outside of shipyard gates. The recommended pickup location in the North Yard is east of the Vehicle Inspection Station by the van transportation lines. Signage designating van transportation lines is posted in the area to notify drivers.



importance that leaders find inspiration in the success of others. Gomez also discussed the benefits of mentoring, including the value she has received from others willing to teach her and from mentoring others.

According to Gomez, there are three ways to spot someone who will be successful at NNS:

- They are taking notes – Write it down when someone takes the time to teach you.
- They are inserting themselves into the action – Lean in and take part in what is happening around you. You never know what you'll learn and what opportunities will arise.
- They are asking for more – Never go home feeling underutilized. Speak up.

For more information about TEA Talk, visit the TEA talk page or contact **Tanika Vasquez** (E08) at 688-7916.

Shipbuilders Attend TEA Talk

On May 21, Engineering and Design hosted Teaching Enlightening Aspiring (TEA) Talk with guest speaker **Jessica Gomez**, director of the Reactor Plant Planning Yard. Shipbuilders who attended heard Gomez speak about her journey from engineer to director.

She spoke about persevering when the going gets tough, some keys to success, and the



PMSA Announces New Leadership

Jason Ward, vice president of *Columbia Class Submarine Construction*, is the new executive sponsor for the Project Management Shipbuilders Association (PMSA). He holds the project management professional (PMP) certification and has been actively engaged in the PMSA organization since the startup in 2016.

The PMSA organization's mission is to introduce and maintain a companywide approach to project and program management by developing employees and enhancing their project management skills in accordance with Project Management Institute (PMI) standards. Ward supports this mission and the operational strategic alignment of enabling our workforce to execute more efficiently.

PMSA is looking to fill positions on the leadership team for operations, education and certification, and SharePoint leads. If interested, visit the PMSA website on MyNNS and click on the link at the bottom of the page for descriptions of roles. Candidates should email PMSA@hii-nns.com by June 28.



WellNNS Celebrates National Running Day

Heavy downpours couldn't stop the WellNNS from celebrating National Running Day on Wednesday, June 5, at Matteson Trail in Hampton.

National Running Day is celebrated on the first Wednesday of each June. Shipbuilders interested in joining WellNNS, an employee resource group that promotes overall wellness, should contact **Cailee Helmick** (E86) at 380-3896.

DATEBOOK

JUNE 20

The L.E.A.R.N. Program will host an after-work presentation with **Brian Fields**, vice president of Business Transformation, from 4:30 until 6 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room). The event is open to all employees by reservation only. Sign up on the L.E.A.R.N. website on MyNNS. For questions, contact **Tanika Vasquez** (E08) at 688-7916, **Helen Dennie** (O28) at 380-4831, or email LEARN@hii-nns.com.

JUNE 22

June is LGBT Pride Month. Join the Shipbuilders Together Realizing Inclusion, Diversity and Equality (STRIDE) employee resource group at Town Point Park in Norfolk to celebrate Hampton Roads PrideFest from noon until 8 p.m. Visit the NNS tent to grab some swag and learn more about STRIDE. NNS is a presenting sponsor for the event.

JUNE 22

The Virginia Ship Repair Foundation will host a Ship Repair Race Night at Langley Speedway Saturday, June 22. Newport News Shipbuilding is a sponsor and will have complimentary tickets for the event. Shipbuilders who are interested in obtaining a ticket should send requests to volunteer@hii-nns.com by close of business Wednesday, June 19. Tickets are limited and are on a first come, first serve basis.

JUNE 27

The "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club will host a meeting from 4:45 until 5:45 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.

JULY 1-2

SHIPs Network is looking for a new SHIPs board member to lead its new hire team. SHIPs is hosting interviews for the position from 4:30 until 5:30 p.m. July 1 and from 4 until 5 p.m. July 2 in Bldg. 903-7 (Breakout Room). If interested, contact **Lewis Fisher** (X46) via email or at 688-4761 or **Eric Olsen** (X22) via email or at 688-1868 for more information. Being an active employee resource group board member could help employees expand their shipbuilding network and offer opportunities for professional and personal growth.

JULY 2

The African American Shipbuilders Association (AASA) is hosting its second quarter meet and greet event from 4:30 until 6:30 p.m. in the VASCIC auditorium. **Latitia McCane**, director of education at The Apprentice School, will be the guest speaker.

JULY 19

As The Apprentice School celebrates its 100th anniversary, the Apprentice Alumni Association will be hosting its 77th annual Crab Feast at the Columbian Center, 100 Columbus Way, Newport News. Advance tickets are \$30 each for active alumni and their sponsored guest. Purchase tickets from alumni delegates and officers, or by contacting **Liz Moriarty** (O22) at The Apprentice School at 688-2513.

JULY 20

Active and alumni apprentices are needed to support the Children's Fishing Clinic at the James River Fishing Pier. Volunteers will set up tents, put together fishing rods and reels for the children, and teach children how to fish. Volunteer hours are from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch will be provided. For more information contact **Anita McCray** (X78) at 380-3322

JULY 20

The 24th Annual Children's Fishing Clinic is scheduled from 8 a.m. until noon. The Children's Fishing Clinic is a great group event for youth to learn about the sport of fishing, interact with caring adults and have fun with their peers on the pier. Every child will receive fishing instruction, fishing equipment, bait, instructions, a T-shirt, a hat and lunch. To sign up, mail the registration form to **Femi Audifferen** (X76) at Pier 3 Bent 31 by July 8. For more information, contact **Femi Audifferen** at 688-3843.

NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING
NNS 5K
•SAVE THE DATE•
SATURDAY | September 7, 2019 | 9:00am
More details coming soon!



Pictured from left are Chelsea Lynch, **J Mathews**, Donna Tighe and Karen Joyner. Photo by **Ashley Cowan**

Submarine Golf Tournament Supports USO, Foodbank

The NNS Submarine Golf Tournament, held in May, raised \$1,511 each for the USO of Hampton Roads and the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank.

Chelsea Lynch, director of Resource Development for the USO; Karen Joyner, CEO of the Foodbank; and Donna Tighe, director of Development for the Foodbank, recently visited Newport News Shipbuilding for the check presentation. **J Mathews** (X82) thanked supporters and participants who helped raise more money than ever before during the annual event.

SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

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

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Experienced Structural Welder	28468BR	X18	Newport News
Senior Compensation Analyst 3	29158BR	O23	Newport News
Cloud Architect Senior Level 4	28952BR	T53	Newport News
Senior DevOps Engineer	29644BR	T54	Newport News
Software Development Analyst 2	27418BR	E44	Newport News
SQL Database Architect 4	27580BR	T54	Newport News
Electrical Engineer 3	30572BR	E19	Newport News
Electromechanical Engineer 3	27504BR	E44	Newport News
Engineer Nuclear 3	29912BR	E82	Newport News
iDS Business Integration, Engineer Systems 1	28196BR	X57	Newport News
iDS Information Governance Lead Engineer 3	28183BR	X57	Newport News
iDS Information Governance Professional Engineer 2	28186BR	X57	Newport News
Lean Sensei – Engineer Industrial 5	28498BR	X51	Newport News
Nuclear Procedure Writer Engineer 2	24607BR	E84	Newport News
Facility Security Officer (KSO)	28590BR	O96	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 for more information.



GO PASS

Newport News Shipbuilding is now making commuting to work on Hampton Roads Transit more attractive than ever. Show your interest now for a FREE one-year Go Pass.

Program Details:

The NNS provided Go Pass program will begin on July 1, 2019. Utilization will be monitored and underutilized passes are subject to being revoked. Employees are expected to use the passes at least 14 times per month.

HRT Go Passes are for employee use ONLY and are nontransferable.

Benefits of Commuting with HRT:

- ✓ No parking hassle
- ✓ Stress-free work commute
- ✓ Convenient shipyard routes and schedules
- ✓ Includes service on the Tide and the ferry, as well as any HRT bus
- ✓ Ability to register for Guaranteed Ride Program*

*To see if you qualify for the Guaranteed Ride Program, go to the HRT website at www.gohrt.com

COMPLETE IF YOU'RE INTERESTED:

Name: _____ Dept: _____

Immediate Supervisor: _____ PERN#: _____

Employee Telephone: _____

Do You Currently Travel To Work On Public Transportation (Yes or No): _____

Please mail this form to Parking Solutions in B103-1, in a NNS internal mail envelope. Foremen are requested to assist waterfront employees in submitting this information. If you have access to a computer, your information can be emailed to ParkingSolutions@hii-nns.com.

Please ensure this information is submitted to ParkingSolutions@hii-nns.com by July 8, 2019