

CURRENTS

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Teamwork, Creativity Lead to Solution



Newport News Shipbuilding engineers and riggers recently used liquid nitrogen to install a 600-pound steel ram pin cylinder aboard USS *George Washington* (CVN 73).

As part of CVN 73's refueling and complex overhaul (RCOH), shipbuilders inspected and measured components on the steering gear systems. They found one of the steel ram pin cylinders, which turns the rudder, didn't meet correct measurement specifications.

To avoid outsourcing work to replace the pin, they took it upon themselves to innovate a way to install a new one using liquid nitrogen, saving money and time.

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Photo by Matt Hildreth



Improved Qualbook Debuts



Qualbook, the tool that provides information about employee certifications at Newport News Shipbuilding, has a new look and is now accessible through the Shipyard Work integrated Management System (SWiMS) and the MyNNS resources (A-Z) listing. It offers improved functionality, such as a section for certifications about to expire, contacts for scheduling training, employee enrollments for the week, and clinic information.

The new Qualbook is for everyone. For production foremen, Qualbook features are also incorporated into a new SWiMS crew list format. The user interface has color codes and screen layouts based on input from waterfront users.

CONTINUED ON PG 2

Production foremen will now have mobile access to information about their crews' qualifications. Photo by Ashley Cowan

NNS Debuts Improved Qualbook

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“This program will make a huge impact on the life of a foreman. It combines much needed functionality with a simple, easy-to-use interface,” said O67 Training Manager **Chris Belter**.

“One of the five priorities outlined by the NNSFORWARD Strategy is to Transform Business Operations. A piece of that is giving new tools to our deckplate leaders

so that they have the ability to access more information faster. It’s nice to be able to put something tangible, a tool, in front of them that will help them execute and overcome some of the daily challenges they face,” said K45 Superintendent **James Tierney**.

The benefits of this project are important to IT as well. “The Qualbook replacement reduces our technical debt by streamlining

the data compilation process and removing it from an out-of-date mainframe system,” said T55 Manager **Bettina Soost**. “We are excited to deliver a technical solution that delights our business partners.”

More information and user training are available on MyNNS.



School Tools Drive to Begin

Children across the area depend on the generosity of Newport News Shipbuilding employees to provide the materials they need to succeed in school. To ensure these children are prepared to learn, shipbuilders are encouraged to support Newport News Shipbuilding’s 2019 School Tools Drive.

Desired donations include:

- Notebooks and notebook paper
- Report covers
- No. 2 pencils, erasers, pens, markers, highlighters, colored pencils and crayons
- Glue/glue sticks, child-safe scissors, compasses and protractors
- Backpacks

This year, collection containers will be located inside gate entrances from July 29 until Aug. 9. Boxes will be delivered to outlying buildings and departments that are planning competitions. Send requests for competition collection boxes to volunteer@hii-nns.com.

Shipbuilders can also give online at yougivegoods.com/nns-schooltools-2019 from July 24 until Aug. 7.

Teamwork, Creativity Lead to Solution

CONTINUED FROM PG 1

“Our team felt confident we could take on this task,” said Deck Machinery Foreman **Michael Herring**. “We worked on a game plan to make this first-time evolution on the ship a reality. It took a lot of teamwork, meetings and creativity to come to a resolution.”

The team made a hole in the old pin and filled it with liquid nitrogen, which acted as a coolant, allowing them to easily remove it from its housing.

Meanwhile, the new pin soaked for 16 hours in a cryogenic tank filled with liquid nitrogen at a temperature of 320 degrees below zero. “This had to be a very safe, but fast evolution,” Herring said. “The pin could have returned to its original size if the temperature of the liquid nitrogen returned to room temperature.”

The team quickly lifted the frozen pin from the cryogenic tank and moved it to the ram pin housing in under two minutes, where it expanded to fit accurately.

William Elliot Jr. (X36), a rigger, said the successful pin installation involved communication, teamwork and teaching. “It was a great experience,” he said. “I have been here 39 years and I enjoyed helping coach the younger generation of shipbuilders through this process. I’m teaching them to take the lead. That makes me very happy.”



A total of 76 employees registered for the tournament. To close the tournament on June 27, there was a championship game and a cookout for all Facilities employees. During the cookout, engagement champions served hundreds of hot dogs and hamburgers and provided an opportunity for shipbuilders to relax, play cornhole and build relationships.

The team of **Mike Shelton** (O45) and **Ronnie Gray** (O43) won first place. The teams of **Pat Nicholson** (O46) and **Dylan Hogge** (O43) and **Jeff Webster** (O46) and **Brett Jones** (O46) won second and third place, respectively. The Facilities engagement team also awarded a Facilities Engaged Employee award to **Aaron Holloway** (O46) for developing the Locker Room Leader program and for his dedication to his team.

Facilities Engagement Champions Host Cornhole Tournament



Facilities engagement champions hosted the first O40 Divisional Cornhole Tournament for all Facilities shipbuilders in June during lunch.

NNS Welcomes 1,000th Marine Trades Training Program Graduate



Newport News Shipbuilding recently hired its 1,000th graduate from the Marine Trades Training Program, a partnership between the Virginia Ship Repair Association and Thomas Nelson, Tidewater and Paul D. Camp community colleges.

“The program focuses on safety, quality and utilizing technology as a basic foundation to build upon as they start their careers here at NNS,” said **Xavier Beale**, vice president of Trades.

Program participants attend a two- or three-week course at a community college, and upon successful completion, are offered employment at NNS with a labor grade increase. Courses include shipfitting, welding, marine deck electrician, sheet metal, surface prep and treatment, pipefitting and outside machinist. The Marine Trades Trainee program introduces future employees to basic craft training and NNS’ culture.

“The Marine Trades Training Program provides an essential pipeline of future skilled trades employees for NNS. These students demonstrate a dedication and eagerness to join our team weeks before they step foot in our shipyard gates,” said **Keisha Pexton**, director of Learning and Workforce Development. “The program



Xavier Beale, vice president of Trades, left, presents an Electrical Department (X31) challenge coin to **Gavin Tasillo**, 1000th Marine Trades Training Program graduate. Photo by **Matt Hildreth**

prepares these future shipbuilders to contribute to building great ships for our customer the very first day they are on the job.”

To learn more about the program, visit www.buildyourcareer.com, select “Trades/Craft Jobs,” and search “Trainee.”



NNS interns attended an all-hands meeting at The Apprentice School earlier this summer. Photo by **Ashley Cowan**

National Intern Day is July 25

Newport News Shipbuilding is recognizing the more than 230 interns who are spending the summer as shipbuilders on National Intern Day. This year’s NNS interns represent 67 different universities and three high schools.

This year, first-time interns worked on nearly 40 different project teams, while returning interns spent the summer immersed in the work of their home departments.

Interns had opportunities to participate in shipyard operations classes, professional development workshops, job shadowing with senior leadership, and various social activities. Several interns have accepted offers for full-time positions at NNS after they graduate, and some will continue their employment with NNS as co-ops when they return to school.

NNS will begin accepting applications for 2020 summer internships in September.

Curious About Hot Weather Liberal Leave?

With the recent hot weather, this is a good opportunity to review how decisions are made in regard to Newport News Shipbuilding’s liberal leave policy and what accommodations are made to reduce heat stress and keep employees safe. View a Q&A on Hot Weather Liberal Leave on MyNNS.

NNS Hosting Farmer's Market July 29



Newport News Shipbuilding Food Services and Aramark are hosting a farmer’s market from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday, July 29, in the the front parking lot of the HII Family Health Center on Washington Avenue.

Locally sourced fruits and vegetables will be available from vendors, including J&A Produce, West Village Barkery, State Fair Popcorn, Oberweiss Creamery, Of the Earth Body Care and East Coast Herbal Solutions. For questions, contact **Dwain Jenkins Sr.** (K49) via email or at 688-7281 or Mickey Yeaman at (757) 285-0153 or Yeaman-Mickey@aramark.com.

DATEBOOK

JULY 23

NNS Spear & Gear, the online store featuring a wide variety of company-logoed apparel and products, will host a pop-up sale from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. in Bldg. 903. A number of products offered online will be available for purchase at the pop-up. All items featured in the online store – which is open to the public and accessible at www.nnsSpearAndGear.com – are available for purchase 24/7 and ship for free.

JULY 23

Investing can help make you money, but there are risks. Attend the “Investing 101” class offered by SmartPath to learn how to invest smart. One-hour sessions are offered to all employees at noon in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room) and 4:30 p.m. in the VASCIC auditorium. Visit nns.huntingtoningalls.com/smartpath-registration to register for your preferred class time. PTO/flex is required during scheduled work hours.

JULY 23

Scott Payne, PMP, former NNS employee turned author of the *PMP Exam Master Prep Manual* and creator of the PMP Master Prep System, will speak on his journey and the importance of project management training and certification from 4:30 until 5:30 p.m. in VASCIC (2 West Dining Center). A practicing PMP and project deployment expert, Payne has more than 15 years of experience successfully designing and deploying lean six sigma project programs within multiple Fortune 500 companies. RSVP on the Project Management Shipbuilders Association (PMSA) website.

JULY 24 & 30

Attend a personal self-care workshop from 4:15 until 5:45 p.m. in VASCIC on July 24 or 30. Attendees will receive a continuous improvement approach and begin their self-care journeys with hands-on practice, both individually and in groups. All journeys are different and bound to have peaks and valleys. In this workshop, attendees will learn techniques to handle the ups and downs along the way. The workshop is open to all shipbuilders. No charge will be provided. Participants who hold a PMI certification can claim one professional development unit (PDU) for attending the event. For more information or to RSVP, contact **Megan Windle** (T56) at 688-6291 or via email.

JULY 25

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 **Jamar Skyles** (X44) at 534-3826.

JULY 25

Newport News Shipbuilding is a sponsor of the Peninsula Pilots baseball team. The team will host a shipbuilder appreciation night July 25. Gates at War Memorial Stadium in Hampton open at 5:30 p.m., and the first pitch is at 7:05 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the gate. However, the Communications Division has a limited number of free tickets. Employees who are interested in free tickets should contact **Laurel Overby** (O29) via email or at 688-9932.

JULY 26

Newport News Shipbuilding and the American Red Cross are hosting an in-yard blood drive in Bldg. 4931 (PCU Assembly Room) from 7:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Shipbuilders who would like to donate should fill out the blood drive donation form and return it to **Judy Fundak** (K18) via email or fax it to 688-7060.

JULY 27

The “Spear and Gear” Toastmasters Club is hosting the first session of the Leadership Institute Workshop Series from 9:30 until 11:00 a.m. in Room B at the Hampton Main Public Library, located at 4207 Victoria Blvd. Linda Kennedy, district director for Toastmasters International District 66, is the keynote speaker. Guests will learn how to develop public speaking skills and techniques for effective leaders. Space is limited and the club asks that interested guests RSVP by July 25. For more information or to RSVP, contact **Jamar Skyles** (X44) at 534-3826 or **Sheila Carter** (X72) at 534-0207.

JULY 27

The 19th annual Norfolk Latino Music Festival is from 5 until 10 p.m. at Town Point Park in downtown Norfolk. The festival will feature live music, Latin food, dance lessons, face painting, crafts, soccer, bilingual story time and more. Newport News Shipbuilding is a proud sponsor and will have a booth at the event.

AUGUST 22

Engineering and Design is hosting a Teaching, Enlightening, Aspiring (TEA) Talk event featuring **Gary Figg**, manager of the Professional Enhancement Enrichment Rotation (PEER) Program. The event is from 4:30 until 5:30 p.m. in VASCIC (2 West Dining Room). TEA Talk is a leadership development series that provides a forum for employees to hear personal stories from company leaders about how their personal lives have influenced their careers at NNS. No charge will be provided. To RSVP, sign up on the TEA talk website. For additional questions, contact **Tanika Vasquez** (E08) at 688-7916.

AUGUST 24

The Apprentice School chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers is hosting the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta from 9:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Newport News Park. Teams and individuals will have the opportunity to build and race a cardboard boat. Food will be provided for participants, who can sign up ahead of time or show up the day of the event. All proceeds will benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children. To sign up or for more information, contact **Jacob Bland** (O51) at 688-3662 or via email.

SEPTEMBER 7

Newport News Shipbuilding and Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems are celebrating their 29th annual exclusive park day at Kings Dominion from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$26 at www.kingsdominion.com/save using the username and password “KDNNSB” or at any BayPort Credit Union location.

OCTOBER 4

In-Service Carriers is hosting its 16th Annual Aircraft Carrier Invitational Golf Tournament at Ford’s Colony Country Club. The event is a four-man captain’s choice format starting at 1 p.m. with registration beginning at 11 a.m. Cost is \$500 per team, which includes golf, driving range, welcome gifts and dinner. Proceeds from the event will benefit the USO. Contact **Bruce Roberts** (K69) at 380-4964 to register.

SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

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

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Experienced Blaster	26320BR	X33	Newport News
Experienced Marine Painter	30184BR	X33	Newport News
Marine Welder Trainee	29815BR	X18	Newport News
iDS Business Integration, Engineer Systems 1	28196BR	X57	Newport News
iDS Information Governance Lead Engineer 3	28182BR	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
Senior DevOps Engineer	29644BR	T54	Newport News
Manager Engineering 3	31153BR	E70	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.