



NAVAL ENLISTED
RESERVE ASSOCIATION
WINDY CITY CHAPTER



Sept-Oct 2015 Edition
P.O. Box 4562 Rockford, IL 61110
Volume 15, Edition 5

From the President's desk...

PRESIDENT

Edward Whiteside
ewhiteside@yahoo.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

Andy Anderson

SECRETARY

Vicky Koehnke

TREASURER

Eugene Koelker
genokoelker@yahoo.com

EXECUTIVE COUNSELOR

Paul Smurawski

MASTER-AT-ARMS

Steve Devereaux

WEB MASTER

Steve Devereaux

-Due to conflicting schedules, the next Windy City Chapter meeting scheduled for Oct 13, **HAS BEEN CANCELLED.**

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, December 1st**

Mark Your Calendar: October meeting **CANCELLED**

Meetings are conducted at 2000 hours on the second Tuesday of even numbered months:

At the American Legion Post in Northlake, IL

List of Attendees:

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Andy Anderson | Gene Koelker | |
| Vicki Koehnke | Connie Koehnke | |
| Alan Koehnke | Butch Michaelson | |
| John Nickelson | Darlene Nickelson | |
| Dennis Devitt | Larry Monroe | |
| Verna Koelker | Paul Smurawski | |
| Steve Devereaux | Gene Huie | Kirsten Ivy |

Special guests: Penny Padour & Jerry Padour

Windy City Chapter meeting minutes-

August 11, 2015

Meeting of the Windy City Chapter convened at 20:20. President, Vice President, Treasurer, Executive Council and Secretary present. A quorum exists. June 2015 newsletter was accepted as stated. MX-Andy Anderson, 2X-John Nickelson.

Treasurer's Report: Accept the Treasure report as stated- MX-Darlene Nickelson, 2 X- Butch Michaelson.

Sunshine Fund: No activity to report.

Executive Council: In June 2015, visited Great Lake's Naval Base, they were celebrating the Navy Reserve's 100th Anniversary event, I have passed out NERA information brochures. Retired Chief's event is scheduled for August 22; RSVP is required for this event.

Old Business:

-Picnic Committee-Darlene Nickelson states 34 people have RSVP for the event.

-WILL TABLE THIS EVENT-Windy City Chapter would like to support and organization and/or event at Great Lakes Naval Base. Reservist Kirsten Ivy-drills at Great Lakes, she will research what events/organization are going on and will report on her findings.

-Windy City Chapter member Jim Premeske health condition still on the road to recovery but now he is on list for a transplant. Keep Jim in your prayers and thoughts.

New Business:

-2015 NERA National Conference,
-Conference book, page ad, motion was made to place ad, MX-Butch Michaelson, 2X-John Nickelson.

-Just a reminder, to call hotel directly by Sept 14 to reserve your lodging.

-Conference agenda is on NERA's national website.

-Since the chapter President will not be attending the 2015 National Conference, Paul Smurawski will be the chapter representative to carry the vote in lieu of the chapter President.

-Andy Anderson has presented a letter from American Legion Post (chapter's meeting location) and states for all organizations and clubs using the American Legion Post as their meeting locations, a liability/release forms needs to be signed. This form releases the Post from any and all claims. A motion was made for the Windy City Chapter to sign the form, MX-Andy Anderson, 2X-Gene Koelker.

-Due to conflict schedules, the next Windy City Chapter meeting scheduled for Oct 13, **HAS BEEN CANCELLED**. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 1st. MX-Butch Michaelson, 2X-Darlene Nickelson.

Good of the Chapter-

-NERA member Jerry Padour (Penny Padour husband) just returned from visiting MN Mayo Clinic. Keep Jerry in your prayer and thoughts.

-Gene Koelker received an invite to attend the 4th of July event at NAS. The event was great.

-Returning member, Reservist MA Kirsten Ivy, will be going to Bahrain Afghanistan for a nine month tour. Fair winds & following seas, MA Kirsten Ivy.

-Vicki Koehnke won 50/50 raffle.

Motion to adjourn @ 21:30 MX-Butch Michaelson, 2X John Nickelson.

NERA's 58th Annual Conference

Join us at the:

Holiday Inn Norfolk Airport

1570 N. Military Hwy., Norfolk, VA 23502

To reserve a room:

Phone: (757) 213-2231

Fax: (757) 213-2232

Go to: nera.org for more information.

The dates are: October 14 - 18, 2015

F-35C Lightning Boards Ike for Testing.



By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Hillary Browning, USS Dwight D. Eisenhower Public Affairs
Story Number: NNS151003-01Release Date: 10/3/2015 2:13:00 PM

ATLANTIC OCEAN (NNS) -- USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) (Ike) accomplished its first arrested landing of an F-35C Lightning II carrier variant, Oct. 2.

The arrested landing is part of the second phase of at-sea Developmental Testing (DT-II) for the F-35C, which is expected to last two weeks. These test phases ensure aircraft meet specifications and identify mission critical issues sufficiently early in the test phase to deliver fully capable aircraft in time for their scheduled initial operating capability (IOC).

The purpose of DT-II is to test the suitability and integration of the F-35C in an at-sea environment.

The F-35 Patuxent River Integrated Test Force (ITF) will run through a series of tests designed to increase the aircraft's operability at sea. The Ike crew partnered with the Patuxent River ITF test team to ensure the ship was prepared to receive the aircraft.

The F-35C will perform a variety of operational maneuvers during DT-II while simulating maintenance operations and conducting general maintenance and fit tests for the aircraft and support equipment.

"The goal of this test phase is to find out how we can expand the envelope in which this aircraft works in an effective and safe fashion," Kitts said. "We have a huge team working on this, and I know that each time I get in this aircraft it's the culmination of a lot of people's hard work."

By 2025, the Navy's aircraft carrier-based air wings will consist of a mix of F-35C, F/A-18E/F Super Hornets, EA-18G Growlers electronic attack aircraft, E-2D Hawkeye battle management and control aircraft, MH-60R/S helicopters and Carrier Onboard Delivery logistics aircraft. The continued success of F-35 Lightning II shipboard operations aid the development of the Navy's next generation fighter and reinforce Navy-industry partnership goals to deliver the operational aircraft to the fleet in 2018.



USS Ronald Reagan Enters 7th Fleet Area of Operations.

PACIFIC OCEAN (NNS) -- The U.S. Navy's only forward-deployed Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) entered the 7th Fleet area of operations, Sept. 17.

"Ronald Reagan's forward deployment to 7th Fleet demonstrates the U.S. commitment to the region and our allies," said Rear Adm. John Alexander, commander, Battle Force 7th Fleet. "It reiterates the importance of the U.S. Navy and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force interoperability, and ensures we have the most capable platform forward when it matters, where it matters."

The 7th Fleet area of operations includes 36 maritime countries and the world's five largest foreign armed forces - the People's Republic of China, Russia, India, North Korea and the Republic of Korea. Five of the seven U.S. Mutual Defense Treaties are with countries in the area - Republic of the Philippines, Australia and New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Japan, and Thailand.

"It's an important area for us to protect," said Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 2nd Class Albert Mendez. "Being forward deployed naval forces we're first responders, so we have to be ready at all times."

Ronald Reagan is one of the most modern aircraft carriers. The technology Ronald Regan is bringing to 7th Fleet is an example of the U.S.'s commitment to the region and the progress of bringing the newest equipment to operate with the forward deployed naval forces.

The crew has undergone multiple training evolutions and qualifications to include damage control and medical drills as well as flight deck certifications during the ship's transit from San Diego to prepare for operations in 7th Fleet.

"We are here to defend our nation," said Lt. Cmdr. Freddie Koonce, Ronald Reagan's Aircraft Handling Officer. "In order to prepare for our mission, we have to train. That's how we get better."

Ronald Reagan and its embarked air wing, Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 5, provide a combat-ready force that protects and defends the collective maritime interests of the U.S. and its allies and partners in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

NSTC, TSC Greet WWII Vets for the Last 2015 Chicago Honor Flight

By Zach Mott, Training Support Center Great Lakes Public Affairs Office

CHICAGO (NNS) -- With bagpipes echoing and flags lining the concourse, command leadership and Sailors from Training Support Center (TSC) Great Lakes and Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) Great Lakes welcomed home the final Honor Flight Chicago flight of the 2015 season, Sept. 30.

This was the seventh flight of 2015 and marked more than 500 World War II veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C., to tour historic monuments and World War II memorial sites as part of the honor flight program.

"The best part about the day was watching the veterans get honored at the different memorial locations in Washington, D.C., by the younger generation," said Capt. John B. Vliet, TSC commanding officer who escorted a World War II veteran during the daylong excursion.

The partnership between TSC and NSTC has created an atmosphere that, on a small scale, mimics the classic welcome home photos of post-World War II photographs. Sailors and other service members, as well as members of the surrounding Chicago community, lined the concourse and each veteran was greeted with a salute and a handshake from Vliet and Rear Adm. Stephen C. Evans, commander NSTC.

The veterans are then invited to a meal and to interact with TSC and NSTC Sailors.

"It's important that the young Sailors that go to honor flight see the senior leadership embracing the community," Vliet said. "For me, it was an honor to have Admiral Evans there and it was also an honor to see the Sailors look up to Admiral Evans' leadership and care for both the veterans and then the Sailors themselves."

Although this is the last flight for 2015, TSC and NSTC will continue to work together on various

other missions across the Great Lakes area. They will also be partnering again for the 2016 honor flight season which is set to begin in the spring.

"This was such an amazing experience and an outstanding way to welcome home our veterans," said Evans. "I am proud that NSTC and TSC continue as strong partners to properly honor those who have sacrificed so much for our great nation."

THIS DAY IN NAVAL HISTORY - OCT 03,2015

1921 - USS Olympia (C 6) sails to France to bring home the Unknown Soldier from World War I. Olympia returns stateside Nov. 9, 1921.

1944 - USS Samuel S. Miles (DE 183) sinks Japanese submarine I-177, 60 miles north-northeast of Angaur, Palau.

1944 - USS Shelton (DE 407) is sunk by Japanese submarine off Morotai Island, Indonesia. During anti-submarine operations, USS Richard M. Rowell (DE 403) accidentally sinks USS Seawolf (SS 197), which is transporting U.S. Army personnel to the east coast of Samar. There are no survivors among the more than 100 crew and passengers.

1955 - USS Saipan (CVL 48) begins disaster relief in Tampico, Mexico, rescuing people and delivering supplies after three consecutive hurricanes struck the area. Operations end Oct. 10, 1955.

1962 - Sigma 7 (Mercury 8) is launched. The mission is piloted by Cmdr. Walter M. Schirra, Jr., and lasts nine hours and 13 minutes. Cmdr. Schirra makes six orbits at an altitude up to 175.8 statute miles at 17,558 mph. Recovery is conducted by USS Kearsarge (CVS 33).
