



Like us on Facebook

Come check us out on Facebook where you can stay updated with our deployment, awards, promotions, reenlistments and more. Where we have achieved over 1,100 likes – thank you for your support!

New Qualifiers

A hearty pat of the back to our newest qualified Grey Knights:

- LTJG Williams – Tactical NAVCOMM
- LTJG Benson – Tactical NAVCOMM
- AWO2 Riechman-Naval Aircrewman
- AWO2 Abrao-Naval Aircrewman

Check us out on the web!

Our website has been updated with tons of useful information.

<http://www.vp46.navy.mil>



LT Promotions!
LT Getchell, LT Goulet, LT Shane!
Congratulations!

Words from the Skipper

Grey Knights Friends and Families,

Another great month for the Grey Knights. Your Sailors continue to do phenomenal work, living up to the Grey Knight motto, "The oldest and the best." Spirits are high, and the consensus is that the busy operational tempo is helping time fly by.

The month of January was filled with some very exciting moments. We successfully accomplished every mission, showcasing the talent of a great squadron. We are definitely reaping the benefits of everyone's hard work during the home cycle!

The Grey Knights continue to flawlessly accomplish every mission with precision and professionalism. We continue to demonstrate the flexibility and talent that makes this squadron an invaluable asset to SEVENTH Fleet.

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With Valentine's Day upon us, I would like to thank you for your continued sacrifice back home. Without your support, we could not succeed in our mission. Thank you from the bottom of my heart and Happy Valentine's Day to all of you, our loved ones back home.

God Bless,

Skipper Kennedy





Grey Knights of the Month

Bravo Zulu Shipmates!

AM1 Hughes: When maintenance identified discrepancies on 764 and 772, Petty Officer Hughes came into the hangar during his day off to manufacture replacement lines for both aircraft, restoring both to an operational status.

AE2 Greklek: Petty Officer Greklek led a team of AE troubleshooters in the repair of a troublesome digital autopilot gripe on aircraft 587, restoring it to full mission capability. He also led the painstaking efforts to diagnose and correct discrepancies on 004's autopilot. When the team discovered an error in the technical manual, they reverse engineered the autopilot system on 772 to make 004's Digital Autopilot System work for the first time since it was installed over two years ago!

AD2 Fennell: Petty Officer Fennell supervised the removal and replacement of 776's number two engine, helping the maintenance department to return this aircraft to a mission capable status in just 36 hours!





VP 46 Spotlight

Admiral Harry B. Harris Jr. Visit

Admiral Harris, the 60th Commanding Officer of VP-46, took time from his busy schedule to attend quarters for both VP-16 and VP-46 to speak with the Sailors, present awards and pin newly qualified Naval Aircrewmen. The purpose of his visit was to meet with regional commanders to discuss ways to forge better relations with our friends in the region. He ended his visit by flying a tactical mission on the new P-8A Poseidon.

Adm. Harris was born in Japan and raised in Tennessee and Florida. Following graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978, he was designated as a naval flight officer and assigned to VP-44. His subsequent operational tours include tactical action officer aboard USS *Saratoga* (CV 60); operations officer in VP-4 at Barbers Point, Hawaii; three tours with Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing ONE at Kami Seya, Japan; FIFTH Fleet Director of Operations at Manama, Bahrain; and Director of Operations for U.S. Southern Command at Miami, Florida.

Adm. Harris commanded VP-46, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing ONE, Joint Task Force-Guantanamo, SIXTH Fleet, and Striking and Support Forces NATO.

Adm. Harris was promoted to Admiral and assumed command of the Pacific Fleet in October 2013.

Adm. Harris has logged 4,400 flight hours, including more than 400 combat hours, in maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft. His personal decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal (two awards), Defense Superior Service Medal (three awards), Legion of Merit (three awards), Bronze Star (two awards), Air Medal (one strike/flight), and the State Department's Distinguished Honor Award. He is a recipient of the Navy League's Stephen Decatur and the Who's Who in Asian American Communities' Spirit awards.



Admiral Harris shakes hands with AWO2 Abrao after awarding her designation as a Naval Aircrewman



Admiral Harris arrives at the Hangar



Admiral Harris pins the Naval Aircrewmen Wings of Gold at quarters.



Upcoming Family Events

NAS Whidbey Island Trips & Tours (360) 257-2432/2702

SNOWINGA

Saturday, Feb. 15, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. | \$30 | myFFR #4040046

Register by Thursday, Feb. 13 | Ages 21 and up only, please. Never tried Yoga? Never Snowshoed? This is a great chance to try both!

Warm up with 30 minutes of yoga, then head o for the trail! This guided trek will last about two and a half hours, with stops along the way for yoga poses in the snow and time to enjoy the beautiful views.

At the end of the snowshoe trek, relax with 30 more minutes of yoga, and enjoy hot Yogi Tea or cocoa. On the way back, we'll stop at Vartanyan Estate Winery to try their award-winning chardonnays, Merlots, Rieslings and more.

Skagit Valley Wine & Micro Breweries Tour

February 22, 11 am-5:30 pm
\$45, ages 21 and up only

Register by February 20

myFFR: 9914039W

Provided: Round-trip transportation, tasting fees, at Challenger Ridge Winery, Eagle Haven Winery Tulip Valley Vineyard, light snacks and movies enroute

What to bring: Comfortable shoes, money for lunch at Skagit River Brewery and winery purchases



Register and see more at - <https://myffr.navyaims.com/>



Ombudsman

Therese Root & Cheryl Johnson-Shrader

Families,

Here is the information that was presented to us at our monthly ombudsman meeting:

- **Fleet and Family Readiness** – for upcoming events in the month of February go to www.navylifepnw.com Some highlights are:
 - Snowshoe and skiing trips to Mount Baker, Steven's Pass and Whistler
 - Valentine's Day – dinner at the Officer's Club, bowling and parties at the youth center
 - Mardi Gras at the end of February
- **Emergency Management** – Feb. 18 – 28 – Security management operations training and exercises will be occurring. The training should not affect the regular operations of the bases. If you happen to see something that is out of place or "just not right" feel free to call security and report it.
- **Child and Youth Services** – Will host two Valentine's Day events at the youth center. Check their website for more information. The parties will be on Feb. 14 and 15th. www.navylifepnw.com
- **Forest City** – Utility billing issues - They apologized for the mishandled of information that was sent out. It was a corrupt file that created the error. No late fees will be assessed. New bills are being printed and sent out. The error will not impact sailors financially. Crescent Harbor, Maylor Point and Victory Terrace were the areas that we affected.
- **Security** – Unregistered weapons continues to be an issue. If you have any weapons, please register them with base security. If you do not have your weapons registered you will be evicted from base housing.
- The pipeline work on the Seaplane base should be completed by March. New gate hours will be given to us next month.
- My FICO scores are available over at the Convergence Zone. If you would like to get an update on your credit score they are free!
- Million Dollar Sailor class will be held on Feb. 19 – 21.
- Boots to Business – if you want to start your own business. This workshop will held on February 26 – 27 at the MSPON 9 building on the seaplane base.
- **IA Appreciation Event** – April 9 from 5:30 – 7:00pm – The event will be held at the Convergence Zone.
- **Navy Marine Corps Relief Society** – It is so very important to get a family budget. Come into their office and sit down to do a family budget. You will receive a gift certificate from the Thrift Store for \$30.00
- **Hospital** – The Urgent Care Center will close permanently this Friday. Hours are now extended in Family Medicine and Pediatrics from 8:00 – 6:00pm Monday - Friday and on Saturday – Sunday 9:00 – 12:00. The existing staff will cover all of the extended hours. Some of the Tricare Prime patients will receive a letter this week that will reassign your primary care physician. These letters will be sent to people who have been assigned a primary care physician outside of the hospital. Currently we have 750 patients in our community who have physicians outside of the hospital. If you live within 30 minutes travel time from your home to the base and fall under this category you could get a letter. **If you have any questions or if you have any problems getting appointments please call Sharon McIntyre 257- 9500. Your feedback is needed with all of these changes.**
- **COMPASS** – The next class is scheduled for March 18 - 20. Go to www.gocompass.org to register.
- **CREDO** – The offer marriage enrichment retreats, workshops on personal growth retreats, and suicide prevention. Call the chapel for more information 257-2414 to register.
- **Colleges/University on Base** – Both colleges on base are open for all information that is needed. Just walk in and they are more than welcome to answer any questions if you are interested in higher education opportunities.
- **Navy Wives Club** - Scholarships are available for graduating seniors. To get more information about this and to see if your child qualifies go to www.navywivesclub.org The meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm at the Red Cross Building.

That is all of the information that we have at this time. As always if you have any questions or need any assistance, please get in contact with us.

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Cheryl Johnson-Shrader [360-320-9301](tel:360-320-9301)





A little humor...



Where a PPC sleeps



Where a 3P sleeps.



WHERE A NAV SLEEPS