



GREATER HOUSTON CHAPTER

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2012



NNOA Houston holds its first Scholarship 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament – Awards two deserving students \$750 Scholarships!



The winning team takes their 1st Place Trophy. LTJG Cesar Ruelas (ANSO Pres, left), LTJG Samud Looney and MCPO Ann Tubbs award the winners.

On June 25, 2012, NNOA Houston Chapter teamed with the ANSO Houston Chapter to hold their first annual Scholarship 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament. Twelve separate teams from area military units, including some that traveled from as far as New Orleans, participated. **Captain James Whitehead, Commander, Sector Houston-Galveston, was on hand to provide opening comments and take the first free throw!**



Roger Guillory II and Celina Wickware were awarded \$750 scholarships by NNOA Houston

NNOA Houston officially awarded these two outstanding students on June 22, 2012 at 1900 at the Hotel Icon in Houston, Texas.

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Upcoming Events

22 June – Scholarship Dinner & Meeting

30 June – Galveston County Foodbank

9-13 July – Houston Ace Academy

President's Corner



We have made great strides this year! We have mentored youth, been visible in the community, trained area officers, and awarded scholarships to deserving students. Thank you! Your tremendous effort made it all possible!

Respectfully,
CDR Will Watson



NNOA Houston teams with the Organization of Black Airline Professionals to reach over 9,000 youth throughout the area!



Mr. Xavier Samuels (left), a member of NNOA and OBAP receives recognition from the City of Houston for coordinating numerous community service events in the area. CDR John Pruitt, CO, CGC DAUNTLESS, attended the ceremony representing NNOA Houston.

From 20-24 February 2012, NNOA Houston participated in a major youth outreach event in the City of Houston. Led by Xavier Samuels (pictured above left) several members signed on to speak at numerous elementary schools throughout the area over the course of several days.



Over 200 kids eagerly ask questions during CDR Watson's presentation at a local elementary school.

The program's objective was to expose students to professionals in the aviation field as well as other key disciplines to motivate them toward excellence. All told, over 9,000 students were reached during this outstanding event!

NNOA played an integral role providing several of its members as guest speakers, and of course, having one of our key leaders, Xavier, in a lead coordinating role. NNOA was specifically recognized by the Mayor of Houston for its community service efforts.



NNOA Houston helps the Galveston County Foodbank open its doors on weekends!

NNOA Houston launched a major initiative to support the Galveston County Foodbank throughout 2012. With a simple vision to provide support, our lead project officer, LTJG Michelle Washington (also Chapter Secretary) developed a plan that yielded a consistent workforce with a targeted mission to feed those less fortunate.

Although a stalwart in the local community, the Foodbank was unable to support weekend operations with its current workforce.

Determined to make things right, Executive Director, Mark Davis set about seeking support from various organizations to meet the need. As it happened, Mark was acquainted with NNOA Houston Chapter President, CDR Will Watson, through a mutual friend, and off we went from there!

LTJG Washington stepped up to lead the way coordinating training for the team and assisting with educating all volunteers on operating the Foodbank's facility on targeted days throughout the year. Because of NNOA's support, the Galveston County Foodbank was able to open its doors on Saturdays, a long held desire of the center's Director. Furthermore, because of our efforts, NNOA was recognized during the center's opening Saturday ceremony, which was attended by members of the surrounding community and several public officials.



Elaine Pearson (3rd from left), ENS Eric Hudson (center), and LTJG Michelle Washington (right) work closely with foodbank staff.

Save the Date

NNOA Conference
July 23 - 27, 2012

The Roosevelt Hotel
NEW ORLEANS

Check back often for more details!





“MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT”

LCDR (RETIRED) ELAINE PEARSON, USN



LCDR (retired) Elaine Pearson has been the driving force behind the reinvigoration of the Greater Houston Chapter! She has been a model of consistency and excellence, truly the strong foundation from which our Chapter has risen.

Realizing that bold action needed to be taken to strengthen the Houston Chapter after several years, she coordinated a social gathering in November of 2012 that was the beginning of our comeback! As a result of her efforts, a new energetic and committed team of volunteers was called to action. To bolster the team, LCDR Pearson served as Chapter Advisor, Parliamentarian, and as de facto Treasurer!

LCDR Pearson was an active participant in the Chapter’s efforts to support the Galveston County Foodbank’s efforts to feed those in need. She also played an integral role in the development of the Chapter’s annual action plan that has guided our actions this year.

LCDR Pearson’s superlative efforts cannot possibly be fully communicated within this short article. Still, the evidence of her tremendous impact is undeniable. She truly deserves to be placed prominently “in our spotlight!”

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT!!!
We will hold our elections in the month of July. Open positions include President, Vice President, and Membership Director. We are accepting nominations through 29 June 2012. Submit nominations via email to LTJG Washington.

Interested in joining NNOA?
Go to www.nnoa.org, contact us at (901) 275-5531. You can also become a friend to NNOA Houston on **Facebook**.

Executive Board			
President	<u>CDR Will Watson</u>	Public Affairs	<u>LT Derricka Fortson</u>
Vice President	<u>CAPT Joseph Willie</u>	Membership	<u>LCDR Christy Rutherford</u>
Treasurer	<u>LCDR Ron Blanks</u>	Parliamentarian	<u>LCDR (ret) Elaine Pearson</u>
Secretary	<u>LTJG Michelle Washington</u>	Historian	<u>LTJG Urdley Smith</u>
Master at Arms	<u>ENS Eric Hudson, Jr.</u>	Scholarship Chair	<u>LT Ronney Wright</u>