

The Bowline

Newsletter of The Tenacious Tidewater Chapter
National Naval Officers Association



2011 NNOA
File Photo

TIDEWATER NNOA ANNOUNCES 2012 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

By Tidewater NNOA Public Affairs

The Tidewater Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA), Inc. recently announced the recipients of its 2012 scholarships for academic excellence. Tidewater NNOA selected seven Hampton Roads-area high school seniors to receive a total of more than \$25,000 to assist with undergraduate tuition costs.

Annually, the chapter awards scholarships in honor of Vice Adm. Samuel Gravely, the first African-American to command a U.S. Navy warship. This year, the chapter will also award scholarships to area high school seniors desiring to pursue

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Terrel Fisher

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Chapter Goals

Training and Education – To provide relevant, realistic, continuous training and information to enhance members' opportunities for success.

Membership – To aggressively recruit eligible individuals and organizations to actively contribute their skills and efforts towards achieving NNOA's mission.

Partnership - To establish community partnerships and maintain strong civic and military alliances to accomplish the mission and vision of the organization.

Public Relations – To actively highlight the accomplishments and benefits of the organization by effectively utilizing military and local communication channels.

Message from the President

SPRING HAS ARRIVED IN HAMPTON ROADS!

...and we are off to another busy season. Baseball season has begun at Harbor Park and for NNOA, this means spending afternoons and evenings at the ball park raising money for next year's scholarships.

Volunteering at Harbor Park is our sole scholarship fund raiser and we need your continued support to ensure scholarship funds are available in 2013. I encourage you all to donate a few hours of your time this summer at the Harbor Park picnic area. This is a great way to have fun and give back to the community.



The scholarship banquet is just a few weeks away. In addition to the Vice Adm. Samuel L. Gravely scholarships, this is the first year we offered scholarships to high school seniors desiring to pursue degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and received over 80 applications. On May 5th, we will award more than \$25,000 in scholarships to seven impressive students from Hampton Roads. Don't miss this historic event!

Our commitment to professional development and mentorship extends beyond the military. On Mar. 14, Tidewater NNOA hosted students from Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School in Washington, D.C. This was a wonderful opportunity for the chapter to mentor students pursuing the STEM disciplines. During the visit, Tidewater NNOA exposed the students to career opportunities in the aviation, surface and submarine communities and encouraged them to continue their academic excellence.

The national NNOA conference will be held in New Orleans, La. This year marks 40 years of NNOA mentoring and influencing the diversity within our Sea Services. The 2012 conference theme is *Celebrating 40 Years of Enhancing Diversity in the Sea Services*. Make plans to join us July 23-27 in New Orleans.

Thanks for all your hard work. I look forward to seeing you all at the scholarship banquet on May 5th. Keep charging!

Terrel Fisher
CDR, SC, USN



Photo by Cdr. T. S. Kent

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (Feb. 26, 2011) Capt. Leon Hill, USMC (ret) speaks during Tidewater NNOA's Soulful Feast celebration. U.S. Navy Chaplain Sharon K. Wheaton delivered the homily during the annual occasion held at the Fort Story Chapel onboard Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story (East).

ANNUAL SOULFUL FEAST

By Tidewater NNOA public affairs

The Tidewater chapter of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) held its Soulful Feast at Fort Story Chapel on February 26, 2012. Soulful Feast is an annual worship service and community outreach luncheon in honor of Black History Month. This year's guest speaker was Tidewater NNOA's own Chaplain (Lt.) Sharon K. Wheaton.

During her message, Wheaton told the congregation that her "aim is not to take away from anyone" but to tell the congregation the stories of many heroines who have done so much for the United States. She detailed the noteworthy lives of Biblical women, women in the ministry and women she encountered during her life.

"It's not black history, it's our history. Aren't we all Americans?" asked Wheaton. "God bless our unsung heroes, God bless the U.S.A."

During the luncheon, retired United States Marine Corps Capt. Leon Hill encouraged attendees to step out of their comfort zone. "Challenges never go away," he said so it is important to teach our children how to "live and learn." Participating in organizations like NNOA can help members go beyond their comfort zones and learn successful tips for their military careers.

Hill was an active member of NNOA and served on the national board from 1980-1983.

This year's Soulful Feast also featured soloist Cynthia Lott.

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degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

Twymun K. Safford of Denbigh High School will receive a \$10,000 STEM scholarship and will attend Emory-Riddle Aeronautical University in the fall to study aerospace science engineering. Western Branch High School senior Alston T. Cobb will receive a \$5000 STEM scholarship and will study computer science at Dartmouth College. Receiving \$2500 STEM scholarships are Blair E. Cutting of First Colonial High School and Derrian W. Flemings of Blair High School.

Cutting plans to study mechanical engineering and has been accepted to Virginia Military Institute, Old Dominion University, and Emory-Riddle Aeronautical University. Flemings plans to study mechanical engineering and has been accepted to North Carolina A&T State University and Old Dominion University.

Churchland High School senior Keaun Q. Barrett will receive a \$2500 scholarship in honor of Vice Adm. Samuel Gravely and has been accepted to Morehouse College.

Receiving \$1500 scholarships in honor of Vice Adm. Samuel Gravely are Woodside High School senior Cameron K. Bell and Lakeland High School senior Jourdan K. Simpson. Bell has been accepted to Georgetown University and the University of Pittsburgh. Simpson plans to attend the University of South Carolina in the fall.

The seven high school seniors and their families will be recognized by Tidewater NNOA at a scholarship banquet held in their honor on May 5 at NATO Headquarters, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation in Norfolk. This year's theme is "education is the most powerful weapon which you can

use to change the world" and the guest speaker for the banquet is Vice Adm. Carol M. Pottenger, deputy chief of staff for capability development at NATO Headquarters, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation.



VADM Samuel L. Gravely, Jr.

**National
Naval Officers
Association
Tidewater
Chapter**



Annual Vice Admiral Samuel L. Gravely and STEM Scholarship Banquet

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"

Nelson Mandela

VADM Carol M. Pottenger

Date: May 5, 2012, 1800-2200

Location: HQ SACT Dining Hall, 7857 Blandly Road, Norfolk, Virginia 23551

Guest Speaker: Vice Admiral Carol M. Pottenger

Tickets: \$35 per person

RSVP POCs:

CDR Terrel Fisher Terrel.Fisher@sact.navy.mil
 LCDR M. Joachim Michelle.joachim@navy.mil
 LT Julius Fears Julius.Fears@cotf.navy.mil



TIDEWATER NNOA GETS CAREER TIPS

By Tidewater NNOA Public Affairs

Members and friends of the Tidewater Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) recently had the opportunity to learn best practices for managing their naval career from an operational commander. On February 21, Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group TWO, Rear Adm. Kevin Scott, presented a brief to NNOA entitled "This is Your Life," focused on how to prepare fitness reports for reporting seniors, the selection board process and the value of mentorship.

The tank [selection board briefing room] is where "your whole professional life plays out," said Scott. "You must take your record seriously."

This means that officers should focus on job performance and ensuring that the performance is documented accurately. Scott suggested that officers write their fitness report "for your boss as you want it signed."

According to Scott, every line in the fitness report should mean something. In order to verify if the fitness report is sending the right message, officers should enlist the help of others. However, he cautioned those in attendance against relying on information from those who are not familiar with the latest Navy policies or community trends. According to Scott, it is important to ask questions about your career and to get information from the right sources. These sources include detailers, mentors and professional development organizations.

Scott responded to questions on a variety of subjects, from communicating with the detailer to how to attain a reporting senior's average. During the question and answer period, he expressed that the Navy's promotion system is fair but it is important that an officer's record speak for itself. A former placement officer, aviation head detailer and selection board member, Scott shared his personal philosophy for success. His advice: *Don't chase the job. Remember that you joined to serve. When challenges come, always remember the pride you felt with your first military achievements such as earning a warfare pin.*



VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (Nov. 15, 2011) Rear Adm. Kevin Scott delivers remarks at the second Operation Planning Team conference for Bold Alligator 2012 at Expeditionary Warfare Training Group Atlantic at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek/Fort Story. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Phil Beaufort)

2011-2012

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HARBOR PARK- HELP WANTED



Working at Harbor Park during *Norfolk Tides* games is the chapter's ONLY fundraiser. It is essential that we have your support at Harbor Park in order to award scholarships and conduct the business of NNOA.

To volunteer, contact Lt. Cdr. Joachim (michelle.joachim@navy.mil)

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY SIGNED UP!

Fair Winds and Following Seas

In March, we said farewell to Tidewater NNOA member and mentor Rear Adm. Kevin Scott. Scott previously served as Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 2. His next assignment will be deputy commander, U.S. Naval Forces, U.S. Central Command. Congratulations to Rear Adm. Scott on his recent selection for promotion.



On Mar. 14, Tidewater NNOA hosted students from Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School in Washington, D.C. Rear Adm. Vincent L. Griffith, fleet supply officer for U.S. Fleet Forces Command, spoke with the students about the importance of pursuing excellence. Students must apply to attend Phelps High School and according to the school's website, when it re-opened in Aug. 2008, it was the "first public high school in the country to offer both college preparatory and vocational education exclusively dedicated to the design professions and construction trades."

Additional photos from the visit are available at <http://phelpsacehs.com/default.aspx>

Photos by Maj. Davis, USMC



National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) actively supports the Sea Services in the recruitment, retention and career development of its members and the enhancement of diversity in the officer corps. We provide professional development, mentoring and support cultural diversity. We establish and maintain a positive image of the Sea Services in communities and educational institutions.