

Greetings and Happy Holidays to our NNOA Family

The holiday season is a time of great cheer and a great time to reflect on our blessings. We all have so much to be thankful for. Family, Friends, Health and Prosperity are just a few of the many blessings that have been bestowed upon us and that we must truly appreciate. I am always mindful that there is someone out there worse off than me. I ask you to remember our deployed warriors and their families who make sacrifices many in this country cannot fully appreciate. We pray for their safe return.

We have had a wonderful 2011 and although the forecast for 2012 is bright, it will bring with it a new and unique set of challenges. All departments within the Federal Government are tightening their budget policy, including the DOD. We will need to navigate carefully through the stormy waters and high seas. We will need to continue to show our Sea Service Chiefs NNOA's value and continue to deliver quality mentorship, advice, and support for their individual diversity and inclusion management missions.

In 2012, we will host the 40th Anniversary of our Annual National Training and Development Conference. The National Board and Conference Planning Committee are very aware that funding at the command level will in all likelihood be tight and that commands may have limited TAD funds for supporting the training and development conference. If you know this up front, We hope that you will be able to plan accordingly.. We will make every effort to keep the conference fees to a reasonable level. Your National Board will continue to work hard and we promise to deliver a conference focused on your professional development and provide material that you can use to grow and succeed.

I look forward to seeing you there with your Commanding Officer, your Department Head and a shipmate. We will have lots to celebrate in New Orleans.

In closing, may the true reason for this season be abundant in your celebration. May the joy of the season fulfill your spirit and bring you happiness.

Very Respectfully,

CAPTAIN Tony Barnes, USN (RET)
National President
National Naval Officer's Association