

NAVFAC Northwest Converts Unused Navy Brig Into Productive Office Space

New Space is Now U.S. Coast Guard Command Facility

THE WORK WEEK might feel like a prison sentence for some. But for U.S. Coast Guard personnel stationed at Naval Base Kitsap Bangor, WA who helped transform the former Navy brig into a fully reusable functional command center, the work week is likened to being out of prison.

“The renovation of the former brig was a team effort of U.S. Coast Guard, Strategic Weapons Facility Pacific, contractors and base public works personnel. This is now a great command facility for the U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Force Protection Unit (MFPU) to work and it definitely beats the temporary trailers,” said Cmdr. Tom Sullivan, commanding officer of the U.S. Coast Guard’s MFPU Bangor.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Northwest recently completed the project in which an unused Navy brig was converted into office space for approximately 150 personnel assigned to the MFPU Bangor. The unit works jointly with the U.S. Navy to protect Navy vessels at Bangor. The newly renovated building provides a permanent home for the unit which had been working in a leased office trailer.

The former brig had been vacant since the summer of 2012 when the last Navy prisoners were transferred to Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Consolidating brig requirements with other Department of Defense services is a cost saving measure as it reduces the need for military guards for a small number of prisoners, gives the unused brig a new life and saves the Navy money with the return of the leased office trailer.

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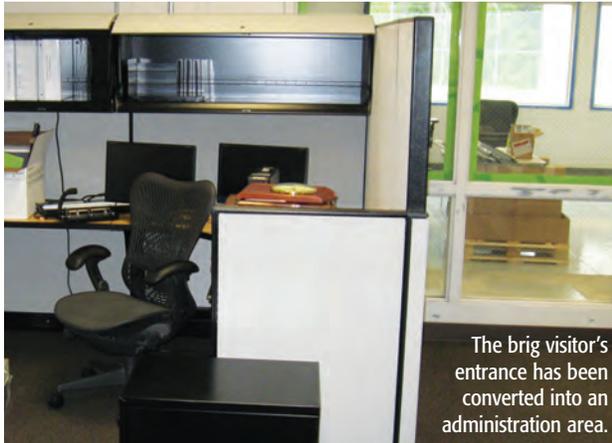
It was timely that the Navy had a new home for the U.S. Coast Guard. Work began in early fall of 2012 and was completed in late fall of 2013 at a cost of \$1.26 million. NAVFAC Northwest recycled the vacated brig with a very distinct use and unique construction into a more hospitable setting. As one might understand, a brig is a prison which had 15 prison cells, two open living bays, above average security systems, and very high fences topped with concertina wire. Following some demolition and building repairs new requirements included running thousands of feet of cable for telecommunications into two former prisoner bays now converted to 65 “bullpens” or cubicles.



The former brig recreation room has been converted into a conference room.



Once a confined space for prisoners, this area is now a U.S. Coast Guard “bullpen” or cubicle area.



The brig visitor's entrance has been converted into an administration area.

A significant challenge in the schedule included meeting the expiring contract of the leased trailer, but the contractor was able to complete the core task of the project eight weeks early. This allowed for a phased furniture move-in, phone/data installations, and enabled the MFPU to vacate their trailers while continuing to

fully support their mission and maintain qualifications and training.

The efforts of the contractor as well as the NAVFAC Northwest team were recognized at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly converted building attended by Rear Adm. Richard Gromlich, U.S. Coast Guard District 13 Commander. At the ceremony Capt. Baretela, commanding officer of Strategic Weapons Facility Pacific thanked Mr. Roger Newton of Newton Building and Development LLC with a letter of appreciation. Capt. Chris LaPlatney, commanding officer of NAVFAC Northwest, thanked the members of the NAVFAC Northwest team individually with his personal command challenge coins. ⚓

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You can get a copy of the *Currents* article template by sending an email to Bruce McCaffrey, our Managing Editor, at brucemccaffrey@sbcglobal.net. This template has proven to be a tremendous asset in helping us edit and track your article submissions. And don't worry. If writing isn't one of your strengths, we'll handle all of the editing necessary to get your submission into publishable form.

Bruce is also available at 773-376-6200 if you have any questions or would like to discuss your story ideas.

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Currents Deadlines

Fall 2014 Issue: Friday, July 18, 2014
Winter 2015 Issue: Friday, October 17, 2014
Spring 2015 Issue: Friday, January 16, 2015
Summer 2015 Issue: Friday, April 17, 2015

You can also refer to your *Currents* calendar for reminders about these deadlines.



Navy Announces Fiscal Year 2013 CNO Environmental Award Winners

Annual Awards Recognize Outstanding Environmental Stewardship

VICE ADMIRAL PHIL CULLOM, deputy chief of naval operations for fleet readiness and logistics (N4), announced the winners of the fiscal year (FY) 2013 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Environmental Awards competition on March 18, 2014.

Each year, the CNO Environmental Awards honor ships, installations, individuals, and teams for their outstanding achievements in Navy environmental programs. The FY 2013 winners, listed alphabetically within each category, are provided below.

Natural Resources Conservation, Small Installation

- Naval Base Point Loma, California
- Pacific Missile Range Facility, Hawaii

Natural Resources Conservation, Individual or Team

- Gary Cottle and Anna Keyzers of Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada
- Michael Farrell Wright of Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia
- Naval Support Activity Monterey Natural Resources Conservation Team, California

Environmental Quality, Non-Industrial Installation

- Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan
- Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story, Virginia
- Navy Region Center Singapore

Environmental Quality, Individual or Team

- Dr. Awni M. Almasri of Naval Support Activity Bahrain
- Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor Environmental Quality Team, Hawaii
- Naval Base Ventura County, California

Environmental Quality, Large Ship

- USS Frank Cable (AS 40)
- USS Nimitz (CVN 68)
- USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76)

Sustainability, Industrial Installation

- Naval Base Ventura County, Point Mugu, California

- Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, California
- Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Maine

Environmental Restoration, Installation

- Former Naval Air Station Moffett Field, California
- Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, California
- Naval Air Station Meridian, Mississippi

Environmental Restoration, Individual or Team

- Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story, Virginia
- Naval Air Station Cecil Field Base Realignment and Closure Cleanup Team, Florida
- Naval Air Station Jacksonville Environmental Restoration Partnering Team, Florida

Cultural Resources Management, Installation

- Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan
- Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii

Environmental Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition, Large Program, Individual or Team

- F/A-18E/F & EA-18G Program Office, PMA-265 Green Hornet Team, Patuxent River, Maryland
- PMA-290 P-8A Poseidon Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health Team, Patuxent River, Maryland

In a naval message announcing the winners, Cullom saluted the awardees.

“Congratulations to the fiscal year 2013 CNO Environmental Award winners and to all who participated in noteworthy efforts promoting environmental stewardship,” Cullom said. “I applaud all of the nominees for your exceptional dedication to protecting the environment and preserving resources in support of our Navy mission.”

All CNO winners advance to the Secretary of the Navy level of competition.

For more information on the CNO Environmental Awards program, visit <http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/environment/awards>. 

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