



October 13, 2023

# Great Lakes Bulletin

Serving the Quarterdeck of the Navy for 105 Years

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Great Lakes, Illinois  
Your Navy in the Midwest

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## Great Lakes Joins with Local Officials on DVAM Event



By Petty Officer 1st Class Joseph Montemarano, NS Great Lakes Public Affairs

Naval Station Great Lakes Commanding Officer Capt. Jason J. Williamson and the Fleet and Family Support Center joined Lake County State's Attorney's Office, A Safe Place,, Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center and Rosalind Franklin University in the Military and Civilian Partnership Training on Domestic and Sexual Violence on Oct. 4 hosted at Rosalind Franklin University.

The event began with the signing of the proclamation recognizing Domestic Violence and Prevention Month, which was signed by community leaders such as Lake County State's Attorney Eric Rinehart, Williamson and the Director of the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center Dr. Robert G. Buckley. Following the signing of the procla-

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mation, trainings were conducted covering a variety of topics to include victim support and culturally responsive services.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). The 2023 DVAM campaign is designed to promote the idea that preventing domestic abuse is a shared community responsibility that starts with a message of support for victims. This campaign introduces simple but safe and effective ways for family, friends and concerned community members to help individuals who are at risk for domestic abuse during a time of heightened isolation.

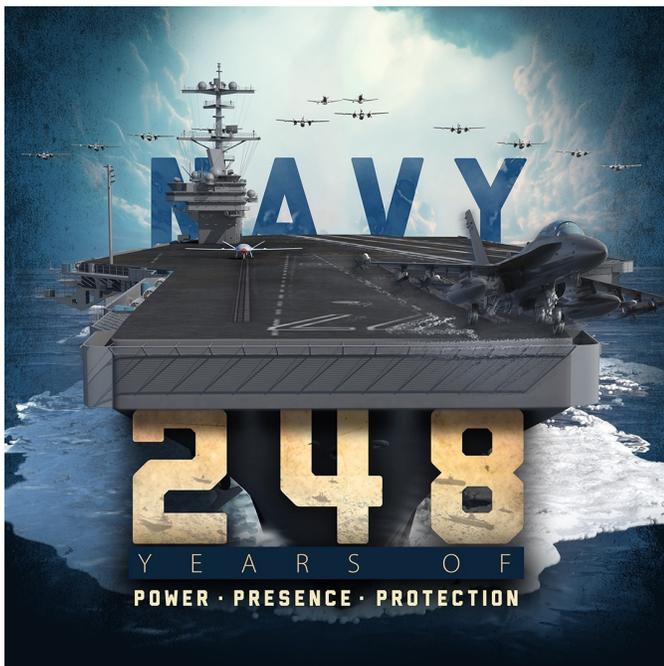
"We all have a moral duty to stand by survivors, I am proud to join this work with all of you here," said Rinehart.

This year's campaign is focused on informing family and friends of victims about how they can help, and reminding victims that assistance is always available. "I encourage all in promoting domestic violence awareness as a community. I'm honored to be a part of this event and have everyone here," said Williamson.

According to a statistic from the White House, four

in 10 American women and nearly 3 in 10 American men are still impacted by sexual abuse, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetimes. If you or someone you know needs help today, immediate and confidential support is available 24/7 through the National Domestic Violence Hotline by visiting [thehotline.org](https://thehotline.org), call 1-800-799-7233 (TTY 1-800-787-3224), or text "START" to 88788. The Family Advocacy Program, Great Lakes commands, and all agencies of Naval Station Great Lakes are here to support domestic abuse survivors. If you, or someone you know is at risk, reach out to the Great Lakes Family Advocacy Program (847-688-3603), the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-342-9647), or the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (1-800-799-7233). To learn more, visit: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/familyrelationships/relationships/domestic-abuse-help>, <https://ncadv.org/> or <https://www.thehotline.org/>  
For more news from Naval Station Great Lakes, visit [www.dvidshub.net/unit/NSGLPA](http://www.dvidshub.net/unit/NSGLPA) or [www.facebook.com/NavalStationGreatLakes](https://www.facebook.com/NavalStationGreatLakes).

## Establishment of the Navy, 13 October 1775



This resolution of the Continental Congress marked the establishment of what is now the United States Navy.

"Resolved, That a swift sailing vessel, to carry ten carriage guns, and a proportionable number of swivels, with eighty men, be fitted, with all possible despatch, for a cruise of three months, and that the commander be instructed to cruize eastward, for intercepting such transports as may be laden with warlike stores and other supplies for our enemies, and for such other purposes as the Congress shall direct.

That a Committee of three be appointed to prepare an estimate of the expence, and lay the same before the Congress, and to contract with proper persons to fit out the vessel.

Resolved, that another vessel be fitted out for the same purposes, and that the said committee report their opinion of a proper vessel, and also an estimate of the expence."

# New Boot Camp Graduation Day Offers Families More Time with Sailors

By Susan Martin, Recruit Training Command Public Affairs

After decades of holding the weekly Pass-In-Review (PIR) ceremony on Fridays, beginning October 5, 2023, the event will be conducted on Thursdays at Recruit Training Command (RTC), the Navy's only boot camp.

PIR, also known as graduation, is held 48 times a year for the 40,000+ recruits and their families and friends who travel to the Chicagoland area from all of the country and world in support of their new Sailors' accomplishment. Bumping up the ceremony a day grants the families more time to celebrate this momentous occasion together.

Capt. Ken Froberg, Recruit Training Command's Com-

manding Officer shared "as we looked at how we fostered Navy family connections, we realized with a rather minor change in schedule, we could strengthen these existing or new connections with

graduating Sailors and their families as they set out on the next chapter of their Navy journey."

For years, the graduation day has been a symbol of pride and honor for the recruits, but it also brought with it a hint of sadness, as the allotted time for families to spend with their freshly graduated Sailors was minimal. But we were also missing out on a chance to better familiarize our new members with the wealth of resources at their fingertips.

"Our Meet your Navy Family campaign is designed to educate new Sailors and their families not only about the opportunities here at Naval Station Great Lakes, but around the world" said Froberg. "By actively sharing information about our Ombudsman program, Fleet and Family Support Center services, United Services Organization opportunities, or even our Morale Welfare and Recreation programs, we can start that conversation between a Sailor and other Sailors, or with their family, and then give them the opportunity of time to check out the local offerings on liberty. We are also connecting Navy families with the National Museum of the American Sailor here locally, to illustrate a key partner in learning about our naval heritage through the Naval History and Heritage Command nationwide network."

Presently, Sailors are afforded off-base liberty following the ceremony with the amount of time dependent on where they are headed to for their follow-on training at their prospective "A" Schools. Those staying in Great Lakes for their schooling are afforded Friday through Sunday for liberty, whereas, those going out of state are only given Friday for liberty as they transfer to their next commands on Saturday. Thus, they only have about eight to nine hours to spend with their families after having been separated for nearly three months during training.

"MCPON's recent Calls to Action were very clear – never

**The Navy recognized the importance of fostering strong family bonds, realizing that a day's delay could make all the difference in creating lasting memories and also saw the strong opportunity to better educate both our Sailors and their families.**

be satisfied by the status quo – holding the graduations on Fridays minimized the time family members and guests can spend with their new graduates and limited opportunity to learn about the resources, pro-

grams, and benefits available to both family and service members before setting off around the world. We're changing that, to demonstrate our commitment to fostering a healthy quality of service for all our Sailors, including our newest ones," added Capt. Froberg.

The Navy recognized the importance of fostering strong family bonds, realizing that a day's delay could make all the difference in creative lasting memories and also saw the strong opportunity to better educate both our Sailors and their families.

"I challenged the RTC team to innovate new concepts in order to maximize our performance as an organization which includes our families," said Capt. Craig Mattingly, Commander, Naval Service Training Command. "What this looks like, to our newest Sailors and their families, is time to celebrate the accomplishment of graduating boot camp. I am proud of the efforts the RTC team has made towards putting families of our newest Sailors first by shifting graduation day. This change has a tremendous impact on the quality of life of our next generation of Sailors. This change is an example of how we should continue to examine our processes to get real and get better. The RTC team is better, and our Sailors and their families are going to benefit."

# Military Service Leaders Address Deficiencies in Barracks

By C. Todd Lopez , DOD News

Recent reports in the private media have detailed conditions in the barracks which house single service members. Included in those reports are revelations of exposed raw sewage, extensive mold and other non-functioning systems such as HVAC and fire detection.

On Capitol Hill Wednesday leaders of the military services responsible for maintaining those military barracks addressed concerns from lawmakers and discussed how the services plan to implement remedies.

Carla Coulson, the deputy assistant secretary of the Army for installations, housing and partnerships told members of the House Armed Services Committee that the Army is aware of problems in its housing for unaccompanied servicemembers and that it's already working on a solution.

"Our leadership, from our secretary, our chief of staff on down, are focusing very clearly on quality of life and barracks as a piece of that," she said. "We've done a lot of work already."

In the next budget release, which will happen in February 2024, Coulson said she expects there will be a multi-year investment strategy that looks at providing additional sustainment dollars for things like military barracks.

"We need to sustain the inventory we have," she said. "Just as an example, we've got in the Army, through our modeling efforts, we can see that we have 300 permanent party barracks buildings that are in poor and failing shape. Across our fiscal year defense program from [2024 to 2028], we can address 113 of those [barracks] buildings. But at the same time, if we don't fully sustain, we'll have 110 barracks, existing barracks buildings, that will move from good or adequate into the poor and failing category. So, we don't make much progress unless we can ensure that we are doing preventative maintenance and fully sustaining our inventory."

Robert E. Thompson, the principal deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for energy, installations and environment, said barracks have in the past been prioritized beneath other facilities that are deemed more critical — but said that the barracks themselves are critical.

"I think there needs to be a realization that we are approaching ... facility criticality maybe from the wrong angle in the department," he said. "In resource-constrained environments, the bias is to put resources towards the most critical installation facilities. The reality is the introduction of a single sailor ... into a facility makes it, by definition, mission critical. The fact that these are their homes makes it mission critical."

The standards against which facilities like barracks are evaluated also need to change, Thompson said.

"There needs to be a standard for livability," he said. "There needs to be a ... clear-eyed view of what the standard is for this place to be dignified, safe and comfortable."

Robert E. Moriarty, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations said in the past the Air Force had done a good job on facility maintenance but has lost that focus in recent years.

"We used to have a dorm focus fund," he said. "We went away from that. And when we centralized a lot of our installation management, when we put all the money together, we went to a worst first or then went to a condition-based thing and prioritized everything together, looking at the best."

Now, he said, the Air Force has "gone back" to what it had done in the past.

"We now have a focused fund, if you will, where we set aside the amount of funds, we think we need to keep the dorms good and accelerate that," he said.

Elizabeth Field, the director of defense capabilities and management within the Government Accountability Office, also testified and discussed with lawmakers, findings revealed in a recently released [GAO report](#) related to military barracks. That report, released this month, was produced after visiting military barracks around the Defense Department and talking with those who live there. Field said the GAO found, among other things, that the military services can do a better job of assessing the most accurate conditions in military barracks by leaning more heavily on input from the servicemembers who live there.

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"What we learned ... is that these service members have a lot to say and are eager for someone to listen," she told lawmakers.

The GAO, Field said, found that there were many complaints from servicemembers about mold in the barracks, inadequate maintenance, broken heating and air conditioning systems and a myriad of other problems that relate to health and sanitation.

One contributing factor to the condition of military barracks has been funding. Field said the Defense Department tends to fund only about 80% of its sustainment needs, and that shortfall of funding means that military barracks often end up as a low priority.

"The facilities that most often lose out are things like barracks," she said. "Eventually if you don't fund sustainment enough, you're going to need to build an entirely new barracks, which means you need new military construction funding."

The GAO report made a series of 31 recommendations to the Defense Department and military services that can be used to improve barracks living conditions for servicemembers.

"We believe that the recommendations in our report, if fully implemented, will put the department on a better footing to address this substantial challenge," she said. "But it will take years to reverse the chronic neglect and underfunding we uncovered."

In a separate statement, Brendan Owens, the assistant secretary of defense for energy, installations and environment and the DOD's chief housing officer, responded to the findings in the GAO report.

"In return for the commitment and sacrifices that service members make when they volunteer to defend our nation, the Department of Defense has a moral obligation to ensure that the places they live and work dignify their service," Owens said. "The DOD has, in too many instances, failed to live up to our role in making sure housing for our soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen and Guardians honors their commitment and enables them to bring the best versions of themselves to their critical missions."

Owens said he is committed to correcting deficiencies in unaccompanied housing across the Defense Department.

"I will move out aggressively to increase oversight and accountability in government-owned unaccompanied housing and to address unacceptable living conditions impacting our service members," Owens said. "My office will work with the military departments to ensure that you have a safe and secure place to live. Collectively, we will improve our responsiveness to your concerns as we strive to ensure a living experience that enhances your wellbeing and readiness so that you can defend the citizens of the United States as part of the finest military in the history of the world."

## Fall and Winter Safety Awareness Tips

By Petty Officer 1st Class Weston Mohr, Naval Safety Command

The Naval Safety Command (NAVSAFECOM) is releasing the annual Fall and Winter Safety Awareness presentation for 2023, aimed at providing Sailors and Marines with information to safely enjoy recreational activities during the cooler months.

"We are excited to bring back the Annual Fall and Winter Safety Awareness Presentation for 2023," said NAVSAFECOM Command Master Chief, CMDCM (AW/SW) Dean Sonnenberg. "The Fall and Winter presentation and media campaign builds upon our efforts from the 101 Days of Summer to create year-round safety awareness." Between Oct. 1 and March 1 of fiscal years 2019-2023, 149 Navy and Marine Corps members died in off-duty incidents. Of these, 73 were due to automobile crashes, 44 from motorcycle crashes, nine were pedestrian-related and another 23 were killed during off-duty recreational activities.

With a focus on ensuring the well-being of our naval personnel and their loved ones, the Naval Safety Command is committed to fostering a culture of safety all year long. As the temperatures drop and the weather becomes more unpredictable, it becomes increasingly important to be informed and prepared for the unique challenges that fall and winter can bring.

"Our primary goal is to empower naval personnel, their families and the community with the knowledge and tools they need to have a safe and enjoyable fall and winter season," said Sonnenberg. "We believe that by working together, we can help create a safe environment for everyone."

NAVSAFECOM will produce a variety of Fall and Winter Safety media products, [which will be available on the NAVSAFECOM website](#) and via social media. needs and objectives.

# 2023 Great Lakes Adopt-a-Sailor Information

This year, Sailors assigned to Surface Combat Systems Training Command Great Lakes (SCSTC GL) and Surface Warfare Engineering School Command Great Lakes (SWESC GL) onboard Naval Station Great Lakes (NAVSTA) will enjoy Thanksgiving dinner with local families thanks to the Adopt-a-Sailor program. Host Forms will be out the first week in Oct. and must be received by Tuesday, Oct. 31 to be considered, and families must live no farther than 50 miles from Naval Station Great Lakes to be eligible.

The program, a Great Lakes tradition since World War I, offers Sailors

to be invited into families' homes to share Thanksgiving dinner for an opportunity to enjoy a home-cooked meal and the company of a family.

In 2022, over 80 families hosted over 160 Great Lakes "A" School Sailors.

Sailors on board the base who would like to volunteer for this program are encouraged to talk to their chain of command as soon as possible.

Interested families are encouraged to visit the Naval Station Great Lakes to download the application form. The completed form should be e-mailed to:

M\_GRLK\_CSCS\_PAO@navy.mil All Host Forms must be received by Tuesday, Oct. 31 to be considered, and families must live no farther than 50 miles from NAVSTA to be eligible.

On Nov. 14, we will conduct a lottery so that everyone

will have a fair chance to host a Great Lakes Sailor. Host families will be notified by e-mail or telephone after Nov. 15.

Requests for Sailors of a particular racial, religious background or sex cannot be honored. However, it may be helpful to note if your family will be serving a particular ethnic food or a particular diet, (i.e. vegetarian) and we will try to match those with an individual Sailor's preference.

Requests for Sailors will be limited to groups of two, three or four per family; with four being a maximum. Organizational

sponsors are not being requested this year.

Families should arrive at Naval Station Great Lakes Visitor's Center no earlier than 7:30 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, and Sailors must be picked up no later than 8:30 a.m. The Visitor's Center is located outside Gate 1, 610 Farragut Ave., Great Lakes.

Sailors are required to be back in their quarters at the base no later than 10 p.m. and because they will have to walk from drop-off gates, please have them at the gate no later than 9:30 p.m. Underage drinking is strictly prohibited and it is the host's responsibility to confirm that the Sailor is of drinking age.

For further information or questions, please contact the Public Affairs Office at [M\\_GRLK\\_CSCS\\_PAO@navy.mil](mailto:M_GRLK_CSCS_PAO@navy.mil) or (847) 688-6558, ext. 128.

LINK [www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/67702](http://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/67702)

Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Adm. Daryl Caudle, speaks to the crowd during a pass-in-review graduation ceremony at Recruit Training Command. Boot camp is approximately 10 weeks and all enlistees into the U.S. Navy begin their careers at the command. More than 40,000 recruits train annually at the Navy's only boot camp. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist



# Navy Recruiting Command Announces Fiscal Year 2023 Recruiting Results, 2024 Goals

## From Commander, Navy Recruiting Command

The U.S. Navy's fiscal year (FY) 2023 recruitment goals were 37,700 for active-duty enlisted Sailors and 8,390 for reserve enlisted Sailors. As of Sept. 30, 2023, the Navy recruited 30,236 active-duty Sailors and 6,342 reserve Sailors. The U.S. Navy's FY23 recruitment goals were 2,532 for active-duty officers and 1,940 for reserve officers. As of Sept. 30, 2023, the Navy recruited 2,080 active-duty officers and 1,167 reserve officers.

Despite a challenging and competitive environment, our talented recruiters made tremendous efforts in FY23. These efforts resulted in 6,000 more contracted future Sailors than the previous year, and helped us close the gap on our forecasted miss by 40 percent. We are pleased with the quality of recruits who joined the Navy, and these future Sailors share our core values of honor, courage, and commitment.



Navy recruiters and Sailors across the fleet will continue to connect with qualified future Sailors who desire to join the Navy and are motivated to serve in defense of our nation.

- FY23 concluded with the following numbers:
  - o Enlisted (Active): 30,236 (Goal: 37,700)
  - o Officer (Active): 2,080 (Goal: 2,532)
  - o Enlisted (Reserve/prior service): 1,948/4,394 (Goal: 3,000/5,390)
  - o Officer (Reserve): 1,167 (Goal: 1,940)
- For FY24, our goals include:
  - o Enlisted (Active): 40,600
  - o Officer (Active): 2,807
  - o Enlisted (Reserve): 7,619
  - o Officer (Reserve): 1,785

Throughout FY23, the Navy placed an increased emphasis on updating recruitment policies and expanding the population of qualified individuals.

Financial incentives included record-high enlistment bonuses of up to \$75,000, and the return of the student loan repayment program offered up to \$65,000. Raising the maximum enlistment age from 39 to 41 and increasing Category IV accessions for Armed Forces Qualification Test scores in the 10th-30th percentile to the 20% maximum allowed by policy provided opportunity for more eligible candidates to join. By carefully evaluating individual circumstances and granting waivers where appropriate, such as for tattoos, single parents or

positive drug and alcohol tests, the Navy was able to consider individuals who may have previously been disqualified.

Mirroring an Army program, the Navy also started Future Sailor Preparatory Courses for physical fitness and academic skills development at boot camp, to support recruits in meeting or exceeding the Navy's accession standards.

The "Every Sailor a Recruiter" program was another initiative launched in FY23 that encouraged Sailors to share their positive experiences of naval service and was instrumental in identifying talent. When Sailors referred a potential qualified candidate that led to a future Sailor contract, Sailors received a flag letter of commendation, which could give them an advantage with promotion.

Many of the initiatives and programs supporting the recruiting mission in FY23 will carry on into FY24, while the Navy builds more pathways of opportunity for all qualified individuals who choose to serve. Outreach and engagement opportunities will increase awareness about the Navy, its people and mission, while Navy recruiters and Sailors across the fleet will continue to connect with qualified future Sailors who desire to join the Navy and are motivated to serve in defense of the nation.



Your recreational hub aboard Naval Station Great Lakes!

Check out the latest events and activities from our MWR at [www.facebook.com/NavyLifeGL](https://www.facebook.com/NavyLifeGL) and on their website at [www.navylifegl.com](http://www.navylifegl.com).

For tickets and travel, call 847-688-5417

Life changes? Family or financial planning? Reach out to your team at FFSC for classes, resources, counseling, and more!

Fleet and Family Support Center Great Lakes, 525 Farragut Ave, Bldg. 26, 847-688-3603 ex. 100.

[ffr.cnic.navy.mil](http://ffr.cnic.navy.mil)



## Cybersecurity Best Practices While Logged On to a Navy Network

Here are some best practices to keep in mind while at your desk:

- Every member of the Navy team shares responsibility to protect the Navy's systems and information. Every time you check your e-mail, access a shared drive, or log onto a network, you are a cyber-warrior, and cybersecurity is your responsibility.
- Verify links and files before clicking or downloading; both are common attack vectors for nation states, criminals, and insider threats.
- When clicking on hyperlinks in emails, hover over the link to verify authenticity. Also ensure that URLs begin with "https." The "s" indicates encryption is enabled to protect user information.
- Always check the "To" and "Cc" line to ensure information is being sent to those with a need to know.
- Make passwords complex and change them frequently. Strong passwords include one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter, at least one number and 11 or more characters. Never write passwords down.
- Keep your computer healthy. This includes reading User Awareness Bulletins and acting as necessary to install software updates and apply security patches

when prompted.

- Keep your Common Access Card (CAC) in your possession at all times. Your CAC serves as part one of two-factor authentication; it is something you have. Your PIN, something only you know, serves as part two. A bad actor in possession of even one part of two-factor authentication increases the likelihood of them gaining access.
- Report phishing or suspicious activity. According to the National Cybersecurity Alliance, only 22 percent of email recipients report phishing. Use your Information Systems Security Manager and cybersecurity professionals for support.



Since 2004, the President of the United States and Congress have declared October Cybersecurity Awareness Month, helping individuals protect themselves online as threats to technology and confidential data become more common. Celebrating its twentieth year, the campaign has grown globally since its inception, reaching consumers, small and medium-sized businesses, corporations, and families in over 75 countries and territories.

For more information on the Navy's Cybersecurity Awareness Campaign, visit [doncio.navy.mil](http://doncio.navy.mil) and search "Cybersecurity Awareness Month."