

# William H. Bates Sailor wins Copernicus Award

By JOCS(SW/AW) Darrell D. Ames  
SUBPAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When challenged with developing a system that allows Sailors to maintain and store sonar data in a more efficient manner Sonar Technician 1st Class Craig L. Werley never anticipated monetary gain or any type of accolades for his efforts. He simply accepted the challenge, completed the task at hand, and the Navy benefited from his hard work.

"We were just looking for a better way to compile and store the information," said the Sumter, S.C. native. "I wasn't expecting anything in return."

The sonar technician, assigned to the Pearl Harbor-based fast attack submarine USS William H. Bates (SSN 680), will not go unrewarded. He is one of 25 individuals, Navy-wide, to receive one of the third annual Copernicus Awards for 1999. The award is presented to individuals contributing to Naval warfare in the fields of information systems and information warfare. The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) and the U.S. Naval Institute (USNI) co-sponsor the awards and select 25 awardees from more than 100 applicants.

"I didn't even know about the award," said the surprised 11-year Naval veteran. "My commanding officer mentioned it to me and suggested I fill out an application."

Cmdr. Curt R. Stevens, commanding officer of USS William H. Bates, suspected he had a winner, based on the success of the program Werley developed. "I knew he had a good chance going in," said Stevens. "We're very proud of him and everything he's accomplished. Petty Officer Werley is definitely an asset to the Navy."

Cmdr. Stevens showed even more gratitude and appreciation by automatically advancing Werley to the rank of first class petty officer via the Command Advancement Program (CAP). "The best part about it was the advancement," beamed Werley. "Plus, when you get 'CAPed' you get paid right away."

The program Werley spent six months writing is designed to record sonar data (i.e., contacts, environmental readings, graphs, etc.) in a paperless data log. "I wrote it using the 'visual basic' language," Werley said. "It allows us to keep tons of data on floppy disks vice hundreds and/or thousands of sheets of paper."

Werley's commanding officer wasn't the only person who thought the program was useful. Several other Pearl Harbor based submarines have adopted his program and are using it as well. "I know the USS Greenville and USS Columbus are using it now," Stevens said.

Werley is also one of only seven enlisted Sailors selected for the award, which, since its inception, has primarily been dominated by the officer community.



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ST1(SS) Craig L. Werley, from the USS William H. Bates (SSN 680), is one of 25 individuals, Navy-wide, to receive one of the third annual Copernicus Award for 1999. Werley developed a system that allows Sailors to maintain and store sonar data in a more efficient manner. Werley is one of only seven enlisted Sailors selected for the award, which, since its inception, has primarily been dominated by the officer community.

Perhaps an even bigger award for his efforts is the set of orders he is receiving as the recently decommissioned William H. Bates prepares to release her crew. "I'm heading to the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) in Washington D.C.," Werley said. "The program and the award had a lot to do with it. These are tremendous orders."

After completing 18 months of acoustic intelligence training, Werley will likely stay in ONI for the rest of his career. "I'll rotate to different duty stations, but will always have the same job."

Prior to Werley's departure for the ONI

training he faces a hectic schedule.

"I fly to San Diego to receive the Copernicus Award one day and then fly back to Hawaii to be released from the boat the next. Then, that night, I fly out of Hawaii on my way home for some leave," he said.

Werley's 'helter skelter' flight schedule is a small price to pay for his willingness to work hard, do much more than asked and his desire to improve the Navy.

"He's always seeking to improve himself and others around him," said Cmdr. Stevens. "We need more people like Werley. People with a vision to find better ways of

doing business and utilizing their skills and creativity to learn how to work smarter, not harder," added Stevens. "I wish him all the best, he's a good one."

Werley is also awaiting word of a possible cash reward as his program was also submitted to the Navy's Beneficial Suggestion program.

"The awards and prizes don't matter," said Werley. "I was just glad to help out the command and make it easier for my shipmates."

## USS Lake Erie takes dependents to Maui

By Ens. Ryan Ona  
USS LAKE ERIE

USS Lake Erie (CG 70) invited family and friends on board for a family cruise to Maui. Seventy guests, including members of the Navy League and Rotary Club, embarked Lake Erie on Jan. 6 and returned with the ship on Jan. 10. During the five-hour transit from Pearl Harbor to Maui, guests toured the ship, lounged in beach chairs, and enjoyed a steel-beach picnic on the flight deck. On arrival, the ship anchored outside the town of Lahaina.

There was no shortage of activities on Maui. Lahaina offered unique shops, art galleries, and a lively nightlife. In addition, many of the family and friends joined crewmembers who went snorkeling and scuba diving around the island.

The Molokini crater was a popular diving venue. Kim McGowan, wife of Ens. Aaron McGowan, said of the scuba diving, "I swam within about five feet of a shark! The trip was great...It gave me the opportunity to see something I've never seen on a dive before." Others drove or hiked to the top of Mount Haleakala. With the pinnacle higher than 10,000 feet and a circumference of 21 miles, the "House of the Sun" is the largest dormant volcano in the world. Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Jebin Ginet said about driving to the top of the mountain, "It was neat

how you could go from being hot at the beach to being so cold up in the mountain, you could see your breath. It was a great view when you got above the clouds." Golf fans enjoyed watching the Mercedes Championship, which featured winners on the Professional Golfers' Association (PGA) tour from 1999. Ryan Thompson, from Wheeling, W. Va., said about the final round, "After Tiger [Woods] and Ernie Els replayed the 18th hole in the playoff, [we] ran down the fairway of the first hole to get to the green while they were teeing off...What a finish! It was the best golf tournament I've seen!"

On the transit back to Pearl Harbor, the winter whale season was apparent. As the ship passed between the islands of Molokai and Lanai, guests were able to partake in whale watching. Many of the guests and crew stood along the rails with cameras to take pictures of the whales' spouts, breaching fins slapping, and flukes. Also, as the ship neared Pearl Harbor, many appreciated the view of Waikiki and Diamond Head crater from the ocean side.

The dependents' cruise allowed Lake Erie crewmembers to share a short underway period with family and friends as well as a relaxing visit to Maui. Family, friends, guests from the Navy League and the Rotary Club, and new friends from Maui enjoyed the opportunity to ride an Aegis cruiser and experience the spectacular beauty of inter-island travel in the paradise we call home.

## Region reducing energy through lighting initiatives

By Denise Emsley  
PWC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Attempting to take a small bite out of a \$10 million utilities funding shortfall for the Region in fiscal year 2000, members of the Regional Energy Conservation Initiatives Team began executing an action plan in December 1999 that will help reduce energy costs without compromising safety or security. These energy initiatives will continue to occur throughout Navy Region Hawaii, including: Naval Station Pearl, Fleet Industrial Supply Center Pearl, Public Works Center Pearl, Commander in Chief Pacific Fleet, Naval Magazine, Pearl, Naval Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific Wahiawa, and former Naval Air Station Barbers Point. (Navy housing areas are not included in this energy conservation effort involving lighting.)

Team members from Regional Facilities, Safety and Security as well as PWC Pearl are involved in this effort. Primarily focused on lighting conservation, they have concluded that Navy personnel must place new emphasis on making sure all interior building lights are turned off at the end of each workday and that all redundant exterior lighting be deactivated.

"After careful consideration, certain streets and parking areas have been identified for reduced lighting," said Nate Eisenpress, regional facilities program

manager for energy and utilities. "This decrease in lighting will occur only where excess lighting currently exists and not where less lighting would cause safety or security concerns."

In recent weeks, personnel from PWC Pearl have been deactivating various exterior, security, parking and street lighting throughout Pearl Harbor. Lights that have been disabled are identified with a white, energy conservation sticker. One area where street lighting has been altered is along South Avenue. At this location, every other street light has been turned off and marked accordingly.

"The deactivation of lights in certain areas throughout the Region should not affect personnel or traffic safety," said Alan Sugihara, regional safety department. "The team measured actual lighting levels at night. They took into account available lighting from other nearby buildings or street lights when deciding whether or not a particular light should be secured."

The regional energy conservation Team needs support from all military and civilian personnel in the Region, regardless of whether they are building owners or occupants, to make this lighting initiative a success. Personnel need to self-police their workspaces and ensure interior lights, air conditioners and other energy consuming devices are turned off at night, where applicable. Everyone's participation is essential to support the Navy's efforts toward meeting the president's goals of



Denise Emsley photo

A Public Works Center, Pearl Harbor, employee deactivates an exterior light at Naval Station, Pearl Harbor, Bldg. 150. The disabled light is identified by a white decal inscribed with the words "Energy Conservation."

reducing energy consumption by 35 percent by 2010. For further information or to submit suggestions or ways to conserve energy, please contact Nate Eisenpress at 471-1170 X240, fax 471-1160 or email eisenpressN0@pwcpearl.navy.mil.