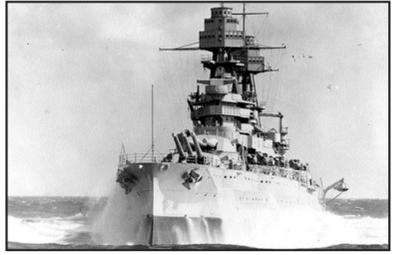




A historical tour of the 'Mighty Mo' Battleship... B-1

HAWAII'S NAVY NEWS



Survivors remember the attack on Pearl Harbor 60 years ago... A-5

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Pearl Harbor remembers: 60 years ago

Arms open to survivors



PHAN Casey L. James photo

One of the many Dec. 7 survivors is led down the aisle into Arizona Memorial Visitors Center. On U.S. Navy Recognition Day, Dec. 4., the USS Arizona Reunion Group paid their respects to lost shipmates and reflected on their memories.

Editor's note:

Because Hawaii Navy News is published on Fridays, all of the events relating to the 60th Anniversary of the Attack on Pearl Harbor that are taking place today, or over the weekend, will be covered in the Dec. 14th issue of HNN. The following is a feature story in honor of Pearl Harbor veterans.

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

Dec. 7, 1941, the world changed. American service members based in Hawaii saw that seminal moment in history, and those alive today still vividly remember that Sunday morning 60 years ago.

George Phraner was a petty officer first class aboard the battleship USS Arizona. His battle station was a forward five-inch gun. He had just gone topside to get some air after finishing breakfast when the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor started. "Just as we left the

mess area we heard this noise," he said in an oral history on the Pearl Harbor Survivors' Association Web site. "We could hear and see there were airplanes. I looked across the bow of the ship and could see large plumes of smoke coming up from Ford Island."

He said he didn't comprehend at first that what he was seeing was an attack.

"It didn't mean anything to us until a large group of planes came near the ship and we could see for the first time the Rising Sun emblem on the plane wings," he said. "The bombing was becoming heavier all around us and we knew this was really it." He headed for his gun when general quarters sounded.

"It was standard practice to keep only a limited amount of ammunition at the guns," Phraner said. "There we were, the Japanese dropping bombs over us and we had no ammo. All the

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Navy Chiefs dedicate plaque at National Memorial Cemetery

JO3 Sunday Sawyer
Staff Writer

Navy chief petty officers, active and retired, dedicated a memorial plaque to chiefs who have served our country at a ceremony Nov. 29 at National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. The ceremony began with an invocation by Navy Chaplain, Lt. Cmdr. Paul J. Shaughnessy.

Rear Adm. Robert T. Conway Jr., Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, was the guest speaker and said that he was "honored beyond words" to be able to speak at the ceremony.

"I want you to take to heart, I consider the Chief Petty Officer the backbone of the Navy. I don't say that half-heartedly, I do not say it just because you are sitting here. I personally feel that we need to get more responsibilities back into the hands of the

CPO community," said Conway. Conway said that he would like to see the younger sailors being trained more by the CPO.

"The title 'chief petty officer' (CPO) carries responsibilities and privileges that no other armed service in the world grants its enlisted people," explained Conway.

Conway stated that the CPO is the lifeblood of the United States Navy and the keepers of our rich naval heritage. "You are the embodiment of the total Sailor," he said.

Chief Harold Smyth from Joint Intelligence Center Pacific Fleet (JICPAC), a relatively new CPO, was the impetus behind the memorial. Although he acknowledges a role in the creation of the plaque, he does not take sole credit for the CPO Memorial Plaque.

"I do not deserve the credit

for this. I had an idea but it was an idea that was inspired by chiefs, senior chiefs and master chiefs who helped me along the way in my transition to becoming a chief petty officer," said Smyth. Additional speakers were retired chiefs, Boatswain Mate Chief Harold B. Estes and Yeoman Chief Fred W. Ballard

Smyth spoke of the importance of the title that he and so many others now hold and the history of many before him.

Master Chief Journalist Chuck T. Howard read the CPO Creed. Fleet Master Chief Manuel Rodriguez, Master Chief Ronald Downs, Chief Estes, Chief Ballard and Chief Smyth concluded the ceremony with the unveiling of the CPO Memorial Plaque and Lt. Cmdr. Shaughnessy gave the final benediction.



JO2 Daniel J. Calderon photo

Rear Adm. Robert T. Conway Jr., Commander Navy Region Hawaii and Commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, addresses the Chief Petty Officer Association at a plaque dedication at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl Nov. 29.

PHNSY and IMF receives Hawaiian Healthy Workplace Award

Debbie Lyons
Deputy Public Affairs Officer

This past October, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PHNSY and IMF) was recognized by the Hawaii Psychological Association (HPA) as an employer committed to providing a psychologically healthy workplace for its employees.

Six local businesses were recognized with Healthy Workplace Awards

based on their implementation of best practices in five areas.

The areas included health, safety and security; employee involvement; career development; family support; and community support and corporate citizenship.

Because PHNSY and IMF's workforce is comprised of both civilian and military employees, it has an opportunity to work with specialists on Navy-wide and government-wide programs for both military and civilians.

Because the Shipyard has the ability to come together as a team, it is able to blend the best of both worlds and develop local initiatives and programs that benefit its workforce.

Bargaining units representing both engineers and blue-collar workers, along with manager and supervisory associations, contribute a broad range of perspectives that feed into the decision-making process.

The diversity reflected in the workforce and the opportunities for em-

ployee feedback provide additional channels to receive and respond to a wide variety of opinions.

This diversity in inputs, ideas and programs has strengthened the organization and created a healthy environment for its employees. In bestowing this award, HPA has acknowledged the important connection between a healthy work environment and organizational success - citing PHNSY and IMF as an example of workplace excellence.

Pacific Fleet Sailor named elementary school Volunteer of the Year

Michele Van Hossen
Special Events and Development Coordinator for Junior Achievement of Hawaii

Junior Achievement of Hawaii has presented its 2001 Elementary School Volunteer of the Year award to Chief Petty Officer Robert Bridgewater of the U.S. Navy in recognition of his outstanding and inspiring work with local children.

For the past five years, Bridgewater has served as a volunteer advisor for the Junior Achievement Elementary School Program at Waimalu, Barbers Point, Alvah Scott, Kapolei, and Nimitz

Elementary Schools where he has taught an estimated 500 students the basics of the free enterprise system and success skills.

"Volunteering in a school near Pearl Harbor makes it much easier to take the time out from any given day to meet with the students and teachers," said Bridgewater who is attached to Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet Staff, Pearl Harbor.

"Additionally, many of my students come from military families and with that I am able to give back to a community that has close ties with the military, which makes the experience even

more rewarding."

For five to 10 weeks each semester, Bridgewater shares the stories and keys to his own success with the Junior Achievement students.

He encourages the students to experience a range of practical concepts—from how money flows through the community, to personal money management, to how to fill out a job application.

"My background in business as an assistant manager for Kmart years ago as well as my Navy experience works well with the Junior Achievement curriculum," said Bridgewater. "Students

enjoy listening to past experiences at Kmart and my Navy life, which helps them understand and relate to the concepts being taught."

Junior Achievement of Hawaii's purpose is to educate and inspire young people to value free enterprise with practical guidance from adult mentors. This year, Junior Achievement programs will impact more than 16,000 students in grades K-12 in three island counties - Honolulu, Maui and Hawaii. For more information and to sign up as a volunteer, call (808) 545-1777 on Oahu, 877-ASK-JAHI on the neighbor islands or visit www.jahawaii.com.