

# TRIDENT TRIBUTE

FY 2020



VOL 1

## TRF Navy Divers, Best Friends Hero Up

By Kimberly K. Menzies TRF Public Affairs

KINGS BAY, Ga. - Feeling your heart beating hard, you tell yourself to just remember your training. Taking in a deep breath, you dive below the water's surface. You cannot see, yet you know you must not miss anyone. Seconds stretch into minutes in your mind.

You reach your hand out, your fingers brush against a familiar hand. Together you repeat this memorized movement.

As you drag your heavy body from the water, you see all you pulled from the murky depths of the pond.

Water dripping into your eyes, you know that you have done all that could be done. There is no doubt that you "heroed up" when it was needed most.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Travis L. Jones and Petty Officer 3rd Class William C. Trainer, U.S. Navy divers with TRIDENT Refit Facility at Naval Submarine Base



Photo by Kimberly K. Menzies

**KINGS BAY, Ga.-Petty Officer 2nd Class Travis L. Jones, native of Dallas, and Petty Officer 3rd Class William C. Trainer, native of Seattle, U.S. Navy divers and best friends with TRIDENT Refit Facility at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, wait to begin a dive to conduct underwater repairs. The Sailors were awarded Navy Commendation Medals, Oct. 31, 2019, for rescuing an unconscious civilian from a submerged vehicle.**

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The best friends were in Tacoma, Wash., to attend a diver conference in May when their lost luggage, and perhaps fate, contributed to a live saving incident.

"We had to drive back to the airport to pick up our luggage that the airline had lost," recalled Jones, a native of Dallas. "We had decided not to take the ferry because it would take longer even though it would have been shorter distance."

Trainer, a Seattle native, then described how they saw a vehicle lose control, land in the retention pond and immediately began sinking. By the time they reached the vehicle is was already submerged, Trainer said.

"A man had left the highway at a high rate of speed and landed in a retention pond near a freeway interchange off the roadways," said Jeff Chandler, the B-3B Battalion Chief with the Tacoma Fire Department and prior TRF Sailor.

Knowing the risk of entering the water without thermal protection, Jones and Trainer breached the retention pond to



Photo by Kimberly K. Menzies

**KINGS BAY, Ga. - Petty Officer 2nd Class Travis L. Jones and Petty Officer 3rd Class William C. Trainer, U.S. Navy divers with TRIDENT Refit Facility (TRIREFAC) at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, were awarded Navy Commendation Medals, Oct. 31, 2019, for rescuing an unconscious civilian from a submerged vehicle.**

search for and rescue any occupants of the vehicle.

"When we got to the vehicle, we saw that the driver was unconscious," said Jones. "We tried the car doors on the driver's side but they wouldn't open."

The damage to the vehicle caused the driver's door to become warped and unable to be opened. The divers tried the passenger-side doors with no

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# Captain's Corner



**Capt. Paul L. Dinius**  
*Commanding Officer*

Team TRF and NRMD Kings Bay continues to win in the fight for readiness and support of our wartime mission. The last several months have been successfully dynamic and productive!

Our professionalism and obligation to the highest ethical standards, both on- and off-base, are critical to our warfighting mission and we must continue to lean forward and not become complacent.

One of our most senior civilian leaders recently remarked, "It is an honor to get the 3rd Gate Pass."

This is a profound statement. Many people can get past the first (main) gate, and a few more can get access past the COA (second) gate, but not everyone can

get that coveted Waterfront Restricted Area (the "3rd" Gate) pass. Think about that for a moment.

We must be professional, trustworthy, treat each other with respect, and maintain the highest standards of conduct to earn and keep that 3rd Gate Pass!

It's important for all of us to reflect on this and ensure that we are upholding the oaths and commitments that our nation has entrusted in us as we sustain the most impressive and important element of our national power – the strategic and guided-missile submarines.

Look for a Veterans Day video message on our Facebook page this weekend, and I wish a safe and Happy Veterans Day to all of our active duty and Veteran employees and their Families! Keep winning!

**Some noteworthy events and accomplishments:**

- On-time completion of work on the concrete caisson in the dry dock
- Outstanding execution of one of the largest and most complex CMAVs in our history on USS FLORIDA, and in a new overseas port, Souda, Bay, Crete (Greece)
- Another successful turn-around on SSBNs through their refit cycles to keep our nation's #1 strategic mission on-time and on-target
- Skilled preparations for Hurricane Dorian to include a robust Destructive Weather Stay Behind Team, sorties of in-port units, and adjusted post-storm schedules for operational success
- Continued to exceed standards on external audits and inspections conducted by outside agencies, validating the quality of our work at TRF and NRMD

## Command Quarterly Award Recipients

**William R. Johnson**    **Code 300**  
*Production Employee of the Quarter*

**HT2 Jesse McClure**    **Code 130**  
*Junior Sailor of the Quarter*

**Transfer/Separation Awards**

LSS2 Tony Dominguezgiron

**Paul A. Victoriano**    **Code 400**  
*Production Support Employee of the Quarter*

**ND3 Charles Fillebrown**    **Code 300**  
*Blue Jacket Sailor of the Quarter*

MMAC Timothy Hunter

MMA1 Brian Kirkland

CWO4 Roland Palmer

**Melvin Houston**    **Code 500**  
*Administrative Employee of the Quarter*

**MMA1 Brian Kirkland**    **Code 300**  
*Sailor of the Year*

BM2 Deanjila Smith

BM2 Jamelle Smith

**Bobby A. Bass**    **Code 300**  
*Production Supervisor of the Quarter*

**LSS2 Terrel Davis**    **Code 500**  
*Junior Sailor of the Year*

ETV1 Joshua Waymire

CMDCM Joshua Williams

**Clifton O. Olds**    **Code 500**  
*Production Support Supervisor of the Quarter*

**ND3 William Trainer**    **Code 300**  
*Blue Jacket of the Year*

**Spot Awards**

ND2 Travis Jones

ND3 William Trainer

**Ethan J. Von Behren**    **Code 700**  
*Apprentice of the Quarter*

**BRAVO ZULU!**

**Miscellaneous Awards**

HT2 Christopher Gray

MM2 Matthew Lewis

CWO3 Joe Sweeting

**TM1 Andre Robinson**    **Code 700**  
*Sailor of the Quarter*



# CMC's Message

November is a time to reflect and be thankful for those around us and for those we have served with.

The moment I felt the most grateful, proud, and reflective about our great Navy, was on a cool September morning standing on the shoreline of Nob Hill on Ford Island in Pearl Harbor.

The sun was just peeking over the mountaintop, shining into the harbor reflecting off the warships and submarines moored along the pier – Ready.

Directly in front of me stood the battleship USS Arizona Memorial, her sister battleship USS Missouri, Mighty Mo, standing watch over her.

Standing there that morning, I couldn't begin to fathom the tragic events that took place beginning at 0748 on December 7, 1941.

I do understand though, when trying to imagine what the Sailors on USS Arizona must have suffered on that fateful Sunday morning, that it came at great sacrifice in their efforts to protect each another and this great country.

During your careers, I expect you've all had similar

**CMDCM(SS) Amanuel McMillan**  
*Command Master Chief*



moments. The one person or several that made it happen, tell them "Thank you!" I'm so appreciative of what I have because it is due to those from the past that paved our way.

I have served for 22 years. I, like many, have missed some holidays and special events while we conducted operations forward deployed. I give immense credit to those who were back home holding down the fort, allowing us to succeed in those operations.

So, on Thanksgiving, break for a minute from the day-to-day hustle and bustle, sit around the table, share a meal, watch a little football, and share stories with those in your support network.

And if you have the means, think of that buddy to your left or right whose support group may not be in the local area. Invite that buddy home for Thanksgiving. I promise you, it would mean a lot to them.

Be safe and Happy Holidays!



## TRF WPCG: A Quality Asset to the Fleet

By Keith Boydston, TRF Public Affairs

KINGS BAY, Ga. – In an effort to save time and help the nuclear-submarine fleet efficiently prepare for refit and other critical maintenance periods, the TRIDENT Refit Facility (TRIREFFAC) opened a new support office convenient to where off-crews live and work.

An extension of the TRIREFFAC Work Packaging Control Group (WPCG) waterfront office, the satellite office operates out of the Pre-Deployment Training Building (PDTB) on Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base; a building many submarine off-crew members call home when their boats are deployed.

Established in less than 30-days from concept design to its grand opening May 10, the primary focus of the new office is to assist submarine crews plan for maintenance periods while their boats are still at-sea, and to prepare Work Authorization Forms (WAFs) and critical danger tag-outs for systems and equipment.

Staffed by four rotating teams of senior TRIREFFAC civilian technicians and Sailors, they work side-by-side



*Photo by Keith Boydston*

**KINGS BAY, Ga.-Petty Officer 2nd Class John Wiegand, a member of the TRIREFFAC Work Package Control Group team, studies schematic drawings, Nov. 1, 2019, as part of the tag-out review and approval process.**

with off-crews to navigate the tag-out procedures before boats arrive for refit or other repair cycles.

Celebrating its six-month anniversary Nov. 10, the office is a quality-driven asset to the fleet.

"It's a better quality and less stressed environment for the tag-out process,"

said Joseph Yates, a senior TRIREFFAC work control technician. "Since we are looking at these systems before the boat arrives, we are not pushed by a production schedule and we improve the quality of our look."

Some important areas of focus for the satellite office include: verification of scheduled work, a schematic drawings review of the targeted systems for tag-out, and setting the conditions for maintenance when the boat arrives.

"We save a lot of time ... it's like pre-season football," Yates said. "We try and work out all the kinks ahead of time, and when the season begins, or in this case, when the boat arrives for refit, we're ready to go."

Customers give the office a thumbs up.

"That office is phenomenal," said Cmdr. Jared Wyrick, commanding officer of the USS West Virginia, one of five boats that have benefitted. "There's so much capability and help available for our crew."

As a direct result of the new office, 40 to 90 percent of all tag-outs are

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## **TRF WPCG: A Quality Asset to the Fleet (cont. from page 3)**

....approved and ready when the ship comes in for its maintenance period.

The close coordination between TRIREFFAC and the submarine crews has also resulted in more pre-planned work ready to execute sooner during a refit/maintenance period, and it has significantly improved the overall process efficiency.

"This is a true Team Kings Bay effort with the full support of our leaders and partners," said Capt. Paul Dinius, commanding officer of the TRIDENT Refit Facility. "I am encouraged by the positive results, and we'll continue to learn and further optimize this process to measure our progress and success going forward." ~



Photo by Keith Boydston

**KINGS BAY, Ga. - Members of one of the four TRIREFFAC Work Package Control Group teams review and prepare Work Authorization Forms (WAFs) Nov. 1, 2019, for an upcoming nuclear-submarine maintenance period.**

## **TRF Navy Divers, Best Friends Hero Up (cont. from page 1)**

....success.

Knowing that time was not in their favor, Jones smashed the passenger side window, unclipped the man's seat belt and pulled him from the vehicle.

"We swam him to shore and were met by a couple of off-duty nurses who had also seen the car leave the road," said Trainer. "They took over care for the man and we went back to the vehicle to search for any other possible passengers."

Trainer and Jones returned to the water multiple times to search the vehicle.

"We didn't know if there was anyone else in the car with him, but we knew that if there was, we needed to find them quickly," Jones said.

The divers made quick progress with the remaining dives.

"To give you an idea of how fast [the] divers went to work," said Chandler, "The call was dispatched at 18:02:29 and when I arrived less than a minute and a half after the initial dispatch (18:03:53) the victim was already removed from the car, placed on the edge in the care of a passing nurse, and these two Navy divers were continuing to search the submerged car for additional victims."

Fortunately, they found no other passengers in the car.

The divers relied on their training, determined that they would not miss anyone.



Photo by Kimberly K. Menzies

**KINGS BAY, Ga.-Petty Officer 3rd Class William C. Trainer, native of Seattle, a U.S. Navy diver with TRIDENT Refit Facility (TRIREFFAC) at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, jumps into the water to begin a dive to conduct underwater repairs. The Sailor was awarded a Navy Commendation Medal, Oct. 31, 2019, for rescuing an unconscious civilian from a submerged vehicle.**

***"When searching in low visibility, you search by feel," said Jones. "We would reach out until we felt the other's hand confirming we had felt through that area. We would move and repeat."***

"When searching in low visibility, you search by feel," said Jones. "We would reach out until we felt the other's hand confirming we had felt through that area. We would move and repeat."

"It's common for us to be diving in water with little to no visibility," said Trainer. "We definitely relied on our training and experience to search the car."

Both Sailors remained on the scene and provided their accounts to local law enforcement officials.

"Washington State Patrol asked them  
....Continued on next page





Photo by Kimberly K. Menzies

**KINGS BAY, Ga.**-(Left Photo) Petty Officer 2nd Class Travis L. Jones, native of Dallas, U.S. Navy diver with TRIDENT Refit Facility (TRIR-EFFAC) at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, has his dive equipment inspected by Petty Officer 1st Class Stephen Schilz, a U.S. Navy diver and his leading petty officer, prior to beginning a dive to conduct underwater repairs. The Sailor was awarded Navy Commendation Medals, Oct. 31, 2019, for rescuing an unconscious civilian from a submerged vehicle.

to stay and make written statements," explained Chandler. "They remained on the scene...soaking wet, without a single complaint."

Chandler, proud of the Sailors actions, reached out to their leadership to personally acknowledge their heroic deeds.

"Actions like theirs are an unusual occurrence," Chandler shared. "It's not often people stop, let alone stop AND have skills they are willing to use."

"I am very proud of Jones and Trainer," said Petty Officer 1st Class Stephen Schilz, a U.S. Navy diver and their leading petty officer. "They did a great job. Their actions provided a prime example of why we train the way we do... to be ready for anything at any time. They were ready and as a result, they were able to help save someone's life."

Jones and Trainer remain humble and credit what they did all to training.

"When I saw the car go off the road, the first thing that popped into my mind was it was time to Hero Up," explains Jones. "That is something I tell myself all the time...it is just my way of saying it is time to do what needs to be done."

"Honestly, I just did what I would hope any other person would do," said Trainer. "Stop and help a fellow human being....because it is the right thing to do." ~

## Freedom Isn't Free

I watched the flag pass by  
one day.

It fluttered in the breeze  
A young Marine saluted it,  
and then  
He stood at ease.

I looked at him in uniform  
So young, so tall, so proud  
With hair cut square and  
eyes alert  
He'd stand out in any crowd.

I thought, how many men  
like him  
Had fallen through the  
years?  
How many died on foreign  
soil?

How many mothers' tears?  
How many Pilots' planes  
shot down?  
How many foxholes were  
soldiers' graves?

No, Freedom is not free.

I heard the sound of taps  
one night,  
When everything was still.  
I listened to the bugler play  
And felt a sudden chill.

I wondered just how many  
times  
That taps had meant "Amen"  
When a flag had draped a  
coffin  
of a brother or a friend.

I thought of all the children,  
Of the mothers and the  
wives,  
Of fathers, sons and hus-  
bands  
With interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard  
at the bottom of the sea  
Of unmarked graves in  
Arlington.

No, Freedom isn't free!!  
God Bless America!

**Happy Veterans Day**

## Navy League Safety Award



(Courtesy Photo)

Alan Heckman, Director of the Occupational Safety, Health and Environmental Department at TRIDENT Refit Facility (center), accepted the Admiral Vern Clark Safety Award during a ceremony May 8 in National Harbor, Md. Alan Kaplan, Navy League National President (left), and Mike Stevens, Navy League Executive Director (right), presented the prestigious award. The Admiral Vern Clark Safety Award aims to stimulate safety through ideas, suggestions, and programs to reduce mishaps, injuries and fatalities within the U.S. Navy. Heckman, and his staff, consistently excelled in being proactive in all safety-related areas, providing sound judgement and clear and concise direction across the many facets of TRF.

# Shop of the Month



## **SHOP 51A** Inside Electrical Shop



Shop 51A, the "Inside Electrical Shop", employs almost 40 electricians, trainers and supervisors, and operates non-stop with three shifts around-the-clock. The shop is responsible for Depot Level overhaul and Intermediate Level repair of electrical submarine components.

In summary, Shop 51A repairs or overhauls all electrical machinery or components that submarine crews can't fix.

**Shop 51A repairs, replaces, rewinds and/or overhauls AC and DC electric motors like:**

- Pump Motors (Trim and Drain)
- Lead Hydraulic Motors
- Secondary Propulsion Motors

**Repairs, replaces and/or overhauls 60 cycle and 400 cycle motor/generators (MG) like:**

- 10 and 70 Kilowatt MG sets (400 cycle)
- 500 Kilowatt MG sets (60 cycle)
- Emergency Diesel Generator sets

**Repairs, overhauls and maintains associated components like:**

- Submarine Main Storage Batteries, motor controllers, voltage and frequency regulators
- Restores galley and habitability equipment to include convection ovens, deep fat fryers and clothes washers/dryers

## November Safety Message

### ***Get Your Flu Shot***

Autumn is the start of flu season, and doctors recommend everyone 6 months and older gets vaccinated against the flu.

### ***Drive Safely as it gets Darker***

Daylight Saving Time ends every year on the first Sunday in November. This means it starts to get darker earlier. Since we have set our clocks back by one hour in most areas of the country, be especially careful driving during the near dark hours.

### ***Turkey Fryers***

Be alert to the dangers if you're thinking of celebrating the holidays by frying a turkey. The Consumer Product Safety Commission reports there have been 154 turkey fryer related fires, burns or other injuries since 2004, with \$5.2 million in property damage losses that have resulted from these incidents. If you must fry your turkey, follow all U.S. Fire Administration turkey fryer guidelines.



## **TRF Christmas Party 2019**

**Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

6-11pm

**Jacksonville Hyatt Regency Riverfront**

**\$50 per ticket**

**Dinner, Dancing, and \$4000 in Door Prizes**

**Tickets on sale NOW!**

**Contact your  
CMWRA Rep ASAP**