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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Happy Holidays and Happy New Year as well,

Another year ends and a new one begins. It's been a busy year for all of us as we deal with CNA Long Term Care rate increases in Virginia; and us joining AAFES Retiree's (AREA) to protect our shopping privileges in regards to base access for our spouses. Keep those letters going (see the summer newsletter in my column.

We also have our largest Chapter (Tidewater) losing their President Raye Eaton as she retires. A new President will be elected in January's Tidewater meeting. Raye is a legend and will continue to be a Tidewater Chapter member. We also have decided to offer our Chapters a chance to talk with us to answer questions and to share their views with us. I will be contacting the Chapter Presidents to finalize the best way to accomplish this. It should be another way to help spread the word whatever that may be. We attend the Tidewater Chapter meetings (9 a year) which allows us to respond to questions/suggestions from their members and now we can do the same for all chapters.

A question that I was asked at last Thursday's Tidewater Chapter meeting was in regards to the difference between Chapter dues and NEREA dues. Some Chapters have \$5 a year dues and some don't have any. However NEREA dues are currently \$10 a year. The \$10 a year covers the cost of 3 newsletters a year. That printing cost has increased over the years just like everything else including food, lodging, clothes, cars, etc. We are looking at ways to keep this process going without having to raise the cost. There is hope!

Another part of being retired is the (no fun what so ever) category of seeing friends, family, and work mates pass on. As far as I know, none of us have an expiration date on our birth certificate. So we owe it to ourselves to make the best out of the time we have left. Enjoy life, enjoy family, enjoy your friends, and Love, not Hate. One more note: Smile a lot, its catching.

And as Red Green always says: Keep your stick on the ice!

Cheers, Tom Williams

Tom Williams

CHAPTER CHATTER

OAKLAND

Happy Holidays from the Bay Area! The following news article was written by Dave Foote, Supply Chain Officer, Navy Resale West Coast, Naval Supply Center, Oakland.

Dave is a 30 year Navy Line Officer veteran, U.S. Navy reserve:

During the Vietnam War from 1968-1972, I was a junior line officer with the Navy's Military Sealift Command, DoD's single manager for ocean shipping. The transportation industry had been a career interest of mine since early childhood.

Transferred to Navy Reserve service in 1972, I came home to the San Francisco area and was hired in a civilian transportation job by Officer in Charge Captain Joe Jones as traffic manager at the Navy Resale System Office West Coast Branch, NSC Oakland. I managed a 5-person department coordinating air, land and sea shipments of merchandise, supplies and equipment to Navy Exchanges and Commissary Stores in the western U. S. and Pacific Ocean areas. My area of responsibility ran east and west from the Mississippi River to the Indian Ocean and north to south from Alaska down to Panama, New Zealand and Australia.

From the start, this was an exciting job that kept me and my dedicated staff busy at all times, setting up and controlling literally thousands of container truckloads of Navy Resale material every year over one half the Earth's surface. Lots of this work was fairly routine - - - normal

shipping times for material were rather lengthy but predictable. But many issues could arise over such vast distances that would create unusual challenges and the need for expedited, rushed, and even emergency shipments. Rush cases like these required my department to know exactly what to do and to do it very quickly. Quick and direct communications with Navy Resale facilities overseas was essential, typically by phone or Navy message crossing many time zones.

I also kept in constant contact with my counterparts at the Traffic Branch, Navy Resale headquarters in Brooklyn, and later in Staten Island, NY. I fondly remember all the great help and guidance I received over the years from such total professionals as John Bergstrom, Ed Hinch, and Leo Martin.

My responsibilities in Oakland grew over the years and by the early 1980's, I was managing a 30-person cargo loading facility in addition to expanded traffic management responsibilities directed at increasing Navy Exchange profit margins and shortening transit times for merchandise shipments. These were the early days of a blossoming business specialty now recognized as supply chain management, and my department in Oakland was on the ground floor.

With some regret, I left Navy Resale in 1986 to establish my own small computer consulting business and to take advantage of growing opportunities for me in the Navy Reserve, especially a lengthy assignment at NATO Headquarters in Brussels starting in 1989. Even

today, some 25 years after my Navy Reserve retirement, I still volunteer with two organizations working with NATO and South American countries to promote better and smarter use of their reserve military forces. Most definitely, my years at Navy Resale Oakland were important steppingstones to success in my professional life.

Wishing y'all a safe, healthy & prosperous New Year

See you soon

Lucky Fung

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

All NEX retirees and former employees are invited to lunch on December 3, 2024 at 11:00am at The Mill in Oak Harbor, WA. Please RSVP to Connie Punch at Punchbunch@comcast.net.

SAN DIEGO



We are excited to invite you to the launch of a new quarterly lunch gathering

exclusively for NEXCOM retirees in the San Diego area. This is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old friends, meet new ones, and celebrate our shared experiences in a relaxed and enjoyable setting. Join us on Tuesday, December 17th at Humphreys Restaurant 2241 Shelter Island Dr, San Diego, CA Please RSVP by 12/14 to tesspaquette@gmail.com or text (757)813-5534

PENSACOLA

Seasons Greetings thru the Years of Pensacola



RECENTLY DECEASED

LUISA ACOSTA	SAN DIEGO, CA	MARY MARTIN	MILLINGTON, TN
ROBERT ALLEN	SAN DIEGO, CA	LEONARD MASON	CHESAPEAKE, VA
ROGER BOSSOW	OAK HARBOR, WA	AIDA MATIAS	SABANA SECA, PR
JERRY BURGE	PENSACOLA, FL	ESTHER MEDEIROS	CANTON, MS
DORIS BURNS	SUNNYVALE, CA	ARACELI MEDINA	SAN DIEGO, CA
EDWIN BURRELL	CHESAPEAKE, VA	CYNTHIA MENDIOLA	WOODBIDGE, VA
PRICILLANO CADAY	WAIPAHU, HI	MARGARET MILEY	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA
PAT CALIXTRO	HONOLULU, HI	GAIL MOORE	CHARLESTON, SC
PATRICIA CAPARAS-MCKEOWN	NORTH CHARLESTON, SC	ANN MORROW	BETHLEHEM, PA
DOLORES CHURCH	CORAM, NY	FREDDIE MOXON	JACKSONVILLE, FL
EDWARD CLARK	KENOSHA, WI	SHIRLEY NAIL	MILLINGTON TN
BETTY DAVIS	SAN DIEGO, CA	LAURO NAVO	FAJARDO, PR
HAZEL DAVIS	NATIONAL CITY, CA	DELORES NELSON	WAUKEGAN, IL
CORAZON DE JESUS	ROCKVILLE, MD	DIANA PEIRSEL	PORT ORCHARD, WA
LEE DEESE	MEBANE, NC	LEONORA PETERSON	OAK HARBOR, WA
MARTHA DEFOREST	NEW LONDON, CT	LINDA PETZCO	COOKEVILLE, TN
JERRY DEUTSCH	JACKSONVILLE, FL	BERNICE POER	SAN DIEGO, CA
TERESITA DODD	MIDDLEBURG, FL	GLORIA REID	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA
GWENDOLYN ELLIS-SMITH	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	ANNE REMITERA	PENSACOLA, FL
ANDREA FAVOR	KAPOLEI, HI	LARRY RHODES	MEADOW BRIDGE, WV
RICHARD FOGLEMAN	LOS BANOS, CA	MABEL RICHARDSON	SUMMERVILLE, SC
JULITA GAO-AY	LONG BEACH, CA	DIONISIO RIVERA	CEIBA, PR
WALTER GARVEY	STATEN ISLAND, NY	CAROLYN SANCHEZ	SAN DIEGO, CA
LANA GRYDER	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	KATINA SPANN	HANAHAN, SC
JOYCE GUY	LUSBY, MD	MARY SPURLOCK	CENTERTON, AR
ANNIE HICKERSON	MILLINGTON, TN	ERIKA SWAIN	SAN DIEGO, CA
LOIS HOWELL	CHESAPEAKE, VA	CORA TANNER	TROY, MT
ROSETTA JARVIS	ORLANDO, FL	MARGO THOMPSON	HENDERSON, NV
LEE HWA JENSEN	ALAMEDA, CA	KENNETH UYENO	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA
PATRICIA JONES	PORT ORCHARD, WA	NEAL VERCAUTEREN	SAN DIEGO, CA
ANNIE LEUNG	SILVERDALE, WA	MARY VERGERS	DRUMMONDS, TN
MARIO MAGTANONG	PENSACOLA, FL	LOUISE WARREN	PENSACOLA, FL
MURIEL MALABAD	SAN DIEGO, CA	MARY WILLIAMS	MAITLAND, FL
ROSENDO MARCANO	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	DOROTHY YOUNG	ORLANDO, FL

New Retirees no longer available from NEXCOM Human Resources due to Personally Identifiable Information (PII) rules



Suffolk Distribution Center NEDC

NEX TRIVIA - CHALLENGE YOUR BRAIN

1. In 2016 NEXCOM expanded the NEX Ship to Shore Program to include several overseas NEX locations. What is NEX Ship to Shore?
2. True or False. NEX facilities are currently located in Poland, Bahrain, Romania, Dubai and Djibouti?
3. Navy Exchanges were active on a number of Naval Air Stations that were once located in a variety of cities around the country. Which one of these cities did not, in days gone by, have a NAS/NEX? Quonset Point Rhode Island, Marietta Georgia, Cecil Field Florida, Alameda California, Lakehurst New Jersey or Brooklyn New York.
4. What term is used to define when a physical inventory count indicates less value than the book inventory records or balance sheet.
5. NEX Jebel Ali's barber/beauty salon celebrated its one year anniversary in November 2016 with sales of \$49,330, which exceeded the financial plan by \$30,000. Where in the world is NEX Jebel Ali?
6. Navy Exchange 170-010 was located on an island based Naval Station only accessible by aircraft or boat. This site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and also declared to be a National Historic Landmark for the role its facilities played during World War II. This NEX was disestablished in 1972 when the base was turned over to the U.S. Coast Guard. On what island is this base located?
7. True or False: In 2003 Hawaii Navy Exchanges sponsored a weekly NEX Bumper Sticker program where authorized customers who placed Shop NEX Bumper Stickers on their cars were eligible to win a \$25 NEX gift certificate?
8. Yes or No. Is Will Preparation Service available to retirees via NEXCOM's Enterprise group plan?

Trivia Answers from above

1. Customers who may not have had access to a full assortment of merchandise at their local NEX in 2016 could purchase merchandise at NEXCOM's web store, myNavyExchange.com and have their purchase sent free of charge to their local NEX for pick up rather than having it deliver to their home.
2. True
3. All 6 of the listed cities previously had Naval Air Stations with NEX's, as did Niagara Falls New York, Denver Colorado, Quantum Massachusetts, Birmingham Alabama, Seattle Washington and Moffett Field California to name just a few others.
4. Shrinkage or Shortage. Although pilferage is a factor for shortages, a breakdown in systems and procedures designed to minimize or eliminate inventory shortages is believed to be the most likely cause for shrink. Examples include errors in recording receipts on RGRs, incorrect pricing, unrecorded markdowns, unauthorized movement of merchandise or lack of security.
5. Dubai
6. Kodiak Island Alaska. This Coast Guard Base encompasses 23,000 acres of land on Kodiak Island, which is approximately 250 miles southwest of Anchorage. Kodiak Island, which measures 3,588 square miles, is the largest in the groups of islands which form the Kodiak Island Archipelago, and currently has roughly 15,000 residents.
7. True. Each week a representative from the NEX randomly selected a winning car from cars displaying the bumper sticker at any NEX location in Hawaii. Mike Cottrell, NEX Hawaii district manager/general manager indicated this unique program (which had been offered for a number of previous years) allowed the NEX to thank and give something back to customers shopping at our stores. Weekly winners receiving the \$25 gift certificate were then eligible to win a grand prize, a \$2,000 NEX shopping spree.
8. Yes. CONUS retirees who participated in the Basic Group Life Insurance plan, Optional Group Life Insurance plan, and/or Special Group Life Insurance plan have access to Will Preparation offered by Hyatt Legal Plans. These plans include telephone and in-person consultations, preparation of codicils, preparation of and/or updating wills, living wills, power of attorney as well as testamentary trusts. Contact Hyatt Legal Plans at 1-800-821-6400 Monday through Friday, 8AM - 7PM with questions or to access their will preparation services. NEXCOM's Enterprise Group Number is: 109800.

DID YOU KNOW

- 1946 The Navy Ship's Store Office began operations the 1st of April on the seventh floor of a building at 111 East 16th Street in Manhattan. There were three offices and sufficient additional space for 30 desks. In September, approximately 50 people who formed the staff moved into the third floor of the Naval Clothing Depot, 29th Street and Third Avenue in Brooklyn.
- 1958 A late arrival of a supply ship at NS Midway kept the store from having its Toyland shelves fully stocked for opening day. Patrons didn't mind; that day, they purchased \$4000 worth of toys.
- 1967 The Navy Ship's Store Office established a new branch, the Warehouse and Distribution Branch of the Layout and Display Division. The mission of this operation was concerned with the overall organization and management of all primary Exchange warehousing functions.
- 1974 A new Navy Exchange at Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport MS opens. The new store had more than 16,000 square feet of sales area, five times as much as the store being replaced. Opening day sales exceeded \$17,000, which was \$8,000 more than the previous daily high of \$9,000.
- 1979 The building housing NEX NAS South Weymouth MA caught fire and burned in February. Housed in the same building were the Country Store, Barber Shop, Personalized Services, Optional Shop, Laundry-Dry Cleaning and special Services facilities - all were totally lost.
- 1985 The Navy Resale Career Academy (NCRA) began training sessions in March. Management personnel from all parts of the NEX system began experiencing three concentrated weeks of training at NCRA's home located at NAS Jacksonville FL.
- 1987 NEX Bermuda begins accepting credit cards. The base commanding officer made the first credit card purchase which was followed by numerous additional customers who tried out their credit cards on the first day.
- 1993 The Navy Uniform Program began managing the Marine Corps uniform mail order system.
- 2010 NEXCOM launched myNavyExchange.com, allowing online shopping from around the world and ships at seas.
- 2012 NEREA's 18th annual convention was held 25-29 March in New Orleans.
- 2014 The NEREA Scholarship Fund awarded eight (8) \$2000.00 scholarships.
- 2017 On Veterans Day, nearly 18 million honorably discharged veterans were provided access to shop at any military exchange online store as a result of the the Veterans Online Shopping Benefit.
- 2018 In support of the 4th annual United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration event, NEX Norfolk, NEX Jacksonville, NEX Pensacola, NEX Bethesda, NEX San Diego, NEX Pearl Harbor and NEX Guam participated by providing a lapel pin as a token of the nation's thanks to Vietnam veterans. Approximately nine million U.S. military members served on active duty during the Vietnam War, era, November 1, 1955 - May 15, 1975.
- 2021 The Harbor Home by Sealy mattress collection was introduced.
- 2024 Two Toy's "R" Us shops opened, with more scheduled in 2025.



Length of Service Awards

Loyalty, dedication and experience are three qualities that make an employee a valuable asset to any business. With this in mind, it's easy to understand why the Navy Exchange at Pearl has assets to spare in the way of outstanding employees.

Service Awards are presented to employees of NEX Pearl to commemorate each five years of service given to the worldwide Navy Resale System. At the most recent Service Awards ceremony, held at sunny FAC Park, 45 employees were honored for their tenure with NEX, ranging from five to 35 years!

Mahalo and congratulations to the following employees. You make the exchange strong, you keep it operating, and you are the primary reason why we are the best in the world.



Service Awardees from Manana join their boss, Dave Ensor, for a group shot. They represent 80 years of NEX service.



It's hard to believe that the two lovely ladies in the middle each have 20 years of service with the Navy Exchange. Irene Sandry and Shirley Nishimura are flanked by Merchandise Manager, Sats Yoshino and Sales Manager, Jerry Butler.



30 Year Award Clock



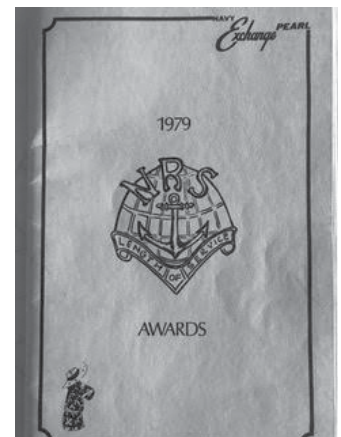
1959 USN EX 5 Year Service



Cool Plaque NEX
NSB Kings Bay, GA



20 Year Award Clock



Pearl Harbor Awards 1979

Email your cool plaque picture to nereanational@gmail.com



Service Awards

1979

NAVRESSO

10 Years

Nancy DeGaetano

1981

NEX Naples, IT

5 Years

Susan Carbone

1982

NAVRESSO

15 Years

Thom Speedling

Edward Lehane

10 Years

Gloria Benjamin

Herbert Friedland

FSO Norfolk

Glenna Skinner

1987

FSO Davisville RI

20 Years

Raye Eaton

1988 and 1989

NEX Naples IT

20 Years

Donald Pender

15 Years

Francesco Farina

NEX Roosevelt Rds PR

10 Years

Gerald Fantano

FSO Jacksonville

5 years

Eileen Andrews

1990 and 1991

NEX Oceana VA

15 Years

Diana Vasquez

NEXCOM

20 Years

Susan Mirabella

10 Years

Richard Miller

NSA Naples IT

15 Years

Richard Cardonia

10 Years

Raymond Meister



Is your 25 Year Sieko Watch Still Working?



45 Year Service Award



30 Year Service Award



5, 10, 15 Year Pins



Did you get a tie tack?

Please email Memory Section articles or pictures you would like to share to nereanational@gmail.com

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Look at the back page of the newsletter next to your name. **If the year after your name is 2024, this will be the last newsletter you will receive until you pay your dues which is \$10.** The address is at the bottom of the NEREA Dues Coupon also on the back page.

GOOD TO KNOW

NEXCOM HUMAN RESOURCES CONTACT

Toll free: 1-888-639-2363

Routine requests for information about your retirement benefits or medical coverage, can usually be handled by calling the following person at the toll free number.

Mrs. Melissa Allen –
Benefits Insurance Examiner

Technical questions or requests for information and/or specific actions are more effective if they are submitted in writing to:

NAVY EXCHANGE SERVICE
COMMAND
Retirement Department
3280 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23452-5724

It is suggested that you retain copies of all your benefits correspondence for your records. You may also contact your nearest Navy Exchange for additional assistance person at the toll free number noted above.

ADDRESS CHANGES

If your mailing address changes, be sure to notify NEREA so that you will continue to receive our Newsletter. Please send your change of address – old and new – to the NEREA POST OFFICE BOX.

Please note that you must advise NEREA, NEXCOM and Bank of New York, Mellon separately of any address changes.

If you are currently receiving a Navy Exchange System Annuity, be sure to notify the John Hancock Insurance Company, the paying agent for the annuity. The address for John Hancock is:

John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance
Company
200 Berkeley Street
Boston, MA. 02117
Toll Free Number 1-800-624-5155

Questions concerning direct deposit of your Bank of New York Mellon retirement check please call
1-800-418-0273
FAX 1-877-358-9729
email:
bdpensionphone@bnymellon.com

NEREA IS ON FACEBOOK! @NEREA

We want to remind you that a Facebook page has been created to assist in connecting our many Navy Exchange Retirees.

If you have any pictures or information that you would like to post please send them to:
nereanational@gmail.com

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR NEREA

It is: nereanational@gmail.com

This is for you if have questions or things to share. We care!

NEREA NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

The NEREA Newsletter is now available on our website: <http://www.nerea.org/>.

We are currently paying over \$2,300 to publish and distribute printed copies of each newsletter. We can reduce these costs by eliminating distribution of printed copies to those NEREA members with internet access. You can now view the newsletter in color and, if you want, print a copy at home.

Please let us know if you want to help us save money by sending us an email to: nereanational@gmail.com and ask us to delete your name from our mailing list. And Thanks!

SEND US YOUR MEMORIES

Please email Memory Section articles or pictures you would like to share to nereanational@gmail.com

NAVY EXCHANGE RETIRED
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (NEREA)
P. O. BOX 62189
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23466-2189

PRSR STD
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PERMIT # 508

Please send separate checks for Dues and Scholarship Donations since checks are deposited in different bank accounts

NEREA SCHOLARSHIP DONATION

Yes, I would like to support the NEREA Scholarship Fund by making a tax deductible donation in the amount of \$ _____ (PLEASE PRINT)

Name(First/M/Last) _____

Street: _____

Apt: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Make checks or money orders payable to NEREA SCHOLARSHIP FUND and mail to:

NEREA SCHOLARSHIP FUND
P.O. Box 62189
Virginia Beach, VA 23466-2189

NEREA DUES COUPON

ANNUAL DUES - \$10.00

DUES FOR ADDITIONAL YEARS OF 20 _____ & 20 _____ ARE ALSO ENCLOSED

TOTAL - \$ _____ (PLEASE PRINT)

Name(First/M/Last) _____

Street: _____

Apt: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Spouses's First Name _____

NEX Retirement Date (Month/Year) _____

Make checks payable to NEREA and mail to:

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Virginia Beach, VA 23466-2189