



BUILDER

BULLETIN

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE APPRENTICE SCHOOL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

January/December 2009-2010

The Giving Season

Van Gentry, X33

The month of December continues to be the month that we think more about our giving. We are inclined to operate on a principal spoken by Sir Francis Bacon, "Charity begins at home but should not end there." Many of us take time to build memories with our families and to give and revive gifts. We also take time to think of others around us who are less fortunate and we wish we could make a difference. The reasons we give to others are varied and unique to each individual. Here are several reasons that we give, as reported by National Philanthropic Trust web site.

- Interest in creating a legacy
- Feel strongly about a cause
- Giving back to the community
- Personal experience with an organization
- Response to a request
- Religion or spirituality
- Pass on tradition of giving to children and grandchildren

In giving to groups or to an individual we prove

that the greatest investment we can ever make is in the lives of others. We may give our time, our money or a gift, but make no mistake about it, giving is the essence of a fulfilling life. Every time you give you not only enrich someone else's life but your own. So in this "Giving Season" make an investment in someone's life and reap the benefits in yours.

Perhaps you want to be a giver but doubt you have the resources to give. Here are some practical ideas that you can use to be a giver from "Little Man Tips for Life" web site. You might not be able to contribute \$20/month to a good cause, but how about \$5 or \$2? Foregoing a Starbucks latte once a month could give you enough for this. Or many of us have a jar of coins gathering dust at home. How about saving up all your nickels and dimes for a month, and donating them to charity. Often in life we understand that we cannot do everything but we can do something. Will you be the one who does something to help others this season?



Happy Holidays

from the
Builder Bulletin Staff

An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Gerald R Ford Keel Laying Ceremony

Paul Norton, X18



On November 14, 2009 many apprentices attended the Gerald R. Ford Keel Laying Ceremony. This was a huge milestone for Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding. I am proud and grateful to have been able to join the many people who came. The Gerald R. Ford is a new class of carrier. As a matter of fact it is the first of a new class since 1968 when the Nimitz class came out. Music was provided by the United States Fleet Forces Band, and the Colors were presented by Eagle scouts of the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Mike Petters welcomed everyone and the distinguished guests. Many people spoke at the ceremony but the most moving speaker in my opinion was Mrs. Susan Ford Bales, President Gerald R. Ford's daughter. She specifically addressed the shipbuilders of Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding Newport News as being of the foremost importance in the life the Nuclear Carrier named for her father. Mrs. Ford Bales was the ship's sponsor and also the Keel Authenticator. It was an exciting moment in the ceremony when Mrs. Ford Bales wrote her initials on the authentication plate everyone watched as her initials were welded into the plate. The authentication plate will be welded to the frame of the ship. Following the ceremony refreshments were served and I had an opportunity to shake hands and speak briefly with Mrs. Ford Bales. For the Apprentices reading this, next time an event of this nature takes place, Go To It! It was an very memorable experience for me.

DUMP CAKE

Favorite Holiday Recipes

Mathew Wirtz, X43

Beginning with a 9 X 13 dish and in the words of my mother-in-law "you must do this in order from bottom to top."

Add one 21 oz can cherry pie filling or one 20 oz can crushed pineapples spread evenly
Add one box yellow cake mix spread over fruit
Add 1 cup chopped pecans spread on top
Add one 14 oz bag of coconut spread on top
Add two sticks of butter or margarine cut up and placed evenly over entire dish.

Cook for 45 minutes at 350 degrees and serve when cooled.

Drinking and Driving?Not a good idea!

ROB HEARD, X11

What does the number 1,072 mean to you? Well, to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Commonwealth of Virginia this number represents the amount of alcohol related fatalities in 2008. The number of fatalities caused by drivers with a BAC of +.08 and greater was 274. Last year, 49,449 alcohol related fatalities were reported across the US with over-the-limit drivers causing 10,825.

The holiday season is one of the deadliest times of the year for alcohol-related crashes. MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) estimates that "each year nationally, more than 1,000 people typically die during Thanksgiving to New Year's in drunk driving crashes" (MADD, 2006).

Designate a driver when you drink and arrive alive!

LIFE LESSONS

*If I can stop one heart from breaking,
I shall not live in vain.
If I can ease one life the aching,
or cool one pain,
or help one fainting robin
unto his nest again,
I shall not live in vain.*

- Emily Dickinson

Apprentices In the Yard

Taken from Al Melton's weekly highlights

Craft Instructor Tony Kraus has loaned four apprentices from the 043M Apprentice Gallery to decorate the gates, company buildings and the Dorothy for the winter holiday season. Apprentices Henry Wright, James Livengood, Jenny Hood, and Julie Conner participated this year.

• **Foundry Apprentice Program:** Academic Instructor April Andrews and X43 Craft Instructor Jimmy Jessup recently assisted on the pouring of the 3" Launcher Barrels and Special Piping Cord Body. The pour was 8,250 lbs with a temperature of 2,594 degrees. Foundry Apprentice William Harcum was on the wheel of the ladle, Timothy Byrd was on the handle of the ladle, Sean Massey and Robert Page were the plug pullers and James Lipford directed the pour and skimmed the ladle. Their Craft Instructor Stephan Robertson reports that "this is the first time in nearly 20 years that the Apprentices made the molds and then poured their molds. They ran the entire pour operation and I am extremely pleased with their performance

• **Lunch with Ship Sponsor:** X42 Apprentice Craft Instructor Ron Tyler and fourth term apprentice Candice Swarn had lunch with Susan Ford Bales on Friday, November 13th. Mrs. Bales is former President Gerald Ford's daughter and the Ship's Sponsor for the CVN78 Keel Laying. Ron is responsible for installing nuclear piping systems on CVN 78 and Candice has worked on CVN 78 for five months.

• **Career Pathways:** The Huntington Middle School Career Pathways Program was given a boost by the Apprentice School Cheer/Dance Team and the Drumline on Wednesday November 18th. The group performed for the 400 students as they got off their buses in the parking lot. The

attention getting show was to assist with generating excitement about the kick-off of the "What it Takes" Program being delivered by current apprentices and graduates.

• **X11 on RCOH Roosevelt:** X11 Apprentices Josh Carwell, Philip Hirshman, Jonnathan Wilson, Aaron Penny, and Sarah Gentry were invited to a luncheon given by Todd West, Program Director of Roosevelt RCOH, for their part in the temporary shielding that took part in Norfolk in the summer. X11 loaded over 90 tons of lead in each of the two reactor plants on the ship. Apprentices Chad Albert, Andrew Fletcher, Josh Carwell, Jared McMillan, Philip Hirshman, Nadirah Baldwin and Logan Quigley all played an important part in the SMO removals leading into the port side of MMR#1. During the operation parts of main deck, 2nd deck, 3rd deck and 4th deck were removed. The work involved laying off, removing paint, burning, coordination with the navy and other trades, and plenty of wrap up to protect ships equipment for the hot work. This job took a lot of patience and close attention to detail to make sure none of the ships equipment was damaged during the process. Apprentice Dawn Weaver working with an X11 employee Danny Orie has been doing a great job getting personnel access doors cut in the propulsion areas on RCOH Roosevelt. Involved in the work climbing up and down ladders on a daily basis to reach 26 different spaces to layoff and remove paint for 13 personnel access cuts. This job takes a lot of patience and close attention to detail to make sure none of the ships equipment is damaged during the process and to make sure all the interferences (ladders, cables, pipes, etc.) are removed for the cuts. All of these tasks were performed by the apprentices accident free during their time at Norfolk. Submitted by Craft Instructor Will Prescott.

Drum Line

Andrew Kunk, X18

The Drum line is in its 3rd year at the Apprentice School. The drum line performs at home football games, Parades and special events. The current Line includes two cymbals, five snares, four bases, and one quintuplet. Cadences include Spider, Brey Boy, Pinky, Fonz, Dre, Duke and the one that they are still learning is Street Beat #4. This year the drum line plans on playing at selected men's and women's home Basketball games. Greg Bone the captain of the Line stated that this year's drum line "is the best that it has ever been." If you are interested in playing on the drum line, contact Greg Bone by email or phone at 757-784-5465.



The 2009 Holiday Dinner Dance

Andrew Kunk, X18/ Mathew Wirtz, X43

The dance floor was packed and people were having a great time at the Apprentice Schools annual Holiday Dinner Dance on December 5, 2009. There were over 56 gifts given away at the dance. The most sought after gifts were the 46 inch flat screen television won by Jasmine Carrington of X31. Other gifts were; a XBOX 360 with a couple of games and a carrying bag won by Heather Edelm X42, a laptop won by Mahamon X31, a Wii won by James Cutler, IPOD touch won by Lakita Williams X31, and a surround sound won by Randy Dyess X33. A special thanks to Erica McCormick for taking time out of her thanksgiving holiday to purchase the prizes. In the spirit of giving Mrs. Leber donated the surround sound she had won, back to the prize pot so others could have a chance to win it.

A delectable dinner started the night as apprentices chatted about the array of prizes. The 12 days of Christmas was acted out by the audience and to get everyone in the Christmas spirit. As dinner ended, the dance floor was opened. It started slow, so a dance off was called and as the DJ mixed all the latest music, apprentices got their boogie on.

Close to the end of the night and still no one had won the flat screen. It was keeping everyone on the edge of their seats with every ticket number drawn. The ASSA president calls out the number 631 and as Jasmine Carrington stands you could see that she was very excited, hoping she would draw the number of the flat screen. She handed Patrick her ticket and repeats back her number 631. Patrick looked at the called number 613; "I'm sorry but this is not the correct number". Patrick had called the wrong number and so Miss Carrington was sent back to her seat with only giving Patrick a hard time and a smile. Several numbers later Patrick called the number 631 and Jasmine again headed up to claim her prize. She reached to the bottom of the bag to draw number for the prize and there it was staring right back at her, number 48, the number of the flat screen. With tears in her eyes she thanked everyone and wished them happy holidays. Everyone had a great night full of fun, festivities and food, hope to see everyone there next year.

How far you go in life depends on you being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in life you will have been all of these.

- George Washington Carver

Gift Ideas

Van Gentry, X33

If you find yourself in need of a last minute gift for your favorite Apprentice School Student or Student Supporter remember the school store has gifts that start as low as \$2.00. You will be giving a gift and supporting the school at the same time. You can see all the gifts that are currently available on our web site at <http://www.nnapprentice.com/assa/store.htm>.



Fire Safety During the Holidays

FRANCES MASTON, X15

Fire safety should be a year round concern, but particular attention should be paid during the holiday season. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, fires occurring during the holiday season claim the lives of over 400 people, injure 1,650 more, and cause over \$990 million in damage. With a few simple tips, the chances of these tragedies can be greatly reduced.

The Tree - A brightly lit and heavily decorated tree might be the embodiment of Christmas for some, but it also poses the one of the holiday's greatest hazards. When selecting a tree, take care to select one that is healthy and fresh. Look for needles that do not come off easily when touched and a trunk that is sticky to the touch. Keep your tree watered at all times, and they should not be left to stand for more than two weeks; doing so increases the dryness of the tree and its potential as a fire hazard. Also take care not to place the tree near any heat sources, such as a fireplace, heat vent, or radiator.

Lights and Decorations - Inspect lights ever year, new or old, for cracked or missing bulbs, frayed wires, kinks, broken insulation, or other signs of wear. Also inspect sockets and outlets, taking care not to overload an outlet with too many strands of lights – more than three in one outlet is too many. Do not leave on for excessive periods of time, and never leave them on unattended. Other decorations such as garland, ribbon, and other such ornaments should all be flame resistant.

Candles - Candles are a quick easy way to add to any décor, and can provide fragrance as well as aesthetics. They are also incredibly dangerous. NEVER leave burning candles unattended. Candles should also NEVER be used as Christmas tree decorations. NEVER leave burning candles unattended! Keep candles away from children and pets, and do not place them near sources of heat. Make sure candles are in stable holders and keep the wicks trimmed. And finally, NEVER LEAVE BURNING CANDLES UNATTENDED!! That part is rather important.

Disposal - Please dispose of all decorations and other holiday paraphernalia in a safe manner – NOT by burning! Trees should be taken to a recycling center, or you can check with your city/county on rules regarding pick up. Wrapping paper and other decorations should be placed with your regular household trash. Placing any of these items in a fireplace or otherwise immolating them could result in a fire that flares out of control rapidly.

Please keep yourself and your loved ones safe from fire this holiday season – we want to see you ALL back here next year!


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**STUDENT
BOOK
EXCHANGE**

Tuesday 4:00-5:30pm
January 5, 2010
APPRENTICE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Set your own prices
for your school books.

Please bring your own change.

Read a good Book Lately?

Employee Resource Available thru "Yard Net"

Van Gentry, X33

Northrop Grumman has a large resource of books that are available to its employees. You can check out books on such topics as:

- Business Strategy Section
- Coaching and Mentoring
- Communications
- Corporate Culture
- Diversity
- Engaging the Workforce Section
- Leadership
- Leadership Skills
- Leading in Change
- Performance Management
- Teams

You are allowed to check out 2 books at a time. When you request a book it will be sent to your work location. If for some reason the book you want is not available you will be placed on a waiting list. Books are loaned out for 21 days with an extension if available. All the details and a list of the book titles are available on the Yard Net web site under the section titled "All Resources A-Z" in the subsection call "Employee Development Library".

Winter Driving

Rob Heard, X11

Winter is coming! This means colder temperatures, icy and snowy roads, and bad drivers. Allow yourself extra time to reach your destination and do not tailgate. The best advice for driving in bad winter weather is not to drive at all, if you can avoid it. Remember these helpful tips while you are warming up your car:

- Check current local weather and road conditions at www.511virginia.org.
- Keep your tires in good condition and properly inflated.
- Remove any snow or ice before using your wipers.
- Let someone know your travel plans and ETA.
- SLOW DOWN.

Visit www.cartalk.com/content/features/WinterDriving for more helpful winter driving tips. Please remember to stay prepared for the unexpected this winter season!

Holiday Trivia

Frances Maston, X15

You may be familiar with the traditional carol "I Saw Three Ships", but how well do you really know it? When was it written, and what does it mean? Historians are still searching for these answers – send your best guess to Paul.A.Norton@ngc.com. One randomly selected winner will receive a \$20 dollar gift certificate from the Apprentice School store.

Novembers Puzzle contest will accept submissions until December 30, 2009.

BUILDER BULLETIN
4101 WASHINGTON AVENUE
NEWPORT NEWS, VA 23607



DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Women's Basketball St. Paul's College 6pm	3 Men's Basketball Virginia Wesleyan 7pm	4 Executive Council Meeting 11am	5 Wrestling @ York Spartan Women's Basketball @ Cheyney 1pm Men's Basketball @ Francis Marion 7pm
6 Men's Basketball @ St. Andrew's 2pm Women's Basketball @ NC Wesleyan 2pm	7	8	9	10	11 Exec. Council Meeting 9:30am Delegate's Meeting 11am Men's Basketball @ Bluefield 7pm	12 Wrestling @ UMBC Quad Women's Basketball @ Kings Point 2pm
13 Women's Basketball @ Briarcliffe Noon	14 Men's Basketball @ VA Wesleyan 7pm	15	16	17	18 Exec. Council Meeting 11am Wrestling @ Waynesburg 7pm Men's Basketball @ J&W, FL 6pm	19 Women's Basketball Wesley College 2pm Men's Basketball @ Florida Mem. 2pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Wrestling @ Wilkes Open	29	30 Women's Basketball Chowan Univ. 6pm	31		

JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Women's Basketball @ VA Union 6pm	7	8 Wrestling @ VA Duals Executive Council Meeting 11am Men's Basketball @ Rhema 7:30pm	9 Wrestling @ VA Duals Women's Basketball Southern VA 2pm Men's Basketball @ Philander 4pm
10	11	12 Women's Basketball Voorhees College 6pm	13	14	15 Exec. Council Meeting 11am Men's Basketball @ NC Central 5:30pm Women's Basketball @ Bennett 6pm	16 Wrestling @ Ursinus Tourn. Men's Basketball @ NC Central 8pm
17	18	19 Men's Basketball Southern VA 6pm	20 Women's Basketball Univ. of DC 6pm	21 Men's Basketball @ Mt. State Univ. 7pm	22 Executive Council Meeting 11am Wrestling Builder Duals 5pm	23 Wrestling Builder Inv. 9am Men's Basketball @ Univ. of DC 2pm
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Wrestling @ NCWA Duals Men's Basketball @ Williamson Trade 2pm
31				Women's Basketball @ Wash. Adv. 6:30pm	Executive Council Meeting 11am	

Ski Trip 2010

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20

SNOWSHOE
RESORT WEST
VIRGINIA

Tickets \$75

Does not include
rental equipment

On sale in main
office of Apprentice
School starting
November 16th

Snowshoe



Bus departs NN Park & Ride (Kiln Creek shopping center K-Mart, Victory Blvd.) Feb. 19th, 12:00 midnight & returns Feb. 20th, 12:00 midnight.

Skis \$25, snowboards \$30 at Ski World. Available at Snowshoe - skis \$37, snowboards \$37. No refunds unless event is cancelled. For more information, contact **Billy Callis** at **757-339-1336**.

Ski Trip 2010

SATURDAY JANUARY 23

WINTERGREEN
RESORT
VIRGINIA

Tickets \$45

Does not include
rental equipment

On sale in main
office of Apprentice
School starting
November 16th

Wintergreen



Bus departs NN Park & Ride (Kiln Creek shopping center K-Mart, Victory Blvd.) Jan. 23rd, 4:30am & returns 9:00pm.

Skis \$25, snowboards \$30 at Ski World. Available at Wintergreen - skis \$36, snowboards \$41 (includes a free lesson). No refunds unless event is cancelled. For more information, contact **Billy Callis** at **757-339-1336**.