



The Goat Locker Returns to GTMO

MCC Bill Mesta

NS Guantanamo Bay, Cuba Public Affairs

Personnel attached to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the re-opening of the Goat Locker, Feb. 18.

The Goat Locker, a Moral Welfare and Recreation (MWR) managed facility, had been closed since Dec. 20 for renovations.

The Seabees repaired structural deficiencies and electrical problems in the facility, said Equipment Operator 2nd Class Eric Battease, from the naval station's Public Works Self Help shop. The windows were repaired, the roof was replaced, all off the wiring was replaced, some of the plumbing was replaced, security cameras were installed and new amenities such as speakers for the club's sound-system were installed.

Some of the challenges that the Seabees encountered with the renovation project included finance and recourses.

Because of the 'Continuing Resolution,' an emergency request for fund-

ing the project was submitted to pay for the required materials for the electrical, said Battease. The public works department authorized the materials to repair the windows and the wall.

The Seabees also replaced plaques that had been displayed on the club's wall and made sure the facility was ready for the opening ceremony.

The roof was replaced by a crew of ten Seabees assigned to Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 28 (NMCB 28), said Battease. MWR also provided two carpenters to assist with the various renovation projects.

The Goat Locker is a facility set aside for GTMO's senior enlisted population. Active duty, reserve and retired service members E-7 and above are eligible to use the club for social activities, training and meetings.

"The Goat Locker is that one physical space where senior enlisted service



PHOTO BY MCC BILL MESTA

CMDCM J.D. McKinney, the Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba's Command Master Chief, Jim Estep of GTMO's Moral Welfare and Recreation hospitality director, and Equipment Operator 2nd Class Eric Battease of the naval station's Public Works Department cut the ribbon at the re-opening ceremony for the base's senior enlisted club, The Goat Locker.

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GTMO's PWD Completes Conservation Projects

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On Oct. 9, 2009, the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV), Ray Mabus set five goals for the United States Navy to guide the fleet to a higher level of energy efficiency.

The Public Works (PWD) at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay



PHOTO BY MCC BILL MESTA

Pictured is an example of one of the Low Flow Shower Heads that was installed by GTMO's Public Works Department to conserve potable water.

(GTMO), Cuba recently completed two energy conservation projects on base towards the SECNAV's goals.

NAVFAC Southeast GTMO installed low flow shower heads in all Department of Defense and contractor barracks at the naval station, said Art Torley the production division director for PWD GTMO. Low flow shower heads reduce the amount of water that is used without reducing the water pressure that the user feels.

"The base will save an estimated 8,213,000 gallons of water annually from the installation of the shower heads," said Torley. "From the reduction in water and sewer used, the base will save an estimated \$172,462 annually."

Water conservation is a critical issue at GTMO due to the high cost of potable water production through reverse osmosis.

"There is no fresh water source on the base, so all potable water on the base is desalinated from sea water," said Torley. "In addition to the high production cost of the potable water we must also treat all of our waste water which is another high cost."

The base residents who are using the new shower-heads have reported positive experiences with the new units, said Torley.

The new shower head installation was part of a bigger energy savings project at GTMO that included replacing conventional street light bulbs with light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs.

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members can begin to solve leadership issues that we are facing," said Senior Chief Quartermaster Paul Bischoff, the naval station's Port Operations Leading Chief Petty Officer. "It is a place where we are able to share our leadership challenges and successes at the junior enlisted Sailor level."

The Goat Locker is used by the Chief Petty Officers Association (CPOA) each first and third Friday of the month to hold its meetings at 4 pm.

The Chief Petty Officers Association is a social networking organization for senior enlisted service members at GTMO which is open to active duty, reserve, and retired senior enlisted leadership E-7 to E-9 from all services around the base.

"We get together and it is a good forum for us to talk

about issues that affect our commands," said Chief Master-at-Arms James L. Lloyd, attached to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) Security. "We talk about professional challenges and how we can solve these issues within the Chief's Mess. We also figure out how we can affect the base around us. It also gives us the ability to have fun as a group."

"The CPOA is a collection of various [Chiefs] messes from across an entire base," said Bischoff. "It allows us to even more cohesively than just one unit, one ship or one command. We get together cross-functionally to get information out to make sure that we are leading our people with the same information across the board."

GTMO's CPOA participates in a wide variety of community activities including the annual Chief's Birthday Triathlon on Apr. 2, an annual CPOA scholarship for a W.T. Sampson High school senior, and various base beautification projects.

PWD Saving • Continued

PWD GTMO replaced half of the street light bulbs on base, the high bay lights at the air field hanger and those at the youth center, said Torley. The new LED street lights will use up to one-half of the electricity consumed by traditional bulbs at an annual base savings of \$161,283.

Both projects were funded by the Commander Navy Region Southeast's "Fast Payback Program" which focuses on projects that will pay for themselves with energy savings in three years.

GTMO's CPOA Gearing up for Triathlon

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The Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba's Chief Petty Officer Association (CPOA) is hosting its 2nd Annual Triathlon on Apr. 2.

The Triathlon is being held to celebrate the Navy Chief Petty Officer's Birthday.

The event is going to include a 200 yard swim, a 10 mile bike ride and a 5 kilometer run, said Chief Navy Counciler Robert Pagtakhan, one of the Chiefs coordinating the triathlon.

The first 150 people to register will receive a commemorative t-shirt, said Pagtakhan. The top 3 individuals and groups to finish the race will receive a special award from the CPOA.

The cost to register for the triathlon is \$25 for individuals and \$70 for groups of 3.

GTMO's CPOA provides support for various community initiatives including a \$1000 college scholarship FMI call NCC Pagtakhan at 4812

Port Ops Personnel Recognized



PHOTO BY BM3 ANDRE JACKSON

Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Semira Boone and Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Lora Coss received Letters of Commendation and Command Coins from Rear Admiral J. Harbeson, Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay Commander for their work managing the transportation requirements of members of the Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron and securing waterborne transportation for members of the Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion.

RadioGTMO

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 Aftershock Show • DJ Earquake • Weekdays, 4 to 6 p.m. • FM 103.1
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