



# PSNBA NEWS

## Fall 2005

Standing on our legacy... building for the future.

## PSNBA Hosts Annual Dinner, Honors Board & Navy Guests

### WHAT'S INSIDE

PSNBA represented at Navy Region Northwest Change of Command ..... 2

PSNBA welcomes Admiral French ..... 3

Become a Member of PSNBA Today! ..... 4

Puget Sound Naval Bases Association  
P.O. Box 2615  
Bremerton, WA 98310  
info@psnba.org  
www.psnba.org

The Puget Sound Naval Bases Association hosted its Annual Reception and Dinner on August 5, 2005, at the beautiful Kitsap Conference Center in Bremerton, Washington.

Guests enjoyed the company of Congressman Norm Dicks, Bremerton Mayor Cary Bozeman and Kitsap County Commissioner Patty Lent. The Navy was well represented with the attendance of Admiral Frank Drennan, Captain Doug Biesel, Captain T. J. Dargan, Captain Dan Peters, and Captain Dave Thomas, to name a few.

During the evening's program, three past Board Members of the PSNBA were honored for their significant contributions to the association: Mr. Bert Gegner, Mr. Jim Adrian and Mr. Roland Arper.

The keynote speaker was Vice Admiral Terrence T. Etnyre, Commander, Naval Surface Force, and Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Vice Admiral Etnyre gave



*Pictured from left to right are: Tim Thomson, PSNBA Executive Board; April Mills, PSNBA Executive Board; Congressman Norm Dicks; Vice Admiral Terrence Etnyre; and Guy Stitt, PSNBA Executive Board.*

a wonderful overview of the current state of our surface forces, as well as a look into the future of where the surface force community was heading.

His presentation was followed by a question and answer session, which gave the guests a valuable opportunity to interact with the Admiral.



## Message from the President...

What a year this has been! Over the past year the PSNBA Board Members were very busy with numerous trips and events. Several of our Board members traveled to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii to visit with the Commander of the Pacific Fleet, and later to Washington, D.C. to visit with Admiral Kirkland Donald. Issues important to our local bases were discussed and solutions were presented. The tone of both visits was very positive and the issues discussed reflected well on our local bases.



**Guy Stitt**

PSNBA hosted receptions for the Commander of NAVSEA, the Commander of Surface Forces Pacific, and the Pacific Fleet's Maintenance Officer. Each reception provided a wonderful opportunity for naval personnel, local businesses, and community members to interact and learn more about the Navy presence here in Puget Sound. I highly encourage you to attend one of these events in the future. (Watch the Events page on the web site to find out when these are happening.)

In October, PSNBA held its Annual Meeting and I had the distinct pleasure of turning over the leadership of this great organization to Mr. Tim Thomson. Tim and his new Executive Board (which comprises of many familiar faces) are excited about carrying forward the great job we have done over the past three years. Mr. Jim Oas has stepped down as an active member of the Executive Board and he will certainly be missed. His positive spirit was such a bright light within our Executive Board, and I appreciate the commitment he and his family made to PSNBA and to our thousands of mem-



*Rear Admiral Len Hering shaking hands with Rear Admiral Chris Weaver at the Navy Region Northwest Change of Command Ceremony.*

## PSNBA Represented at Navy Region Northwest Change of Command

Tim Thomson, Second Vice President, represented the PSNBA at the Navy Region Northwest Change of Command Ceremony on August 19, 2005.

Rear Admiral Len Hering was relieved by Rear Admiral William French. Guest speaker Rear Admiral Christopher Weaver, Chief of Naval Installations, presided over the ceremony.

Rear Admiral Weaver commended Rear Admiral Hering for his exceptional leadership, which has made the Navy Region Northwest one of the most efficiently operated Navy regions. For that effort, Rear Admiral Hering was awarded the Legion of Merit.

After the ceremony, Rear Admiral Hering spoke with Mr. Thomson and expressed his appreciation for the PSNBA's contributions to the Navy community.





## PSNBA Welcomes Admiral French

The PSNBA is always pleased to welcome Navy leaders to our region and to celebrate the assignment of new officers to local installations. A wonderful reception was held for Rear Admiral W. French, Commander, Navy Region Northwest, on Friday, August 26th at the Undersea Warfare Museum at Keyport.

The reception for Rear Admiral French was well attended by fellow Navy leaders, including Rear Admiral Frank Drennan, Commander, Submarine Group 9; Captain Daniel Peters, Commanding Officer, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility; and Captain Reid Tanaka, Commanding Officer, Naval Base Kitsap; as well as many others

Earlier that day, Captain Tanaka had relieved Captain D. Biesel of command of Naval Base Kitsap. Captain Biesel, also in attendance at the event, received well wishes on



*Pictured from left to right are Rear Admiral W. French, Rick Tift of PSNS & IMF, Adam Brockus, Bremerton City Council Candidate, and Debbie Baker, Executive Director of the North Mason Chamber of Commerce.*

his new assignment back to the Pentagon.

Elected officials, always in attendance at PSNBA events, participated warmly in welcoming Rear Admiral French and his family to the Puget Sound. Senator Maria Cantwell sent a letter of welcome, which was read to those in attendance by the PSNBA First Vice President, April Mills. Staff personnel from both Congressman Dicks' and Congressman Inslee's office also shared their welcome and respects for Rear Admiral French.

The celebration, which lasted for over three hours, was a relaxing

and inviting event, demonstrating the excellent relationships that the PSNBA has fostered between community and Navy leaders. Anyone interested in attending future PSNBA events may monitor the events calendar on the PSNBA web site ([www.psnba.org](http://www.psnba.org)).

## Message from the President...

*Continued on page 3*

bers. On a positive note, Mr. Oas is not gone for good. He will remain an active member of our General Board of Directors.

Finally, I was relieved to hear that the results of the Department of Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission's decisions were favorable to our local bases. Our county officials and community leaders worked diligently to ensure that our bases were evaluated in the most positive light possible during that process. Now that the process has been completed, the PSNBA Board is faced with a number of new issues and initia-

tives that are important to this region. Please continue to support PSNBA! I intend to continue my involvement with this great organization as an ambassador of sorts, working with our nation's senior Navy leadership to build and strengthen those vital relationships.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors and the General Membership for giving me the opportunity to lead PSNBA over the past three years. I will continue to treasure the friendships and memories that have been created on this remarkable journey.

### New PSNBA Officers Elected

At the PSNBA Annual Meeting, held October 17, 2005, new officers were elected to the PSNBA Executive Board of Directors. Members of the new Executive Board include: Tim Thomson, President; April Mills, 1st Vice President; Roy Harrington, 2nd Vice President; Jeff Markiewicz, Treasurer; and Mike Tart, Secretary. Look for photos and biographies in the next PSNBA newsletter!

### 60th Anniversary Coming Up

The Puget Sound Naval Bases Association is gearing up to celebrate 60 years of meeting our mission! Celebration events are being planned for December 2005 and April 2006. Check the PSNBA web site for event details and further information. Anyone interested in joining the PSNBA Anniversary Committee may contact the PSNBA at: [info@psnba.org](mailto:info@psnba.org).



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**PSNBA NEWS • Fall 05**

**4**

## **PSNBA Needs Your Help... Become a Member of PSNBA Today!**

The Puget Sound Naval Bases Association was established in 1946 to promote the general economic welfare of this region, and to support our local military bases and the active duty and civilian workers who are employed at these bases. The PSNBA plays a key role in rendering assistance to congressional representatives to help them present to Congress the needs of our naval installations and the communities in which they are based. The PSNBA has championed the future of the Navy for 60 years! We are asking you to join us so that together we can work to support our local bases and the jobs they represent.

### **Join PSNBA and become part of something BIG:**

- Become a part of a great tradition.
- Become a champion of local Navy installations.
- Become a member of an elite company of Department of Defense and U.S. Navy leadership; local, state and national elected officials; local and national Union leaders; naval industry business executives; and your fellow citizens.

### **Join PSNBA and share in a unique organization:**

- An organization that merges the interests of business, management, and labor into a cohesive voice, strengthening the impact of PSNBA with congressional and Navy leadership.
- An organization with proven success.
- An organization you can be proud to call your own.

***To join, please visit our web site at [www.psnba.org](http://www.psnba.org) and download a membership form. Or, you may contact us at [info@psnba.org](mailto:info@psnba.org), to have a membership form sent to you. Thank you for your support!***