



# BUILDER BULLETIN

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE APPRENTICE SCHOOL STUDENT ASSOCIATION FEBRUARY 2006

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2005!

By X32 Jason Kinney



This year's graduation has proven to be one of the most memorable. Aside from housing one of the largest graduating classes The Apprentice School has seen in a long time, CNU's Ferguson Center of the Arts became the pretense for what apprentice graduations will look like in years to come. The center came close to reaching maximum capacity as fellow classmates,

alumni, faculty, management, and special guests "packed the house" to cheer on the graduating class of 2005.

NGNN President Mike Petters' Commencement Address was one to remember. Petters offered a powerful look into the lives of apprentices as individuals. "Each of you is unique," he explained, "and

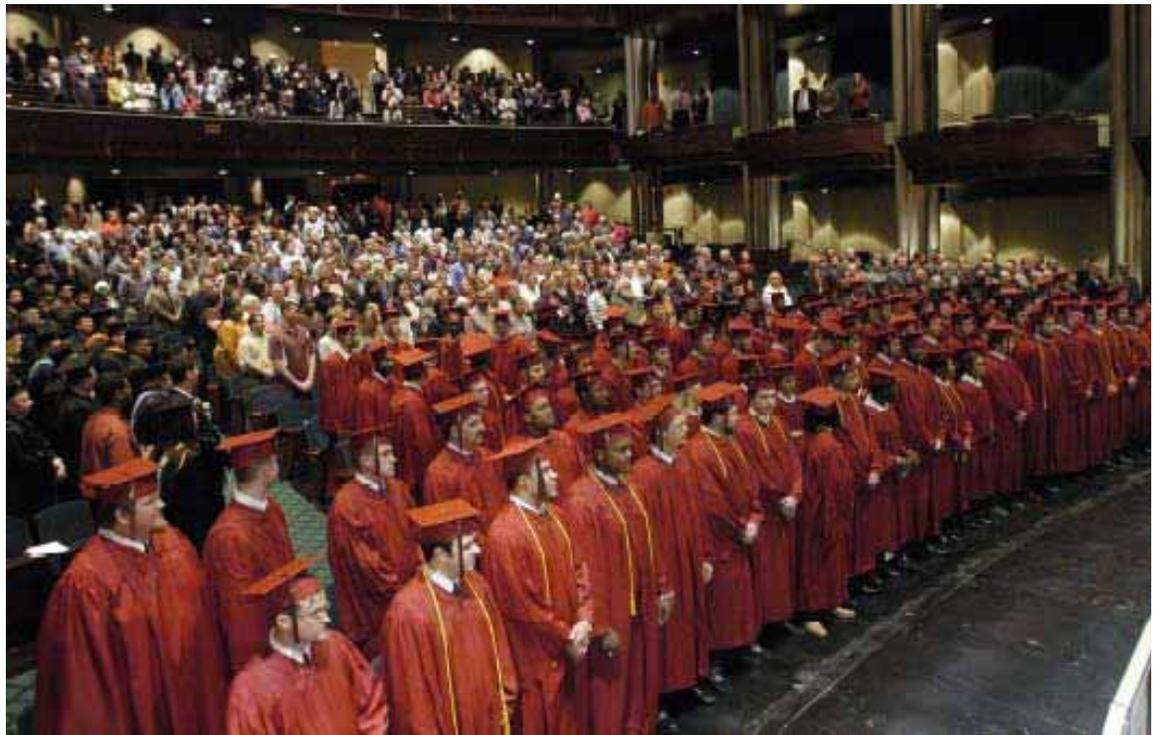
each have your own stories about what brought you to this stage tonight – and who helped you in your journey." Petters focused on the dynamic impact of apprentice graduates in our company. Stressing the need for apprentices to gain a clear perspective of their roles as graduates and as shipbuilders, Petters gave the

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- SPORTS**
- WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**  
March 8: At USCAA Tournament
- BASEBALL**  
March 10 – 13: Round Robin #3  
March 16: SUNY-PURCHASE  
March 17-18: Round Robin #4  
March 24: Eastern Mennonite Un.  
March 25: TUFTS University  
March 31: Southern Va. Un.
- GOLF**  
March 17: Mary Mount, S. VA.  
Woodlands, Hampton
- EVENTS**  
April 22: Paintball



THE FERGUSON CENTER IS PACKED FRIENDS AND FAMILY, STANDING IN SUPPORT OF THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2005

charge to take ownership, work hard, persevere, and continue to gain knowledge and leverage in their careers. "It will fall upon you – and others like you," exclaimed Petters, "to maintain the tradition of quality and craftsmanship for which this company is so well known." He concluded his address by wishing graduates fruitful and successful careers, and by welcoming them to their status as "the greatest shipbuilders in the world."

Another pivotal moment in the ceremony was the presentation of the first Outstanding Faculty Award. The award, presented by Mike Petters' wife Nancy, was given to Frank Satchell Jr. Mrs. Petters read comment after comment from students, peers, and colleagues about his dedication and character. Satchell's commitment to see his students succeed not just in their careers as shipbuilders, but in their lives as a

whole, is what makes him the perfect representation of The Apprentice School's vision.

Something new at graduation this year was the on-stage presence of the new Apprentice School Ship's Bell. The purpose of the bell, a replica of the USS Monitor Bell which will be donated to the Mariner's Museum's new Monitor Center later this year, is to become a symbol of Apprentice School spirit and vision. It took a little while to catch on, but after X32 graduate Marcus McGriff gave the bell a ring, followers began what

could become a new tradition of "tapping the bell."

Overall, this year's graduation was unparalleled. Take the time to congratulate the class of 2005 with enthusiasm!

**CONGRATULATIONS  
2005 GRADUATES!!!**

Quotes from Mike Petters Commencement Address were taken from [www.nn.northropgrumman.com](http://www.nn.northropgrumman.com)





# **X18 APPRENTICE HITS THE ARENA!**

By X32 Jason Kinney

Some of you were able to catch Roger Miller, and his #68 Apprentice School Arusa car, outside The Apprentice School on February 10. Roger, along with spotter Kyle Simmons (both X18 apprentices), joined fellow competitors at the Hampton Coliseum for another intense battle with Arena Racing USA's Coca Cola Racing Series.

Roger started his racing career last season as a crew chief of the #64 car owned by Dan Manherz and Manherz Motorsports. Over the summer Manherz Motorsports acquired a second (#68) car. When the original driver was unavailable to drive for this season, Roger was given the chance to drive. Although this is his first time driving a race car, Roger has been a fan of NASCAR for years.

Kyle Simmons heard Roger talking about needing help with racing over lunch one day at work. With no hesitation, he started with the 68 team this fall as a mechanic. After a few weeks, Kyle moved into the spotter position; held at that time by X18 apprentice Steven Southall. (Southall decided to step down from the position to devote more time to his studies).

The competition consisted of three main, 50-lap races, with the top four finishers of each race competing together in a final, vicious, 50-lap Top Dog race. Roger and the #68 car had to pull out early in the first race due to some transmission trouble. "The car was not responding and accelerating the way it should," explained Roger, "I'd rather pull out now and save the engine."

Bot Stickland, from Elizabeth City, NC, drove the #64 car (also painted with The Apprentice School colors and logos) and finished in the top four, making it to the final Top Dog race. Starting off at the pole, Manherz gave his competitors a good run until his car was flipped over, causing his radio to be



**ROGER MILLER AND SPOTTER KYLE SIMMONS BEFORE THE RACE**

ejected from inside the car. Since drivers must have a radio inside the car at all times, Manherz was not allowed to continue the race.

Overall, it was an awesome sight to see the competitive "Builder Spirit" being spread city-wide. A number of apprentices and their families came out to watch the race. If you are interested in learning more about Arena Racing, contact Roger Miller (Roger.Miller@ngc.com) or log on to [www.arenaracingusa.com](http://www.arenaracingusa.com)

## **Leber Joins SNAME Team at Mariners Museum**

By Guest Columnist, E06/E71, SNAME Communications Chair, Julie Lane

The Apprentice School is building a replica of the USS Monitor for the Mariner's Museum in Newport News. Dr. Leber, Director of Education and Workforce Development, and his wife joined members of The Apprentice School chapter of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Designers (SNAME) on a field trip to see this replica and the new Monitor Center. Tom Clark (the man behind the idea) was kind enough to show the team around and inform them about the replica's design.

Leber and the group toured the Monitor Center and lab facilities. The center is still under construction, but Tom described in vivid detail what it will look like when it is done. The center will include a theater that will show a short film about the battle between the USS Monitor and the USS Merrimac. Tom said that the sound and visual effects are as good as any Hollywood movie.

Stairs have been built outside the lab so that people can look into the tanks where the Monitor's turret and engine being restored. Cameras that show the turret will be connected to television monitors installed on the main floor so the turret can be viewed from there as well.

The team also ventured outside to see the replica, which is a fantastic sight to see because of it's enormity. Tom told us how the apprentices have influenced the project by offering many ideas for improvement. Quite a few of those ideas are being used. For instance, the X36 riggers asked some questions that the museum staff had not thought to ask themselves. The result was the purchase of a 40 ton crane instead of a 25 ton crane, which was the original plan. The apprentices

also suggested that watertight doors be installed on the tanks holding the turret and engine.

All those who have participated in building the replica should be very proud of their work, and they must be commended for doing such a wonderful job.

A big thank you goes out to Tom Clark, whose vision for this project included the apprentices here at Northrop Grumman Newport News.



From left to right

Jeff hunt, Jason Boyd, Josh Horner, Jason Debusk, Valentino Crawford, Ron Adams, Behind (hard to see) Ron Toxey, Mitch Eisenhower, Dellena Eisenhower, Dr. Leber, Mrs. Leber, Billy Schaff, Jack Taylor, Tony Woodrum





## WELCOME 2006 ASSA PRESIDENT RON HENDRICKSON

By X06/X89 David Nicholas, E06 Betty Husted, and X31 Crystal Boyd

The Apprentice School Student Association (ASSA) strives to bring a sense of unity and teamwork to apprentices. The ASSA is not only responsible for planning activities and events, or generating the Builder Bulletin and year book, but also for encouraging apprentices to grab hold of every opportunity to better themselves both as dedicated employees and as individuals. It takes special leaders in place to bring this vision to the ASSA. One of these leaders is 2006 ASSA President Ron Hendrickson.

Originally born in El Paso, Texas, Ron was raised locally in Norfolk, Virginia and graduated from Norview High School. He actually began his shipbuilding career with Norshipco's apprentice program for one and a half years before the program was discontinued. Ron then joined the team at Newport News Shipbuilding, becoming an X42 pipefitter, primarily on carrier construction. For the next nineteen years he raised two children and continued his education through various night classes offered by the shipyard and Tidewater Community College.

In 2003, Ron decided to take a big step toward furthering his education and expanding his career opportunities by joining The Apprentice School. Continuing his involvement with X42, Ron began his journey as an apprentice by experiencing a variety of work atmospheres around the yard.



After being an apprentice for three months Ron joined the ASSA as an alternate delegate. He began by attending monthly meetings and sharing information about activities to fellow apprentices. Over the following two years, as he became more involved, Ron stepped in to newer roles. From his position as a delegate he accepted an offer to become the co-chair of the Activities Committee, and then moved into the Activities Chair position the following year. Ron was then voted in, amongst his peers, as the 2006 ASSA President.

When asked to comment on ASSA goals for the upcoming year, Ron replied: "Each year our goal is to get more apprentices involved and excited, and to develop and enhance leadership skills among the executive council as well as the

delegates working with us. The ASSA has a core student government that will work hard and make things happen by promoting teamwork." He invites all apprentices to become familiar with the ASSA and feel welcome to join "The Family." "The ASSA is tied to diverse community projects," remarks Ron, "we do a lot of things to help, and most importantly, we have fun!"

Ron is now an X06 Apprentice Planner. He enjoys in his leisure time remodeling homes and competing in a local billiard league. Ron has already established himself as a leader and role model in the classroom, on the job, in the lives of those around him. He never hesitates to help someone and the ASSA is confident that he'll be a fine president. Congratulations Ron Hendrickson!

Ron is joined by 2006 ASSA Executive Council members Kareem Solomon (Vice President, E06 Design Apprentice), Laura Brown (Secretary, X11 ASOC Apprentice), and Chris Guthrie (Treasurer, E06 Design Apprentice).

Anyone interested in becoming part of or supporting events held by the ASSA, can contact an Apprentice Instructor, talk to any delegate, or contact any of the executive council members. For contact information log onto [www.nnappprentice.com/assa](http://www.nnappprentice.com/assa)



## SPOTLIGHT

### X18 Roger Miller

By X31 Derrick Gillmer

Starting off in the yard as an X18 Welder, Roger Miller (age 37) immediately heard about the apprentice school. The idea appealed to him, and after some time he was able to transfer into The Apprentice School on June 26, 2005. Partially fueled by his desire to be the first person in his family to acquire a higher education, and wanting his education not to cost an "arm and a leg," Roger got into The Apprentice School. It turned out to be everything he expected.

Because Roger transferred from a second shift position, his favorite thing about The Apprentice School is that he gets to work during the day. Although studying and homework tends to be a struggle, Roger says that his craft instructors and teachers have far exceeded his expectations in their dedication to help him succeed. "They [will] not let anyone accept failure," he proclaims.

Roger's experience in The Apprentice School has allowed him the opportunity to act on a deep-seeded belief of his: "Anytime you have an opportunity to get into a program that will improve yourself and help you financially, you should take it... that should be your ultimate goal." In addition to learning the shipyard process and developing his skills, Roger aims to make it into the design program. He hopes that his dedication to working hard and commitment to getting an education will help him gain that position.

Aside from being on the Publications Committee (Builder Bulletin) as a delegate with The Apprentice School Student Association (ASSA), Roger enjoys the intensity of driving the #68 "Builder" decorated Arena Racing USA car.

APPRENTICE





*Great Company Great Products* **Great People** *Great Results*  
By X06/X89 David Nicholas



## Jarrold Burke X36 Craft Instructor



The second installment in the Builder Bulletin's "Great People" series sets the stage for X36 Craft Instructor, Jarrold Burke. Jarrold was born and raised in Newport News, Va. After graduating from Memorial Christian High School and leaving his first job as a tire moulder for Montgomery Wards Auto, he began his career at Newport News Shipyard. In August of 1984, Jarrold was hired as an X36 Apprentice.

Looking back on his Apprentice School years, Burke reflected on the camaraderie of the program and truly enjoyed the experience of meeting new people from all the different trades. In addition to playing baseball for coach Burroughs, Jarrold's proudest accomplishments during his apprenticeship include working the Main Coolant Reactor piping on the USS Lincoln, and Engine Room work performed under his old supervisor, Jetty Spicer (who is now his General Foreman). Burke made the most of his time as an apprentice and went on to graduate with The Apprentice School's Class of 1988.

He continued to work with the riggers on numerous jobs such as crane rigging, hand rigging, staging, blocking, stage design, and operating mobile equipment. In 1999 Jarrold transferred to New Construction Planning. He spent four years learning the processes of Deck Plate planning and Central Planning. He credits these experiences as "time well spent". Not only did planning teach him to become more organized

and help him always look at the "big picture," but it also gave him the opportunity to meet his wife, Ruth, who was the Human Resources representative who offered him the job. "Planning is knowledge gained that I will carry with me for years to come," proclaims Burke.

After years of planning and waterfront practice, Jarrold was asked to become an X36 Apprentice Instructor in June of 2002. He is currently responsible for blocking and shoring new construction carriers and providing access to ship shell staging from main deck and below. He works on retention teams for 022 and helps to develop special events that promote

brotherhood, networking, and friendship amongst apprentices.

One of Burke's immediate goals, as an instructor, is assisting 036 in the development of the first formal X36 theory class which will take apprentice training to a higher level. He personally takes it upon himself to act as a mentor in all areas of X36 responsibility and tends to his apprentices' personal issues, as needed. He states, "I fully believe in the Apprentice School. I aim to reach Master Shipbuilder status and hope to always be tied to the apprentice program." When asked to give advice to current apprentices Burke replied: "The experience is what you make of it. There will be good times and hard times. The level of effort put into it will determine what you get out of it. Get involved, make friends and create great memories."

When he's not looking out for his apprentices at work or being a father to his two daughters at home, Burke enjoys outdoor activities like fishing, hunting, canoeing, and hiking. In addition, he likes to express his creativity and craftsmanship through woodworking, jewelry making, and glassblowing.

Jarrold Burke has a passion for the Apprentice School. As an alumnus and an instructor, he is devoted to continually improving the program and turning out successful apprentices.



THE APPRENTICE POLAR PLUNGE TEAM STANDS STRONG, REFUSING TO SHOW THE NUMBNESS IN THEIR LEGS AND TORSOS

## POLAR PLUNGE

A team of apprentices (pictured) participated in Virginia Beach's annual Polar Plunge this past February 4<sup>th</sup>. There were a record number of plungers (3,433) raising a record \$590,000 for the Special Olympics. Laura Brown, pictured left, raised the most money on the apprentice team, bringing in over \$500!

The day was packed full of games, prizes, food, and entertainment as festivities built up to the "plunge." The weather wasn't too bad...but the water was still COLD!!! Hundreds of teams from different organizations participated. Many were in costumes. A team from the USS Carl Vincent was there, carrying a carrier replica into the water with them. Others were dressed in various, somewhat elaborate, costumes – ready to compete in the annual Polar Plunge Costume Competition.

Hopefully next year The Apprentice School will see more people sign up to participate! It's really fun, and offers a great opportunity for apprentices to get involved serving the community!





# Petters Recognizes Apprentices at FlexLab Dedication

By X32 Jason Kinney

NGNN President Mike Petters recognized a group of Apprentices for their involvement in the development of the new FlexLab. The 2,400 square foot laboratory contains a full-scale mock-up of a portion of the warfare command and decision center for CVN 21, and is part of the new Aviation Ship Integration Center (ASIC), which was dedicated at a ceremony on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The center, which was founded in collaboration with the U.S. Navy, will help NGNN uphold a technological edge over other countries and their navies, and is located in the Herbert H. Bateman Virginia Advanced Shipbuilding and Carrier Integration Center (VASCIC).

The VASCIC is home to a number of special rotations where advanced apprentices are directly involved in the researching and testing of new ideas in technology, product innovation, and installation techniques.

Technical information taken from NGNN Currents, Feb. 6 ed.



From left to right: X06 Ron Hendrickson, X42 Chris Lamb, X31 Quinton Hall, X31 YEVGENIY CHERNYSHEV, X42 Racheal Sterrett, X31 Derrick Gillmer, X42 Mike Chenault, X42 Maurice Turner, X31 Joe Viars. Not Pictured: X31 James Poindexter



**PAINTBALL**  
AT  
**THE SWAMP**  
2 MILES PAST THE COLEMAN BRIDGE, IN GLOUCESTER  
**APRIL 22nd**  
**FROM 11 am to 5 pm**  
TICKETS ARE \$20 AND INCLUDE  
**YOUR LUNCH AND EQUIPMENT RENTAL**  
PAYROLL DEDUCTION IS AVAILIABLE. SEE DEBI CROSS  
AT THE APPRENTICE SCHOOL OFFICE  
**GO TO [www.theswampfunpark.com](http://www.theswampfunpark.com) FOR FACILITY DETAILS**

# RESULTS

By X06 Daniel Rippeth

# Texas Hold'em Tournament

Twenty-six apprentices recently competed in the ASSA's first Texas Hold'em Tournament. The competition was a success thanks to Activities Chair Chris Mathews, coordinator Julie Lane, and the generous staff at The Matador Sports Bar. In addition to the six prizes that were raffled off, the eight players who made the final table got rewarded with gift cards to Best Buy.

Congratulations to the winners:

1 <sup>st</sup>	X31 Brody Welch	5 <sup>th</sup>	E06 Cameron Vaught
2 <sup>nd</sup>	X31 Larry Smith	6 <sup>th</sup>	X06 James Bentley
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Charles McBride	7 <sup>th</sup>	X43 Michael Kappauf
4 <sup>th</sup>	E06 Jonathan Tyler	8 <sup>th</sup>	Jerry Lasco





# BUILDER BULLETIN BRAIN BUSTERS

By X06 Daniel Rippeth and X31 Crystal Boyd

capital  
grammer, Quiz  
a  
no coma

See if you can fill in the blanks of this Robert Louis Stevenson Poem: "Bed in Summer"

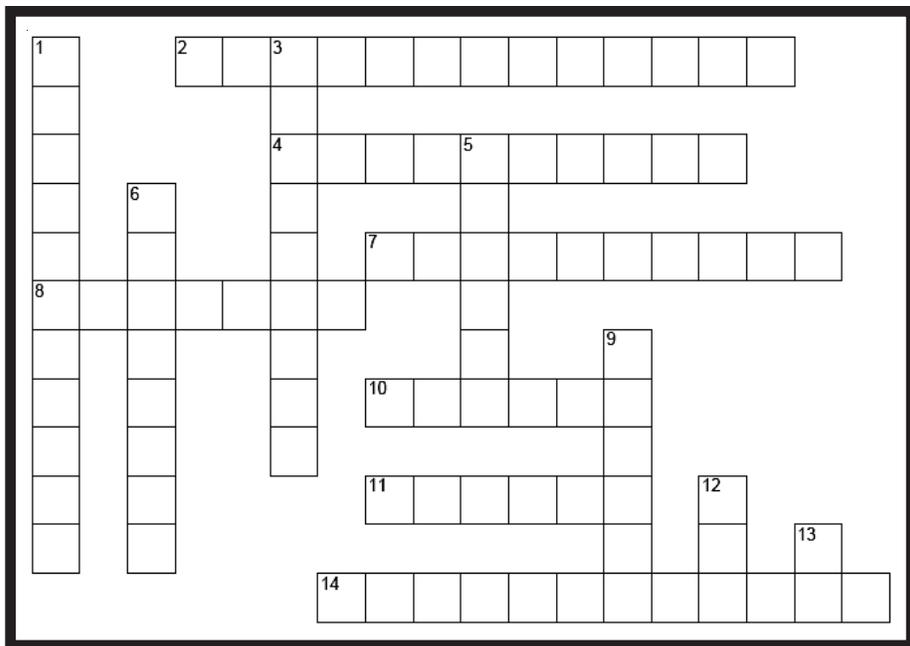


In w \_\_\_\_\_ r I get up \_\_\_ night  
 And dress \_\_\_ yellow c \_\_\_\_\_ e-light.  
 In s \_\_\_\_\_ r, quite \_\_\_\_\_ other way,  
 I have \_\_\_ go to bed \_\_\_ day.

I have to go \_\_\_ bed and see  
 The b \_\_\_\_\_ s still h \_\_\_\_\_ g on the tree,  
 Or h \_\_\_\_\_ r the grown-up people's feet  
 Still going \_\_\_\_\_ me \_\_\_ the street.

And d \_\_\_\_\_ s it not seem hard \_\_\_ you,  
 When all \_\_\_\_\_ sky is clear and b \_\_\_\_\_,  
 And I should like \_\_\_ much to p \_\_\_\_\_ y,  
 To h \_\_\_\_\_ e to go to \_\_\_\_\_ by day?

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

- 2 Pi times D (diameter)
- 4 1 times Pi (geometric shape)
- 7 d / dx
- 8 9.81m/s^2
- 10 sqrt (144)
- 11 Tendency of a force to cause rotation of an object
- 14 1's and 0's

### DOWN

- 1 sqrt(X^2 + Y^2) (theorem)
- 3 The magnitude and direction of two forces acting on the same particle at different angles
- 5 2 x PI (geometric shape)
- 6 2 x R (radius)
- 9  $X_{n+1} = X_n - [f'(X_n) / f(X_n)]$   
Creator of this method
- 12 1 + 1
- 13 3.14

#### Grammar Quiz Answers:

Lines 1-4: winter, by, by, candle, summer, the, to, by

Lines 5-8: to, birds, hanging, hear, past, in

Lines 9-12: does, to, the, blue, so, play, have, bed

#### Crossword Answers:

Across: 2. Circumference, 4. Semicircle, 7. Derivative, 8. Gravity, 10. Twelve, 11. Moment, 14. Boolean Logic

Down: 1. Pythagorean, 3. Resultant, 5. Circle, 6. Diameter, 9. Newton, 12. Two, 13. Pi

#### YOUR BUILDER BULLETIN TEAM IS:

Jason Kinney, X32 ASOC (Publications Chair) – Betty Husted, EO6 Design (Co-Chair) – David Nicholas, X06/X89 Planner – Derrick Gillmer, X31 – Crystal Boyd, X31 – Daniel Rippeth, X11 – Roger Miller, X18

**BUILDER BULLETIN**  
 COMMENTS AND INFORMATION  
**GO BUILDERS!**

If you'd like to make a comment or request information contact Jason Kinney: [jason.kinney@ngc.com](mailto:jason.kinney@ngc.com)

