



# BUILDER

## BULLETIN

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE APPRENTICE SCHOOL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

January 2008

## Achievable Dreams

By Takiyah Bailey X18

**B**eginning on Monday October 22, 2007, The Apprentice School participated in An Achievable Dream's "What It Takes Program." "What it takes" is a program where An Achievable Dream brings in their corporate partners to teach what are referred to as "soft skills." Northrop Grumman has been a corporate partner with An Achievable Dream for many years. A group of volunteers from The Apprentice School took time out of their schedules to participate to teach skills such as business ethics, teamwork, how to explore the global marketplace, and a basic understanding of economic concepts. Students from 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th grades were anxious and ready to learn these new skills. The Apprentice School volunteers also shared the benefits of the Northrop

Grumman Newport News Apprentice School with the students from An Achievable Dream. Many of the students at An Achievable Dream have family members who work at the shipyard. They wake up to Big Blue and Apprentice Field staring them right in the face every morning. Although the students did not know all of the work that is done here at Northrop Grumman, they have come away from this experience with a better understanding. Our time at An Achievable Dream was greatly enjoyed. From morning hand shakes to lunch table conversations, we look forward to the opportunity to work with the faculty and students of An Achievable Dream again.



"Can't you see I have work to do?"



"Ooh! Ooh! I got it! Pick me! Pick me!"



"See, it's the inverse azimuth of the..."

## Builders Dominate the All-ACFC Lineup

By Rodney Huffman X31



**W**ith the 2007 Football season coming to an end, the Publication staff would like to acknowledge several members of the football team. Seven of our own Builders were named to the All-Atlantic Central Football Conference team.

Seniors Travis Reid, Quentin Forbes, and Jonathon Gladden each celebrated their second year as members of the All-ACFC First Team. Travis was honored for his outstanding play at Wide Receiver, Forbes for his consistent excellence at the Safety position, and Gladden for his steady leadership at the Center position. Travis Reid became the first Apprentice School player to be named the ACFC Offensive Player of the Year for his record shattering senior season. Linebackers Jeremy Smith, a sophomore, and Desmond Isaac, a freshman, senior Cornerback Franako Smith and sophomore Punter Phil Caralla, were named to the All ACFC Second Team. Senior Quarterback Kyle Franklin and sophomore Kicker Matt Edelen each earned an Honorable Mention Award. Thank you for making us proud! You can find all your Builder Sports information at: <http://www.gobuilders.com/landing/index>.

# Christmas at the Mariner's Museum

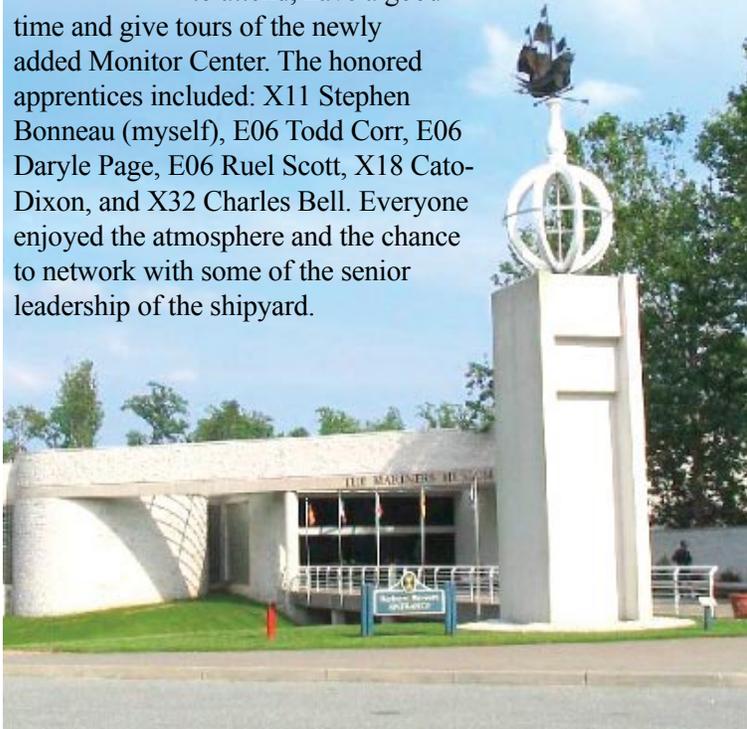
By Stephen Bonneau X11



Hunley

**N**orthrop Grumman Newport News Vice President of Trades, Education and Training Danny Hunley hosted his Annual Christmas Party on November 10th at the Mariners Museum. There were many distinguished guests including a few lucky apprentices, including myself who were invited to attend, have a good

time and give tours of the newly added Monitor Center. The honored apprentices included: X11 Stephen Bonneau (myself), E06 Todd Corr, E06 Daryle Page, E06 Ruel Scott, X18 Cato-Dixon, and X32 Charles Bell. Everyone enjoyed the atmosphere and the chance to network with some of the senior leadership of the shipyard.



# National Conference on Student Leadership

By Eric Kilner E06



**F**rom November 16th until the 20th four apprentices were chosen to represent the Apprentice School and the ASSA in Orlando, FL at the National Conference on Student Leadership. The Conference is a four day intensive seminar on the principles of student leadership and organizational skills. The topics covered included seminars on social justice, promotion and publicity techniques, methods for conducting effective meetings, and many others. It was invaluable opportunity to promote the Apprentice School and receive some invaluable training.

The four lucky apprentices were the newly elected Executive Officers of the ASSA: President Eric Kilner E06, Vice-President Greg Bone E06, Secretary Robert McNeely X42, and Treasurer Brian Bowman M53. Each year the newly elected officers are sent to the conference to receive the valuable training to prepare them for the upcoming task of managing the events sponsored and operated by the ASSA. "The chance to discuss current topics and exchange information with students from all over the nation was really amazing." Said Greg Bone, "We met some really interesting people and got a chance to hear fresh ideas on how to handle some of the same problems we experience in the ASSA." All four members returned from Florida as Certified Student Leaders.

# Jonathon "All-Madden" Gladden Named First Team Academic All-District by CoSIDA

By Jim Heath O22

**T**he College Sports Information Directors Association named Apprentice School senior center Jonathon Gladden to the first team Academic All-District III. This honor, his second straight year of being recognized by CoSIDA, placed Gladden on the Academic All-American ballot which will be announced at the end of November. District III ranges from Virginia to Florida and includes all non-NCAA Division I schools (Division II, III and NAIA).

The Charlotte, N.C. native, who holds a 3.77 grade point average in the advanced program, has started every game but one in his four years and has been the top-graded lineman the last three years. His Independence High School team did not lose a single game in his four years.



# Kesha's Korner

By Kesha Claiborne X31

**H**i everyone. Welcome to the first issue of Kesha's Korner. To all my readers, I'd like to introduce you to an upcoming poet by the name of G.D. Parker. G.D. has been working in X31 for three and a half years. When I asked Mr. Parker what brought him to the shipyard he replied, "I started working for the shipyard to help my family. I want to further my education and get a degree and I know Northrop Grumman will help me do that." He started writing poetry in the 10th grade as a way to duck his mandatory journal assignment. Eventually it developed into much more. "I always believe that poetry is thoughts and emotions on paper. My poetry is my emotions released. This poem is about my love for music. I talk to the music as if it's a person."

## R&B

By G. D. Parker

Its pure bliss  
When you exist  
In my mind  
Not really knowing  
How you look  
But how you are  
The melody of your voice  
Gives me my vibrations  
Creating my heart beat  
Thinking of your presence  
Make my heart weep  
Can't stop smiling when you're around  
Only person I know is sexy  
When you frown  
I put you on a pedestal  
An exalt you my beautiful black queen  
You being around me make me so peaceful and serene  
look in your eyes  
Into your soul  
Making your eyes in my eyes  
I which is one  
As I look to the sun  
And thank him for what he done  
Looking back down facing the cruel reality  
Because I'm trying to find that part of me  
To make me complete  
So I slide down my chair  
And listen to my slow jams  
Patting my feet  
Listening to the melody of your voice  
Creating my heart beat



# My Rotation Time in Process Excellence

By Ken King

**I**began my rotation in Process Excellence (PE) on July 16, 2007 at the end of my fifth semester as a Sheet Metal Apprentice. I was placed in the Steel Value Stream with Wayne Silver who heads the Sheet Metal Value Stream. My time was not limited to just Sheet Metal though, I was also able to work with Martin Walsh who heads the Steel Value Stream and also Arcino Queiro Jr. who heads the Surface Prep & Treatment (Blast & Coat) Value Stream. The Director of the overall Steel Value Stream is Mike O'Donnell who was also instrumental in my PE experience.

Upon notification that I would be granted a special rotation in PE, no one was able to explain to me just what PE was all about. The Foreman that I was loaned out to at the time had no idea what was involved in this rotation. At the least for me, the term "Process Excellence" had a nice ring to it. I was ready to put my tools down for a while.

When I arrived at Building 86-3 where PE is located, I was introduced to Wayne Silver and thus began my eye-opening journey into what I consider my most valuable rotation so far. I was exposed to events, meetings, workshops and training that was beneficial to my understanding of how a successful company strives to become Lean and efficient in its daily operations. I sat in meetings and events with people

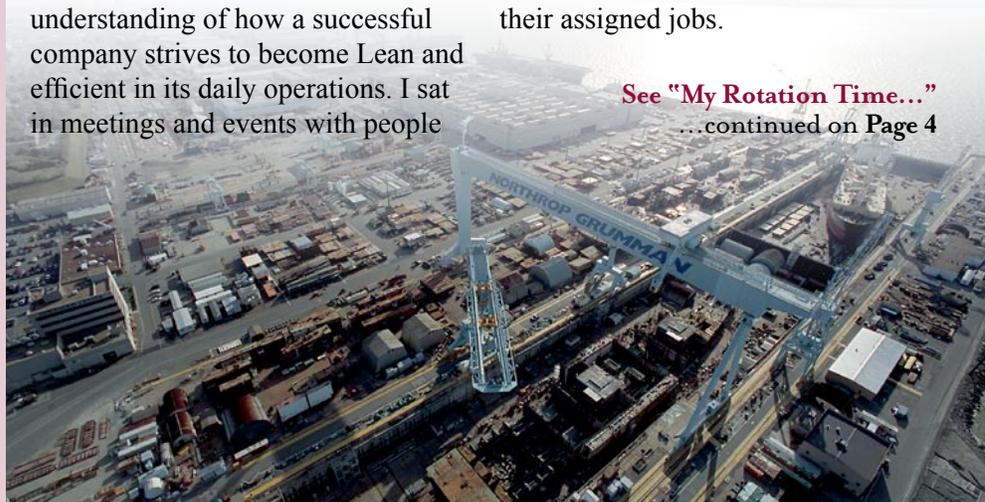
who I consider the movers and shakers of upper management on up to the Vice President of this division.

What I was most impressed with during this rotation was the visual transformation of a thought process through Upper Management and on down to the Deck-plate Leaders, that led them from the concept "doing business as usual" to "we have to find a better way to develop and execute our processes if we are going to continue to compete and satisfy our customer's needs." I never grew tired of seeing the-light bulb effect- in their eyes as the concept gradually sunk in. The initiative to get the hourly people involved in this transition was also most impressive.

I was also involved in co-leading an X32 Trades Execution Event for CVN 77 where the focus was "a day in the life of" X32 hourly personnel from multiple disciplines. The task was to come through the barriers that hindered them from starting and/or completing their assigned jobs. When the time came to give the Report-Out to the Sponsor and Management Team involved, the feedback was very positive. There were many action items to come through that would make a positive impact on employees being more effective in completing their assigned jobs.

See "My Rotation Time..."

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# Harrell's Highlight

By Shakirah Harrell X18

I would like to take a moment to introduce Mr. Andrew Kunk our Apprentice highlight student. He is a 2007 high school graduate of Winchester, VA. He began his Apprenticeship in September of 2007 in the X18 welding trade. Mr. Kunk began welding in high school and quickly took a high interest in the trade. He also enjoys rockclimbing, being an eagle scout, and competing in triathlons. During Mr. Kunk's spare time

he enjoys building tall bikes. Andrew learned about The Apprentice Program through family and friends that work for Northrop Grumman. Mr.Kunk hasn't had a chance to go into the yard but is looking forward to going on the ship. He is very excited about the physical part of the job. All 6'5" of Mr. Kunk is ready to climb, crawl, bend, and explore all the tight spots the yard has to offer.

# My Rotation Time in Process Excellence

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In the final weeks of this rotation I was part of a team of PE Apprentices that conducted several SIPOC (Suppliers, Inputs, Process, Output, Customers) Board presentations to the Faculty, Staff and third semester students at the School. The SIPOC board was used as a tool to let the Students from different Trades see where they fit into their prospective value streams. The presentations also provided the students with information about Process Excellence and the learning experiences derived from a rotation through the Division.

I could go on for a while giving examples of my experiences during this

rotation. However, I will surmise by saying "Thank You" to those responsible for giving me this opportunity to grow in knowledge and understanding of a division that I had no idea existed. I have become Lean Certified and have received certificates in Process Improvement Achievement during this rotation. It's my intention to take the benefits of this rotation and use them in what ever position I achieve after my graduation from the Apprentice School.

Ken King (X32/006)  
Sheet Metal Apprentice  
Process Excellence



# Yankees VS Orioles Game

By Stephen Bonneau X11



The Yankees squeaked by the Orioles 11 to 10. The game was a blast and everyone had a great time hanging out in Baltimore. The buses dropped us off at Inner Harbor in downtown Baltimore around 1:00pm. The game started at 8:00 pm so we had plenty of time to take in the sights. There was ESPN Zone, Hard Rock Café, the Baltimore Aquarium, and other exciting attractions all in walking distance. As far as the game goes, the Orioles started off with a couple runs then the Yankees took the game in the fourth with 10 runs in a row. The Orioles did their best to catch up but failed in their attempts. With the game ending nearly three and a half hours after the first pitch, we went back to the buses and settled in for the long ride home. Be sure to sign up early enough next year to enjoy all the fun.



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