



# BUILDER

## BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF THE APPRENTICE SCHOOL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 2



## Hats Off to the Graduates of 2011

Tamieka Williams, X33

As each apprentice graduate walked across the stage to ring the bell signifying their accomplishment, you saw a glimmer in their eye that said, "Finally, I am done." This year's commencement exercises took place for the Class of 2011 on February 4, 2012. The ceremony was conducted in the worship center at the newly constructed Liberty Baptist Church. The venue is 80,000 square feet and has a 3,000 seat worship center. Many attendees complemented the new location and were surprised to learn that the venue was actually a church. This was a breathtaking change from the Ferguson Center where past graduation events have taken place. The new location allowed ample room for family, friends, and special guests to attend the ceremony. The celebration was all in recognition of the 161 apprentices who studied various trades including optional advanced programs in the shipyard. Seventy of the apprentices graduated with academic honors. These graduates underwent the rigorous training of a specific trade while maintaining high academic and shop grades. The graduates not only belong to their own personal families but now belong also to the elite family of shipbuilders.

## Tradition with a Touch of Class

Tamera N. Crosby, M71

In the continued tradition of The Apprentice School, The Baccalaureate Service was held at Liberty Baptist Church, prior to the graduation ceremony. Apprentice school faculty and staff, Huntington Ingalls executives, directors, and managers, and approximately 35 graduates gathered with their families and loved ones to partake of an inspiration-filled experience. Words of encouragement, stories of accomplishment, and instructions on obtaining success were just a few of the memorable moments of the ceremony.

The service began with the welcome and introduction from Mr. Everett Jordan, Director of Education. Graduate apprentice, Reverend Bill West of Severn Church of Gloucester, VA, proceeded with a heart-felt invocation where he cited the well-known story of David and Goliath to emphasize the importance of personal strength and believing in one's self. Apprentice graduates, Takiyah Bailey, Patrick Collins, Kenny Weeks, and Sarah Gentry provided four relational passages on "The Four Ships" of The Apprentice School; Craftsmanship, Scholarship, Leadership, and Relationships.

The main speaker for The Baccalaureate Service was The Apprentice School's own Dr. Mark Costa. Dr. Costa, retired Colonel for the United States Marine Core, is currently an academic instructor for The Apprentice School. He delivered an inspirational recap of his journey to reaching personal and professional goals. He addressed the importance of perseverance and maintaining focus. His instructions on success were well-received by the listening audience.

The closing of the service was led by Reverend Bill West where graduates were escorted to partake of a delightful dining experience with their friends and families, joined by The Apprentice School faculty and staff and Huntington Ingalls executive representatives.



## Matt Mulherin's final words to class of 2011

Mike Chieffo, X42

The Apprentice School graduation has had many notable commencement address speakers throughout the years including, former Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter (2007), President and Chief Executive Officer Mike Petters (2008), and Admiral Thomas B. Fargo who currently resides on the board of trustees for HII (2010). This year Newport News Shipbuilding President Matt Mulherin delivered a speech that was motivational and exemplified the values of The Apprentice School. "My message to you is simple," Mulherin said "It's about potential; your potential and the company's potential; because I believe they go hand-in-hand. After more than four years experience you sit here today equipped with the training, knowledge, and experience that can only come from being an apprentice." Mulherin reminded apprentices of... "contributions they made" which include work on twelve submarines and eight aircraft carriers.

His final assignment for the class of 2011 was to submit a letter with an opportunity for improvement within the company. "With forty-two percent of Newport News Shipbuilding production leadership being apprentice graduates the experience and knowledge of previous graduates produces new and successful ideas for improvement."

In his closing remarks Mulherin said, "There are truly no limits to what you can do and where you can go with this company. Construction supervisors, managers, vice president... Many of our leaders have sat where you are sitting today. They are the present. You are the future. And, working together, our potential is unlimited."

# Graduation: A behind the scenes look

Dawn Hardister, X31

The big day has arrived. You have spent the morning preparing to walk across the stage. Your hair is fixed, you put on your nice clothes and you probably smell good. While you are getting ready, much is going on behind the scenes to prepare for your big day. This article will shine a light on just a few of the people that had a hand in pulling your graduation day together.

As soon as one class graduates, preparations for the next year's graduation begin. Liz Moriarty has been on the graduation committee since 2007. Liz was in charge of ordering 161 tassels for the graduates, which unfortunately were delivered with misprints. Although she specified each tassel to read "2011" for the ceremony, the tassels delivered had "2012" printed on them. This stressful mishap led to Liz hurriedly handing out tassels to each of the graduates the day of the ceremony instead of with their caps and gowns two weeks earlier.

The diplomas require a group effort so several Apprentice School staff help arrange them in alphabetical order. Sally Kristen, Liz Moriarty, Dr. Uzzle, Gary Carter, and Dr. Hughes are just a few of the people that go through the diplomas to make sure they are in the correct order and to avoid confusion. Dr. Hughes hands them out after one final check from Dr. Uzzle. The graduates have worked hard to get to this day and everybody has a hand in making sure it is done right.

The truck is packed on Friday with decorations, speakers, diplomas, and everything needed for both the baccalaureate and the graduation ceremony. Set up begins at 7 a.m. on Saturday and needs to be completed by 11 a.m. Stan Best and April Shockley are in charge of planning the baccalaureate service while Gary Carter is in charge of making sure each graduate and craft instructor gets their picture taken. Both staff and volunteers work together to make this set-up progress organized and efficient.

The graduation was held at Liberty Baptist Church this year and several things had to be re-worked, according to Gary Carter. Seating, procession, stage layout, and graduate gathering areas all had to be created ahead of time. In Gary's words, "group pictures, procession line-up, and check off... a lot is going on, but there's also plenty of hurry up and wait."

The Apprentice School Student Association (ASSA) volunteers played a large role in helping as well. There were people to hand out programs, ushers for guests and VIP's as well as parking attendants. Jason Kinney, ASSA faculty advisor, was the main point of contact for the ASSA volunteers. He assigned Ashley Ober and Jeb Dodson to be the lead contacts for the main event. While Ashley was in charge of volunteers inside the building, Jeb was in charge of volunteers outside of the building. Ashley began to panic when three volunteers canceled two days before graduation. Thankfully, her fears were put to rest when over fifty volunteers showed up the day of the main event to help.

Just as in years past, issues arose that created stress and a feeling of "how is this all going to come together." And just as it always has, it came together perfectly to create a memorable and happy graduation day. The faculty, staff, and volunteers all played a part to create a special day for the graduates because their planning began almost a year in advance. A round of applause goes to each graduate and every person that helped to pull it all together. Great job everyone!

## A look back at 2011

Dawn Hardister, X31

Green Bay Packers choke out the Pittsburgh Steelers in a 31-25 Super Bowl match; Roethlisberger tried to make a completion but Wallace was unable to make the catch. After 10 years Northrop Grumman said "Goodbye." And Newport News Shipbuilding gave birth to HII. Occupy Wall Street took over from New York to Oregon. And Prince William finally married Catherine Middleton. Osama Bin Laden is no longer FBI's most wanted. Basketball and Football lockouts left sports fans daunted. Alfred Flythe taught us that things can go from bad to worse. And how "Our jobs can be dangerous if we don't put safety first." Newport News Shipyard celebrated their 125th anniversary with family day. Families ate, danced, played, and not even the rain could keep them away. The submarine USS California was delivered 8.5 months ahead of time. Oprah airs her last show after 25 years of watching her ratings climb. We are builders of ships; Craftsmanship... Scholarship... Leadership. The class of 2011 finishes their apprenticeship.



## 2011 GRADUATES

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Nathaniel Howard Addison	Heavy Metal Fabricator
Loren D Armas	Shipfitter
Samuel David Arnold, Jr.	Marine Designer
Femi Audrey Audifferen	Production Planner
Justin Matthew Ausura	Modeling and Simulation Program Analyst
Takiyah Steele Bailey	Marine Designer
Brian William Bangs	Dimensional Control Technician
Coire James Barnitz	Welder
Alex (nmn) Batista	Maintenance Electrician
Kevin Knight Beagle	Production Planner
Bass Edward Beasley III	Millwright
O'Bryant Montrell Beaufort	Electrician
Ceferino Merlan Bersonda, Jr.	Pipefitter
Quinton Moregan Bethea, Sr.	Pipefitter
Maria Teresa Beckner	Electrician
Jared Ray Belcher	Electrician
Matthew Alan Bialk	Sheet Metal Worker
Rachel Ann Biehl	Modeling and Simulation Program Analyst
Randolph Quincy Billups, Jr.	Rigger
Rebecca May Bottomley	Marine Designer
Sean Patrick Brady	Marine Designer
Rebecca Ann Brinkley	Pipefitter
Ryan Lee Bruce	Machinist
Matthew Aaron Brunscheon	Marine Designer
Charles Ashley Buchanan	Electrician
Justin Allen Burdette	Welder
Joshua Adam Burnett	Nuclear Test Technician
Colin Andrew Burns	Marine Designer
Bryan Dwayne Cain	Pipefitter
Daniel Lewis Campbell	Millwright
Phillip Stephen Caralla	Outside Machinist
Joseph Russell Carnes	Machinist
Christopher O'Neal Carter	Pipefitter
Daniel Wesley Carter	Pipefitter
Patrick Kyle Center	Marine Designer
Eric Ernesto Chaco'n	Heavy Metal Fabricator
Justin James Cline	Rigger
Jonathan Michael Cohen	Outside Machinist
Patrick Michael Collins	Marine Designer
Travis J. Cook	Outside Machinist
Ginger Alison Corprew	Electrician

## Niels Christiansen Craftsmanship Award

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To graduates who excelled in craftsmanship among waterfront trades presented by Williams C. Bell, Vice President, Human Resources and Administration, Newport News Shipbuilding

Jeffrey Luke Elmore  
Jason Lee Harry  
Adam Joshua Horak  
Joel Cecil Jennings  
Anthony Thomas Spivey, Jr.

## W.R. Phillips, Jr. Award

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To graduates from the advanced salaried programs who excelled in craftsmanship and job performance presented by Jennifer R. Boykin, Vice President, Engineering and Design, Newport News Shipbuilding

Liam Alexander Konouck  
Jonathan Williams Morris

## Charles F. Bailey Award

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To the graduate with the highest scholastic average in required courses presented by Michael J. Helpinstill, Vice President and Controller, Newport News Shipbuilding

Justin Matthew Ausura  
Rachel Ann Biehl  
Colin Andrew Burns  
Tonya Marie Crawford  
Adam Joshua Horak  
Liam Alexander Konouck  
Jonathan William Morris  
David Andrew Nagy  
Stephen Clark Norman  
Tracey Naumann Scudieri  
John Christopher Spruill  
Jessica Renée Welling

## G. Guy Via Award

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To the graduate with the highest scholastic average in optional advanced courses presented by James F. Hughes, Vice President, Submarines and Fleet Support, Newport News Shipbuilding

Tonya Marie Crawford  
Jonathan Williams Morris  
David Andrew Nagy



## Homer L. Ferguson Award

On behalf of the Apprentice Alumni Association to the graduate who achieved the highest average in combined required academic and craft grades presented by Danny W. Hunley, Vice President, Operations, Newport News Shipbuilding

Adam Joshua Horak

## Athletic Award

To graduates for outstanding athletic achievement presented by Rebecca A. Stewart, Vice President, Manufacturing Newport News Shipbuilding

Coire James Barnitz	Baseball
Patrick Kyle Center	Baseball
Jonathan Alexander Dehoux	Baseball
Michael Gregory Opauski Jr.	Baseball
Andrew Joseph Yonta	Baseball
Andrew Joseph Kunk	Drum Line
Nathaniel Howard Addison	Football
Samuel David Arnold, Jr.	Football
Bryan Dwayne Cain	Football
Phillip Stephen Caralla	Football
Eric Ernesto Chacon	Football
James Wayne Lee	Football
Daniel Lewis Campbell	Golf

## James P. Healy Community Service Award

On behalf of the Mariners Club to the graduate who most exemplified leadership in community service presented by W. Kenneth Mahler, Vice President, Navy Programs, Newport News Shipbuilding

Curtis Leonard Donaldson Jr.

## Frank F. Satchell, Jr. Outstanding Faculty Award

presented by Rolf Bartschi, Vice President, Gerald R. Ford (CVN78) Construction, Newport News Shipbuilding

Mark A. Costa, Ph.D.

## 2011 GRADUATES cont.

Tonya Marie Crawford	Production Planner
Charles Edward Crocker, Jr.	Shipfitter
Amanda Aubrey Davenport	Millwright
Justin Ryan DeBusk	Sheet Metal Worker
Jonathan Alexander Dehoux	Maintenance Electrician
Daniel Joseph Deibler	Modeling and Simulation Program Analyst
Brian John Dillman	Pipefitter
Curtis Leonard Donaldson, Jr.	Marine Designer
Kimberly Renee Dutton	Electrician
Vernon Amtwain Eason	Welder
Heather Renee Edwards	Electrician
Robert Lee Edwards II	Painter/Insulator
Edward Reeves Elliott III	Pipefitter
Eric Todd Ellis	Pipefitter
Jeffrey Luke Elmore	Pipefitter
Bryant Keith Evans	Electrician
Kelvin Rashun Evans	Shipfitter
Robert Stafford Evans III	Outside Machinist
David Farley	Marine Designer
Casey Wyndam Feller	Pipefitter
Wade Anthony Foster	Outside Machinist
Ikejah Ibaló Francis	Electrician
Delano Chase Francisco	Shipfitter
Reginald Carnell George, Jr.	Welder
Sarah Elizabeth Gentry	Shipfitter
James Alan Gilliam, Jr.	Machinist
Gregory Kevin Greene	Machinist
Sharon Kay Greene	Cost Estimator
Stanley Eugene Gresham, Jr.	Production Planner
Daniel Todd Gular	Molder
Miche Renee Hampton	Maintenance Electrician
Daniel Alan Hare	Production Planner
Jason Lee Harry	Electrician
Steven William Henderson	Sheet Metal Worker
Kevin Thomas Hewitt	Cost Estimator
Robert Vinson Hobbs, Jr.	Marine Designer
Tasha Monique Howard	Production Planner
Adam Joshua Horak	Outside Machinist
Jason Phillip Hudgins	Electrician
Rodney Milton Huffman	Electrician
Bryan Garry Hunter	Marine Designer
Michael Cole Irvine	Machinist
Jacob Michael Jallo	Outside Machinist
Maria Evangelia Jenkins	Electrician
Joel Cecil Jennings	Millwright
Eric Antonius Joe, Jr.	Pipefitter
Raynisha Twanette Johnson	Electrician
Daniel Lester Kershner	Welder
Liam Alexander Konouck	Modeling and Simulation Program Analyst
Theodore Robert Koschock	Millwright
Andrew Joseph Kunk	Welder
James Wayne Lee	Outside Machinist
Brent Alan Linton	Heavy Metal Fabricator
William Roger Lohr	Shipfitter
Steven Thomas MacLean	Electrician
Daniel Webster Marshall IV	Pipefitter
Chrisptohoer Allen McCormick	Outside Machinist
Erica Christeen McCormick	Electrician
Steven Robert McDonald	Sheet Metal Worker
Renard Shimon McFarland	Marine Designer

## 2011 GRADUATES cont.

Latoya Shletha McMillan	Sheet Metal Worker
Robert Ashby Meador	Marine Designer
Jonathan William Morris	Cost Estimator
James Thomas Moscato	Nuclear Test Technician
Isaiah Bernard Myrick	Heavy Metal Fabricator
David Andrew Nagy	Marine Designer
William Cory Newcomb	Machinist
Stephen Clark Norman	Sheet Metal Worker
Michael Gregory Opauski, Jr.	Pipefitter
Drew Thomas Paxton	Welding Equipment Repairer
Jonathan Howard Payne	Rigger
David Louis Powell, Jr.	Marine Designer
Jerode Quordaise' Powell	Welder
Michael Anthony Price, Jr.	Welder
Raymon' Quinones	Heavy Metal Fabricator
Jeremy Wade Renner	Production Planner
Elmo Leroy Robinson III	Dimensional Control Technician
Eric Dale Ruffin	Rigger
Tracey Naumann Scudieri	Marine Designer
Quinton Lamont Shoulars	Welder
Michael David Shortt	Outside Machinist
Jason Aaron Sides	Production Planner
Ryan Shaw Silverthorn	Cost Estimator
Yveth del Carmen Simms	Marine Designer
Dalton James Smart	Heavy Metal Fabricator
Denise Yvette Smith	Machinist
Rodney Ray Smith	Insulator
Christopher Nicholas Spanos	Sheet Metal Worker
Daniel Paul Spaulding	Pipefitter
David Roy Spence	Pipefitter
Anthony Thomas Spivey, Jr.	Welder
John Christopher Spruill	Dimensional Control Technician
David Wayne Stevenson, Jr.	Electrician
David Allen Stone II	Dimensional Control Technician
Joshua McKade Tanner	Nuclear Test Technician
Lamone RaSheem Taylor	Marine Designer
Marvin Gray Taylor III	Machinist
Bruce Lynn Tevis	Pipefitter
Andrew Joseph Tremi	Molder
Teresa Michele Trevathan	Cost Estimator
Andre' Dywanne Tufts	Rigger
John Wallace Urquhart, Jr.	Dimensional Control Technician
Brent Anthony Utterback	Pipefitter
Nicholas Andrew Wade	Dimensional Control Technician
Tamesha Lashai Walker	Painter/Insulator
Katie Danielle Watts	Dimensional Control Technician
Michael Dwight Watts	Pipefitter
Benjamin Scott Waycaster	Shipfitter
Kenny Eugene Weeks	Marine Designer
Jessica Renee' Welling	Dimensional Control Technician
Andrew James Weiss	Shipfitter
Delicia Monique Whitehead	Coatings Specialist
Cordaro Rondale Williams	Pipefitter
William Curtis Wills	Dimensional Control Technician
Matthew Alexander Wirtz	Outside Machinist
Kenneth Michael Wright	Production Planner
Matthew Louis Wright	Marine Designer
Andrew Joseph Yonta	Welding Equipment Repairer
Christopher Michael Zareo	Electrician
Dana Lynn Zarichny	Dimensional Control Technician



## Adam Horak Awarded the Homer L. Ferguson Award

Ethan Thompson, X18

Adam Horak is part of The Apprentice School graduating class of 2012. During graduation, Adam was awarded the Homer L. Ferguson Award, Niels Christiansen Craftsmanship Award, and the Charles F. Bailey Award. These awards acknowledge Adam for his excellence in craftsmanship and scholarship. The Homer L. Ferguson Award was presented to Adam for having the highest combined average in his craft and in his academic studies. Adam is a husband and father to three daughters. For nine years Adam was a Sergeant E-5 in the U.S. Army and is now working as an X43 Foreman in charge of the main propulsion and shafting on CVN 78. Adam enjoys camping, fishing, hunting, spending time with his kids and attending their sporting events. Now after graduating from The Apprentice School and being promoted to X43 Foreman, Adam hopes to one day possibly move up to General Foreman or Construction Supervisor. Adam encourages his fellow apprentices to be “the best shipbuilders in the world and bring value to our industry in unprecedented ways.” Adam stated during his speech at graduation, “We are not the leaders of tomorrow; we are the Newport News Shipbuilding leaders of today.”

## BUILDER BULLETIN STAFF

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# Get Ready, Get Set, Get Jobs!

Pierrette Swan, X18

After graduation, many new and exciting things are heading your way. For some of you this may mean preparing for interviews. These tips will help prepare you for the interview process and will set you on your way to a new position.

First, always be prepared. You should come to an interview with an overall knowledge of the job you are applying for and the qualifications you have that make you a great candidate for the job. Be ready to describe how your experience relates to the job you are applying for. You may even want to practice some of the things you may want to say, and some of the points you intend to make during the interview. Know your strengths, and your weaknesses. With proper preparation you will be more confident.

Next, make a good impression. Dress professional, be on time, and be well groomed. Speak clearly and make eye contact. Make sure you smile to show you are enthusiastic about the job you are applying for. Positivity is a desirable quality for an employer. Be sure to listen to your interviewer and feel free to ask questions.

Finally, end the interview by thanking your interviewer for their time. Shake hands and request a business card. Be sure to send a short thank you note after the interview. That may be the extra step to keep you in the employers' minds when they are making their final selection.

The shipyard offers many new opportunities for Apprentice School graduates. Don't let an interview be the thing that stands in the way of you moving up in the shipyard. With these tips, you can make a great impression and put that diploma to work for you!

# Student Services

Tamieka Williams, X33

The Apprentice School Student Services division is an asset to students throughout their apprenticeship. Many apprentices are unaware of the type of services available to them even though they are at arm's reach. One of the Student Services' many objectives is to assist new students in becoming acquainted with Apprentice School life and assist students in transitioning to a high level of leadership. They break their services up to align with four phases that incorporate apprentice survival skills, academic/craft excellence I and II, and continuing education and upward mobility. Within the world-class shipbuilding curriculum, Student Services work closely with students who are having trouble maintaining their grades. Within the first year, apprentices attend a Smart Choice Orientation that includes topics like goal setting, personal strategic planning, and identifying personal obstacles and counter measures. During the sophomore, junior, and senior year student services are focused on career development and career advising.

Student Services' overall goal is to listen to the needs of the students and find ways to assist them. Student Services even uses workshops to help apprentices gain skills in finance management, job interviews, and etiquette. These workshops help apprentices make important life decisions that can assist them throughout their career at The Apprentice School.

An upcoming event in development is a follow up to the Dine and Learn Workshop. This workshop will involve interviews with superintendents and general foreman to familiarize apprentices with the interview process.

Regina Mclean and Scott Christman are available to help students with resumes, financial planning, and any other questions that may arise while at The Apprentice School. If you wish to consult with them, they are only a phone call away.

For any comments and/or suggestions please contact Tamieka Williams, X33

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