



SUMMER 2011

THE

# CHRONICLE

Published for the employees of SPAWAR Systems Center Atlantic



**Glover  
takes command  
of SSC Atlantic**

# INDUSTRY USE of OSS

facebook

WORLD ROCKING BUSINESS MODELS HAVE CHANGED WHY NOT DOD?

HOW CAN WE PROVIDE MORE VALUE? SPEED? SERVICES?

USERS AREN'T INTERESTED IN THE STRUCTURE IT'S THE INFORMATION

WE REQUIRE INFORMATION QUICKLY

18 MONTHS DELIVERY IS TOO LONG IN 6 MO. INCREMENTS

NO MONOLITHIC INFRASTRUCTURE

BASED ON DOD NEEDS NOT OUR DEMANDS



SERVICE-BASED MODEL

ACQUISITION VISIBILITY

CUT ACROSS ALL NETWORKS

FEDERATED MODEL

WHAT'S THE INFORMATION?

"IN GOD WE TRUST... ALL OTHERS BRING DATA"



VERTICALLY INTEGRATE INFORMATION

IS IT GOOD OR BAD?

SEARCH

Jim Nuttle of Maga Design Group creates a graphic recording during the July 13 SSC Atlantic-hosted conference on Open Source Software. Nuttle's visual storytelling was used throughout the day to emphasize main points of the presentations. See story on page 14. Photo by Joe Bullinger.

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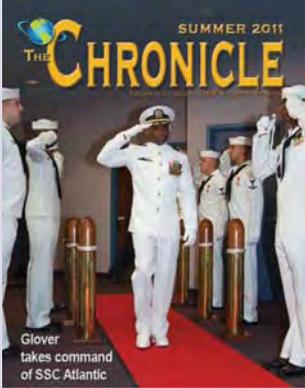
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**On the cover**

*Then-Capt. (Sel.) Mark Glover renders a salute as he is "piped aboard" for the SSC Atlantic change of command ceremony, held July 28 in Bldg. 3112. See story on page 3.*




**Systems Center  
ATLANTIC**

P.O. Box 190022  
North Charleston, SC 29419-9022

Commanding Officer.....Capt. Mark Glover  
Executive Director .....Christopher Miller

**SSC Atlantic  
Mission, Vision and Values**

**Mission:** To rapidly deliver and support solutions that enable information dominance for our Naval, Joint, National and Coalition Warfighters.

**Vision:** Make IT Count for the Warfighter and the Nation.

**Values:** Service to our country, Excellence and Credibility, Transparency in the way we conduct our business, Responsiveness and Accountability, Diversity and Teaming.



Editor .....Susan Piedfort  
Command Photographer .....Joe Bullinger

**Goals**

Strategic effects that provide innovative solutions for today, tomorrow and beyond. Operations management that delivers solutions with quality, speed, agility and value. Organizational development that empowers each individual to make a difference.

*The Chronicle* is a quarterly publication designed for SSC Atlantic employees. Its purpose is to inform, educate, entertain and generate new ideas. Contents of *The Chronicle* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or SSC Atlantic.



# CAPTAIN'S CALL

CAPTAIN MARK GLOVER, USN  
SSC ATLANTIC COMMANDING OFFICER

## *Setting a course for success*

As I said at the change of command, WOW! I am incredibly proud to be the commanding officer of this world class team. As many of you know, I am coming back home, or very close to it, since I began this great Navy journey from my hometown of Walterboro, S.C., some 29 years ago. No disrespect to Thomas Wolfe, but yes, you can go home again, and I couldn't be happier about that.

When I raised my hand and took the oath that day back in 1982, I never in my wildest dreams would have imagined I'd return to the Lowcountry to lead an amazing organization of more than 12,600 dedicated federal civil service employees, military personnel and industry partners who are helping maintain our warfighter's critical information technology capabilities.

The degree of work being done and the technical competence of our workforce continue to amaze me every day. I'm also impressed with how our CAO/IPT construct and Continuous Process Improvement (CPI) efforts are helping us target and eliminate areas where duplication of effort was not getting the most dollar for the taxpayer dollar.

Under CAPT Urbon's leadership, SSC Atlantic continued to transform while maintaining its great reputation for being able to deliver premier C4ISR products that enable information dominance for our warfighters. We are still adjusting to these changes, and to the changing times.

And these are challenging times. We are required to balance strained resources and an increasing optempo, all the while maintaining focus on our mission. What we are doing at SSC Atlantic is very important and will not wane because of the danger from extremist groups, transnational threats and peer nations continues to evolve. Therefore, our vigilance in our duty to help defend our great nation must be resolute.

Where am I focused as we start this next chapter in SSC

Atlantic's history? There are a few key areas that will build on past progress:

- Answer the fleet's growing challenges in supporting and maintaining information technology capabilities.
- Continue to strengthen our alignment with the Navy's Information Dominance vision and leverage our technology to get inside the enemy's decision cycle.
- Further enhance the unity of effort with our SPAWAR teammates and eliminate seams and redundancies.
- Continue to use CPI to reduce waste, making every dollar count for the taxpayer.

One of Rear Adm. Brady's favorite quotes is from the late Adm. Hyman Rickover, the Father of the Nuclear Navy. The admiral repeated it at the change of command ceremony and

I think it speaks volumes:

"When doing a job, any job, one must feel that he owns it and act as though he will remain in the job forever. He must look after his work just as conscientiously, as though it were his own business and his own money. If he feels he is only a temporary custodian, or that the job is just a stepping stone to a higher position, his actions will not take into account the long-term interests of the organization."

As the admiral said, these are just plain good words to live by.

SSC Atlantic team, I am "owning" this job, and I promise to fulfill it to my best abilities. I'll close this first column with my thanks to the SSC Atlantic team of government, military and industry partners for its outstanding service to our Navy and nation. I am also thankful for the opportunity to be part of the team and to celebrate the accomplishments past and present ...and the many that are yet to come. Along with our Executive Director Chris Miller and the rest of our leadership team, I look forward to setting a course ahead for success.

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**"The degree of work being done and the technical competence of our workforce continue to amaze me every day."**

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Photos by Joe Bullinger

*Above, from left, Rear Adm. Patrick Brady and outgoing SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Bruce Urbon listen as new SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer then-Capt.(Sel.) Mark Glover addresses the crowd. Below, left, more than 400 people attended the ceremony. Below right, Urbon gives his final speech as SSC Atlantic commanding officer.*

## Glover assumes command of SSC Atlantic

Then-Capt. (Sel.) Mark Glover became the eighth commanding officer of SSC Atlantic during a change of command ceremony held July 28 at Joint Base Charleston-Naval Weapons Station.

The assignment is a homecoming of sorts for Glover, who left his home in Walterboro, S.C., 29 years ago to begin his naval service. After serving around the globe in a variety of assignments, Glover now leads SSC Atlantic's approximately 3,500 federal civil service employees, 120

military personnel and 9,000 industry partners located in Charleston, S.C., Tidewater, Va., New Orleans, La.; and Tampa, Fla.; and overseas locations in Europe, the Middle East and Antarctica.

Rear Adm. Patrick Brady, keynote speaker for the ceremony and commander of Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, said, "The work being done here at SSC Atlantic is a big reason why the Navy can continue to support so

*Continued on next page*





*From left, SSC Pacific Executive Director Carmela Keeney and SSC Atlantic Executive Director Christopher Miller watch as the Naval Consolidated Brig Joint Color Guard parades the colors at the beginning of the ceremony.*

many different operations throughout the world. The common thread is information dominance. When we can collect, store, control and transmit the right information to the right people who need it at the right time, we have a tremendous advantage in every operation,” the admiral said.

Glover comes to SSC Atlantic after serving at Program Executive Officer, Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence (PEO C4I) in San Diego, Calif., as the deputy program manager for the Communications Program Office. In that position he was responsible for the

design, acquisition and life-cycle support of Navy Satellite Communications and Global Positioning System (GPS) programs.

“Today, the United States Navy, which I hold in the highest reverence and respect, has bestowed upon me a great honor: commanding officer of one of our Navy’s premier information technology organizations,” Glover told the audience. He vowed to continue to address the fleet’s growing challenge in supporting and maintaining its information technology capabilities.



*The 45-member Navy Band Southeast performed during the change of command ceremony.*



*Serving as sideboys, SSC Atlantic’s YN2 Timothy Thurman, left, and YN3 Terrence Miller prepare to take their places.*



*Then-Capt. (Sel.) Mark Glover has his shore command pin affixed to his uniform by his wife. As the CO of SSC Atlantic, Glover is authorized to wear the pin, which signifies command of a shore-based unit.*

“We will continue to strengthen our alignment with the Navy’s Information Dominance vision and leverage our technology to get inside of the enemy’s decision cycle. We will further enhance our unity of effort with our SPAWAR teammates and eliminate seams and redundancies. We will continue to use Continuous Process Improvement to reduce waste, making every dollar count for the taxpayer,” Glover said.

Outgoing Commanding Officer Urbon was lauded for bringing SSC Atlantic through momentous changes in the last three years, including the consolidation of east coast systems centers into SSC Atlantic, transition to a Competency Aligned Organization, and instituting new business management and personnel management systems.

“For all the great men and women of SPAWAR Systems Center Atlantic,” Urbon said, “I applaud you for your great accomplishments. You have answered the call to provide for the defense and security of our great nation. I am humbled and honored at having had the opportunity to serve as your commanding officer.” Urbon reports to the Program Executive Office for Enterprise Information Systems (PEO EIS) in Washington, D.C., for his next assignment.

Glover enlisted in the Navy in 1982. In 1983, after completing Anti-Submarine Warfare training in San Diego, he reported to **USS Antrim** (FFG 20) in Mayport, Fla.,

**SPAWARSYSCOM Commander Rear Adm. Patrick Brady is piped ashore and the sideboys render honors at the conclusion of the change of command ceremony.**



*Rear Adm. Patrick Brady, right, presents the Legion of Merit to outgoing SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Bruce Urbon.*

where he was a lead sonar technician for the ship’s anti-submarine warfare systems. During that tour, he made two Arabian Gulf deployments and also carried out operations in Central America.

In 1985, he was selected to the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training program and earned a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) scholarship. Upon commissioning in 1990, he became a Surface Warfare Officer and served aboard **USS Halsey** (CG 23) in San Diego as the electronic warfare and boilers officer. During this assignment he made two deployments to the Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf during Operation Desert Shield.

From 1994 through 1996, he served as a propulsion plant examiner on Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet’s Propulsion Examining Board. In 1998, he became a plankowner

*Continued on next page*





SSC Atlantic Command Master Chief YNCM (SW/AW) A.K. Stuckey, Commanding Officer then-Capt. (Sel.) Mark Glover and Executive Officer Cmdr. Charles Schug pose during the reception, which featured food, fun and music by the SSC Atlantic band.



## Change of command

*Continued from previous page*

for the Defense Department's first Joint Task Force for Computer Network Defense, where he served as network analyst and watch officer.

In 2000, he was selected as a Navy Engineering Duty Officer. Upon completion of postgraduate school, he was assigned to SSC Pacific in San Diego, and led several software development efforts for future naval and joint C4I systems. From 2004 to 2006, he served as an assignments officer at Navy Personnel Command, in Millington, Tenn.

In 2006, he was selected as Principal Assistant Program Manager for GPS Navigation in PMW/A 170, PEO C4I in San Diego. He was responsible for the design, acquisition and life-cycle support of the Navy's Global Positioning System (GPS) position, navigation and timing user equipment programs.

From May to October 2008, he was assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Baghdad, Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. During this assignment he was a program manager for the reconstruction of Iraqi military bases, police stations, courthouses and prisons throughout Iraq. In May 2009, he was selected as the PMW/A 170 Deputy Program Manager, responsible for the design, acquisition and life-cycle support of the Navy's Satellite Communications and GPS programs.

Glover graduated from Norwich University in 1990 with a bachelor of science in electrical engineering. He earned master of science degrees in information technology management and computer science from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. He is a Department of Defense (DoD) Acquisition Corps member and holds Level III Qualifications in Program Management and Systems Engineering.

- Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor





# HAIL AND FAREWELL

*SSC Atlantic employees welcomed then-Capt. (Sel.) Mark Glover and celebrated the achievements of Capt. Bruce Urbon during a traditional Navy hail and farewell July 26. Clockwise from top, Pete Vandemeulebroecke tells a story about Urbon; the Urbon and Glover families mingle; SSC Atlantic Command Master Chief YNCM(SW/AW) A.K. Stuckey presents Urbon a shadowbox containing an SSC Atlantic flag; and the captain unwraps a Charleston print, Jim Booth's "Lowcountry Sunset," a command gift presented by William Paggi. Urbon told the luncheon attendees he has been both humbled and honored to have the opportunity to serve as SSC Atlantic commanding officer.*



Photos by Joe Bullinger





Photo by Joe Bullinger

*SSC Atlantic's FBI team includes project leads, install leads, logisticians, designers of cable plants, design and auto-CAD teams and finance personnel.*

# Making IT count for the FBI

From its beginnings in 1908, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has relied on the timely gathering and sharing of information to solve crimes and keep the country safe.

As our nation's federal criminal investigative body and internal intelligence agency, the FBI investigates more than 200 categories of federal crime. With its headquarters in Washington, D.C., 56 field offices in major U.S. cities, more than 400 resident agencies in smaller cities and towns across the U.S., and more than 50 international offices in U.S. embassies -- the FBI needs to communicate quickly and securely.

So when the FBI needed a major IT upgrade that would give them information dominance in the war on crime, they turned to SSC Atlantic.

The program began in 1998 under **Ken Slaughter** -- now detailed to SPAWAR as the director of the Washington Liaison Office (WLO) and SPAWAR BRAC lead -- and continues today. SSC Atlantic teams have connected the FBI as never before, designing, delivering, installing, upgrading, securing and maintaining their IT systems around

the world. To paraphrase an FBI official describing a briefing to senior FBI staffers on SSC Atlantic's work, "Jaws seemed to drop at the capability you have delivered."

Work was already underway to modernize and optimize FBI networks before Sept. 11, 2001, but after that they were Congressionally mandated to improve their IT capability at the secret and the top secret level, and to do so quickly.

"There was significant Congressional pressure to get them up to speed fast," said **Don Barber**,

Program Manager, Federal IT Solutions, Transportation and Computer Infrastructure Portfolio. "We created an entire division dedicated to this, and over the years, we have employed many talents to get it done." They had a lot of work to do. Barber recalls, in the months after 9/11, the team would rent vans and drive up on Monday, work all week, and come back on Friday.

The team first took on the J. Edgar Hoover Building and FBI offsite locations within metropolitan Washington, D.C. This was no small challenge; the headquarters building alone takes up a whole city block and houses thousands



of employees. The SSC Atlantic team did a complete site survey of the entire structure, reviewing building wiring diagrams and looking at every closet and undesignated space.

They found that the FBI networks were slow and unreliable, and vulnerability was high. Their top secret network was not standardized; each division had their own set up which didn't allow sharing information at a top secret level. They also had no

communication with the Department of Defense or Central Intelligence Agency on the secret level. A 100-person SSC Atlantic team set to work bringing them up to speed.

They designed a new IT infrastructure for the whole building, designed a main distribution facility, centralized equipment, ripped out old copper wire and ran fiber optic cable throughout the building. They developed the FBI's enterprise top secret network based on a system of interconnected computer networks used by the Departments of Defense and State to transmit classified information. FBI Secret Network (FBINet), the FBI's centralized network management system to access various administrative, financial and investigative systems, was upgraded to give FBI users access to additional secret networks from their desktops. They established that connectivity to allow the FBI to share information at the secret level with DoD, CIA, NSA, Homeland Security and other intelligence community agencies.

"We really brought them into the 21st century as far the quality of their IT systems is



*The FBI is headquartered in the J. Edgar Hoover Building in Washington, D.C.*

allowed them to share information among themselves and other agencies at the top secret level. "We connected them so they could bring information together to make one picture that would enable crime solving," Barber said.

The effort went worldwide when the team started work in the more than 50 FBI offices located in U.S. embassies. These offices are staffed by legal attaches who coordinate efforts between the FBI and local government authorities in those countries. **John Fanning** has been in charge of two separate projects that provide computer hardware and

concerned," said **Claude Butler**, Federal IT Solutions, Deputy Program Manager.

Then the team went out to the 56 FBI field offices in major U.S. cities and to the more than 400 resident agencies in smaller cities and towns across the U.S., upgrading their IT systems and basically giving them the same connectivity.

This took them all over the country as they designed IT systems at all the field offices that

software development to upgrade the information systems at all these overseas offices.

The next big portion of the program was the FBI Academy, a campus of more than 40 buildings spread out on 385 wooded acres on the Marine Corps base in Quantico, Va. The SSC Atlantic team's initial assessment of their IT capabilities found that they had numerous security vulnerabilities. "We convinced them that we could come in and quickly help them

## SSC Atlantic's FBI support

### **Facilities and Logistics Services Division**

- Renovation Projects (Space Management)
- Project Management/Systems Engineering & Technical Assistance (PM/SETA)
- FLSD Technical Support (Secured Locks and Alarms)
- TSSU Engineering and Design Support
- FBI Academy Operations & Support
- FBI Academy Design & Installation
- SCION Installation (TS/SCI LAN)
- SCION Field Office Deployment
- SCION LEGATs Installation and Deployment

### **Information Technology Services Division**

- Engineering, Design & Installation Services
- Configuration Management Support
- Enterprise Operations Center (EOC) Upgrade

### **Security Division**

- Intelligence Community Badging System

*Continued on next page*

take care of the security issues, then do a more in-depth analysis,” Butler said. The academy was not built with IT security in mind – buildings housing their training division, lab division, facilities division, hostage rescue simulation area, forensics lab and engineering research facility (where people like James Bond’s “Q” work) were neither centrally located nor networked.

The team surveyed all the buildings, centralized their networks, ran new fiber optic cable and helped the FBI take care of the security issues. “We designed the entire main distribution facility, cable plant, networks, procured and shipped equipment in and installed everything,” Barber said. “They walked in and it was ready.”

In all, they completed network infrastructure upgrades and provided connectivity to 37 buildings on the academy, installing 2,119 FBINet drops, 1,832 unclassified drops, 115 top secret drops and 98 internal LAN drops. They installed 24 additional manholes to make pathways to buildings. It was a nearly \$22 million effort that took 2½ years. Even though the job increased in scope from 24 to 37 buildings, the SSC Atlantic team completed the work six months ahead of schedule at a cost savings of \$10 million to the FBI. “We

were able to help them network and bring information right to their desks. It was all secured and locked down,” Butler added. “It was very successful.”

The FBI effort now entails some small and large government and industry partner crews who maintain the hardware and software installed. Last year SSC Atlantic embarked on a four-year project deploying the next generation of top secret FBI networks all over the country.

Since the FBI program first started 13 years ago, several program managers have come and gone. After Slaughter came **Frank McAlhany**, now Director of Corporate Operations (8.0), then **Joe Nitz**, and when he moved to support AT&T, Don Barber took over program manager’s duties. Many are ex-military, like Butler, a former Marine, who has been on the team since 2000, and others came from Charleston Naval Shipyard, like Barber, who has been on the FBI team since 2002.

The team also includes a lot of support personnel. “We were set up like an IPT before it was fashionable,” Barber said. “We have project leads, install leads, logisticians, designers of cable plants, design and autoCAD teams and finance people all here supporting the effort.”



*The FBI Academy, located on 385 wooded acres on the Marine Corps base in Quantico, Va., is where training takes place for new agents, analysts and law enforcement leaders from around the world.*

“We couldn’t have done any of this without the support team back here,” Butler added. It’s all one big happy family, they agree.

Barber and Butler attribute much of the success of the FBI program to Slaughter and McAlhany. “It is because of them that the FBI recognized us as the premier IT experts. Ken has a remarkable ability to communicate; he’s one of the best I’ve ever seen,” Butler said. “And Frank is amazing, very dynamic. He briefed the FBI SESers and top leadership, and they just really respected and admired him.”

Another reason for their success is the dedication of the team. “It’s been a lot of hard work,” Barber said.

“These folks take a lot out of their lives to fly all over the country or world for designated periods of time, and year after year they’ve been doing it,” Butler added. “Many install leads have been doing two weeks up, two weeks back in D.C. for the longest time.”

The effort has not gone unnoticed by the customer. When some members of the SSC Atlantic team recently retired, a senior FBI official flew to Charleston to present a plaque and letters of appreciation. “That said a lot,” Butler said.

**Eric Herrman**, who worked as a supervisor in Code 552, Narrowband SATCOM Engineering, before the CAO implementation and recently became the head of the Shore Implementation Production & Execution, Code 42240, is proud not only of the FBI effort, but of the follow-on work that has resulted from it.

“The FBI program has given us experience that works for other agencies,” he said. It led directly to a tasking to design and install IT capabilities for the new USCENCOM forward headquarters in Qatar. An SSC Atlantic team of seven government employees and 80 contractors designed and installed \$49 million worth of new IT equipment and installed about 30,000 drops in a building about the size of three Super Walmarts, according to Barber. When it was completed two years ago, then-USCENCOM Commander Gen. David Petraeus recognized the SPAWAR team at the building opening.

Work installing IT equipment on oil platforms in the Middle East, in the USCENCOM commander’s quarters in Tampa, Fla., at the Social Security Administration, Department of Commerce, Department of Transportation and State Department followed. Barber has also recently traveled to Naples, Italy to support Navy Command Center work for the U.S. Navy’s Sixth Fleet. “None of this would have been possible without the work with the FBI,” Barber said.

Work once totaling over \$140 million a year is now at about \$30 million a year. “We’re literally working ourselves out of a job,” Barber said of the FBI program. But that’s what happens when a tasking reaches its end and the customer is satisfied. As more than 13 years of effort draws down, the team can rest assured that they have made IT count for the FBI.

- Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor

## At the FBI Academy...



**The FBI Laboratory** is a state-of-the-art facility which employs some 500 scientific experts and special agents who travel the world on assignment providing forensic exams, technical support, expert witness testimony and advanced training. Peering into the nucleus of a cell to determine guilt or innocence, analyzing a spatter of blood at a crime scene or linking exploded bomb fragments to their origin, they use the rigors of science to solve crimes. The SSC Atlantic team designed the entire IT main distribution facility, cable plant, networks and installed equipment in the facility. “They walked in and it was ready,” Butler said. “The building is incredible,” he added, with “huge displays of guns, the Dillinger pistol, guns used by Bonnie and Clyde, and replicas of all kinds of bombs.”



**Hogan’s Alley** is a hot bed of terrorist and criminal activity. Its only bank is robbed twice a week and mobsters and drug dealers lurk around every corner. It

was designed that way to provide realistic training for new agents. Located on 10+ acres at the campus, the mock town is also used to train DEA recruits and state, local, federal and global partners. Built with the help of Hollywood set designers, it features a bank, post office, hotel, laundromat, barber shop, pool hall, homes, shops and even an operating deli often frequented by members of the SSC Atlantic team during the FBI project. Local actors are hired to play both “bad guys” and innocent bystanders, and sometimes innocent bystanders become part of the drill. “If you go out into the street when there is a drill going on, you become a part of the scenario,” Barber said. He learned this one day after lunch when two cars pulled up sideways with a hostage. “We decided to stay inside.”



Photos by Joe Bullinger

*Above, Andy Farrar of PEO C4I, PMW 160 gives a presentation on open source products and tools. Below, SSC Atlantic Executive Officer Christopher Miller relates the current DoD environment to the objectives of the conference; and at bottom, Mike Wood of Enterprise DB briefs on databases.*



## Government/industry use of Open Source Software explored at conference

SSC Atlantic hosted an Open Source Innovation Conference in Charleston July 13 which featured government and industry leaders from across the country discussing the collaborative use of open source software (OSS) for a competitive advantage. OSS refers to software that is copyrighted and distributed under a license that provides everyone the right to use, modify and redistribute the source code of software.

The conference brought together representatives from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, AT&L, Enterprise Information; the heads of open source at Facebook, Google and Deloitte; and others for a discussion of options for innovating and collaborating with open source products and tools between industry and the federal government. Presentations by representatives from government agencies including from Army, Department of the Treasury, General Services Administration (GSA), Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Department of Homeland Security.

Hosted by SSC Atlantic's Trey Oats, Enterprise Services Supportfolio Lead, Decision Superiority Business Portfolio, the conference allowed attendees to learn more about OSS development initiatives within DoD and industry, and



Above, Jim Nuttle of Maga Design Group creates a graphic recording of a topic being discussed during the conference. Nuttle’s visual storytelling was used throughout the day to illustrate the main points of the presentations. At right, Terry Howell, PEO EIS, CTO, Naval Enterprise Networks, discusses federal government use of OSS as a competitive advantage.



explored IT efficiencies to be gained through OSS efforts.

Also discussed were databases, virtualization, open source and cloud computing via datacenter consolidation, tactical messaging and cloud computing and OSS uses in the military.



Conference attendees listen as JBOSS’s Mike Epley, above left, briefs on middleware, computer software that connects software components or people and their applications.



Photo by Joe Bullinger

## CO promoted to 06

*SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Mark Glover signs the paperwork after being promoted to the rank of Navy captain (06) in a ceremony held at the center's Charleston campus Sept. 1. Former commanding officer of then-SSC Charleston from 2003 to 2005, Capt. John Pope, who is now Principal Deputy for PEO C4I, read the oath and presided over the ceremony from San Diego, Calif., via video teleconference (VTC). Glover's wife pinned on his new collar devices as his former San Diego teammates applauded via VTC. Glover reported as commanding officer of SSC Atlantic in July after serving three tours with SPAWARSSCOM in San Diego, one with SSC Pacific and two with PEO C4I. He enlisted in the Navy in 1982 and was selected to the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training program in 1985. He earned a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps scholarship, and in 1990, was awarded a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Norwich University. He was commissioned a Navy ensign in 1990.*

## SSC Atlantic's Hall is named a 'Rising Star'

John Mark Hall, of SSC Atlantic's NetCentric Engineering and Integration competency (5200) was recently selected a 2011 Rising Star in an awards competition sponsored by the publishers of *Federal Computer Week* and *Government Computer News*.



John Mark Hall

As the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) Integrated Security Program (ISP) Team Lead for two years, Hall has been responsible for the engineering, delivery and certification of security capabilities for multiple NGA sites, including their New Campus East. Hall helped NGA establish a means for seamless integration of information for their overall security operations.

Hall coordinated all aspects of the installation of a new security intrusion and monitoring system at NCE that supports policing efforts, counter intelligence efforts and intelligence community badging efforts.



Photo by Mike Brown

## Trantham awarded GWOT medal

*Payton Trantham of 42110, left, is presented the Secretary of Defense Medal for the Global War on Terrorism by Cmdr. Eric LeGear, 4.0, in a ceremony held in Tidewater recently. The Secretary of Defense Medal for the Global War on Terrorism honors the achievements of civilian employees with the Department of Defense who are helping to defend freedom against dangers that may develop on foreign soil.*

*Then-SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Bruce Urbon presents the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award to Mrs. Sue Carvil.*



Photo by Sharon Anderson

Carvil honored

## A lasting contribution

**By Holly Quick**

A special award ceremony was held May 25 on Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story to honor the late John Carvil for his technical accomplishments in the navigation field.

Then-SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Bruce Urbon presented the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award to Mrs. Sue Carvil, who accepted on behalf of her husband, who passed away Aug. 4, 2010 after an extended illness.

Opening remarks were offered by SSC Atlantic's Robert Greer, the Navigation/Geospatial Information and Services (GI&S) Integrated Process Team (IPT) Lead, as well as Urbon. Capt. (Sel) Mark Glover, then-prospective commanding officer of SSC Atlantic, and Executive Officer Cmdr. Charles Schug were also in attendance at the ceremony.

The Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award is awarded to civilian employees in the Department of the Navy for meritorious service or contributions resulting in high value or benefits for the Navy or the Marine Corps. The award is granted only to those employees who have distinguished themselves through contributions of major significance and/or extraordinary service.

As Urbon presented the award to Mrs. Carvil, Greer read the following citation ...

"For exceptionally meritorious service and dedication to the Department of the Navy and the Navigation Systems Program Office, Program Executive Office, Integrated Warfare Systems from October 1982 to August 2010. Mr. Carvil demonstrated outstanding leadership, unmatched dedication, and strong passion to support and improve the navigation systems' performance for the United States Navy. These efforts led to the successful development and fielding of the Ring Laser Gyroscope Navigation System in the fleet. As a result, the Navy underwent several major technology transitions to improve navigation, a key contribution to the naval mission in the defense of our nation. Subsequently, while serving as the Navigation Technical Warrant Holder, Mr. Carvil was instrumental in guiding the navigation program through many technical hurdles to achieve successful operation and support for the Ballistic Missile Defense Program. These distinctive accomplishments continue to reflect great credit upon Mr. Carvil and the United States Navy.

"The Navigation/GI&S IPT carries on much of the work that began under the leadership and technical guidance of John Carvil," said Greer, who has been a friend and colleague of Carvil for 26 years.

"His contributions to navigation will benefit the fleet's mission for years to come," he added.

# Matt Rutherford

## *Changing perceptions*

If you are looking to gain an understanding of disability awareness, you need look no further than SSC Atlantic's Matthew Rutherford.

As Operations Manager for the VA Sub-Portfolio, Matt supports and oversees more than 24 VA projects and more than 800 government and contractor personnel across the country, managing a budget of \$250 million. He has successfully held a variety of other positions at SSC Atlantic, including Computer Network Defense Research and Development (CND R&D) Engineer, the Operations/Logistic Manager for the Horizontal Fusion program, and Branch Head of the Cyber Defense and Cyber Securities Operations Branch.

Throughout his life, Matt has never let anything or anyone ever limit him. Not surprisingly, disability resulting from cerebral palsy has never stood between him and his life goals. From the moment he was born,



**Matt Rutherford**

Photos provided

of oxygen did not affect Matt's cognitive ability, it significantly impacted his muscle control and movement.

From childhood and continuing into his employment today at SSC Atlantic, Matt has shattered the stereotypes most people have about disabilities. During a presentation Matt made at SSC Atlantic's Leadership Symposium in June, he used real life situations to demonstrate how he overcame challenges by using energy, determination and intelligence.

Entering a Bike-a-Thon Challenge at age seven, he rode a five-year-old tricycle, carried five pounds of braces on his legs, and rode 12 miles in seven hours. When expected to ride only one mile, Matt noted that it was "quite a hit to Dad's wallet at \$10 a mile." For Matt, the result

of the Bike-a-Thon was lifelong determination.

In addition, Matt overcame difficulties with effective

communication by developing the "Headstick." By attaching plastic tubing, a coat hanger, and pencil eraser to a helmet, Matt developed assistive technology to improve his own productivity. He continued to demonstrate his tenacity and popularity while at Thomas Edison High School. There, Matt was an active member of the wrestling team and was voted "Most Irresistible" by his peers.



**Infant Matt and his dad**

Matt demonstrated his ability to overcome the odds.

During the birthing process, he was deprived of oxygen for more than 20 minutes. This lack of oxygen resulted in damage to the cerebral cortex. At birth, each baby is assigned an Apgar score, which is an indicator of the health of babies within minutes after birth. Matt received an Apgar score of "one" out of a possible 10. While the lack



**Matt and the Bike-a-Thon**



**Matt with the “Headstick...”**

Upon acceptance to George Mason University (GMU), Matt decided that he wanted to live on campus. However, GMU’s Disability Support Services informed Matt that they would not be able to accommodate him. Matt responded, “Just find me a place to live on campus and I’ll work the rest.” GMU granted this request and Matt “never looked back.” From the first day on campus, Matt found the support he needed from friends. “I’ve always been able to adapt,” he added. Matt earned a Bachelor of Science in Urban Systems (Civil) Engineering from GMU. He was also a member of GMU’S AAA wrestling team, Phi Kappa Theta fraternity, leader of multiple senior class design projects, and recipient of the American Society of Civil Engineers’ Outstanding Student Award.

The transition from college to employment presented a new set of challenges. Not only did Matt struggle to complete job applications, but he was also forced to deal with other people’s perceptions (and biases) of him during interviews. “I thought with my credentials I’d have no problem getting a job. I saw no reason I would not find a job pretty fast,” Matt said. At the end of eight months, he had sent out more than 200 resumes and had been on more than 30 interviews. “Sometimes I’d call back and they’d say the job is no longer available, or sometimes they’d change the requirements of the job so I wouldn’t qualify. As you can imagine, this was both discouraging and irritating.

“But I think everything happens for a reason. I was not meant to have a job in civil engineering, there was a better plan,” Matt added.

Opportunity finally



Photo by Wendy Jamieson

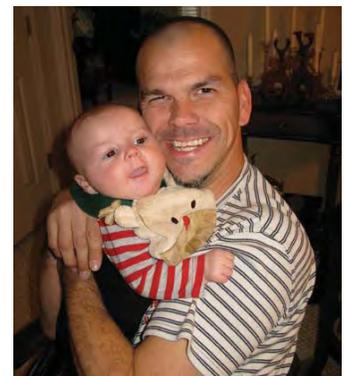
**... and with more modern communication devices.**

presented itself as a 13-month disability internship at the Central Intelligence Agency’s (CIA) Office of Information Technology (IT) department. Here Matt flourished, going from a GS-7 junior engineer to a GS-13 senior engineer, with one promotion out of cycle. Along the way he also obtained a Master’s of Science in Electrical Engineering. All of this was achieved within five years.

While visiting his sisters in Charleston during 2002, Matt bought a house. He recalled that he bought the house “on a whim.” He wanted to ensure his family remained colocated since his parents were getting older. While continuing to work in D.C., Matt started to apply for jobs in Charleston. Opportunity knocked again when Gary Scott, now SSC Atlantic’s 8.1 Tier 2, then Head of the Information Assurance division, hired him. That was just the beginning for Matt professionally as his drive and determination led him to one opportunity after another at SSC Atlantic.

However, what Matt describes as the real miracle in his life is when he met the woman who would become his wife, impressing her with the following line: “Sometimes instead of brushing my teeth, I end up brushing my eyebrow. Good thing I wasn’t born a woman, can you imagine if I had to pluck them?” After meeting in September of 2002 and marrying in March 2003, (“Why waste time?” he asked,) the couple is now proud parents of two girls and a boy. Matt

*Continued on next page*



**Matt Rutherford: husband and father**

marveled that within a 10-year span, he went “from unmarried to married, no kids to three kids, hair to no hair and blessed to very blessed.”

At SSC Atlantic, Matt continued to excel. He was a Computer Network Defense Research and Development (CND R&D) Engineer, Operations/Logistic Manager for the Horizontal Fusion program, then he went back to CND R&D. Three years later earned the position of Branch Head of the Cyber Defense and Cyber Securities Operations Branch. Three years after that he was named to his current position as Operations Manager for the VA Sub-Portfolio.

The keyword that stands out in many of his job titles is “operations;” the Latin root “oper” means work. Rutherford noted, “I’m not sure if there’s a better word that describes me: worker.”

His Leadership Symposium presentation showed snippets of his life, including news footage about him competing as a wrestler in high school, videos of him and his family at home, testimonies by his coworkers, and Matt’s own words and unique sense of humor. The audience was virtually spellbound and gave Matt resounding applause and a standing ovation. SPAWARSSYSCOM Commander Rear Adm. Patrick

Brady saw the presentation and will share it with all of Team SPAWAR at the Leadership Diversity Symposium Oct. 20 in San Diego. Matt and Executive Director Christopher Miller plan to take his message on the road for training at all SSC Atlantic sites.

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*“Reach out to all individuals, whether disabled or not. It’s the talent within the person, not what’s on the outside.”*

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Miller applauded Matt for sharing his personal story. “The value of Matt and his story is that it makes disability awareness personal for us. It helps us realize that sometimes it’s not so obvious just how much a person brings to the table,” Miller said. “It shows us how we can embrace disabilities to empower each individual to make a difference at SSC Atlantic.”

One of Matt’s favorite quotes is, “Our situations are often stepping stones toward our destiny ... and adversity is the catapult that projects us there.”

“People with disabilities are used to overcoming obstacles, and in our environment at SPAWAR, overcoming obstacles is required for our success. People with disabilities already have the experience and mindset to overcome that,” Matt said, adding, “Reach out to all individuals, whether disabled or not. It’s the talent within the person, not what’s on the outside.”

*-Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor*



Photos by Joe Bullinger

## *Viva la mariachi!*

*A mariachi duo performs, above left, in the atrium of Bldg. 3147 in Charleston Sept. 20 as a part of SSC Atlantic’s National Hispanic Heritage Month activities. Later the duo strolled through the work spaces of the engineering center and, above right, Albertha Mitchell of 1.1 gives them a little help with a miniature set of maracas. Other events to mark the observance included a performance in the Cooper River café by flamenco guitarist Dori Chitayat; a Hispanic Quiz; food with Hispanic*

*origins served in the café; a performance and dance instruction by salsa dancers from Elite Dance Studio; a performance by a Brazilian jazz guitarist; and flags, posters and information about homelands and individuals of Hispanic origin displayed centerwide. In addition, SSC Atlantic sponsored a booth at the Latin American Festival at Wannamaker Park in North Charleston, where employee volunteers talked about careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. They also displayed robots and quadcopters to encourage children to participate in STEM events.*



Photo by Joe Bullinger

# SSC ATLANTIC INDUSTRY DAY

*More than 1,200 -- a record number of attendees -- took part in SSC Atlantic's Industry Day at Trident Technical College July 21. The center's new contracting strategy was explained, and SSC Atlantic's six business portfolio leads were on hand to talk about future plans. Above, seated from left on a panel, Claudia Keifer, Deputy Portfolio Manager for Business and Force Support; Kevin McGee, Decision Superiority; Charlie Adams, Transport and Computing Infrastructure; and Mike Kutch, Battle Space Awareness and Integrated Cyber Operations; prepare to discuss their portfolio's business focus, as Mike*

*Virnig, Production, Installation and ISEA Portfolio Manager, speaks. Attendees learned that a total of 24 new pilot capability-based, multiple-award contracts (MACs) will be awarded for the center's six business portfolio areas. Small business contracts make of 30 percent of all SSC Atlantic contracts. Contracts Competency Lead William Paggi noted that 18 of the 24 pillar contracts are targeted to various types of small businesses. SSC Atlantic has traditionally been committed to harnessing the innovative talents and entrepreneurial energies of small companies when possible.*

## It's easy to follow SSC Atlantic on the web

Check out SSC Atlantic, SSC Pacific and SPAWAR headquarters news on Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and YouTube.

If you wish to become a SPAWAR Facebook fan, visit <http://www.facebook.com/spaceandnavalwarfare/sys->

[temscommand](http://www.facebook.com/spaceandnavalwarfare/sys-temscommand).

To follow us on Twitter, see <http://twitter.com/SPAWARHQ>.

To view the SPAWAR YouTube Channel, visit [www.youtube.com/teamspawar](http://www.youtube.com/teamspawar).

To view SPAWAR photos on Flickr, see: [www.flickr.com/teamspawar](http://www.flickr.com/teamspawar).

Be sure to update your favorites file with the new web addresses which reflect the consolidated sites.

SPAWAR's official U.S. Navy web-

site can be found at <http://www.public.navy.mil/spawar/Pages/default.aspx>.

SSC Atlantic's public website is also accessible at this site (<http://www.public.navy.mil/spawar/Atlantic/Pages/Home.aspx>), in addition to SSC Pacific, JPEO, JTRS, PEO C4I, PEO EIS, PEO Space Systems and WLO.

If you have a news or success story you'd like to share via social media or any other medium, call SSC Atlantic's public affairs office at (843) 218-5801.

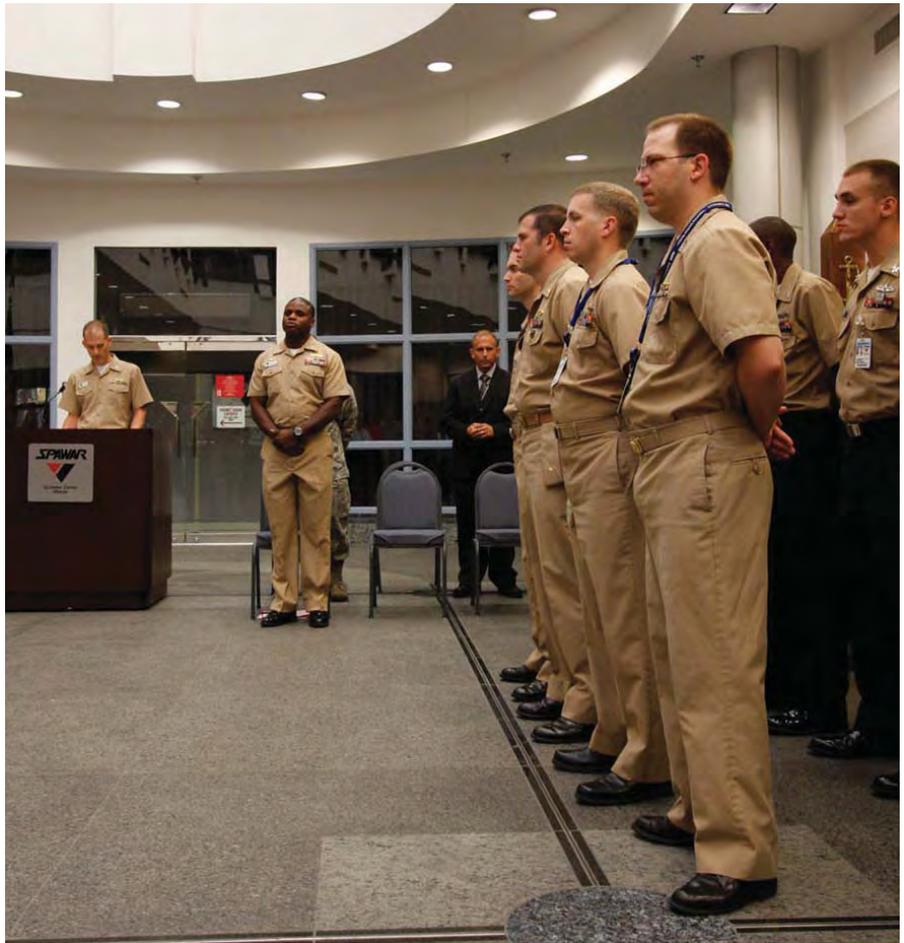
# WE WILL NOT FORGET

SSC Atlantic marked Patriot Day and the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks with an observance Sept. 9 in the atrium of Bldg. 3147 on the Charleston campus.

“We at SSC Atlantic share a profound sense of duty, brought into sharp focus on this sad anniversary. It is a duty to our nation and to our warfighters,” said SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Glover.

With Deputy Chief Engineer Cmdr. Karl Eimers as master of ceremonies, the ceremony featured John Weed on the bagpipes, soloist Kirsten Tanner, and a selection performed by a chorus of YN2 Terrence Miller, Gloria Shelton, Kenneth Johnson, Lisa German, Bertha Murray, Carole Smith and Kirsten Tanner.

Chaplain Winston T. Jones, Capt., USAF 628th Air Base Wing, led the group in prayer.





## Richard Autio receives James T. Lynch award

SSC Atlantic's Richard Autio, of the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance/Information Assurance (5.6) competency, was presented the James T. Lynch Freedom Award Sept. 9.

The Charleston Chapter of the Navy League cosponsors this award to an SSC Atlantic employee who embodies Lynch's dedication and patriotism.

Autio is the senior collection/analysis expert at the Navy Information Operations Command, Whidbey Island, Wash. He has organized and led small teams at the Yakima Test range for the electronic attack proficiency of FA-18 Growler and EA-6B Prowler aircraft.

Douglas St. Cyr of 54362 was also a finalist for this year's award.

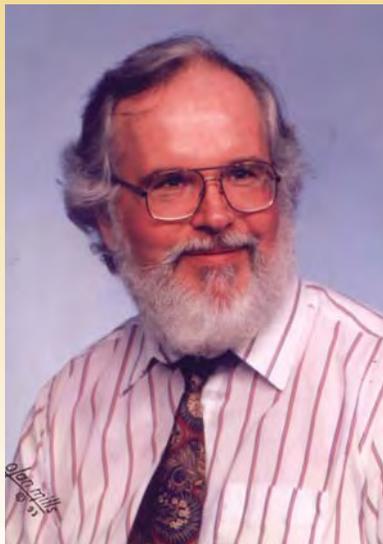


**SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Glover presents a plaque to James T. Lynch Freedom Award winner Richard Autio.**

## SSC Atlantic employee remembers the 'Candy Man'

*Robin Orthober, an SSC Atlantic security specialist in New Orleans, worked at the Pentagon when Jim Lynch was there and often passed him on the E-Ring. She wrote the following in honor of Lynch and the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks.*

I knew I'd pass you every day – I knew you'd smile, not stop to talk, hand me a piece of candy and continue your walk. I knew when we passed each other again, you'd smile, not stop to talk, hand me another piece of candy, and continue your walk. I knew every evening I'd check my pockets and bags, gather my candy and put it in the dish I kept on the table. I knew you listened to music when you walked the E-Ring,



**James T. Lynch**

and I knew you never ran out of candy.

I didn't know your name, who you worked for, what you did or where your office was. I didn't know your wife – I didn't know your children. I didn't know if you had brothers or sisters, a favorite football team or whether you thought reality shows were overrated. I didn't know what you did on weekends, where you went on vacation, or how you spent your holidays.

I didn't know I'd never see you again.

Some knew you as Jim; some knew you as the "Candy Man" – I knew you as the man with candy who could change my day with a warm smile and a Werther's Original.



*SSC Atlantic Executive Officer Cmdr. Charles Schug (center left) and Total Force Director Gary Scott (center right) talk to students about the robotics project.*

## Hampton Roads summer academy

# Developing STEM creativity

**By Emily Doll, SSC Atlantic Tidewater Office**

SSC Atlantic's inaugural Hampton Roads Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) summer academy was a huge success.

The academy was sponsored by the National Defense Education Program (NDEP) in collaboration with SSC Atlantic; Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) Combat Direction Systems Activity Dam Neck; NAVSEA Norfolk Naval Shipyard; NAVSEA Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Carderock Division; and the College of William and Mary.

Forty-two students from the Virginia Beach, Norfolk and Portsmouth school districts participated in the academy held at Corporate Landing Middle School in Virginia Beach July 18 through 21. The middle school students, along with their scientist and engineer mentors, embarked on the four-day event that sought to elicit creative teamwork and brainstorming in order to solve a variety of problems in the fields of robotics, engineering, rocketry, ballistics, electronics, biology and chemistry.

The mission of SSC Atlantic's STEM program is to inspire, develop and attract the STEM talent essential to deliver innovative solutions for the nation's and SSC Atlantic's current and future challenges. SSC Atlantic scientists and engineers engage with the community to continue the cycle and help build the pipeline of STEM professionals in our community. SSC Atlantic employees who volunteered at the summer academy included the Tidewater STEM Outreach Coordinators, Justin Langley and Bill LaBelle, as well as Arnel Castillo, Danielle Drummer and Scott Ainsworth. SSC Atlantic Executive Officer Cmdr. Charles Schug and Total Force Director Gary Scott also attended the event.

The summer academy presented the students with three specific challenges – design a robot, tower and rocket. Based on certain time constraints and use of specific materials, the teams were required to develop a product for each challenge. In order to better support the students, the mentors were put through the paces and dealt with the exact same challenges under the exact same constraints the previous week. Mentors from the academy consisted of teachers from the various



*Tidewater STEM Education Outreach Coordinator and Operations Research Analyst Justin Langley gives the students with a presentation about working at SSC Atlantic.*

school districts as well as scientists and engineers from SSC Atlantic and other Navy commands sponsoring the event.

The students were first exposed to the tower challenge, which simulated the government funding of teams of civil engineers to develop the world's strongest tower under a Phase I development effort. Constructing a tower with a high strength to weight ratio was the goal; the tower had to be at least 12 inches tall, span an 8-inch gap and support a 2.5-inch square bracket. The rest of the design and construction was at the discretion of the students. In order to be awarded a Phase II Production Contract the teams had to provide the system design, testing results and analysis, and plans for product improvement.

Later the students were introduced to the water rocket activity, where they were challenged to discover how much fuel (water) is necessary to launch the rocket the highest. Using 2-liter soda bottles to construct their rockets, the teams took time to discuss factors that could play a role in the launch. The main concern involved determining the appropriate amount of fuel, and the teams were able to address this concern through the testing and data collection phase of the project.

The final challenge involved using robotics to conquer eight missions similar to current Navy initiatives. Each mission took place within an 8 feet by 8 feet challenge board. The teams were provided with two robotic kits and two laptops. The students were able to decide on the design and execution of their robot with a sole requirement that the robot be able to successfully accomplish each of the eight missions. The missions included rescuing a swimmer, troop rotation, recovering a ship, creating a warning beacon, recovering a beacon, underwater mapping, dry docking and humanitarian aid.

While the teams took different approaches in the construction and execution of their robots, towers and rockets, there was a strikingly fresh theme of curiosity that radiated throughout each team. This answered one of the SSC Atlantic



*Tidewater STEM Education Outreach Coordinator and computer engineer Bill LaBelle mentors students as they build their water rocket.*

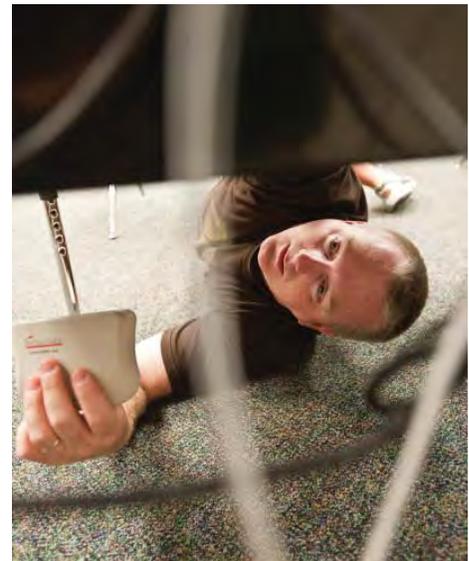


*Middle school students construct a tower to meet the requirements of the contest.*

goals: strategic effects that provide innovative solutions for today, tomorrow and beyond. Rooted within that goal is to cultivate future generations of scientists and engineers who will push the envelope further and competitively launch the command into new frontiers.



*Above, Samuel Price and Brian Reese work in Bishop England's main office wiring closet. At right, top, CWO3 Dale Messer takes out old equipment, and below, Price recables the wiring closet.*

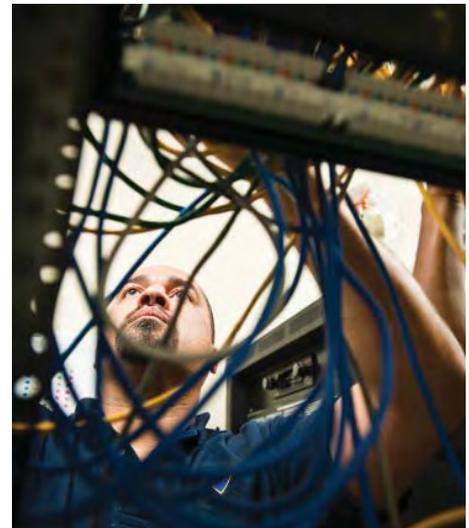


Photos by Joe Bullinger

## Cyber security outreach in action

Bishop England High School (BEHS) students are now enjoying a more secure information technology environment, thanks to members of SSC Atlantic's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Cyber Security Outreach Integrated Product Team (IPT).

Cyber Security IPT Deputy CWO3 Dale Messer, along with Brian Reese, Samuel Price, Basa Butler and Joshua Lewis, volunteered more than 100 hours of their free time this summer to provide a more secure information technology infrastructure and operating environment for students at the Daniel Island school. They conducted site surveys, reviewed building diagrams, developed network topology diagrams, helped install and deploy the new infrastructure, and trained school officials on cyber security.



## *Have you transferred your resume to USAJOBS yet?*

The Department of the Navy (DoN) urges all employees and applicants to shift from Civilian Hiring and Recruitment Tool (CHART) to USAJOBS. At the minimum employees are encouraged to save a printed and electronic copy of their CHART resume so they can transfer this information to USAJOBS.

The transition to USAJOBS, a one-stop source for posting and receiving applications for all DoN job announcements, is a key component to ongoing efforts across the DoN to reform and streamline the hiring process.

In the next phase of the transition, operation of the DoN's online application system, CHART, will cease. Employees and applicants can create and personalize an account on USAJOBS ([www.USAJOBS.gov](http://www.USAJOBS.gov)). All information must be manually copied from CHART and transferred to a resume built in USAJOBS or saved as a Word document.

USAJOBS will be unavailable Oct. 6 through 12 for updates and maintenance.

The DoN hiring reform team has put together a fact sheet outlining how to transfer information from CHART to USAJOBS in five easy steps. It is available at [www.public.navy.mil/DONHR/employment/hiringreform](http://www.public.navy.mil/DONHR/employment/hiringreform)

USAJOBS will allow employees and applicants to store up to five resumes, offering them an opportunity to create resumes to support multiple job announcements. Users can also upload supporting documents.

Tips for creating a powerful resume also are available on the DONHR portal at [www.public.navy.mil/DONHR/employment/CivJobOpps/pages/AllAboutYou.aspx](http://www.public.navy.mil/DONHR/employment/CivJobOpps/pages/AllAboutYou.aspx).

On Oct. 12 public access to CHART will be removed, and it will be available only to Department of Defense personnel via a computer on a registered government network.

On Dec. 30 CHART will be taken off line permanently. Questions on the transition to USAJOBS or on DoN hiring reform efforts can be sent to [DONhrfaq@navy.mil](mailto:DONhrfaq@navy.mil).



Photos by Joe Bullinger

## Prepping for school days

*SSC Atlantic employees, along with teachers from Charleston, S.C., area schools, took part in a climate and ethics training session presented by representatives from the College of William and Mary in anticipation of 2011-2012 school year volunteer activities. The training, held at Westview Middle School, provided guidelines for safe and productive school interactions between government employees and students in a classroom setting. The Aug. 8 session also included robotics training, targeted to government employees and teachers who will be coaches and mentors for the upcoming FIRST Lego League challenge.*





Photos by Joe Bullinger

## SSC Atlantic tours excite summer STEM camp kids

More than 100 students and teachers from the Berkeley County School District visited SSC Atlantic during four tour sessions that were part of the district's first-ever summer Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) camp.

Students from third, fourth and fifth grades from around Berkeley County, along with faculty members, were part of the camp that was designed to teach them about STEM career possibilities.

The Berkeley County School District presented SSC Atlantic a Certificate of Appreciation for support of the STEM camp. Berkeley County School District officials commended the teamwork of SSC Atlantic personnel from various departments who planned, organized and carried out tours June 22 and 29, and July 13 and 20. They noted the SSC Atlantic team's direct enthusiasm during the tours, making it educational and enjoyable for the students. They added the students were so invigorated they discussed the tour events all the way back to the school.

Tour stops included the Depot Maintenance Lab in Bldg. 187, managed by Steve Richards. There, Kevin Votapka developed a training session where students visited various work stations in the lab and learned about depth gauges, infrared photography and troubleshooting circuit boards.



*Students visit the RealWorld lab, above, and try out the Infrared Pocket Scope, at left, during summer STEM tours.*

Teachers requested a second visit of this lab with students of Camp III.

Nick Musselman, lab manager of the vehicle integration bay (VIB) area in Bldg. 198, had numerous vehicles on display for the visiting school children. Shawn Truesdale organized a communication network system by which students could call each other via laptops, which simulated field communications. Bob Jett, building security monitor, told the visitors about building security measures and security awareness.

Dennis Buswell of the RealWorld lab showed the kids a simulation of combat situations, and members of the Forensic Competency demonstrated hard drive security. Dr. Steve Jarrett demonstrated the Infrared Pocket Scope developed by SSC Atlantic. Marquita Priester and Rolland Fitch of the career fair IPT demonstrated Spikee, a system of systems robot.

# Amazing journey

## Robertson takes it one step at a time

To look at Misty Robertson today, one would be amazed to learn about her incredible journey.

Robertson is part of the Goodwill Industries team that keeps the SSC Atlantic buildings in Charleston shipshape. From 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day she performs custodial services in Bldgs. 3147, 3112, 3113 and wherever else she's assigned. Her duties include emptying trash, cleaning, mopping and sweeping.

Just 14 years ago she could not breathe, speak, walk, eat, perform basic day-to-day functions or even roll over in bed on her own.

At 18, less than two months before her high school graduation, Robertson was a passenger in a car involved in a drunk driving accident. The second passenger in the car was killed, and Robertson suffered a traumatic brain injury. In a coma in the hospital, the medical staff did not have high hopes for her survival, much less that she would ever have a normal life again.

But with sheer determination, Robertson proved them all wrong.

She was comatose for more than four months after the accident. She awoke to find that she was totally dependent on her family and the medical staff attending her. She had seizures often as a result of the brain injury so she was put on anti-seizure medication. A severe allergic reaction to the medication caused Robertson to develop Stevens-Johnson syndrome, a life-threatening skin condition in which cell death causes the epidermis to separate from the dermis. The syndrome also



**Misty Robertson**

destroys mucous membranes. Slowly and painfully, her skin started peeling away and all of her hair fell out.

She spent several months getting over that setback. Then she began the long road to recovery. She had to relearn everything ... how to sit up, swallow food, feed herself, talk, stand up and walk. All told, she spent two years undergoing physical, occupational and speech therapy. Because hospitals wouldn't take her insurance, she was moved to a senior center. A typical day there included seven hours of physical therapy, two hours of occupational therapy and one hour of speech therapy. This went on for six days a week for five months. Each new milestone and every new step was a triumph.

Today, effects of the accident re-

main. She is legally blind in her right eye, the right side of her body is weaker, and she can no longer produce tears. "I haven't cried in 14 years," she joked.

Robertson credits the miraculous recovery to her faith in God and to the love and dedication of her parents and family.

"It was hard," she said. "I had just turned 18 on March 21st. I was ready to graduate from high school. The accident was April 12th," she said. Not only did she miss graduation, but by the time she was well enough to pursue her diploma, the graduation requirements had changed and she needed three more credits. Undaunted, she reenrolled in school. Because of her brain injury, it took her two years to get those three credits. Then she had to pass a three-part exam

to receive her diploma. She passed the writing portion but failed the math and reading portions. In all, she took the test seven times and never passed. "I got tired of failing, so I stopped," she said.

Later she tried again, only to find the graduation requirements changed again and she would need to take more classes. So now she has adjusted her goal and has her sights set on taking the General Equivalency Degree (GED) test.

When she was able to work again, she applied for jobs, but without an education she was not able to get one. Then she found out about Goodwill Industries, which trains and places hundreds of disabled people in Charleston

*Continued on next page*



Photos provided

*From left, Robertson in the hospital right after the accident, suffering from Stevens-Johnson syndrome, and on the road to recovery. Pictured below is the vehicle involved in the accident.*

in jobs in their retail stores or in outside businesses.

She undertook five years of Goodwill training and graduated from the Donated Goods Program to the job she performs today at SSC Atlantic. In fact, she was recognized recently by Goodwill Industries as a Graduate of the Year and has been described as “a lively, personable woman who thrives in her work environment and is a favorite among her coworkers and friends.”

“I feel so blessed to be able to work, and I’m proud of what I do,” Robertson said. Even though she enjoys her work, she added, the drawback is that once she gets home, she doesn’t feel like doing any more cleaning.

And, as if the simple miracle of her survival was not enough, Robertson experienced a second miracle 10 years ago when she gave birth to her son, Jacob. Doctors had told her she could not have children because of the tissue loss from Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

“I thought I’d never be a mom,” she said. “Despite everything that has happened, I still consider my son the biggest miracle.”

What lies ahead for her in the long term is unknown, but thanks to her faith and strong

will, Robertson is determined to keep moving forward, one step at a time.

She speaks about her experience to church groups and at other gatherings. Having once been bald, she now grows her hair long so she can routinely donate it to Locks of Love to make hairpieces for others suffering from long-term medical hair loss. “There are some things I can’t do with my disability, but I can talk, and I can give,” she said.

“I’d love to eventually do counseling or writing ... something to help people and inform them about the consequences of drunk driving. I know the consequences and I want to share my story. And I want to share with everyone how my faith helped me through this,” she said.

“I’m a work in progress,” she added. “With my own two feet, I’ll get there!”

- Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor

## SSC Atlantic’s partnership with Goodwill Industries

The mutually beneficial partnership between SSC Atlantic and Goodwill supports the federal government’s missions and Goodwill’s mission of providing employment opportunities and skill development for persons with disabilities.

An extensive training program helps ensure Goodwill employees working at SSC Atlantic undergo ongoing training which addresses technical skills, customer service skills, job retention skills, employer expectations and Navy protocol.



# Congressman views MRAP integration ops

*U.S. Rep. Tim Scott of the 1st District of S.C., left, gets a brief from SSC Atlantic Executive Director Christopher Miller, center, and Pete Ward, lead project engineer for Mine Resistant, Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle and MRAP All-Terrain Vehicle (M-ATV) integration, during a visit Aug. 11. Scott and two of his staffers observed the integration of C4I equipment in the lifesaving vehicles. Also briefing the Congressman was Joe Rodgers, program manager for MRAP/M-ATV integration.*



Photo by Robert Rhett



Photos by Joe Bullinger

# HQ's Smith onboard Aug. 4

*A town hall meeting with SSC Atlantic leadership in Charleston and a tour of the new Data Center Building were among the highlights of a day-long visit to SSC Atlantic Aug. 4 by Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command Deputy Commander/Executive Director Rod Smith. Smith spoke to SSC Atlantic's Extended Board of Directors in the executive conference room in the morning, and later Ken Slaughter, head of the SPAWAR Washington Liaison Office/BRAC, and Bob Byrnes, SSC Atlantic's Pensacola Office Transition Coordinator, took Smith on a tour of the new data center in Bldg. 3148.*



# Congressmen Scott, McCarthy visit

*U.S. Rep. Tim Scott of the 1st District of S.C., left, returned for a second visit to SSC Atlantic Sept. 19, bringing with him U.S. Rep Kevin McCarthy, who represents the 22nd District of California and serves as House Majority Whip. After receiving a command brief from SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Glover, the Congressmen were taken on a tour of the Air Traffic Control (ATC) building. At right, McCarthy points out the location of his district on a map in the ATC building.*



Photo by Joe Bullinger



Photos by Joe Bullinger

## *Williamson receives SSC Atlantic brief*

*U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Michael E. Williamson, right, Joint Program Executive Officer (JPEO) for the Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS), gets a brief from SSC Atlantic Executive Director Christopher Miller during a recent visit. This was Williamson's first visit to the center since being appointed to serve as JPEO JTRS in March. In that capacity, he directs and guides the development, acquisition, product improvement, and fielding of JTRS capabilities for DoD.*



## Sen. Graham staffers visit

*Congressional staffers from the office of U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham visited SSC Atlantic's Charleston campus Aug. 30 to learn about the center's role in making IT count for the warfighter. SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Glover greets Bill Tuten, Graham's Lowcountry regional director, at left, and gives the group a command brief in the executive conference room, below. During the Naval Weapons Station portion of a Joint Base Charleston tour, the group visited the Naval Consolidated Brig, Naval Health Clinic and Army Strategic Logistics Activity. On the Air Force side they visited Bioenvironmental Engineering, Z Portal, the C-17 simulator and viewed a load demo, airevac presentation and air drop.*



Photos by Joe Bullinger

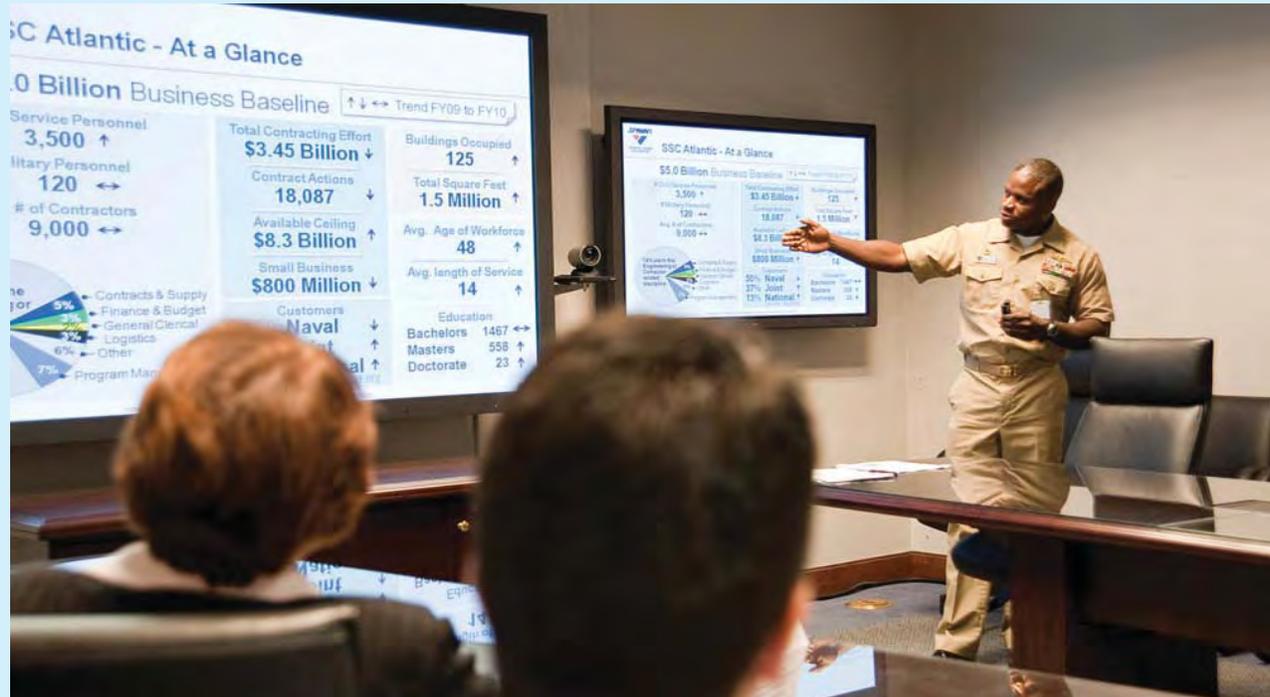


Photo by Joe Bullinger

**Information dominance discussions with Andress**  
*SSC Atlantic Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Glover, right, makes a point to Mark Andress, Deputy Director for Warfare Integration (N2/N6FP) and Chief Financial Officer, during a break in a command brief by Executive Director Christopher Miller, standing. During an Aug. 18 visit, Andress was briefed on SSC Atlantic initiatives in thin client and cloud computing, data center engineering and consolidation savings, naval software patching and other topics. He was also led on a tour of the new data center in Bldg. 3148 by Bob Byrnes.*

## SSC Atlantic's Smith is Miss United States 2011

SSC Atlantic's own Ashley C. Smith was crowned Miss United States 2011 in Las Vegas in July.

A Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP) employee, Smith works in Bldg. Z-133 in Norfolk as part of the 6.0 competency, supporting SSC Atlantic's BUMED effort. The Chesapeake, Va., native is also very active in the Hampton Roads area in community service.

A self-proclaimed former tomboy, Smith entered the world of pageants at age 16 to meet new people and make friends. She soon won her first beauty title and began a seven-year pageant career that would eventually help pay for her college education.

Smith earned a bachelor of science degree in communications from Old Dominion University in 2010 and is currently pursuing her master's in journalism at Regent University.

As Miss United States, Smith will spend the year promoting her platform of breast cancer awareness, a topic she chose to honor her mother, who is an eight-year survivor of breast cancer.

STEP, along with the Student Career Experience Program (SCEP), provide federal employment opportunities to students who are enrolled as degree seeking students at a college or university. The program allows agencies to discover first-hand the abilities of a potential employee, while students gain exposure to public service while enhancing their educational goals. STEP helps SSC Atlantic recruit and develop talented employees to achieve its vision of making IT count for the warfighter and the nation.



Photo by J. Pier

## Doobie Brothers and friends

The Martinez family, recognized by SSC Atlantic for being on the line when the SPAWAR Internet café network delivered its billionth minute of call time to warfighters, was honored at an Army concert at Fort Knox in August.

The family of Army 2nd Lt. Javier Martinez, who is currently serving in Afghanistan, received VIP treatment at the concert, including T-shirts and backstage access to the performers.

"This is unbelievable," said Mrs. Martinez. "My children have never been to a concert before and not only do they receive VIP treatment, but they get to meet both bands!"



Photo provided

*The Doobie Brothers pose with the Martinez family after a concert at Fort Knox, Kent.*

They'll remember this for a long time."

SSC Atlantic has designed, procured, installed, maintains and relocates more than 1,000 Internet cafes for service members and civilians supporting Operations Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn and Enduring Freedom.

# THE CHRONICLE PHOTO CONTEST

Thank you to all who submitted!

*And the winner is...*



Top of Mount Tamalpais, Calif.  
May 2011

Jeff Scaparra  
Code 56500

Send in *your* best shot

We are now soliciting submissions from  
SSC Atlantic employees for next issue's contest.

The Employee Services Association will offer the winner a choice of a command coin,  
thermal mug, cookbook (if available) or \$5 credit on another logo item.

MWR will offer a certificate for a free lunch in the Cooper River Cafe to the winner.

Send your best shot to [susan.piedfort@navy.mil](mailto:susan.piedfort@navy.mil) or [joseph.bullinger@navy.mil](mailto:joseph.bullinger@navy.mil).



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