



March 2024

Trident Refit Facility, Bangor

Refit Review

Volume 35, Issue 3

**40 YEARS
OF SERVICE**

**Bret Saddler
Retires from
TRFB**

+PLUS

**TRFB's COLD
SPRAY SUCCESS**

&:

**OBSERVANCES
& BZs**

CONTENTS

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

On the Cover:

pg. 8

40 YEARS OF SERVICE: Bret Saddler Retires from TRFB



Bret Saddler Speaks at his retirement ceremony at TRFB. (U.S. Navy photo by Lonnie Collier, TRFB Public Affairs).

pg. 3 Captain's Corner

pg. TRFB's Cold
4-5 Spray Success

pg. 6 Through the Lens

pg. 10 Bravo Zulu!

REFIT REVIEW

Commanding Officer.....Capt. Michael D. Eberlein
Executive Director.....Mr. Ed Ingles
Executive Officer.....Cmdr. Zachary D. Harry
Command Master Chief.....CMDCM Chase M. Krause
Public Affairs Officer.....Mr. Lonnie Collier



TRFB Public Affairs
7000 Finback Circle
Room W216
Silverdale, WA 98315-7000
(360) 315-1583

Public Affairs SpecialistMr. Nicholas Scott
Public Affairs SpecialistMr. John Wayne Liston
Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Adora Okafor
Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Sarah Christoph

This newsletter is published for members of the Trident Refit Facility, Bangor (TRFB) workforce. Views and opinions expressed in the Refit Review are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Navy, or TRFB. The Refit Review is produced in accordance with SECNAVINST 5720.44C -- Department of the Navy Public Affairs Policy and Instructions. Editorial content is gathered, prepared, edited, and provided by the TRFB

Public Affairs Office. All photos are property of the U.S. Navy unless otherwise credited.

Team TRF Bangor,

I wanted to start my CO's Corner for March by asking you all to join me in recognizing Women's History Month. Women's History Month, nationally recognized since 1987, is an important reminder of the many contributions women have made in our society, as well as their achievements. Please continue to support the diversity in our workforce that helps make TRFB the best place to work - together we can keep TRFB the best command in the Navy.

As I mentioned at our March All Hands Call, there are many exciting events coming up including Family Day, tentatively scheduled for July 27. Family Day gives us the rare opportunity to show our family and friends the amazing work we do here at TRFB. It also allows us to have some fun together. The Welfare and Recreation Committee (WRC) is working hard to make this year's Family Day the best one yet. If you are interested in joining the Family Day planning committee or joining WRC, please go to the WRC site on the SharePoint for more information. Supervisors - please support your employees in allowing them to participate in this important command event.

I'm writing this column on the first day of spring, which gives me a chance to reflect on the amazing work occurring at TRFB. So far in 2024, we have performed critical work which in order to validate that our oldest ("most classic") ships are capable to operate safely and with full combat effectiveness until a lifetime far beyond that which was originally planned. It's been a privilege to watch the team rapidly adapt, plan, and execute work that has never been done on a ballistic missile submarine. As always, our dedication, first time quality, and ability to work well with partners continues to set the standard for submarine maintenance, and both the fleet and NAVSEA organizations regard our efforts as a great success. We will undoubtedly be using the techniques we have just developed and proven in the future. I realize it has not been without cost and a lot of uncertainty for a lot of the workforce, and look forward to things becoming more "normal" in the months ahead. Thank you for all your dedication and sacrifices to get through a particularly challenging period.

I had a chance this week to visit the Electric Boat corporation and observe the construction of the PCU DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (SSBN 826) as well as some components for later ships in the class. This ship is real and coming, and while we have a lot of



work to do to be ready for COLUMBIA maintenance by 2032, we are in a good place. There should be opportunity for more TRFB personnel to make similar visits in the coming months and years.

I do want to address the two spills that occurred on the Delta pier on the 13th and 22nd of March, as they highlight the importance of the Navy - and each of us - taking our stewardship of the environment seriously. Delta pier happens to sit right next to Devils Hole beach, one of the most ecologically and culturally sensitive sites on Navy property. As the spill at Red Hill in Hawaii in 2021 demonstrates, no facility or base is too critical to accept to be exempt from the responsible stewardship of the environment. While the cause of this spill is still under investigation, it's a powerful reminder of our responsibility to prevent spills, report spills of any size, and assist responders in combatting them. Thank you for everybody who participated in identification of the sources and assisting the cleanup teams.

V/R,

CAPT Mike Eberlein
Commanding Officer
Trident Refit Facility Bangor

TRFB's Cold Spray Success

Article by MC2 Sarah Christoph, TRFB Public Affairs



Surge Maintenance Hull Maintenance Technician 2nd Class Gerardo Vasquez (left) tries out for the first time the Dragonfly cold spray system with a hand spray applicator under the guidance of VRC Metal Systems Cold Spray Technician Ben Richard (right) aboard the Self Defense Test Ship (U.S. Navy photo by Eric Parsons)

Welding, electroplating, and epoxy repairs are all effective and proven methods used in-house at Trident Refit Facility, Bangor (TRFB) to incrementally repair and overhaul some of the U.S. Navy's ballistic missile submarines. The use of these methods have been proven to be effective, and are all accomplished while under stringent maintenance schedules, providing the U.S. with resilient and well-maintained submarines. But what happens when these methods are not ideal to use during a repair process? A group of forward-thinking individuals at TRFB banded together to establish an effective, new procedure to add to TRFB's ever-growing tool belt: An internal cold spray process.

"Cold spray is an additive manufacturing process that heats up a metal particle and sends it at a really high velocity into a component to fill in any fill in pre-machined areas, dents, or damage," said Christy Matson, an engineer at TRFB's inside

machine engineering department. "It is a little confusing because it is not actually cold, it is heated. It is called cold spray because the spray going into the component is not hot enough to melt the part itself. So, if the other methods we use to repair damage on a component are deemed inadequate, cold spray might be used instead."

Cold spray has been used by TRFB in the past, but never in-house. Components that needed cold spray work accomplished were sent out to a different facility to be completed. Because the in-house procedure was new to TRFB, a Qualified Spray Procedure (QSP) needed to be created, and many questions and concerns regarding the process needed to be



Ashley Filling (left), a production engineer at Letterkenny Army Depot, explains cold spray processes during a media tour of the depot Nov. 17, 2021. (U.S. Army photo by Pam Goodhart)

discussed.

"We managed to develop a QSP, address safety, engineering and logistical concerns, and spray a mock-up, all while juggling our primary jobs," said Senior Chief Charles Laymon, the Cold Spray Project Manager at TRFB. "Everyone has been working on it in their spare time. Communicating with a team and managing a large group of individuals who all have competing priorities is never easy. It is very satisfying when you get to a turning point or when you make a big step in the process. This was a series of large steps and many challenges."

But, as a testament to the dedication of TRFB's team members, the cold spray process was planned, and the first test was a success.

"I would consider this success to be significant for TRFB," said Laymon. "In-house use can make our process more efficient. We completed our first cold spray job, and then sent out something we call a coupon for testing purposes. Coupons are things like mock-ups, tensile tests, dynamic wear tests, bond button tests, and corrosion tests. Due to cost and logistics, we still do testing elsewhere rather than at TRFB, but the actual cold spray process was accomplished within the walls of TRFB. The testing deemed the spray application a success, and now we are considering cold spray to be another option we can utilize."

Utilizing cold spray opens another door in maximizing the process of maintaining ballistic missile submarines. The use of localized

cold spray at TRFB assists the Navy's strategic deterrent mission.

"TRFB is an intermediate maintenance facility focused on using proven methods that help get our submarines back out to sea" said Laymon. "We have been trying to get cold spray up and running for a while now so I am excited for the accomplishment and to be a part of it. It could not have been accomplished without all of the people who took part in it."

With a cold spray procedure greenlit at TRFB, team members are buzzing with ideas to get work accomplished.

"I think the team is very excited to get this started," said Matson. "The cold spray process is all very new and the team is learning a lot. People are excited. Everyone has an idea but doesn't understand how the technology may or may not work for that idea. But ideas are where things start!"



The actuator body component from Norfolk Naval Shipyard was repaired via cold spray at Penn State Applied Research Laboratory by shipyard machinists.(U.S. Navy photo by Shelby West)

THROUGH THE LENS

U.S. Navy Photos by MC2 Adora Okafor, MC2 Sarah Christoph and John Wayne Liston, TRFB Public Affairs.



A TRFB team member works at TRFB.



Vince Stamper (left) gives a tour to students at Washington State University at TRFB.



A TRFB team member works at Delta Pier.



A TRFB team member performs a demonstration for students from Washington State University during a tour at TRFB.



Senior Chief Electrician's Mate Charlie Layom speaks with students from Washington State University during a tour at TRFB.



U.S. Navy Capt. Michael Eberlein (center) speaks with TRFB team members during a gemba at TRFB.



Article by: MC2 Adora Okafor and photos by Lonnie Collier, TRFB Public Affairs.

40 YEARS OF SERVICE: Bret Saddler Retires from TRFB

Similar to a star quarterback in the NFL, Bret has been one of the “Most Valuable Players” (MVP) for years here at TRFB. He created an atmosphere and culture in the numerous shops that made people want to work here. He stepped up to numerous challenges with determination and commitment. He oversaw some of the most difficult work we conduct, always keeping the people in mind behind what we do. His career exemplifies the core values and what is best about what we do, how we do it and the care for each other that we have.

Bret’s leadership will be missed, but I wish him all the best in new career, CIVPAC 2.0 as he calls it, fishing, boating, off-roading and who knows what other new hobbies are in store. Congrats!

-Mike Carpentier

After nearly 40 years of civil service, Bret Saddler, Inside Mechanical Superintendent at Trident Refit Facility, Bangor (TRFB), is bidding farewell to the command.

Saddler, a Puget Sound native, initially learned about the opportunities at the Puget Naval Sound Shipyard (PSNS) when a recruiter came to visit his high school.

“I grew up in the Puget Sound area and didn’t really know that this place existed,” reflects Saddler. “A shipyard guy showed up at the high school told us about the cool jobs, I threw my hat in the ring, and I got selected. The rest was history.”

Saddler’s civil service career began in 1984, at PSNS and was fueled by his passion for working with his hands.

“A lot of my classes in high school were classes like wood shop, metal shop and auto shop, mostly trade-related training,” Saddler recalled. “I just like working with my hands, building, fixing and diagnosing things, and the satisfaction that comes with that.”

Over the years, Saddler’s career progressed through various roles. He started working at the shipyard through the work-study program, and later applied for a four-year apprenticeship program. His career has thus progressed from an entry-level technician to managing a division.

“In a nutshell, my current job is making sure that we have well-equipped, well-trained, well-disciplined people to do the work on the submarines,” he explained.



Bret Saddler (right) receives a command collage from Ed Ingles (left), during his retirement ceremony at TRFB.

Reflecting on his career progression, Saddler highlights the importance of seizing opportunities and doing his best with whatever opportunities that were presented.

“Every day, we’re kind of doing a working interview, so to speak,” said Saddler. “I think, really, TRF provided me with an opportunity to succeed.”

Saddler credits his development to his mentors throughout the years, which included his old supervisor, Pat McCoy, the late Robin Cronce, and his supervisor, current Repair Department Superintendent, Mike Carpentier.

“There’s been a lot of friendships that I’ve made working with people, and learned a lot from so many different people,” said Saddler. “One of the best parts of TRF is working with highly skilled, level headed, bunch of people. I find the work we do

satisfying, supporting the submarine’s mission, and being able to work on vessels that are still in an active status.”

For the fresh faces of TRFB, Saddler has some advice.

“What I tell everybody when they first check on board and have a sit down with me is show up to work, ready to work, and treat people with respect,” said Saddler. “I’ve been fortunate that I’ve been in an environment where I feel that hard work pays off.”

As Saddler embarks on this new chapter, we extend our most sincere appreciation for his decades of service. Congratulations on an incredible career, and best wishes in retirement. Fair winds and following seas! 🌊



Bret Saddler (left) gives flowers to his wife (right) during his retirement ceremony at TRFB.



Mike Carpentier (right) speaks at the retirement ceremony of Bret Saddler at TRFB.

BRAVO ZULU!

U.S. Navy Photos and graphics by MC2 Adora Okafor, MC2 Sarah Christoph and John Wayne Liston, TRFB Public Affairs

OBSERVANCES



Sailors and civilians who have volunteered to serve on the Welfare and Recreation Committee pose for a photo at TRFB.



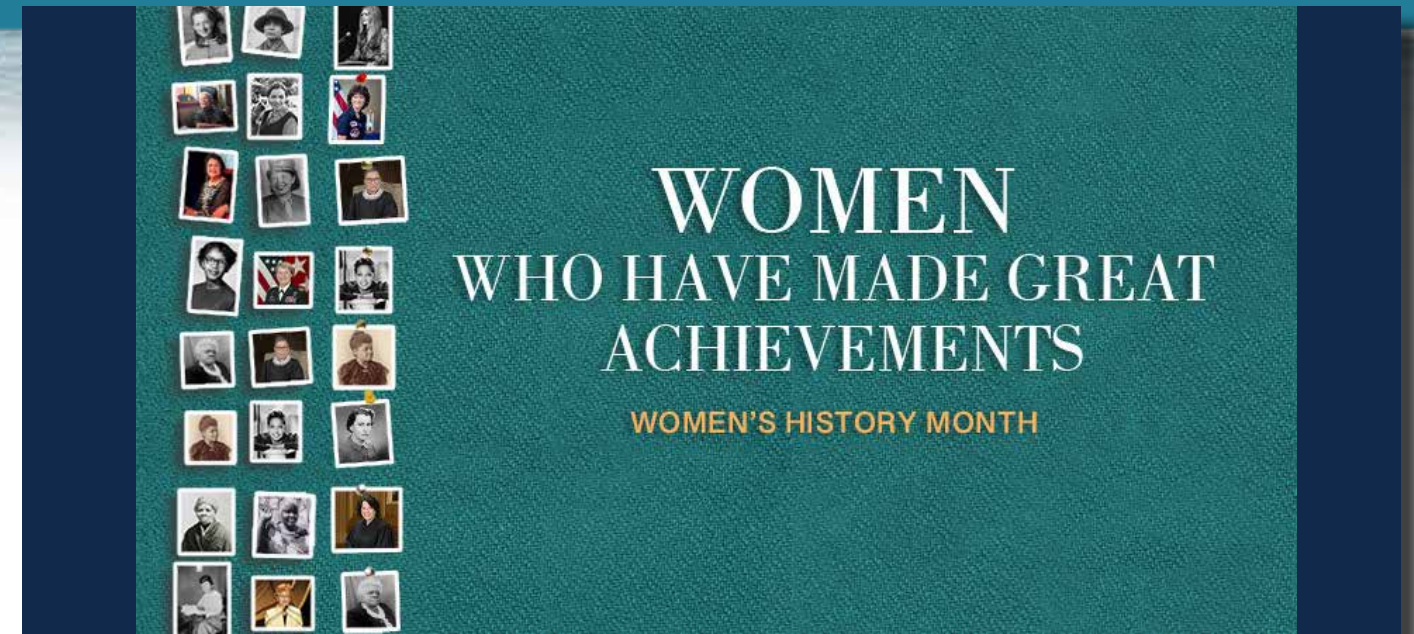
Weapons Repair Department poses for a photo following an awards ceremony at TRFB.



Mona Williams, TRFB Command Counsel (right), receives a plaque from Ed Ingles (left) during a ceremony at TRFB. She will be moving on to her next job opportunity in Germany!



GSM1 Charles Hickox (right) is mapped to first class petty officer by Capt. Michael Eberlein (left) at TRFB. Congratulations GSM1!



Women's History Month is an annual observance to highlight the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. Celebrated during March in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia, corresponding with International Women's Day on March 8, it is observed during October in Canada, corresponding with the celebration of Persons Day on October 18.

Saint Patrick's Day

Saint Patrick's Day, or the Feast of Saint Patrick, is a religious and cultural holiday held on March 17, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick (c. 385 – c. 461), the foremost patron saint of Ireland. Saint Patrick's Day was made an official Christian feast day in the early 17th century and is observed by the Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion (especially the Church of Ireland),[7] the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Lutheran Church.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day is a public holiday in several countries on March 8. The UN observes the holiday in connection with a particular issue, campaign, or theme in women's rights. The earliest reported Women's Day event, called "National Woman's Day", was held on February 28, 1909, in New York City.

Irish-American Heritage Month

Irish Heritage Month is an annual observance originating in the United States, where it is known as Irish-American Heritage Month. It has received official recognition from governments in the United States and Canada. It was first celebrated by proclamation of the President and Congress in the United States to honor the achievements and contributions of Irish Americans. The heritage month is in March to coincide with Saint Patrick's Day, the Irish national holiday on March 17. Heritage Months are usually proclaimed by nations to celebrate centuries of contributions by a group to a country.

Looking for portrait or photo support, public affairs guidance, graphic or flyer design, or other command-related media requests? Stop by the Public Affairs office to make a request or appointment today!

Studio portrait walk-ins are held on Wednesdays from 0800-0900. Studio times may be adjusted to suit your schedule. Remember to bring the prescribed uniform, cover, and package instruction for the specific type of studio portrait requested.



WOMEN IN NAVAL HISTORY

Esther Voorhees Hasson

1908 : The first superintendent of the Navy Nurse Corps. Hasson was one of three women who applied for the position of superintendent of the Navy Nurse Corps when it was established by Congress 13 May 1908.



Chief Yeoman Loretta Perfectus Walsh

1917: The Navy's first enlisted woman was sworn in. Walsh was also the first woman chief petty officer and the first woman to serve in a non-nursing capacity in any branch of the armed forces.



Capt. Mildred Helen McAfee

1942 : The Navy's first female line officer and was the Director of the Navy's newly-established Women's Reserve.



Lt. j.g. Harriet Ida Pickens & Ens. Frances Willis

1944 : The Navy's first African-American Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) officers.

