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NTTC Lackland participates in Blue Skies Parade

Story by Hospital Corpsman Second Class Devon Holly, Naval Technical Training Center Lackland Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO - Staff and students assigned to Naval Technical Training Center (NTTC) Lackland participated in the armed forces parade celebrating World War II veterans at Blue Skies of Texas Senior Living and Care Center June 25.

Each year on the Saturday prior to Fourth of July weekend, Blue Skies hosts the parade for Navy, Marine Corps, Army, and Air Force. This is NTTC Lackland's fifth consecutive year participating in the parade.

Retired Navy Captain Hal Lutz who serves as the Blue Skies Navy liaison, said many of this year's parade participants were World War II veterans or their spouses. He was very appreciative of the younger generation serving in today's military and their eagerness to also participate in the event.

Chief Master-at-Arms Stephen Caezza, from Rochester, New York, enjoyed the experience.

"It was a great opportunity to participate, and to instill the values of giving back to the community, especially to our veterans and our junior Sailors," Caezza said. Before leaving, the students had the opportunity to talk with military veterans about their careers.

"It was a great experience talking to veterans who have served up to sixty years ago," said Seaman Eliot Matias Quintana, from Aguada, Puerto Rico, a student at Master-at-Arms "A" school. "I will forever be in debt to the sacrifices of those having served before me."

Before leaving Blue Skies Senior Living and Care Center, NTTC Lackland staff and students toured memorial art work at the facility and spoke to several veterans living at the center.

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