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Contact: Lt. Cmdr. Kate Meadows

850.452.5845
(DSN) 922.4858
(FAX) 850.452.4900

Training Support Center Honors Navy Heritage

Story by Lt. Andrew C. Legayada, Training Support Center San Diego Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO – Sailors and civilians from Training Support Center (TSC) San Diego celebrated the Navy’s 241st birthday aboard Naval Base San Diego Sept. 13.

“It is essential that we celebrate 241 years of naval heritage,” said Petty Officer First Class Daniel View, the command career counselor for the center. “Honoring those who have served before us is important as we look forward to the future.”

At 9 a.m., the ceremonial eight bells rang to signify the end of the current birthday year and were followed by a ceremonial strike of one bell to signify the start of the new birthday year.

Following tradition, the oldest and youngest Sailor cut the first slice in the birthday cake.

In special attendance was retired Chief Electrician’s Mate Stuart Hedley, a Pearl Harbor survivor aboard the USS West Virginia (BB 48) who spoke on his experiences that day.

“Going into the next 241 years of service to our country, the Navy continues to show the courage of our Sailors,” said Hedley. “I believe we are in great hands and I am proud of all of you.”

Hedley also explained that everyone must remember the sacrifices of veterans who set the precedence to uphold the Navy’s core values.

“We are truly honored to have an esteemed Sailor such as Stuart speak to our command on the meaning of selfless service to the country,” said Capt. John D. Wilshusen, TSC San Diego commanding officer. “The Navy is 241 years strong because of Sailors like him.”

Hedley, a native of Buffalo, NY, enlisted in 1940. Some of his tours include USS West Virginia (BB 48), USS San Francisco (CA 38), USS Massey (DD 778), USS Dashiell (DD 659), and USS Prairie (AD 15), in addition to numerous shore commands until his retirement in 1960.

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