

## ***SHIPMATE!***

Congratulations on your assignment to the Surface Warfare Officers School (SWOSU) Unit, Great Lakes! I would like to welcome you aboard and provide you with some information to help you in your transition. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have. If you experience any problems during non-working hours don't hesitate to call the duty offices: SWOSU **Command Duty Officer- 847-257-3363** or **TSC Command Duty Officer-847-561-6492**. The following websites will assist you in your transition to the Great Lakes area:

**Great Lakes Online:** Great information and links to Naval Station Great Lakes.  
<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/greatlakes/index.htm>

**Great Lakes Face Book:** <https://www.facebook.com/NavalStationGreatLakes>

**Navy One Source program:** Offers practical solutions, useful information and resources. Phone access is 800-540-4123, international: 800-5404-1233, international collect: 484-530-5914.

<http://www.militaryonesource.mil/>

**User ID: Navy; password: Sailor**

**Navy One-Stop:** Housing information, including pictures and floor plans

<http://www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/housing.html/onestop/>

**Automated Housing Referral Network** - Sponsored by the DOD and is designed to improve the process of securing available housing for relocating military members and their families. The site has both rental properties and 'For Sale' properties.

[www.ahrn.com](http://www.ahrn.com)

There are a few other items I should mention right from the start...

First - All SWOS staff are required to be qualified in the Basic Engineering Common Core (BECC) curriculum, regardless of where you are assigned. You won't be able to complete the qualification until you are checked in here, but you should get started as soon as possible. There are a lot of Computer Based Training (CBT) courses to complete (104 to be exact). **Once you completely check in to SWOS Unit Great Lakes (after INDOC and JIT), you will have three months to complete this qualification.** All of the BECC courses are available on Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) on the web. Go to: <https://www.nko.navy.mil/> and either log in if you have an account, or create one if you don't. Once the homepage comes up, click on **NAVY E-LEARNING>ONLINE COURSES** and a new window will open. Once the eLearning home page comes up, look to the left side of the screen under **CONTENT**, and click **ADVANCED SEARCH**. When the search window opens up, type **BECC** in the **Course Title** box and hit **SEARCH**. All of the BECC on-line courses will be displayed. You will be required to complete BECC courses (BECC-2 thru BECC-54 and BECC-99), as well as BECC-COMMON CORE (BECC-CC) courses (BECC-CC-1 thru BECC-CC-40). **Shipmate, it is a lot!** Get started sooner rather than later. You are not required to complete the BECC – Steam/Gas/Hull Technician/Machinery Repairman/Diesel courses. It's up to you if you want to go above and beyond and do them, but like I said, it's entirely up to you. If you can get this done before you check in, the only thing left for you to do will be to pass the six Post-module tests and observe the labs. If you have any problems with the courses launching, check the **BROWSER CONFIGURATION** link on the left side of the eLearning home page. Good luck!

Second - If you are planning on moving into the Geographic Bachelor housing when you get here, *be forewarned!* There is a shortage of geo-bachelor housing here at Great Lakes and you could be on a waiting list for quite a while. Talk to your sponsor more about this if it applies to you.

Third – BCA (Body Composition Assessment): Make sure that you are within Navy Height/Weight Standards IAW OPNAVINST 6110.1J when you check in! You are required to do an **OFFICIAL** weigh-in when you report to the command. Weigh-in will be conducted in official PT uniform only. If you are out of standards, you may find yourself with a new set of orders. Don't take this lightly!

Fourth – If you do not have a clearance you should make every effort to get one or apply for one prior to transferring from your present command. In order for you to obtain a NMCI account you must have a **security clearance**. If you arrive onboard with no clearance or an expired security clearance you will need to log on to JPASS and complete the application. Once you have completed the application you are looking at 4-5 weeks for the background check to be completed before applying for an NMCI account.

The information contained in this welcome aboard letter and the websites should cover most of the information you may need. I'm sure you will enjoy your tour with this command.

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