

## McKee Crewmembers Find Fulfillment in Volunteerism

By JOSN Sharon Davidson-Lewis

For many, heroes are larger than life characters, whom we'll never meet. For others, heroes possess some unique characteristics that give them the edge over other men and women.

Yet, if we define heroes as people who take time to help others, we see that finding heroes isn't as rare as we think. We learn that heroes are around us, and it's their drive and their willingness to help others that give them that "edge."

McKee's Data Processor Seaman Stacealisa Oliver and MM3 Aaron Baker may be included in the category of men and women who contribute time and energy to help others.

Oliver explains, "As a volunteer, I enjoy working with elderly people. I remember all the bad publicity surrounding elderly people, for example, the adversities concerning retirement homes. There were tales about the elderly being abused by caretakers and inadequate facilities. I decided to get involved."

Oliver's volunteer work includes taking residents from retirement homes on nature walks. The time spent with residents allows Oliver to discover many difficulties faced by the elderly such as Alzheimer's Disease, and the loss of motor skills.

The 26-year old recalls one of her fondest memories: "I remember this gentleman who was a very successful businessman, but he was determined by doctors to be mentally instable. We'd go to the parks, and he would wear his bermuda shorts. We had a good time, swinging on swings. I'd buy him ice cream and all sorts of things."

In her experience as a volunteer, Oliver also donated time to San Diego's Tender Loving Zoo.

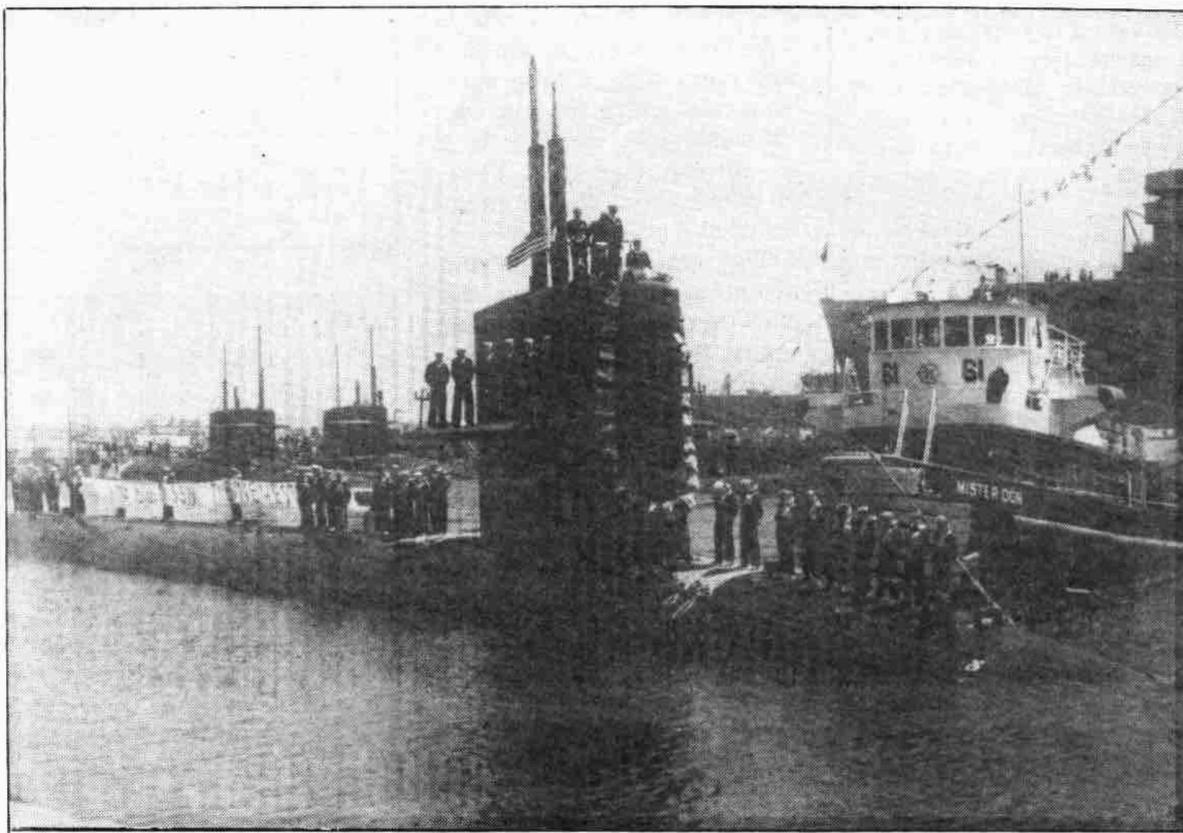
"We'd take kittens and puppies from kennels to different places such as or-

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### SubLant Visit

Vice Adm. D.L. Cooper, Commander, Submarine Forces Atlantic, peers through the periscope at the Submarine Training Facility. Sub-TraFac was one of the stops during Vice Adm. Cooper's tour of the Naval Submarine Base recently. (More pictures on page 8)



### USS Bates Returns from Deployment

USS Bates recently returned from a six-month deployment. While underway Bates visited Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Guam and Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines. Bates is commanded by Cmdr. K.M. Trautman.

## Officer Promotion Delay Explained

Washington — Under NAVOP 036-88, officers slated for promotion to lieutenant junior grade through captain between April 1 and August 31 will be promoted September 1 in order to meeting funding levels set by Congress.

Promotion authority for 03 through 06 will be announced by an ALNAV. In the meantime, officers whose promotions have been delayed may assume the title and wear the uniform of the next higher grade when:

—01's have met the two-year time in grade requirement for 02

—03 selectees have met the requirements set forth in MILPERSMAN Section 2220130

—04 through 06 selectees are authorized by monthly message promulgated by NMPC. These numbers will be limited by appropriate DOPMA grade tables.

The above guidance does not cancel the provisions of NAVOP 094-87.

While this delay does not affect future promotion

eligibility, those 01's who are delayed to 02 must serve two years in grade as 02's before promotion to 03. However, this delay will not change their normal appearance before their 03 selection board.

Future promotions to 04 through 06 will not be affected since promotion to these grades is not dependent on time in grade but upon vacancies in each of the competitive categories. See NAVOP 036-88 for more information.

## Submariners Remember Thresher Disaster

Portsmouth, N.H. — The North Church on Market Square here was filled with the families of USS Thresher (SSN 593) crewmen and submariners on Sunday, April 10. They gathered to remember the 129 men who died April 10, 1963, in one of the worst submarine disasters in history.

This is the fifth time Electrician's Mate First Class Neal D. Collier has attended the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard-sponsored ceremony. Submarine qualified, he is an instructor at the Nuclear Power Training Unit at Ballston Spa, N.Y. Collier, 29, was four when his father, Lt. Merrill F. Collier, Thresher's engineer officer, perished with 128 others.

"I don't remember the day," Collier said, "but throughout my life I've read the accounts of what happened. I know now that Thresher and the men who died aboard her made a difference. We will not forget her, or her crew and their important place in history."

Collier's father graduated from the Naval Academy in 1956, serving as class president all four years and as brigade commander his final year. While Neal Collier was attending college in

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