

Naval Academy Glee Club Visits South America

By Jessica Clark
Trident Managing Editor

During the Naval Academy's spring break March 13-22, the Academy Glee Club traveled to Argentina and Chile to perform 10 concerts at a variety of venues, including each country's naval academy.

The faculty, staff and student body of the Escuela Naval "Arturo Prat" in Chile attended the Glee Club's 30-minute performance that opened with Midn. 1/C Andy Houck, president of the Men's Glee Club, singing the Chilean National Anthem.

For Houck, this was a particularly significant event. In 2007, he spent a summer training block on board the Chilean tall ship *Esmerelda* (BE-43) followed by a semester at the Escuela Naval "Arturo Prat." During this trip, he reunited with his Chilean sponsor family, and the local town turned out to welcome him back.

"My time spent on exchange with the Chilean Navy helped me develop a unique appreciation for the South American culture," said Houck. "I was extremely proud to show that culture off to the members of the Men's Glee Club."

The Midshipmen's itinerary in Chile included public performances in Santiago, Vina del Mar, and two other cities near

Santiago.

"The most memorable part of our tour in South America was a concert that we gave in a poorer community of Santiago called Paine," said Houck. "The response from the crowd touched not only the community of Paine but also the members of the Glee Club. It was a unique experience because the 500 people in that theater may never come across another American in their lifetime. They will forever be left with the impression of America and our military from that concert that one evening."

While in Argentina, the Glee Club also performed at public performances in Buenos Aires, introducing each song and conversing with the audience in Spanish, as they had in Chile. Officials of both countries were impressed by the Midshipmen's language abilities and interaction with the local population.

Academy Superintendent Vice Adm. Jeffrey L. Fowler accompanied the club during a portion of the visit, meeting with government and military officials from both countries.

"Naval Academy Midshipmen are the face of our Navy and Marine Corps, and the members of the Glee Club did a



The U.S. Naval Academy Glee Club performs under the direction of Dr. Aaron Smith at the Palacio Rioja in Vina del Mar, Chile. Photo courtesy of the U.S. Embassy in Chile.

tremendous job on this trip representing our country to Chilean and Argentine audiences," said Fowler. "As they will see in the Fleet, the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps serve as American ambassadors across the globe, and these Midshipmen made the the Academy and their nation proud."

Their role as representatives of the U.S. was not lost on the Midshipmen.

"I got to witness the members of the Men's Glee Club fall into the role of American ambassadors. The interaction at both the Chilean and Argentine naval academies was a unique experience," said Houck. "It is certainly one that we will remember for a long time to come." ⚓

Naval Academy Refines Mission Statement

From U.S. Naval Academy
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Naval Academy Superintendent Vice Adm. Jeffrey L. Fowler recently announced an update to the Academy mission statement, changing the words "provide graduates who are dedicated to a career of naval service" to "graduate leaders who are dedicated to a career of naval service," in order to better highlight the emphasis the Academy places on developing leaders.

"While the recommendation and decision to refine the mission statement are not taken lightly, I believe the Academy's history reflects the evolutionary and dynamic nature of our mission statements," said Fowler in an e-mail to Academy faculty and staff. "That history shows a continual effort to more accurately reflect the Academy's stated mission and how that mission is aligned to support the Department of the Navy and the nation."

On March 13, Secretary of the Navy Donald Winter approved the following:

"To develop Midshipmen morally, mentally and physically and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, honor and loyalty in order to graduate leaders who are dedicated to a career of naval service and have potential for future development in mind and character to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government."

Mission statements define the reason or basis and describe the essence of an organization. Since the Academy's founding in 1845, its operations have been guided by a mission statement or equivalent. The most recent statement is based on a paragraph published in 1947 by Academy Superintendent Rear Adm. J.L. Holloway. That 1947 version evolved into a 1960 version that is worded exactly the same as the current mission statement. A shorter version was frequently used beginning in 1971, but in 1987 then-Secretary of the Navy James Webb directed the Academy to revert back to the longer version that has remained in use until the issuance of this update. ⚓

Math Department Hosts Academy Graduate, WWII Vet

By Cmdr. Dave Spoerl
Special to Trident

The Mathematics Department hosted a visit by Sidney Moglewer, Naval Academy Class of 1945, March 3-4, 2009. Moglewer, who actually graduated in 1944 due to World War II, began his visit by speaking to Professor Will Traves's game theory capstone course.

Moglewer served on board the heavy cruiser *USS San Francisco* (CA 38) in the Pacific until the end of the war. His first deployment resulted in eight months at sea and four battle stars, including the Battle of Okinawa.

After leaving military service, he entered the world of operations research as a member of Douglas Aircraft Company. One of his career highlights was being invited by

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