Blue Angels announce job openings

Navy's flight demonstration team encourage more enlisted applicants for upcoming season

By Blue Angels PAO

The U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, announced they are looking to fill 13 enlisted billets for the upcoming show season and are now accepting applications for both officer and enlisted positions for the 2002 team.

The Blue Angels represent the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps team and serve to enhance recruiting by performing at air shows throughout North America. During the 2001 show season, the Blue Angels will perform nearly 70 shows in 35 cities, including Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.

The 13 vacant enlisted positions include several aviation ratings, a journalist and an illustrator draftsman.

For the 2002 season, the Blue Angels will select six new officers and approximately 30 enlisted personnel.

The team is expected to select three demonstration pilots (two Navy and one Marine), one Marine C-130 pilot, a maintenance officer (either Navy or Marine) and an administrative officer for the 2002 team. The application deadline is Apr. 30, and final selections will be made mid-July.

The deadline for enlisted applications is June 30, and final selections will be made by July 1. A normal tour of duty with the team is three years.

Those selected for the unique experience of being a Blue Angel are given the opportunity to represent hundreds of thousands of Sailors and Marines serving the various fleets throughout the United States and abroad.

U.S. Navy photo

Blue Angels fly in formation at a recent air show.

Anyone interested in applying for the team should read the application procedures available on the squadron's web site at http://www.blueangels.navy.mil.

For more information, contact Lt. j.g. Michael Blankenship, the Blue Angels public affairs officer, at (760) 339-2503.

Get your master's degree and serve at USNA

By Lt. Karen Armstrong
USNA Public Affairs

Do you long for duty at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md.? Is a master's degree in your career plan?

If so, then read on, because there is an outstanding three-year opportunity at USNA that combines a one-year master's program followed by two years as a Naval Academy Company Officer.

The U.S. Naval Academy offers a master of science degree in Leadership and Human Resource Development.

If you are a warfare-qualified lieutenant or lieutenant commander with an outstanding record, you are eligible.

The graduate-level program increases the level of education, training and professionalism of junior officers assigned as brigade company officers and leadership instructors at the academy.

Following successful completion of the master's program, graduates are then assigned a two-year follow-on tour as a USNA Company Officer.

The result is an academic program that meets graduate school criteria and gives students the foundation they need to mold midshipmen.

"The masters degree has professional and personal benefits," said Lt. Robert Thomas, a graduate of the program and a current company officer at the Naval Academy. "I wish I had this training prior to serving in the fleet as a junior officer."

Lt. Brian Fitzpatrick is a prospective 2001 graduate currently enrolled in the program.

"I want to provide midshipmen with mentorship," said Fitzpatrick. "As an undergraduate I learned how to be a leader; as a graduate student I'm learning how to develop leaders."

Marine Corps Maj. Michael Trabun, a fellow classmate, concurs.

"The strength of any organization is its people, and the fact that the curriculum is focused on leadership and human resource development makes this a great choice for those who are interested in the art of leadership and effective management practices," he said.

The Naval Academy is the only Navy institution that offers such a program. Junior officers work on their degrees for one year beginning in June, and then assume their duties as company officers for the remaining two years of their Annapolis tour.

Company Officers are responsible for the daily management, supervision and leadership of the midshipmen their respective companies.

Those who graduate will receive a permanent 0038 subspecialty code.

For more information, contact Cmdr. Ward Carroll at (410) 293-6544, or log onto the master's program at http://prodevweb.prodev.usna.edu/masters/masters.htm.