

Petty Officer 1st Class Woody S. Paschall is currently assigned as a Basic Public Affairs Course instructor at the Defense Information School at Fort Meade, Md.

In addition to teaching news writing, feature writing and layout and design principles to joint-service students, Petty Officer Paschall is part of the team creating the basic writing and photography functional areas of the Navy's Basic Mass Communications Specialist Course at DINFOS.

Petty Officer Paschall was born in Tulsa, Okla., in 1977 and graduated from high school in Comanche, Okla., in 1996. After attending college and working in a variety of trade and technical occupations, he enlisted in the Navy in January 2001.

After completing basic training and then graduating from the Defense Information School earning the Journalist rating, Petty Officer Paschall reported to Naval Submarine Base New London where he placed 3rd in the Best New Writer category of the CHINFO Merit Awards. He was subsequently named editor of the base newspaper and earned the base's Junior Sailor of the Year award.

Petty Officer Paschall then served as a broadcaster at Naval Media Center Mobile Detachment 4 in San Diego until being absorbed into the newly-created Fleet Public Affairs Center, San Diego.

While assigned to PACEN, Petty Officer Paschall was selected to provide basic news and feature writing training to Draftsmen, Lithographers and Photographer's Mates in anticipation of the merger and creation of the Mass Communication Specialist rate.

Petty Officer Paschall continued his contributions to PACEN as the assistant editor for the command. Under his guidance, the command earned seven CHINFO Merit Awards including Best Writer and Best New Writer while Petty Officer Paschall also earned 1st Place in the Sportswriting category.

While at the Fleet Public Affairs Center, Petty Officer Paschall deployed aboard USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Paschall served as assistant editor for the ship's newspaper while also earning the Surface Warfare Specialist designator.

Paschall then reported to Expeditionary Combat Readiness Center where he prepared then deployed to Multinational Forces Iraq as a Visual Information Manager where he earned both the Joint Service Achievement and Joint Service Commendation medals for his contributions.

Petty Officer Paschall then reported to Fleet Combat Camera Group Pacific where he deployed in support of Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force Arabian Peninsula earning an Army Commendation Medal for providing video and still images in support of the task force.

After returning from that deployment Petty Officer Paschall documented multiple contingency and training operations including the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and Rim of the Pacific 2012. He also served as the Operations LPO at Combat Camera where he managed, deployed and coordinated dozens of combat camera personnel around the world.