

## Naval Training Center San Diego

On my way to the Western National I stopped at the Naval Training Center in San Diego. It is located next to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot. The NTC has been closed but the MCRD is still in use. Shane deHass went through there a few years ago. I hope he is doing well. The NTC is now a mixed use area, consisting of housing, retail, and parkland. Some of the barracks are still there as are other buildings. Uses are food stores, restaurants, museums and offices. The grinder (parade field) has been reclaimed from asphalt to grass and walkways installed around and through it. Along the walkways are 52 granite markers each with a plaque telling the story of a lost submarine. It's sobering to walk along the paths and recognize those who didn't make it home. When I was in boot camp they were looking for volunteers to become submariners since all submariners were and are volunteers. They asked for a 6 year commitment instead of the shorter commitment most of us had made.



