

## **Commander Scott J. Svoboda, United States Navy, Retired Senior Naval Science Instructor, Crook County High School**

Commander Scott J. Svoboda, a native of Hastings, Neb., graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Science degree in Metallurgical Engineering in June 1987. He also holds a Master of Church Music degree from Western Conservative Baptist Seminary, completed a K-12 teacher certification program at Occidental College, holds an Educational Specialist degree from the University of South Dakota, earned the degree Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and completed the Advanced Joint Professional Military Education program at the Joint Forces Staff College.

During his initial tour of active service, he served with Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Seattle. His follow-on assignments aboard USS *John Hancock* (DD-981) included communications officer, assistant administrative officer, and public affairs officer; and included participation in Ernest Will and counter-drug operations.

Svoboda transitioned to the Reserve Component in 1991. Assigned to Maritime Defense Zone, Sector Alaska, he served as assistant administrative officer and training officer. Following an eight-year break in service, Svoboda returned to drilling status after the events of 9/11, first as training officer, then executive officer of NR Destroyer Squadron SIX Detachment DELTA, and provided additional operational support to Naval Surface Group TWO.

Board-selected for recall, Svoboda served as commanding officer of Navy Operational Support Center, Rock Island, Ill., from 2004 to 2007. He served as commanding officer of NR Naval Magazine Indian Island detachment BRAVO from 2007 to 2009. Since 2007 he has provided operational support to: Naval Forces Korea, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command, U.S. Naval War College, Office of Naval Intelligence, Combined Maritime Force in Bahrain, and U.S. Pacific Command.

In 2012, Svoboda mobilized to serve as officer-in-charge of the Combined Joint Interagency Task Force – Nexus detachment at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan. Upon return, he was assigned as Assistant Chief of Staff to NR Commander, Naval Forces Japan Headquarters. He mobilized again in April 2014 as Current Operations Chief, Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa in Djibouti. Board-selected for another recall, Svoboda joined the Afghanistan-Pakistan Hands program in April 2015, deploying twice to Pakistan and completing one tour at the Joint Staff. Svoboda last served as Deputy Chief, Security Cooperation Office, U.S. Embassy in Islamabad. Svoboda retired from the Navy Reserve in September 2018, and in February 2019, he joined the teaching staff at Crook County High School.

Svoboda is a licensed educational administrator and has taught music at the primary, secondary, undergraduate, and/or graduate levels in Montana, Kansas, Kentucky, and Iowa. He and his wife Tracy have four adult children. Personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards), Joint Service Commendation Medal (2 awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3 awards), Army Commendation Medal, and Navy Achievement Medal.

