

Military Saves Week: Everyone can Benefit
February 20 - 27, 2011

Department of Defense (DoD) observes *Military Saves Week* February 20-27. This week-long program provides an opportunity for Sailors and their families to meet immediate needs and build long-term capital through saving and debt reduction. The *Military Saves* Campaign can make a difference!

At www.militarysaves.org, Sailors and family members can "Take the Pledge," to save money, reduce debt and build wealth over time. This pledge is also patriotic encouraging Sailors to help their "family and country by encouraging other Americans to Build Wealth, Not Debt."

Another good tool for long-term savings and wealth building is participation in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). The Plan is one of a three-part retirement package that also includes Active/Reserve Retired Pay, Social Security and IRAs.

For commands, event suggestions include bringing a financial counselor from a local/nearby installation's Fleet and Family Support Center to talk about financial planning, debt reduction, college savings and a realistic retirement plan. More suggestions and resources can be found at www.militarysaves.org.

The personal financial readiness of our Sailors and their families directly support mission readiness. By being financially fit, Sailors can focus on their mission requirements knowing there is a solid financial plan for the future.