

Congressman Presents Award to Blue Angels

HOLTVILLE, Calif. – The Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, received the Citizen of the Month award at the 20th Annual Holtville Rib Cook-Off Extravaganza January 29 in Holtville, Calif.

Congressman Bob Filner presented the award on behalf of the City of Holtville in appreciation for the team's contribution to Imperial County.

Adam Lyerly, Holtville Athletic Club President, said, "The Blue Angels have a tremendous impact on our area. Having them here raises morale, and we're always happy to have them at our community events."

"El Centro is our home away from home. These pilots spend almost as much time here each year as they do at our home base at NAS Pensacola," said Lt. Katie Kelly, Blue Angels Public Affairs Officer.

The Blue Angels return to Naval Air Facility El Centro, Calif., each winter for 10 weeks of intense training which includes a minimum of 120 flights during a rigorous six-days-a-week, three-flights-per-day schedule. The Imperial Valley's dry, clear weather provides the ideal conditions the team needs to prepare for the air show season.

The Holtville Rib Cook-Off is sponsored by the Holtville Athletic Club, and proceeds from the event benefit area youth activity education and athletic groups.