



The Retiree Newsletter

(USCG—NOAA—PHS)

“Semper Paratus”

July– September 2016

Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty

Issue 3/2016

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MEDICAL RECORDS AND RETIREMENT

By Commander Paul Fawcett
Chief, Medical Administration

Health, Safety and Work Life Service Center

After a successful career, you’ve retired from service and are back in civilian life again. In reviewing your new situation, you may be thinking about your medical needs. You may also be thinking about contacting the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs to see if you are eligible for benefits. Part of these considerations may lead you to wonder where your records are and how to get access to them if you need them. Hopefully, you copied your record when you were separating from service, but if you didn’t, the following information may help.

I didn’t get a copy of my records when I left service. Can I get them now?

When a member separates from service their medical record is digitized and passed to the National Archives and Records Administration for archiving. If you need a copy of your record you can request a copy from the archives at: www.archives.gov. Not all service records are maintained in the archives for a variety of reasons.

I’m filing a claim with the VA for disability benefits. How do I get my medical records to them?

If you’re thinking about filing a disability claim with the VA you’re likely beginning your process at a VA Regional Office (VARO). The Veterans Service Officers at the VAROs have the ability to access your records digitally through a database that all services, including the Coast Guard, upload medical records of separated members to. If your record is not uploaded to that database for some reason, the VA will issue a (by name) request to the Coast Guard for your record. The Coast Guard will conduct a search, provide it if possible and notify the VA if it can’t find it. The VA will adjudicate your claim without your record if it can’t be located. That process is the responsibility of the VA and does not involve the Coast Guard.

I want a copy of my medical records to give to the VA myself. How do I do that?

It’s recommended that you do not do that. A well defined process exists for transferring records from the Coast Guard to the VA. It’s recommended that you go to the VA and request they obtain your records.

I can’t find my medical record. Can I request it from my clinic?

Coast Guard clinics are required to send medical records for separated members to the medical record central cell for archiving within 30 days of the member separating.

(Continued on page 23)

CO's Corner - My first year as CO of PPC is in the books and the last 12 months have been very busy and extremely challenging. I cannot express enough how impressed and grateful I am for having such a dedicated and talented team here at PPC. The work that is being done in support of all PPC customers is incredible and I hope you are seeing the same on your end. That said, we are not perfect and we continually look for ways to improve our processes and effectiveness. Your feedback is extremely important, as it helps us focus our efforts on areas to improve. I encourage you to use our on-line survey form (<http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/survey.asp>), call our customer service representatives (785-339-2200) or contact your individual pay technician. All feedback, positive and constructive, is welcome.

Speaking of feedback, one topic PPC receives regular feedback on is our processing of Veteran Affairs (VA) disability compensation claims and specifically, the time it takes PPC to complete our part. Since a number of you are receiving VA disability compensation (or are waiting for your VA compensation to be processed), my goal is to provide a high-level explanation of PPC's process and what we are doing to improve our timeliness.

Once a member's VA disability rating has been established, the VA forwards a file to PPC for processing. These files are received electronically twice a week. The files are routed to the PPC pay technicians who manually calculate the compensation amount and determine if any retro-compensation is due. The pay technicians complete an Audit Error Worksheet (AEW), which gets audited internally, and is then forwarded to the VA for final processing. PPC forwards the completed AEW files to the VA once per month. PPC also sends a letter to each member notifying them that their AEW has been forwarded to the VA. This process, from receipt of the file from the VA to forwarding the AEW back, can take up to 120 business days.

Why does it take PPC 120 business days to process these claims? Simply stated, our manual calculation and AEW completion processes combined with the volume of claims have resulted in long processing times. The number of VA disability claims PPC has processed annually has grown 1,500%, from 660 claims in 2008 to 9,900 in 2015. During this time, we have not made any major changes to our processes, nor have we added necessary staff to address this growth. We recognize this model is not sustainable. Over the past few months, the staff has been researching software solutions that, if implemented, will automate over 80% of the process and significantly reduce processing times to less than 60 days. While we are still evaluating these options, I am optimistic we may have something in place within six months. In the meantime, the staff is laser focused on processing your claims and getting the AEW's back to the VA as quickly as possible. I appreciate your patience as we address these challenges.

Well that's all for now. We look forward to hearing from you. Enjoy your summer and until next time....
Semper Paratus!!!

CAPT Peter F. Brady, Jr.
Commanding Officer
USCG Pay and Personnel Center



Shopping at the Coast Guard Exchange (CGX), whether in one of our retail stores or through www.shopcgx.com, your online store, allows you to continue to enjoy your MWR dividend and high quality merchandise at a savings. Use the link provided above to visit the store. The website is user-friendly and will become your go-to source for Coast Guard items as well as a myriad number of other products.

U. S. Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center

CAPT Peter F. Brady, Jr.
Commanding Officer

Gary Earling
Executive Director

Debra G. Farley
Chief, Retiree & Annuitant Services

CWO2 David Cota
Chief, Procedures & Development Branch

Matthew O'Connell
Editor

The Retiree Newsletter is a publication containing news of general interest, suggestions, and information to keep Coast Guard, NOAA and PHS retirees and their family members informed of recent developments. This publication shall not be considered authority and is non-record material.

REUNIONS AND NOTICES

Calling all LORANIMALS –The last of the US LORAN Stations has been shut down. Come and join us at: www.Loran-history.info. The web site remembers the Coast Guardsmen who served aboard Loran-A, Loran-C stations and other Loran billets worldwide. These dedicated Coasties are but a few who provided radio navigation signals to millions of navigators. Hosted by CPO Joe Jester, USCG (Ret) and MCPO Bill Dietz, USCG (Ret).

Point of Inquiry. We are writing a story for publication about the history and modernization and updating of US Lighthouses and ATON from 1945 - 1975 and would like to interview anyone who has experience with the USCG during those years, especially east coast around 1960. Of particular interest is the official policy concerning the disposition of the obsolete equipment and instructions to personnel on disposal of Lighthouse lenses and obsolete ATON. Please email or call - steve@chestnutdev.com or 810-599-5147.

USCGC MACKINAW sailors and all other interested parties may be interested to know that the ship, though decommissioned in 2006, now resides at her namesake home of Mackinaw City, Michigan, and is open for public tours and group events. Visit her at the museum website: <http://www.themackinaw.org/>

Grand Canyon Chapter of The Military Officers Association was established as its own chapter on July 16, 2012 with the approval of the national MOAA Board of Directors. It now has 81 members and publishes its own newsletter, The Canyon Echo. To read a copy of the newsletter and to learn more about this chapter visit their website at: <http://www.moaa.org/chapter/AZ11>. You may also call Colonel (Ret) Peter Kloeber at (928) 525-0585.

The Greater St. Louis Area Coast Guard Retiree Council is growing but we have room for a lot more Coast Guard retirees and annuitants. Come aboard and join the crew! If you are interested in participating or have questions, contact Mike Kelly, LCDR (Ret) at mike1940@centurytel.net or Keith Livingstone, MCPO (Ret) at bassbolt@yahoo.com.

Hawaii Coast Guard Retiree Council will meet at 1900 to 2100 at Club 14, Sand Island the second Wednesday of every August, November, February, and May. Contact CAPT Schultz at rschultz369@gmail.com or YNC Anthony Lim at hawaiiiretiree.cc@gmail.com if you have any questions.

TRACEN Yorktown Retiree Council office is located in the lobby on the first floor of Steuben Hall. Office hours are 0800-1400 Monday thru Wednesday or by appointment. Telephone (757) 856-2136 or e-mail us at: yktnretiree@gmail.com. Our website address is: www.cgretireeyktn.com.

Coast Guard Activities, Europe Facebook Page. Any former members of Coast Guard Activities, Europe LORAN C Operations (July 1995 and prior) ACTEUR in London and including Estartit, Lampedusa, Sellia Marina, Sylt, Karagarburn are welcome to join our Facebook page "Coast Guard Activities Europe" and share their memories.

Informal Captains Luncheon. In keeping with a tradition started by RADM Al Manning more than 30 years ago, Coast Guard Captains in the Los Angeles area gather for an informal luncheon on the second Wednesday of every month. Captains in the area are cordially invited to attend. Should you wish to be included on the mailing list, you may advise the mess treasurer, CAPT John H. (Jack) Guest at jack@questgroup.com.

The **Cactus Coast Guard** meets three times a year in the Phoenix, AZ area for brunch and camaraderie. All former, active duty, reserve and retired Coast Guard members are welcome. We have an active e-mail list so please respond by same to artgbeard@aol.com. No e-mail, contact SKCM Art Sloane, USCG, Ret., (480) 802-6810.

All eight **Omega Stations** were shut down Sep 30th, 1997. If you were stationed at either of the two Coast Guard Manned Stations (LaMoure ND, Kaneohe, HI) or with the **Omega Navigation Systems Operations Detail** (ONSOD) and/or the **Omega Navigation Systems Center**, we would like to hear from you with respect to your thoughts and experiences. Check out the website: <http://www.Haikuvalley.com> or email CPO Matthew Bezayiff (Ret) for further info at mbezayiff@icloud.com.

The Pensacola Coast Guard Retiree Council & Coast Guard Friends & Family Organization jointly meet on the second Thursday of each month from 5-9 P.M. at the Golden Corral restaurant (located at the corner of 9th Ave. and Langley Ave. in Pensacola, FL). Folks of all Coast Guard affiliations are welcome. We enjoy your fellowship and sharing of your Coast Guard experiences. For more information, please call Bill Hayden. Phone: (850) 554-3858 or email to: coastguardfamily@yahoo.com.

(Reunions and Notices continued on page 4)

REUNIONS AND NOTICES

Attention retirees in the 9th District:

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Bill Schmidt the new Retiree Services Director for Base Cleveland as per the Coast Guard Retiree Services Program, COMDTINST 1800.5G. My AOR as the director for Base Cleveland is the boundaries of the Ninth Coast Guard District. I can be used as a point of contact for retiree information. I can be reached at (216) 902-6355 and William.A.Schmidt@uscg.mil. I would also like to start a list of CG retirees in the D9 AOR to disseminate information for retirees from myself, D9, Ninth District Retiree Council and MWR. If you would like to be on this list please send your phone number and e-mail address to me at the email listed above.

Those interested in joining the membership of the **First Coast, Coast Guard Retiree Council**, Jacksonville, FL please contact YNCM Bobby Wester, USCG (Ret), at: BWester2549@aol.com

Coast Guard Investigative Association (CGIA) is a professional organization whose purpose is to further camaraderie, friendship and professional working relationships among former and present CGIS and CGI Special Agents and Investigators, Security Managers and Intelligence Officers. We hold annual conventions in order to swap "war" and "sea" stories while renewing old friendships and making new ones. We currently have approximately 150 members and hope to grow. Anyone interested in applying for membership can view the association web page at: www.coastguardinvestigativeassociation.org

The Base New Orleans Retiree Council is now over 70 members strong and looking for more to help serve retirees in the 8th District and the Base. POC is Jim Montgomery, the Volunteer Director at: james.r.montgomery@uscg.mil or (985) 246-9483. It meets the second Wednesday of each month, alternating business meetings and social events. The Base St. Louis Retiree Council, focusing on the northern portion of the District, has PERS2 Tom Fairley as its Active Duty Coordinator at: thomas.e.fairley@uscg.mil.

Retiree-Veterans Events. The below listed website includes a list of events throughout the country of interest to Retirees and Veterans: http://www.hostmtb.org/RADs_and_Other_Retiree-Veterans_Events.html

The Keepers of the Patos Light Lighthouse friends group would like to announce their intention to raise funds for the return and installation of the American flag and flagpole to Patos Island. The flag and pole will be installed, hopefully, by the end of the year. A fundraising effort is underway. Donations can be sent to: c/o Keepers of the Patos Light, "Flag Fund" and sent to this address: PO Box 518, Lopez Island, WA 98261. All donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged by an invitation to the island for the dedication ceremony.

Linda Hudson
President, Keepers of the Patos Light
A 501C3 non-profit organization

The National Capital Region (NCR) Chapter of the Coast Guard Cuttermen Association encourages any active, retired, and former CG Cuttermen in the DC area (officer and enlisted) to become involved in your local chapter. This chapter was commissioned approximately one year ago and is looking to expand our membership. For more information see **Cuttermen Association** website at: <http://www.cuttermen.org/>
NCR Chapter President: CAPT Matt Gimple, USCG can be reached at: matthew.j.gimple@uscg.mil or gimplemj@gmail.com.

The North Texas Coast Guard Association meets twice a year on the last Saturday in October and last Saturday in April. We meet at Pappa's Barbecue, 2231 West Northwest Highway in Dallas. Meeting begins at noon and ends when everybody goes home. Coast Guard members (retired, active, reserve) are invited to attend and share your story with us over great barbecue. For more information contact MCPO Steve Hines at shines57@att.net or call (972) 365-5274.

USCGC ACACIA (WLB 406)/USCGC MESQUITE (WLB 305) Reunion 2016. We will be holding our 3rd annual reunion this summer in Manistee, MI for former crewmembers of the ACACIA/MESQUITE. Any other former or active duty Coast Guard members in the area are also invited. Dates are 15 thru morning of 17 July 2016. For further information, contact YNC Fred Garbo USCG (Ret) at garbos4@hotmail.com.

The Florida Chief Petty Officers' Association (FLCPOA) will hold its semi-annual reunion at the Holiday Inn in Fort Myers, Florida, Sept 28-Oct 2, 2016. Membership in the FLCPOA is open to all who have served as a Chief Petty Officer in the U.S. Coast Guard. For further information go to: FLCPOA.com.

(Reunions and Notices continued on page 5)

REUNIONS AND NOTICES

Philadelphia area retirees and veterans luncheon group seeks local members. Calling all Coast Guard retirees, veterans and active duty who live in or near Philadelphia's northwest suburbs. A Coast Guard luncheon group has been gathering regularly at the Heritage Restaurant on route 113 in Franconia Township for the purpose of swapping yarns and enjoying the company of old shipmates. It's a diverse group that includes members in cutter and aviation service, lighthouses, lightships, ice breakers and loran stations from World War II to the present. Everyone with Coast Guard service is welcome. Contact Bob Dell at: rbard1@verizon.net or (610) 222-4645 to have your name included for luncheon date notices.

The Cape May Maritime Museum is seeking donations to assist in the restoration of the vintage motor life boat CG36538. As an incentive, donors who pledge a minimum tax deductible donation of \$100 will be offered an opportunity to coxswain the boat when she is re-commissioned for private tours and at significant TRACEN celebrations. No donation is too small or large and will be greatly appreciated!

Walt Disney Pictures film of CG36500's rescue of the SS PENDELTON was featured in "The Finest Hours" during its release in January 2016. Not many of these sea-worthy vessels remain. For more info, see: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=BQmllwTKtqU>

Spare 36' TRS Parts are also being sought.

Contact Wayne Adams, BMCM (Ret.) at (609) 231-6525 (www.capemaymaritimemuseum.org).

North Olympic Peninsula Washington - All former active duty, reserve and retired Coast Guard members are welcome to meet for informal brunch and camaraderie. Gathering held 3rd Saturday of each month at Joshua's Restaurant in Port Angeles, WA. POC: Liz Tomisato (360) 681-3777 or bobklapproth@gmail.com.

Access to COA Frontline: Frontline is the monthly publication of the Commissioned Officers Association of the United States Public Health Service, and it contains information that is applicable to both active duty PHS officers and PHS retirees. It is published electronically, and as of four months ago it became freely available on the COA website at www.coausphs.org. Retirees who would like additional information about COA should email COA staffer Donna Sparrow at dsparrow@coausphs.org.

Attention retirees in or having served in District 13: We invite you to affiliate with the Coast Guard Retiree Council Northwest! We keep you in touch with fellow retirees, benefit news and what's happening in the active Coast Guard. No heavy lifting required. Check out our website at <http://www.cgretirenw.org>. If you'd like to receive our E-mail newsletter, please send your contact information (include email) to feedback@cgretirenw.org.

Pterodactyl Gathering - The Coast Guard Aviation Association (Ancient Order of the Pterodactyl) will celebrate the Centennial of Coast Guard Aviation and the 50th anniversary of ATC Mobile at a gathering in Mobile, AL on 26-30 October 2016. Details will be published in the PTEROGRAM and all members and non-members are urged to review the website www.aoptero.org for details. If not a member – please join via the website.

You do not want to miss this one!

Captain George E. Krietemeyer, USCG (Ret)

Inquiry – Researcher documenting early USCG AMIO efforts seeks to interview Coastguardsmen who may have been involved in the boarding/towing of the S/V GOOD FORTUNE, disabled off the coast of Jupiter inlet with 25 Haitian POB on 15 September 1963. Vessel was subsequently towed into Lake Worth Inlet/West Palm Beach. Please email at: dan.laliberte@cox.net or call: (757) 618-4432.

Inquiry – The Lake Ponchartrain Basin Foundation runs the former New Canal Coast Guard Station in New Orleans. They are seeking pictures, documents, etc. from former New Canal crew members to use in educational displays within the lighthouse. Those possessing these items or any related materials of interest may contact LT (ret) Bill Lutman by phone at: (864) 836-2791 or via email at: wglutman59@yahoo.com.

Inquiry – Any Coast Guard personnel familiar with or having information about the loss of an Argentine Air Force DC4/ C-54 Reg TC-48, lost between Howard AFB Panama and Costa Rica on 3 Nov 1965, please contact Bryan Dillon at Bryan.DillonUK@gmail.com.

West Coast EMTEL, IT, TT and Friends Reunion will be held July 15-17, 2016 at the Sunset Bay State Park in Coos Bay, OR. For information please contact David Swanson at 510-390-6312 or by email at: ddswanson@msn.com.

(Reunions and Notices continued on page 6)

REUNIONS AND NOTICES

Contra Costa Chapter of the Military Officers

Association was originally located in Lafayette, CA, until recently. The chapter is now co-located with several other Veterans Service Organizations at the San Ramon Valley Veterans Memorial Building, 400 Hartz Ave, Danville, CA. The chapter had gotten down to only a few members but we are now growing (currently 30 members). Eligibility for Membership: Men and women who are serving or have served on active duty or in one of the reserve components as a commissioned or warrant officer in one of the seven U.S. uniformed services (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Navy, and Public Health Service). We are changing our meeting venues for 2016 and will have them published in our monthly newsletter, "Continuing To Serve." To read a copy of the newsletter and to learn more about this chapter, you can visit our website at:

<http://www.contracostaMOAA.com> or go to California MOAA website <http://www.calmoaa.org/newsletters> . For more in depth information about this chapter or MOAA, contact LCDR Robert Council, USCG (Ret) via email at: chapter.membership@yahoo.com.

USCGC POLAR SEA - USCGC POLAR STAR— There will be a crewmembers reunion on Saturday, August 12th from 1200 - 1500 at Lord Hill Farm in Snohomish, WA. This will be held at the Seattle Area Coast Guard Day Picnic. Visit this website for important information: <http://lordhillfarms.com/>

All Retired CPO/SCPO/MCPO please take notice: As of 13 April 2016 the Eastern Great Lakes Chapter of the CPOA based at USCG Sector Buffalo, NY was instituted servicing Eastern Ohio, Northern Pennsylvania and Central/Western New York. If you are interested in becoming a member of this Chapter and/or the CPOA please contact Herb Gierschke, ETC (Ret) via email at : herbert.a.gierschke@uscg.mil or at his work phone: (716) 843-9396. You may also contact MKC Joe Lipp, at email: joseph.j.lipp@uscg.mil or at his work phone: (716) 843-9588.

USCG Lightship Sailors Association will be holding their annual reunion in Norfolk VA, October 10 thru 12 2016. Contact Information: Bill Quigley at phone number: (603) 966-8690 or at email: wanderingmanitook1@msn.com. To learn more about the USCG Lightship Sailors Association, see our website: www.uscglightsailsailors.org.

USCGC INGHAM/UNIMAK – Researcher documenting early USCG AMIO efforts seeks to interview crewmembers, who may have been involved in the boarding of the Haitian M/V Esperancia in March, 1982. During this month, INGHAM boarded the M/V ESPERANCIA as it exited the Bahamas enroute Miami. UNIMAK had boarded the vessel earlier in the month at the south end of the Bahamas chain. Please email at: dan.laliberte@cox.net or call: (757) 618-4432.

327' Secretary Class Cutter Celebration and Reunion

The USCGC INGHAM and USCGC CAMPBELL Associations are planning a joint reunion, 27-29 September, 2016 at the USCGC INGHAM Maritime Museum and National Historic Landmark in Key West, Florida. Please contact www.uscgcingham.org for more information and to celebrate the 80th Birthday of the original Secretary Class Cutters. All former Secretary Class Shipmates are invited. Initial POC for INGHAM shipmates is Matt Krainski at comet1996@aol.com and Rick Croasdale for CAMPBELL at: captcrow327@aol.com. Former shipmates from BIBB, DUANE, HAMILTON, SPENCER, and TANEY may contact their Associations or Marty Moynihan at coeagle17@yahoo.com. Additional information is available on the INGHAM Website and from your Associations. Photo of the USCGC INGHAM below from USCG Historian's website.



F64406169 NAVY YARD, NEW YORK MAY 28, 1944
U.S.C.G.C. W 35.

Historical note: The "Treasury" class Coast Guard cutters (sometimes referred to as the "Secretary" or 327-foot class) were all named for former secretaries of the Treasury Department. The Cutter *Ingham* was named for Samuel D. Ingham, born in 1779, who became a well-known manufacturer and a long time member of the House of Representatives from Pennsylvania. He was appointed Secretary of the Treasury in 1829 by President Andrew Jackson and he served until 1831.

(Reunions and Notices continued on page 7)

REUNIONS AND NOTICES

Coast Guard Tug Association – Our 8th Reunion will be held in Savannah, GA, Thursday, 15 September – Sunday, 18 September 2016 at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Savannah. This organization is dedicated to all Coasties and Navy vets who served aboard Coast Guard/ Navy Tugs and supportive civilian tug friends; always looking for new members to our “band of pirates.” Please visit our web site at www.cg-tugs.org for details of reunion registration and planned events or contact President, CWO3 C.A. (Sandy) Schwaab, USCG (Ret) at snsschwaab@cox.net or (401) 364-1004. Photo below of CGC Morro Bay (WTGB 106) and CGC Bollard (WYTL 65614), as they appear on the above listed website.



USCGC SOUTHWIND (WAGB-280) - the fifth reunion will be held September 15 to September 18 2016 in San Antonio, Texas. For more information visit www.southwind280.com or contact CWO4 (BOSN) Ed Clancy, USCG (Ret) at (904) 242-9070 or by email at: clancyedward@bellsouth.net. USCGC Southwind photo below, as it appears on the above listed website.



USCG National Association of Former Stewards and Stewardmates, INC., will be holding its reunion from August 5th to August 7th, 2016 at the Navy Lodge New York Building, #408 N. Path Road, Staten Island, New York 10305. For more information contact: CWO (Ret) Artis Copeland at (718) 525-2639.

Editor's note:

When submitting a reunion or notice to The Retiree Newsletter, it is helpful if you list some necessary information:

- The lead: the organization you represent
- Location: this is simple enough: the actual site of your reunion; if it is a hotel, it's a good idea to list the hotel, city and the phone number of the hotel.
- Extra information: an events package at the hotel. Note: some hotels will offer their larger parties a discount or extra amenities; they will usually give you a code number or code word to designate your event in your advertisement.
- The most important portion of your notice is the Point of Contact (POC). Your attendees need a person to talk to, someone who is coordinating the event and can answer questions or share clarifying information with your shipmates.
- If you have created a website for your event, list it.
- It's a good idea to have both an email and a phone number for your POC.
- It's okay to be pithy. Just don't be untoward. We like pithy; we don't like untoward.
- We reserve the right to alter your creativity towards uniformity.
- Lastly, feel free to call me at (785) 339-3611. That's my direct number. I will always call you back as soon as I can. After all, I am your shipmate too.

Information relating to non-federal entities is provided via this official Coast Guard newsletter as a matter of general interest to retired Coast Guard personnel. The organizations might engage in fundraising activities. The Coast Guard cannot and does not officially endorse these non-federal entities or their activities, including their fundraising activities. The Coast Guard cannot and does not urge anyone to donate to any non-federal entity.

RETIREE PAYDAYS FOR CY 2016

Feb 1	June 1	September 30
March 1	July 1	November 1
April 1	August 1	December 1
April 29	September 1	December 30

Editor's note: several of our customers have asked for the paydays to be listed in a larger font for posting. We have heard you: just cut on the dotted line.

TRICARE YOUNG ADULT

Children of retirees continue to be eligible for military benefits including TRICARE until the age of 21, unless the dependent child joins active duty, or marries. At the age of 21, the dependent must be enrolled full time in school to continue benefits premium free until the age of 23. TRICARE Young Adult is a plan that qualified adult children can purchase after eligibility for "regular" TRICARE coverage ends at age 21 (or 23 if enrolled in college). To enroll a dependent child in TRICARE Young Adult please contact your regional provider of TRICARE.

North-Health Net
1-877-874-2273
West-United Healthcare
1-877-988-9378
South-Humana Military
1-800-444-5445

CG RETIREE DEPENDENCY CHANGES: AN ILLUSTRATIVE CASE

By Bob Hinds, Retiree Services Program Manager

A CG Retiree was owed over \$3K in back retired pay due to a retroactive VADC award adjustment which went back beyond the 6 year claims limitation. Delay in back retired pay was determined to be the retiree's fault for not informing VA of a dependency change that affected his VADC award back to 2004.

This case helps to illustrate a very important point that CG RETIREES MUST INFORM CG PPC-RAS, AND THE VA IF AWARDED VADC, OF ANY & ALL DEPENDENCY CHANGES.

A DEPENDENCY CHANGE OCCURS WHENEVER A DEPENDENT IS LOST OR GAINED THROUGH DEATH, DIVORCE, ANNULMENT, MARRIAGE, OR BIRTH.

COAST GUARD EXCHANGE AND MWR: YOUR FIRST STOP FOR NONPAY COMPENSATION PROGRAMS

CGX is part of the United States Coast Guard Community Services Command with a vision to be your destination of choice for exchange and MWR benefits.

Our mission is to deliver outstanding value, service, and convenience to the Coast Guard family and support the readiness, retention, and resiliency of those who protect and defend the homeland.

As retirees of the Coast Guard, you and your dependents have earned the privilege of continued use of the exchange and MWR programs of the Coast Guard.



Want to find the closest CGX near you or sign up to receive our weekly One Shot Wednesday deals emailed directly to your inbox? It's easy; just visit shopCGX.com and sign up for great savings. And if you sign up to receive CGX emails, we'll send you an advanced look at our Coast Guard Birthday Sale before it's available in stores, July 27 - August 7.

Not living close to a Coast Guard exchange? No problem! Many items that are available through the 64 Coast Guard exchange stores may be found on line. And even if you live near one of our exchanges, the convenience of shopping online brings the savings and tax-free values of Coast Guard exchange as close as your computer, tablet, or smart phone. More products will be continuously added to shopCGX.com, but we need your feedback to keep growing. Contact us directly by email at customerservice@shopcgx.com. We want to hear from you.

Price comparisons show that CGX offers an average savings of 20% or more when compared to private sector stores "outside the gate." And at CGX, a portion of every purchase is returned in a dividend to your Coast Guard MWR programs. In fact, over the last ten years, your CGX has contributed over \$21M to support Coast Guard-wide MWR programs.

So, with the 20% savings and the return to MWR, shopping at your Coast Guard exchange pays you back twice!

Looking to take advantage of your MWR benefits? Check out our central MWR website at www.uscg.mil/mwr and experience the opportunities available to you through the MWR programs of the larger commands within the Coast Guard.

In addition, CGX stores continue their ongoing mission to remodel and renovate existing stores to better serve you.



Over the past 10 years, we've reinvested over \$22M to provide our Coast Guard shipmates and their families the shopping experience they want and deserve.

It's all a part of thanking you for your service to the Coast Guard as well as recognizing that you remain part of the Coast Guard family forever.

We want you to take advantage of the benefits that you earned!

Use the Coast Guard exchange and MWR programs for your first choice in exchange and MWR benefits!

Alexander Hamilton—Original Plankowner of the U.S. Coast Guard

**William Thiesen, Atlantic Area Historian
United States Coast Guard**

A few armed vessels, judiciously stationed at the entrances of our ports, might at a small expense be made useful sentinels of the laws.—Federalist Paper #12 (27 November 1787)

In the above quote, author Alexander Hamilton described a fleet of Federal vessels that he believed the newly created United States required to enforce tariff laws and interdict smuggling. Considered the father of the United States Coast Guard, Hamilton played an integral role in the formation and development of the government of the United States. When the new government got under way in 1789, Hamilton was appointed the first Secretary of the Treasury. He began at once to place the nation's disorganized finances on a sound footing. In a series of reports, he presented a program not only to stabilize national finances but also to shape the future of the country as a developing industrial nation. He proposed establishment of a national bank, funding of the national debt, assumption of state war debts and the encouragement of manufacturing. In addition, he was the driving force behind Congress' creation of a revenue marine service, the precursor to the Coast Guard.

Born in Charlestown on the West Indian island of Nevis on January 11, 1757, Hamilton immigrated to New York in 1772. Although not yet twenty years of age, by 1774 he authored many widely read political publications. Not long after the start of the American Revolution, Hamilton received the captaincy of an artillery unit and fought in the principal campaigns of 1776. In 1777, he advanced to the rank of lieutenant colonel, joined the staff of General Washington as secretary and aide-de-camp and soon became Washington's close confidant. Hamilton ended the war as a lieutenant colonel commanding an infantry regiment, which he led with great success during the siege at Yorktown. Already in 1787, Hamilton had articulated the need for the revenue marine in the Federalist Papers. As the fledgling nation sought to combat smugglers seeking to avoid payment of import tariffs, Hamilton advised Congress to build a fleet of ten cutters to help direct ships to specific ports of entry along the East Coast of the United States. Hamilton's small fleet proved the basis for establishment of a revenue marine, later known as the Revenue Cutter Service. Congress adopted Hamilton's plan on August 4th, 1790, which the Coast Guard celebrates as its birth date. Since the Continental Navy and marines disbanded following the conclusion of the American Revolution, this revenue marine was the nation's only sea service in the early years of the new republic.

Hamilton assigned revenue cutters to the East Coast's ten major seaports, allowing for import tariff collection, critically important to the economic viability of the nation. In addition to their law enforcement role, the fleet of cutters rendered aid and assistance as needed "for the protection of lives and property at sea," a humanitarian life-saving role that defines the Coast Guard to this day.



Photo of USCGC HAMILTON courtesy of USCG

Hamilton resigned from the cabinet in January 1795 and never returned to public office. His two last major political acts came in 1800 and 1804 and both targeted aspiring political leader Aaron Burr. When Burr and Thomas Jefferson tied in the 1800 presidential election, Hamilton used his influence in the House of Representatives to secure Jefferson's presidency. In 1804, Hamilton also maneuvered to defeat Burr's chances of becoming governor of New York. In response to Hamilton's political moves against him, Burr challenged Hamilton to a duel on the pretext that the latter had expressed a "despicable opinion" of him. The duel took place in New Jersey, on Wednesday, July 11th, 1804. Burr mortally wounded Hamilton, who died the next day. Hamilton was laid to rest at Trinity Church in New York City.

In 1790, Alexander Hamilton established a service that has stood the test of time to become the modern Coast Guard. He was the first member of an unbroken long blue line of Coast Guard men and women that has marched forward for over 225 years. Today, Hamilton's name graces the hull of the newest National Security Cutter, CGC *Alexander Hamilton* (WMSL-753), the sixth Coast Guard cutter to bear his name.



USCG Retirements

Name	Grade	Date of Retirement	Name	Grade	Date of Retirement
ADAMS,RANDALL	LCDR	20160314	FRAZIER,STEFFEN	FS1	20160501
ADNEY,MARIA	LT	20160301	FREEZE,RACHEL	F&S3	20160321
AKIM,KELLY	INV3	20160501	GARZA,JESSICA	FSC	20160501
ALHOLM,KEITH	PACM	20160501	GEB0,JOHN	MSTC	20160501
ANNONEN,JOHN	LCDR	20160401	GIOVANNELLI,MICHAEL	YN2	20160401
ARMSTRONG,FRANZ	BMC	20160501	GLICKMAN,MARSHALL	MKC	20160301
ASHWORTH,MERL	YN1	20160424	GLINTENKAMP,GARY	MKCS	20160318
ATKINSONADAMS,RUTH	YNC	20160316	GRAY,DANIEL	LCDR	20160401
BALLARD,LEANNE	AET2	20160405	GREGORY,GARRETT	MST3	20160505
BARELA,GEOFFREY	LCDR	20160301	HADAWAY,BILLY	DCC	20160401
BARGER,ROY	MSTCM	20160321	HAESKE,OLIVER	ME1	20160301
BARTOSKOVA,DITA	YN1	20160501	HALEY,KENT	LCDR	20160501
BERRY,ROBERT	HSCM	20160301	HANSEN,ERIN	LT	20160301
BOOTHE,CARL	ENG4	20160501	HARBOUR,WILLIAM	MST1	20160518
BRABHAM,JAMES	PS1	20160313	HAUN,DIXON	BOSN4	20160313
BRIDE,JAMES	BOSN4	20160301	HEALY,JAMES	CAPT	20160301
BROOKS,JASON	LT	20160501	HEALY,ROBERT	ENG4	20160501
BROWN,ANCIL	MSSE3	20160501	HERMAN,CHARLES	YN1	20160501
BROWN,RICHARD	BM1	20160321	HILES,SAMUEL	AET2	20160506
BROWN,QUINCY	ISM2	20160401	HIROMS,JAMES	BMC	20160507
BROWN,GEORGE	ET1	20160405	HOHN,PETER	OS1	20160301
BRYERS,VICTORIA	OSC	20160310	HOLOM,TERRY	LCDR	20160501
BUERGER,TROY	LT	20160401	HONAN,IAN	ME2	20160315
BURRIDGE,DWIGHT	ET1	20160407	HORN,RALPH	BMCM	20160330
BURTON,JAMES	MSTC	20160413	HORN,MARIA	SK3	20160404
CAMBRE,HENRY	MSTC	20160304	HOWARD,CHRISTOPHER	LCDR	20160401
CANNETTE,JIMMY	BM2	20160405	HUDSON,JULIET	CDR	20160501
CARRIER,CHARLES	MKC	20160411	HUFF,SCOTT	MKCM	20160319
CARRIERE,STEVEN	BOSN3	20160501	HUFTALEN,JEREMY	FSC	20160501
CHRISTENSEN,JEFFREY	MKCS	20160330	INGALSBE,JAMES	CAPT	20160401
CLOSE,JEFFREY	LCDR	20160401	JACKSON,REGINALD	YN1	20160506
COLBURN,TONY	OS1	20160506	JEFFS,ADAM	FS3	20160405
COLLINS,RUBY	CAPT	20160401	JOHN,NIGEL	LT	20160401
CONROY,MAURA	BM3	20160404	JOHNSON,PAULETTE	YNC	20160508
CRAIG,JANA	BMC	20160501	JOHNSTON,DAVID	CDR	20160501
CRAIG,JEFFREY	LCDR	20160501	KNIGHT,JAMES	CAPT	20160501
CURLETT,MICHAEL	BM1	20160501	KORPIEWSKI,JOSEPH	AMT2	20160501
CURRAN,THOMAS	ENG4	20160306	KRUG,RANDALL	SKC	20160425
DAMELIO,CHRISTOPHER	BOSN3	20160314	LAMPMAN,CARL	EM3	20160506
DANIEL,DEMOSTHENES	EMC	20160501	LANG,JEFFREY	MSTCM	20160501
DAWS,GEORGE	LTJG	20160328	LASLEY,MATTHEW	BMCS	20160501
DELETT0,ROBERT	CDR	20160322	LEMAY,JAMES	BM3	20160506
DELGADO,FELIX	LCDR	20160401	LEOCE,DONNA	LCDR	20160501
DELL,ANGELA	BM1	20160501	LEWIS,GREGORY	MSTCM	20160402
DELUCCI,CHRISTOPHER	DC1	20160501	LIGHTNER,JON	CADET	20160509
DEROUSSEAU,BRIAN	MECS	20160309	LINCOLN,STEFANIE	CDR	20160501
DIETRICH,ROBERT	SKC	20160501	LINDSAY,MICHAEL	BOSN4	20160401
DOMBECK,DEBORAH	CAPT	20160519	LINDSEY,CHARLES	BMCM	20160501
DONAHUE,WILLIAM	BMC	20160401	LORA,CESAR	SK1	20160401
DUCKWORTH,JAMES	CDR	20160421	MAHER,MARY	BM1	20160304
DURHAM,CURTIS	LT	20160301	MALVESTI,JESSE	FS1	20160401
EASLEY,BRANDON	AMT1	20160301	MANUTO,JOHN	BM1	20160324
EDDLEMAN,CLAYTON	AMTC	20160501	MARTIN,VINCENT	AMT2	20160501
ELLIOTT,GEORGE	CAPT	20160417	MARTIN-RANFT,GARY	CAPT	20160423
ENGBRING,TOM	CDR	20160501	MASTERS,DERRICK	CDR	20160501
ETIEMBLE,MAURICE	BOSN4	20160301	MCCARTY,ROBERT	MKC	20160418
FAIRBANKS,JOHN	MKC	20160501	MCCOY,PHILLIP	SK2	20160401
FISHER,RICHARD	MKC	20160501	MCGRATH,EDWARD	MK2	20160501
FITZGERALD,BRION	CAPT	20160319	MCKINLEY,MICHAEL	FS1	20160404
FITZGIBBON,DIANE	YN1	20160317	MENCHACA,DAVID	CDR	20160422
FLUKE,CHARLES	LCDR	20160501	MIRANDA,REYNALDO	MK2	20160329

(Retirements continued on page 12)

(Retirements continued from page 11)

MOORE, JULE	BM3	20160316
MOORECOOK, STEPHANIE	F&S3	20160424
MORAN, JAMES	CDR	20160501
MORRIS, KENNETH	AMTCM	20160501
MOSER, KENNETH	CDR	20160501
NESPER, ROBERT	LT	20160516
NIEDER, MATTHEW	BM1	20160501
NOZ, JOSHUA	MK2	20160328
ORTEGA, BRANDON	BM1	20160301
PERCIAK, MATTHEW	CDR	20160501
PIZANA, MART	LT	20160501
POLENDO, PRISCILLA	ET2	20160420
PONDER, JESSE	MKC	20160501
POWERS, DION	AMTC	20160401
POWERS, REBECCA	SNOS	20160417
PRINCE, JEFFERY	MSTCM	20160401
PRINCE, LAURA	YN1	20160523
QUENNEVILLE, TREVOR	BM2	20160405
RAHN, JASON	MKC	20160501
REED, LON	F&S3	20160301
REID, JAMES	AMT2	20160501
REMEN, FRED	CAPT	20160311
RICHE, JOSEPH	MK1	20160506
ROBINSON, BRIAN	MKC	20160301
ROLSTON, TIMOTHY	CDR	20160421
ROUSH, MICHAEL	MKCM	20160506
RUNKLE, JOSHUA	FN	20160405
RUSSELL, PEYTON	LCDR	20160501
RUTH, DUSTIN	BMC	20160501
SADLER, BRIAN	LT	20160401
SALDANA, CHARLES	BMC	20160301
SHAFFER, HANS	EMC	20160514
SHUGHROU, TIMOTHY	LT	20160401
SILVA, JOHN	F&S4	20160502
SKILLMAN, CHAD	LCDR	20160501
SPAKE, WILLIAM	ET3	20160313
SPANER, JONATHAN	CAPT	20160501
SPOTTS, JAMES	CAPT	20160501
TEFERA, DAWIT	OS1	20160501
TELESCO, KYLE	LT	20160422
THOMAS, ROBERT	FS1	20160405
TODD, ROGER	LT	20160501
TOLLEFSON, SAMANTHA	BM3	20160405
TORRES, MICHAEL	MK1	20160401
UFER, JOHN	EM2	20160319
UTLEY, HOLLEIGH	YNC	20160501
VADEN, SCOTT	ETC	20160501
VALLEJO, DAVID	MK1	20160506
VAZQUEZ, JUAN	SKCM	20160301
VINCENT, JEFFREY	MKC	20160504
WHITLEY, BRIAN	AMT2	20160501
WILL, MATTHEW	LCDR	20160501
WILLCOX, JOHN	YN1	20160429
WILLCOX, JAMES	YN1	20160429
WILLHITE, JERRY	MKC	20160317
WILLIAMS, JOHN	YNC	20160315
WISNIEWSKI, MICHA	ENG2	20160501
WOLF, JOSEPH	LT	20160416
WOLFE, RICHARD	YNCM	20160505
YONKER, JOSEPH	MSTC	20160501
YOTKA, THOMAS	MKC	20160428
ZUPKOW, STEPHAN	ITCM	20160501

CG RETIREE CUSTOMER SERVICE**1-800-PPC-USCG/1-800-772-8724**

KREPP, LAWRENCE	CAPT	20160501
MORAN, MARK	CAPT	20160401
MEADOR, STEPHEN	CDR	20160401
HAVLVERSON, HARRIS	CAPT	20160501


**COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE
U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE**
America's Health Responders

ALBERT, ANGELINA	CAPT	20160501
ANDERSON, SCOTT	CAPT	20160301
BEGAY, WINONA	CAPT	20160301
BERG, BRIAN	CAPT	20160401
BURNS, MAE	CDR	20160301
CHRISTOPHER, STEPHEN	CDR	20160301
CLINE, DANIEL	CAPT	20160501
DARDER-BONILLA, SHEILA	LT	20160301
DIAZ, JESSICA	CDR	20160301
DOHERTY, CIELO	CAPT	20160501
DORAZIO, PETER	CAPT	20160501
DOSS, THOMAS	CAPT	20160501
FRIDKIN, SCOTT	CAPT	20160401
GEORGE, MELISSA	CDR	20160501
GRAJALES, OLGA	CAPT	20160401
GREEN, JEFFREY	CAPT	20160501
HAMPTON, EUGENE	CDR	20160301
HARRIS, ROBERT	CDR	20160401
HATCH, RICHARD	CAPT	20160401
HAWKINS POPE, JANET	CAPT	20160501
HEALY, SHARYN	CAPT	20160301
HOGAN, BRIAN	CDR	20160501
HOLLAND, JO	CAPT	20160301
IWASZKO, LISA	CAPT	20160301
KASSLER, WILLIAM	CAPT	20160501
KOHN, ELISE	CAPT	20160501
LAZARUS, ELLEN	CAPT	20160501
LEEMHUIS, MARY	CAPT	20160301
LOHR, EDWARD	CAPT	20160401
MARINICH, PETER	CAPT	20160401
MATTORANO, DINO	CDR	20160401
MEAD, GRANT	CDR	20160501
MELANSON, CINDY	CAPT	20160301
OSORIO, ANA	CAPT	20160501
OTOOLE, JERRY	CDR	20160401
PANAGIS, JAMES	CAPT	20160301
PATTERSON, NELLIS	LCDR	20160401
PERTOWSKI, CAROL	CAPT	20160301
RIVERS, RICK	CAPT	20160401
SAFRAN, MARC	CAPT	20160401
SPARENBOG, STEVEN	CAPT	20160501
STURM, KIMBERLY	CAPT	20160301
TEMLOCK, SIDNEY	CAPT	20160501
THOMPSON, DAVID	CDR	20160301
TRUONG, HAI	CDR	20160501
WILLIAMS, STEVEN	CAPT	20160301
WILLIAMS, JAMES	CAPT	20160401
WILLIE, SIONA	CAPT	20160401

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL**FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS**

IMPORTANT TRDP BENEFIT INFORMATION FOR GUARD/RESERVE PRE-RETIREES, ALL RETIRED RESERVIST, INCLUDING "GRAY AREA" RETIREES

National Guard and Reserve personnel who elect to enroll in the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) within 120 days after retirement are eligible to skip the 12-month waiting period normally required for certain TRDP benefits (such as crowns, bridges, implants and braces).

It is important to note that as with all new retirees, the 120-day period during which a "gray area" retired Reservist or Guard member can enroll in the TRDP to qualify for the 12-month waiting period waiver begins with his/her retirement effective date, **not the date he/she reaches age 60.**

Eligible retirees and their family members can find answers to their questions about the program as well as enroll using Delta Dental's dedicated TRDP web site at www.trdp.org or emailing Joe Montoya at jmontoya@delta.org.

Editor's note: Kudos to Commander (ret) Cliff Samuel for passing this along.



CG RETIREE SERVICES PROGRAM

By Bob Hinds, CG RSP Manager
Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil, 202-475-5451

"BRAVO-ZULU"

For this issue of the newsletter, I'd like to extend a thank you and BZ to CAPT Jim Montgomery, USCG (ret), for his dedicated leadership and support of the Coast Guard Retiree Services Program and retiree community. Following retirement from active duty in 2011, Jim served until 2015 as a CG civilian working as an Organizational Performance Consultant at Base New Orleans. During this time, Jim began volunteering in support of the CG Retiree Services Program where he helped establish the program framework and led the stand-up of the Base New Orleans Retiree Services Desk and Regional Retiree Council. Jim served as the Retiree Services Desk Volunteer Director, where he faithfully "stood the watch," manning the Retiree Help Desk, coordinating retiree volunteer activities, and publishing a retiree newsletter for more than 11,000 grateful readers in 26 U.S States. A comment by one reader captures the sentiment of most – *"These are by far the most cogent and relevant sources of information for CG Retirees... I appreciate the fine work you and the Council do on our behalf."*

In 2016, Jim remains *Semper Paratus* and always standing the watch. As Co-Chair of the New Orleans Retiree Council, earlier this year, he planned, coordinated, and served as head Chef for a traditional CG Mess Night (Dining In) at Base NOLA where he brought in the color guard from American Legion Post 24, Bogalusa, Louisiana, winners of the national color guard title in 2014 and 2015. At this event, for a CG CDR who retired in 2010 after 24 years of active duty and Reserve service with no recognition, Jim honored the CDR (to his surprise) with an official retirement ceremony attended by 18 of his family and friends, and included a letter of appreciation from the CG Reserve Force Master Chief (CGRF-MC) and a coin presented by RADM Whitehead. He also recently acquired and delivered burial uniform ribbons to a retired CG CWO – encouraging all to "pray he won't need them for a long time, regardless what his doctor says." As a member of the CG National Retiree Council, during the Council's 2016 annual meeting at CG Headquarters in Washington, DC, Jim expertly facilitated Council discussions and development of recommended changes to Commandant Instruction 1800.5G, which will govern the CG Retiree Services Program in the future.

Jim is currently coordinating efforts for participation in a July 4th parade in Bogalusa, LA, including a CG float and retiree T-shirts, promoting visibility of the Coast Guard and the New Orleans Retiree Council. Just as he did as a devoted CG Captain, civilian employee, and CG Auxiliary member, Jim continues to serve in retirement. Thank you and BZ Jim! I look forward to working with you in continued service to the Coast Guard and our retiree community.

GOOD DENTAL HEALTH AND GOOD OVERALL HEALTH GO HAND IN HAND

With its emphasis on diagnostic and preventive care, the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program can help you avoid bigger problems down the road.

Did you know that more than 120 different diseases are first detected in the mouth? And that going for your annual dental exams can actually help in detecting heart disease, diabetes, pancreatic cancer and more? In fact, swollen gums, mouth ulcers, dry mouth and excessive gum problems can often be signs of bigger health problems. The good news is that most dental diseases are actually preventable.

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) was created and designed with this in mind. When seeing a network dentist, TRDP enrollees have the peace of mind of knowing that they get two annual exams, two cleanings (or three for Type 1/Type 2 diabetics) and an x-ray covered at 100%—with no out-of-pocket costs. This allows enrollees to recoup almost all of their annual premiums **and** ensures their dental and overall health is being well cared for.

Here are some other reasons why more than 1.5 million current enrollees find the TRDP to be such a good value and an important partner in their health:

- As soon as your enrollment takes effect, you're covered for routine services, fillings, root canals, gum surgery, oral surgery and dental accidents. After 12 months of continuous enrollment, you'll get crowns, dentures, dental implants, braces and more.
- The TRDP offers a large nationwide network of dentists to help you save money on your covered dental care. To find a network dentist near you, use the "Find a Dentist" link at trdp.org.
- Network dentists have agreed to accept reduced fees for covered services—there are no surprise costs beyond the expected cost share and deductible, where applicable.
- Each enrollee gets a generous \$1,300 annual maximum, a \$1,200 annual dental accident maximum and a \$1,750 lifetime maximum for braces.
- The TRDP coordinates benefits with other dental plans, allowing you to maximize your coverage under both plans and reduce or even eliminate your out-of-pocket dental costs.

Visit trdp.org to enroll and choose the method that works best for you. Enroll online using the Quick Link to the Beneficiary Web Enrollment (BWE) site, or print an application from the TRDP website and mail it to Delta Dental along with the correct prepayment amount.

After enrolling, you're encouraged to register for the online Consumer Toolkit®, where you can: verify your program eligibility; review your benefits and coverage levels; remaining maximums and deductibles; check on the status of your processed claims and claim payments; sign up for paperless (electronic) Explanation of Benefits statements.

Your oral health plays a big role in your overall well-being and quality of life. **Enroll in the TRDP today**—and enjoy regular, affordable dental care that's essential for your lifelong health and peace of mind.

SALARY AND BENEFITS WHEN YOU BECOME A USPHS DENTIST

- Competitive starting pay that increases with promotions and years of service
- Loan repayment potential
- Health care and dental care for officers at no cost
- Low-cost health and dental care for your family
- Healthcare benefits continue during retirement
- Low-cost group life insurance
- Thirty days paid vacation per year
- Paid sick leave, maternity leave and federal holiday leave
- Retirement plan with benefits eligibility beginning after 20 years of service
- Thrift Savings Plan (similar to a 401(k))
- For more information: <http://www.usphs.gov/profession/dentist/>

USCGC BOUTWELL (WHEC 719) 48 YEARS OF SERVICE



USCGC BOUTWELL photo courtesy of USCG Historians Office

homeport once again to Alameda, CA in October, 1990. Finally in 2011, following the decommissioning of CGC HAMILTON, the CGC HAMILTON crew relieved BOUTWELL's crew and changed homeport to San Diego, CA.

Throughout her distinguished career, BOUTWELL served in domestic and international theaters, flexing her might in dynamic and austere environments from the Caribbean, Mediterranean, and Persian Gulf, to the North Atlantic, Eastern Pacific, and Bering Sea. As her time in the Coast Guard fleet comes to a close, CGC BOUTWELL will be remembered as an ambassador for global maritime cooperation, combatant of narco-terrorism, protector of living marine resources and safe haven for those in distress.

CGC BOUTWELL leaves a long proud legacy of honorable service to her country. In the early 1980s, CGC BOUTWELL participated in one of the greatest search and rescue operations when a fire broke out in the engine room of the cruise ship PRINSENDAM. The efforts of CGC BOUTWELL and other entities led to the rescue of over 500 survivors from frigid Alaskan waters.

In the late 1980s, CGC BOUTWELL interdicted 72 tons of marijuana on the M/V ENCOUNTER BAY, a record for a single interdiction on the west coast at that time. In 1997, CGC BOUTWELL participated in Operation BORDER SHIELD. During this patrol, CGC BOUTWELL, with the assistance of U.S. and Mexican naval forces, interdicted 2.7 tons of cocaine. In 2009, CGC BOUTWELL earned the Coast Guard Unit Commendation for her work as a component of the USS BOXER Expeditionary Strike Group. While patrolling the Gulf of Aden, CGC BOUTWELL successfully demonstrated the Coast Guard's unique capabilities to combat full spectrum threats on the high seas.

Furthermore, CGC BOUTWELL made port in Libya, a first for a U.S. Naval warship in over 40 years.



The crew of the 378-foot USCGC BOUTWELL mans the rails for the last time during the decommissioning of the ship at Naval Base San Diego, March 16, 2016. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Rob Simpson).

(Continued on next page)

2016 USPHS SYMPOSIUM IN OKLAHOMA CITY

By

RADM Bob Williams, USPHS (Ret)
Past-President, PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation

Over the past two years, I have had the sheer pleasure and privilege of serving as President of the Public Health Service Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health.

I consider the Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Corps (active duty, retirees and families) as a family. All uniformed services feel much the same the way. When you take an oath with your colleagues to defend the Constitution against all enemies, there is a solidarity that is forged immediately. As you learn more about those with whom you serve, this comradeship slowly matures into something broader and more lasting. So, it is not unusual that many of us consider the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium an annual family reunion (with about a 1,000 of our closest relatives).

The 2016 USPHS Symposium in Oklahoma City was such an event – a reunion of sorts. I reconnected with old friends and saw how today's active duty service members are protecting, promoting, and advancing the health and safety of the Nation. Active duty officers volunteered to provide dental and optometric services at a free clinic organized by Remote Area Medical of Oklahoma. Dozens of officers learned about resilient leadership for individuals, teams, and communities by interacting with local, state, and Tribal officials about their responses to situations affecting their communities throughout the Sooner State. Officers renewed their hands-on skills for advanced cardiac life support, basic life support, and tobacco cessation interventions with their patients.

Plenary speakers in Oklahoma City included HHS Acting Assistant Secretary for Health Dr. Karen DeSalvo, 19th Surgeon General VADM Vivek Murthy, Dr. Mike Parkinson of UPMC Health Plan who deliver the Luther Terry Lecture, panel discussion of Oklahoma's approach to reducing diabetes, CDC experts who updated the audience on Zika virus, and the latest developments to combat substance abuse nationwide. It was quite a week.

Retired officers gathered for a breakfast with guest speaker Deputy Surgeon General RADM Sylvia Trent-Adams and a presentation on the National Memory Screening Program from the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. RADM Joan Hunter, director of the Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness, asked retired officers to stay connected with the Office of the Surgeon General. She will likely publish an article in The Retiree Newsletter regarding her vision for our involvement. Stay tuned.

The 2017 USPHS Symposium will head to Chattanooga, Tennessee, the week of June 5-8. Please mark your calendars. I will pass the baton of Foundation President to RADM Mike Milner, USPHS (Ret). Under Mike's leadership, the Foundation will continue to host our "family's annual conference." I hope to see you there.

(For more information: www.phscof.org)

USCGC BOUTWELL, CONT'D

During her last year of service, CGC BOUTWELL continued to support counter-narcotic operations in the Eastern Pacific Ocean and in 2014 was awarded the U.S. Interdiction Coordinator's Award for Maritime Interdiction and Apprehension. To current and past CGC BOUTWELL crews, plank owners, shellbacks (Golden, Emerald, Horned, or otherwise), subjects of the Golden Dragon, Blue Noses, and even Pollywogs: well done. Throughout 48 years of service, CGC BOUTWELL and her crews admirably served the Coast Guard and the Nation.

Congratulations and Bravo Zulu.

Admiral Paul F. Zukunft, Commandant sends

(Source: ALCOAST 094/16)



NATIONAL COAST GUARD MUSEUM ASSOCIATION, INC.

May 19, 2016

Fellow Coast Guard Retirees:

It is with great pleasure that I share our 2015 Annual Report highlighting the progress we've made towards building the first National Coast Guard Museum. The committed support of our generous donors has helped to strengthen and propel this effort forward. We hope you enjoy the report linked below, *All Ahead Full*, and share in our excitement as this vision begins to take shape.

We have received an outpouring of corporate and individual philanthropic support. In addition, governmental support including a City of New London land grant, \$20 million from the State of Connecticut, and recent federal funding opportunities have allowed us to make exceptional progress toward our goal to build this wonderful and overdue museum.

We are also delighted to inform you about our Secretary's Circle consisting of all living federal cabinet Secretaries of Homeland Security or Transportation who led our Coast Guard. They have set a collective goal of 100% gift participation, and have begun reaching out to companies and individuals throughout the Nation to assist us in this effort.

Our remarkable momentum is a reflection of the strong support and affinity for the United States Coast Guard. On behalf of our Board and the Secretary's Circle, we appreciate and value your support and look forward to sharing future updates as we *Bring Coast Guard History to Life*.

Sincerely,

Captain Wes Pulver, USCG (ret)
Executive Director, National CG Museum Association

The National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc. is a private non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the United States Coast Guard history and tradition.

Link to our annual report:

<http://issuu.com/ncgmaannualreview/docs/ncgmaannualreport/1?e=24478793/35057651>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ed.D.
USCG (Ret.)

239 BANK STREET
NEW LONDON, CT
06320

PHONE: 860-443-4200
FAX: 860-443-0354



USCG TAPS

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
ALCORN	SAM	AD1	20160423	ROCKPORT	TX
AMES	GEORGE	MKC	20160426	WARREN	ME
ANDERSON	JAMES	SK1	20160512	COEUR D ALENE	ID
ANDERSON	GEORGE	SKCM	20160401	BLUE RIDGE	GA
ANDERSON	ARNOLD	CWO4	20160318	LONG BEACH	CA
ANDRION	JOE	YN1	20160426	MIAMI	FL
ARK	WALTER	CWO3	20160430	BARAGA	MI
BARTELS	RALPH	CAPT	20160407	KINGWOOD	TX
BATTEIGER	ROBERT	CDR	20160514	COCOA	FL
BECHTEL	THERESE	HSC	20160517	NEW WINDSOR	MD
BEERBOWER	RALPH	ENC	20160331	PORT HURON	MI
BELL	CLARK	RMCM	20160229	WHIGHAM	GA
BENEFIELD	DANNY	CDR	20160229	METAIRIE	LA
BERGLAND	TERRY	YN2	20160406	GRESHAM	OR
BIEN	ROBERT	GMC	20160425	CINCINNATI	OH
BOATRIGHT	ROSA	YNC	20160229	GARDENDALE	AL
BOWDEN	CLYDE	BMCM	20160523	HARBINGER	NC
BRADY	BRUCE	CWO4	20160313	SEQUIM	WA
BRANDON	HENRY	CDR	20160415	STUART	FL
BRINDLE	JOHN	CWO3	20160523	ROCK HILL	SC
BROWN	WILLIAM	CAPT	20160407	ALEXANDRIA	VA
CANADY	WALTER	SK1	20160229	WILMINGTON	NC
CAPRIO	DAVID	PSS4	20160503	VACAVILLE	CA
CARNELL	BRUCE	BOSN4	20160329	GLOUCESTER	VA
CATON	MICHAEL	BMC	20160525	FAIR HAVEN	MA
CAYSE	ROBERT	GM1	20160425	MARINO VALLEY	CA
CHRISTIE	JOSEPH	RDC	20160304	SARASOTA	FL
CLUNE	JAMES	CAPT	20160509	RANCHO MIRAGE	CA
COBURN	JOSEPH	CAPT	20160320	WILLIAMSBURG	VA
CONKLIN	KEITH	MKC	20160401	GRANGEVILLE	ID
CORNETT	JACK	CWO3	20160412	MURPHY	OR
CRETELLA	HENRY	CAPT	20160411	LINCOLN	MA
CULLITON	WILLIAM	CDR	20160421	MANCHESTER	NH
CURRY	RICHARD	RMC	20160502	THIBODAUX	LA
DECENA	ALFREDO	SK1	20160518	PROVIDENCE	RI
DETWILER	ALLEN	CWO3	20160403	TOMS RIVER	NJ
DEWINTER	THOMAS	AM2	20160408	SACRAMENTO	CA
DOMER	HARRY	PA1	20160421	GARDINER	NY
DOSSETT	JAMES	ADCM	20160401	LOXAHATCHEE	FL
DOYLE	WILLIAM	CWO3	20160527	RAYMOND	ME
DRAA	DALE	CWO2	20160324	KINSMAN	OH
DUBY	MILTON	CWO2	20160422	PAHRUMP	NV
DUFFY	JEROME	BMC	20160407	MONTAGUE	CA
DUNN	GEORGE	RD1	20160417	LEBANON	OR
DUREN	DAVID	BMCM	20160322	TOLEDO	OR
EBORN	CLARENCE	SA	20160404	GREENVILLE	NC
EDORA	ALFONSO	FS1	20160311	VOENA PARK	CA
EMMITT	RICHARD	DC1	20160310	TAMPA	FL
EVERETT	FRANCIS	RMC	20160331	COLORADO SPRI	CO

(TAPS continued on page 19)


LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
<i>(TAPS continued from page 18)</i>					
FIRST	LEON	QMCM	20160530	SAULT STE MARIE	MI
FROST	ROBERT	SKC	20160331	BROCKTON	MA
GATES	ROBERT	BMC	20160510	ALTOONA	PA
GILLAM	MILFORD	LCDR	20160312	LEESBURG	FL
GOODLAND	HERBERT	AMC	20160404	CALERA	AL
GORDON	ROBERT	EMCM	20160430	FRANKSVILLE	WI
GRANDSTAFF	HUEY	CWO4	20160521	HOT SPRINGS	AR
GROSECLOSE	ROGER	SK1	20160321	ABERDEEN	WA
GROVER	RICHARD	DCCM	20160303	YOUNGSVILLE	NC
HADLEY	DAVID	YNCM	20160404	FAIRPORT	NY
HAHN	CHARLES	CAPT	20160530	WILIMINGTON	NC
HAMILTON	WILLIAM	LCDR	20160320	GLOUCESTER	VA
HENDERSON	THOMAS	CWO4	20160404	SAGLE	ID
HENRY	RICHARD	CWO3	20160315	FAYETTEVILLE	AR
HENSON	HARRIS	HSCS	20160416	ELIZABETH CTY	NC
HOLMES	ROGER	LCDR	20160323	CHEROKEE VILLAGE	AR
HOLTON	DELBERT	RMC	20160424	MOHAVE VALLEY	AZ
HORN	RALPH	BMCM	20160403	WHITE HOUSE	TN
HOWERTON	CHARLES	GMC	20160425	HUACHUCA CITY	AZ
JASKOLSKI	CECELIA	SK1	20160521	TWINSBURG	OH
JENKINS	JOHNNIE	MKC	20160308	STATEN ISLAND	NY
JEPPSON	ARLAN	EMCS	20160520	PROVO	UT
JOHNSON	HENRY	MK1	20160408	LAMOURE	ND
JOHNSON	DENNIS	YNC	20160514	CENTRAL POINT	OR
JOHNSON	MICHAEL	BM3	20160419	YORKTOWN	VA
JOHNSTON	THOMAS	PSCM	20160422	SHASTA LAKE	CA
JOHNSTON	BARRY	PSS4	20160308	PEARLAND	TX
JONES	GERARD	A ECS	20160412	CORAL GABLES	FL
KELLY	THOMAS	COMM2	20160328	CHESAPEAKE	VA
KENNEDY	JOHN	BMCM	20160516	PLATTSBURGH	NY
KESLER	RONALD	GMC	20160516	BRUSH PRAIRIE	WA
KING	KEITH	SKC	20160517	RIO VISTA	CA
KNORR	JAMES	YNCS	20160507	ST LOUIS	MO
KOCH	LELAND	MKCS	20160305	CHESTER	IL
LANDICK	RICHARD	YNCS	20160501	LOCKEFORD	CA
LASWELL	ANDREW	SN	20160403	STAINT IGNACE	MI
LATUPAN	R	TN	20160229	BORON	CA
LEDUC	NED	PS1	20160305	S DARTMOUTH	MA
LESTER	JAMES	LT	20160503	OAKLAND	CA
LEWIS	JOHN	PSC	20160321	HARKERS ISLAN	NC
LEWIS	ERIC	BM1	20160423	PORT NECHES	TX
LEYDA	EARL	CWO4	20160331	CAPE CORAL	FL
LIGHTFOOT	ALBERT	HM1	20150829	BURLISON	TN
LOGAN	LLOYD	CAPT	20160514	MOBILE	AL
LORENZI	HECTOR	MKC	20160417	INVERNESS	FL
LUCAS	TERRY	CAPT	20160318	POWDER SPRINGS	GA
LUSK	HUGH	CAPT	20160417	CLINTON	CT
MAGNIS	ALLAN	RD1	20160509	MADISON	TN
MARCZESKY	RICHARD	DCC	20160513	KENAI	AK
MARTIN	RICHARD	MAT4	20160502	SOUTHWEST HARBOR	ME
MARTINEZ	RAYMOND	ET2	20160329	PUERTO REAL	PR
MASON	FLOYD	SKC	20160321	VIRGINIA BCH	VA
MAYER	GARY	YN1	20160313	COVINGTON	WA

(TAPS continued on page 20)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
<i>(TAPS continued from page 19)</i>					
MCCOY	HOPKINS	GMC	20160421	CONWAY	SC
MCGOWAN	THOMAS	MKC	20160424	OXFORD	CT
MCGOWAN	RONALD	BMC	20160425	ALLENTOWN	PA
MESSINA	ANTHONY	SK1	20160317	TALLAHASSEE	FL
METZGER	MAURICE	ATCS	20160514	CAMDEN	NC
MICKELSON	RALPH	LCDR	20160322	VIENNA	VA
MILLER	MAX	CAPT	20160422	OXFORD	MS
MOCK	MICHAEL	BM2	20160408	GRAND HAVEN	MI
MOLLER	ERNEST	RD1	20160529	WATERTOWN	MA
MUESSEL	WILLIAM	CWO4	20160415	NEWPORT	RI
MUISE	GORDON	MECM	20160311	SUFFOLK	VA
MULLER	EUGENE	PSS4	20160404	TOMS RIVER	NJ
MURPHY	MARLAN	CWO4	20160401	BEAUFORT	NC
MURRAY	HOMER	CWO2	20160413	ELIZABETH CITY	NC
NELSON	ROBERT	BMC	20160401	ATLANTIC	NC
NELSON	STEVEN	BMC	20160515	ESKO	MN
NEWMAN	DONALD	SK2	20160404	SAN ANTONIO	TX
NOECKER	ZELN	BMC	20160322	PORTLAND	OR
OAKMAN	JAY	CDR	20160410	SAN FRANCISCO	CA
OAST	JOHN	CDR	20160522	NORFOLK	VA
ODUM	GEORGE	ENC	20160308	RAYMOND	ME
OLIVER	EMMETT	CDR	20160307	KINGSTON	WA
PARDUE	ROBERT	SKC	20160507	WILMINGTON	NC
PARKER	FREDERICK	HS2	20160229	WEST HILLS	CA
PESEK	WILLIAM	FSCS	20160405	MASSAPEQUA PK	NY
POLEK	LEO	GMC	20160314	RIDGE	NY
POOLE	STEVEN	CAPT	20160427	DUMFRIES	VA
PORRAZZO	RONALD	FSCS	20160310	DOUGLASTON	NY
QUATTROCHI	JANE	YN1	20160302	CHARLESTON	SC
RAY	WILLIAM	CWO4	20160327	ROYSTON	GA
RAY	ROBERT	PS1	20160413	WILSONVILLE	AL
RECORD	THOMAS	FN	20160514	SALEM	OR
REVELL	BARNEY	CWO2	20160518	NEW PORT RICHEY	FL
RIBBLET	WILLIAM	ENC	20160302	MANISTIQUE	MI
RILEY	THOMAS	CWO2	20160317	RIO VISTA	CA
RINEDOLLER	PAUL	QMCS	20160509	MURRELL'S INLET	SC
ROMERO	KURT	EM3	20160501	MCKINLEYVILLE	CA
ROUNTREE	ROBERT	PSC	20160509	HUTCHINSON	KS
ROWE	THOBURN	EM1	20160413	GILBERT	AZ
RUEL	PAUL	BM3	20160411	RIO PIEDRAS	PR
RUMP	GEORGE	CWO3	20160416	MELBOURNE	FL
SANKER	WILLIAM	BM1	20160415	CHESTERFIELD	VA
SASS	CHARLES	QMC	20160406	ACCORD	NY
SCARAMASTRO	THOMAS	YNCM	20160529	ALEXANDRIA	VA
SCHLENKER	RICHARD	LCDR	20160419	BLUE HILL	ME
SCHNASE	RICHARD	CWO4	20160323	SUN CITY	AZ
SELLECK	HAROLD	CWO4	20160401	RANCHO CORDOVA	CA
SHANNON	RICHARD	CWO4	20160321	LOWELL	MA
SHAW	ERIC	CAPT	20160329	NEWPORT	RI
SHRIVER	MICHAEL	HS1	20160308	CALERA	AL
SINNETT	GEORGE	CWO4	20160423	SOUTHWEST HBR	ME
SKINNER	JAMES	BMC	20160416	NEWPORT	NC
SMILEY	BURNELL	SA	20160418	HAZELHURST	MS

(TAPS continued on page 21)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
<i>(TAPS continued from page 20)</i>					
SMITLEY	WILLIAM	BMCM	20160511	BURGAW	NC
SPENCER	RICHARD	CWO4	20160407	COTTONWOOD	CA
SPERO	JOHN	SA	20160529	LONG BEACH	NY
STCYR	CHARLES	BM2	20160317	INDIANAPOLIS	IN
STEINBACHER	JOHN	CAPT	20160327	HONOKAA	HI
STIFF	ROBERT	SK1	20160310	MESA	AZ
STOREY	JAMES	BMC	20160331	MOBILE	AL
STRATTON	DANIEL	HSC	20160315	LAKE CITY	FL
STUHR	GERALD	CS3	20160318	YAKIMA	WA
SUTTON	VICTOR	LCDR	20160310	CHULA VISTA	CA
TAPHOUSE	HOWARD	BM1	20160520	ROCKAWAY PT	NY
TAWNEY	HOWARD	CDR	20160330	MANCHESTER	NH
TAYLOR	JAMES	BMCS	20160523	WILMINGTON	NC
THOMPSON	GEORGE	CDR	20160505	SAN ANTONIO	TX
TIONGSON	FERNANDO	FSCS	20160310	SOMERVILLE	MA
TURILLO	DOMENIC	BMC	20160508	JAMESTOWN	RI
TYLER	TONY	BM2	20160417	ROGUE RIVER	OR
VELENCHENKO	LEON	LT	20160306	LA MESA	CA
WALKER	DAVID	LCDR	20160321	ARLINGTON	VA
WARD	JAMES	SA	20160305	PHOENIX	AZ
WATHEN	WILLIAM	CWO4	20160313	VIRGINIA BCH	VA
WEBB	JAMES	CAPT	20160421	LAWRENCEBURG	TN
WESCOTT	LLOYD	MKC	20160316	MANTEO	NC
WESTBROOK	JOSEPH	MSTC	20160421	BRUNSWICK	GA
WIDBERG	EDWARD	BMC	20160504	CANTON	MA
WILLIAMS	LOUIS	BMCS	20160424	ORLANDO	FL
WILLIAMS	TIMOTHY	QMC	20160405	MAITLAND	FL
WILLIAMS	CHESTER	MKC	20160317	EWNATCHEE	WA
WILLIS	RALPH	QMC	20160313	OSTEEN	FL
WILSON	MELVIN	AEC	20160318	PORT WENTWORTH	GA
WIRTANEN	LOUIS	GMC	20160414	GALAX	VA
YACKOWSKI	ALEXANDER	LCDR	20160427	OCALA	FL
YAMASHIRO	LANCE	CS3	20160415	HONOLULU	HI
ZAGORA	JOHN	EMCM	20160312	MIDDLEBURG	FL



PHS TAPS

BIGELOW	DONALD	CAPT	20160501	BRADENTON	FL
CATES	WILLARD	CAPT	20160317	CHAPEL HILL	NC
DARCY	KENNETH	CAPT	20160507	NATCHITOCHE	LA
DUNCAN	ALICE	CAPT	20160323	POTOMAC	MD
FORTNER	CLARENCE	CAPT	20160229	ROSE VALLEY	PA
FRENZEL	WINSTON	CAPT	20160402	HUNTINGTON BCH	CA
GODERSKY	ROBERT	CAPT	20160518	SAN FRANCISCO	CA
HINMAN	EDWARD	RADM	20160318	WINSTON SALEM	NC
KENNEDY	A N	CAPT	20160303	STERLING	CO
LEACH	RICE	CAPT	20160401	FRANKFORT	KY
MILMORE	BENNO	CAPT	20160314	BERKELEY	CA
NUSSENBLATT	ROBERT	CAPT	20160417	BETHESDA	MD
OVERBY	CONSTANCE	CAPT	20160513	CUMMING	GA

(TAPS continued on page 22)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
<i>(TAPS continued from page 21)</i>					
PETTIT	THEODORE	CAPT	20160429	OAKLAND	MD
REED	DWAYNE	CAPT	20160517	SONOMA	CA
SENNOTT	WALDRON	CAPT	20160303	TOWSON	MD
SMITH	ROBERT	RADM	20160327	LEWISBURG	WV
SPINDLER	REGINALD	CAPT	20160506	DEER PARK	WA
TALBOYS	ALBERT	CAPT	20160429	KANAB	UT
VEATER	JOEL	CAPT	20160331	DECATUR	GA
WAUDBY	ROBERT	CAPT	20160305	MARQUETTE	MI

BOOK REVIEW: RED PLATOON

By Matthew O'Connell



President Barack Obama presents the Medal of Honor to former Army Staff Sergeant Clinton Romesha on Feb 11, 2013 at the White House. Photo from Leo Shane III, Stars and Stripes

Red Platoon is a first-hand account of the Battle of Keating (also known as the Battle of Kamdesh) as told by Clinton Romesha. In 2009, Romesha of Red Platoon and others from Black Knight Troop were in the process of closing Command Outpost (COP) Keating, a remote outpost (built by the U.S. military in Kamdesh District, Nuristan Province) designed to prevent the Taliban and their allies from moving back and forth between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Deemed too isolated to defend, the U.S. Army decided to end its three-year occupation of the area.

Then, on October 3rd, the Taliban mounted their major offensive. Romesha recounts the battle from just moments before its 5:58 am commencement until its 8:11 pm conclusion, when the 27 wounded and 8 dead were evacuated.

There were approximately 300 Taliban attackers; inside the compound were considerably fewer U.S. Army, Afghan National Army and Latvian Army members. The ferocity of the Taliban attack was without precedent and the defenders were not Special Forces members but average soldiers “cut from a more ragged grade of cloth.” The Taliban captured the ammunition depot, breached the compound and set fire to it. Romesha organized a five man team, neutralized a Taliban machine gun nest, provided suppressive fire to allow wounded Americans to reach an aid station and killed several Taliban himself—all the while severely wounded from shrapnel. Most telling with respect to his character is the following from his Medal of Honor narrative: “Upon receipt of orders to proceed to the next objective, his team pushed forward 100 meters under overwhelming enemy fire to recover and prevent the enemy fighters from taking the bodies of their fallen

comrades.” He also directed air support responsible for killing approximately 30 Taliban.

He supplements his first hand recounting from memory with official documents and interviews with other combatants. Throughout the narrative, he remains humble and always directs his praise to his fellow soldiers. The writing is both sparse and conclusive. Romesha does not characterize himself as a hero; it is the 8 dead to whom he pays the most homage.

His full Medal of Honor citation may be read at: <https://www.army.mil/medalofhonor/romesha/citation.html>

Note: Specialist Ty M. Carter also received the Medal of Honor for this same battle.




DEPENDENT TAPS

Name of Dependent	Relationship	Date of Death	Location
Dawn L. Bachler	Wife of MK1 Robert Bachler, USCGR Ret	14 Mar 2016	W. Franklin, NH
E. Ruth Benigno	Wife of CAPT Pasquale Benigno, USCG Ret	04 April 2016	San Antonio, TX
Patricia Byron	Wife of ITC Jeffrey Byron, USCG Ret	29 Feb 2016	Cleveland, OH
Peggy Carr	Wife of HS1 John H. Carr, USCG Ret	06 Feb 2016	Vancouver, WA
Mary Crist	Wife of MKC Mark Crist, USCG Ret	11 Jan 2016	Buffalo, NY
Joyce L. Drew	Wife of BMCS Selby E. Drew, USCG Ret	07 Oct 2015	Fort Bragg, CA
Marilyn M. Edwards	Wife of CWO3 John H. Edwards, USCG Ret	09 Apr 2016	Safety Harbor, FL
Diana Dee Fink	Wife of CAPT George B. Fink, USPHS Ret	14 Jan 2016	Anchorage, AK
Francis J. Harris	Wife of PA1 David L. Harris, USCG Ret	20 Feb 2016	Estero, FL
Elaine M. Huffman	Wife of CWO4 Herman Huffman, USCG Ret	16 Apr 2016	O Fallon, IL
Lois Imogene Lyons	Wife of BM1 Earl O. Lyons, USCG Ret	17 May 2016	Lynchburg, VA
Lorene E. McCraw	Wife of Boyce M. McCraw, USCG Ret	29 May 2016	Belleville, IL
Jeanne M. MacLaury	Wife of SSC David R. MacLaury, USCG Ret	11 Feb 2015	Naugatuck, CT
Lynn Shirley McNamara	Wife of GMC John T. McNamara, USCG Ret	12 May 2016	Sheffield Lake, OH
Charleen I. Martin	Wife of CWO4 Henry G. Martin, USCG Ret	20 Apr 2010	Grand Rapids, MI.
Janis C. St. John	Wife of CWO3 Robert M. St. John, USCG Ret	31 Aug 2015	Shoreline, WA
Louis Kern Schmidt	Wife of CAPT Paul J. Schmidt, USPHS Ret	27 Jan 2016	Tampa, FL
Patricia N. Tarpley	Wife of CAPT Thomas M. Tarpley, USPHS Ret	28 Oct 2015	Woodsboro, MD
Geraldine Thompson	Wife of CWO3 William C. Thompson, USCGR Ret	01 May 2016	Old Hickory, TN
Kathleen A. Vernier	Wife of CWO3 Steven C. Vernier, USCG Ret	15 Feb 2016	Murfreesboro, TN
Gloria H. Young	Wife of CWO3 Robert Young, USCG Ret	04 May 2016	Hilliard, FL

If you have lost a loved one and would like their name printed in Dependent TAPs, please contact PPC-DG-RAS@uscg.mil with their name, date of death, your name and retired rank, and city/state of residence. RAS will make appropriate updates and then forward to The Retiree Newsletter Editor. Or you can send your request in writing and mail to: Commanding Officer (RAS), Pay & Personnel Center, 444 SE Quincy Street, Topeka, KS 66683-3591. You may also fax your request to (785) 339-3770.

MEDICAL RECORDS, CONT'D

I'm the surviving spouse of a deceased service member. Can I get a copy of their medical records?

Yes. If the member passed way while on active duty, their record is sent to the Health, Safety and Work-Life Service Center for death review. You can request a copy in the period immediately following the members death by emailing HBA@uscg.mil, or through your local unit point of contact. You'll need to provide identifying documents to ensure your eligibility. Otherwise you should request the record from the national archives.

Note: Commander Fawcett can be reached via email at: Paul.A.Fawcett@uscg.mil

DEPUTY COMMANDANT FOR MISSION SUPPORT

The DCMS Watch is a 24X7 manned watch that is the primary point of contact for emergent mission support issues. Typical DCMS Watch activities include monitoring urgent personnel issues, tracking significant logistical events for deployed assets, advising Service and Logistics Centers of significant events and natural disasters and tracking Coast Guard Cutter casualties (757-398-6765 or email: d05-smb-dcms-watch@uscg.mil).

Editor's notes**Keeping Retiree & Annuitant Services Informed**

All retirees are reminded to inform PPC (**RAS**) as soon as possible following changes of marital status (divorce, death, annulment, marriage, just to mention some), death of a designated SBP beneficiary, or any other changes which could impact retired pay. Additionally, when you make a change with DEERS it **does not** constitute a change to your Retired Pay account since DEERS is a totally different system from RAS.

State Tax Reminder: As a reminder when moving from one state to another and updating your home mailing address, don't forget to change your state tax withholdings. The retiree must request a change for state tax as an address change does not automatically change or stop the state information that the tax is being paid to.

Send your reunion or other notices to:

The Retiree Newsletter
Commanding Officer (P&D)
U.S. Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

E-mail: PPC-DG-RASNewsletter@uscg.mil
Phone: (toll free, U.S. only) 1-800-772-8724 or
(785) 339-2236

PHS Statement of Service

To receive instructions on how to obtain a **PHS Statement of Service**, contact: alex.potter@hhs.gov. For a **corrected** Statement of Service send your email to: phsscassignments@hhs.gov.

Coast Guard/NOAA/PHS Retiree Personnel Locator: If you are searching for a Coast Guard/NOAA or PHS retired individual, we can help. Place your personal correspondence to that individual in a sealed envelope, making sure to include how they can get in touch with you. On the outside of that envelope, address it to them with their full name and rank/rate (for military). Please write your return address and attach a stamp on the envelope. Then, place that envelope in a larger envelope and address it to:

**Commanding Officer (RAS)
USCG Pay & Personnel Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591**

RAS will complete the person's address and place it in the mail.

Need a corrected DD-214?

If your DD-214 is incorrect and you want a corrected form, you need to send your request in writing to:

DHS Office of General Counsel
Board for Correction of Military Records
Mailstop #485
245 Murray Lane
Washington, DC 20528
Phone: (202) 447-4099
<http://www.uscg.mil/legal/BCMR.asp>

Please include your name, rank/rate, SSN/Employee ID, and date of retirement.

More DD-214 information

Great news for veterans—the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to request a copy of their DD-214 online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>.

This will reduce the waiting time veterans have experienced in the past (waiting for copies of their DD-214s).

Note: Because a written signature is required on the form, you will still need to print it out and mail or fax it to NPRC to obtain a copy.

VA compensation payments and federal income taxes

If you retired from the USCG, NOAA or PHS based on years of service and are later given a retroactive service connected disability rating by the VA, your retirement pay for the retroactive period is excluded from income up to the amount of VA disability benefits that you would have been entitled to receive. The form 1099R reports the entire distribution because the income, when paid, was taxable under the law.

A corrected form 1099R which could support the decrease in taxable income will not be issued by PPC. This policy is contained in the DOD Financial Management Regulations, VOL 7B and also is stated in the IRS instructions for Form 1099R, which directs that the entire income distribution will be reported if a part is taxable and a part is not taxable.

Retirees who are affected by this policy should consult a tax preparer for assistance. The retiree should provide copies of the Form 1099R and the VA Award Letter to claim a refund of taxes paid on the excludable amount.

You may also claim a refund of any taxes paid on an excludable amount in previous years by filing an amended return on Form 1040X, subject to statute of limitations.

Pay & Personnel Center, Retiree & Annuitant Services (RAS) - Directory Assistance

Questions, Address or Direct-Deposit Changes

If you need information or have questions about:

- ◆ Your retired or Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuity payments
- ◆ Your Retired/Annuitant Statement
- ◆ IRS Form 1099R (reporting taxable income)

or you need to change:

- ◆ Your and your dependents home mailing address (for Retired/Annuitant Statement, newsletter, 1099R, correspondence)
- ◆ Your financial institution or account number for your direct deposit
- ◆ Report a change to your Designation of Beneficiary for Payment of Unpaid Retired Pay (Note: Use Form *CG PPC-3600 Designation of Beneficiary for Payment of Unpaid Retired Pay)

You may make the requests listed above by **telephone**, by **fax** or in **writing**. Our telephone and fax numbers are:

Toll free: 1-800-772-8724
Commercial: (785) 339-3415
Fax: (785) 339-3770

Allotments, SBP Coverage and Beneficiary Changes

If you need to:

- ◆ Start, stop or change an allotment (you may use Form *CG PPC-7221 Retired Allotment Authorization Form, fax in the form or a written request, call us or send us an e-mail request).
- ◆ Report a change to your Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) coverage (must be in writing)

You may **fax** your request to (785) 339-3770 or mail to:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
USCG Pay & Personnel Center
444 SE Quincy St
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

(*) Note: forms available from our website <http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/forms>

E-mail: PPC-DG-RAS@uscg.mil

Website: <http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/ras/>

Income Tax Withholding Changes

If you need to:

- ◆ Start or change the amount of State Tax Withholding (Retirees can call, e-mail, fax or use *IRS Form W-4, or state form. **If using IRS form, indicate that the form is for State Income Tax Withholding, not federal, which state it's for and the dollar amount to be withheld, (minimum amount is \$10.00, no cents).** We cannot withhold state tax for annuitants)
- ◆ Change your Federal Income Tax Withholding (Retirees use Form W-4, Annuitants use Form W-4P)
- ◆ Change exemptions or additional withholding

Federal tax changes **must** be in writing. The original Form IRS W-4 or W-4P must be mailed to PPC (RAS) for action and filing, per IRS requirements. PPC (RAS) cannot accept a faxed W-4 or W-4P. Please mail to:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
USCG Pay & Personnel Center
444 SE Quincy St
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

(*) Note: forms available from our website <http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/forms> or directly from the IRS

Report of Death

To report the death of a Coast Guard, NOAA or PHS retiree/annuitant call:

Toll free: 1-800-772-8724
Commercial: (785) 339-3415
Fax: (785) 339-3770

Or write:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
USCG Pay & Personnel Center
444 SE Quincy St
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

E-mail articles, dependent taps entries, reunion notices, etc., to PPC-DG-RASNewsletter@uscg.mil or call us at the numbers listed below. The deadline for the next issue is **Aug 9, 2016**

RETIREE CUSTOMER SERVICE

1-800-PPC-USCG/1-800-772-8724

Other Important Phone Numbers and Websites

Medical/Dental Benefits	Phone	Websites/Notes
Eligibility (DEERS)/ID Cards	1-800-538-9552 (TTY/TDD) 1-866-363-2883	http://www.tricare.mil/deers In CA: 1-800-334-4162; In AK & HI 1-800-527-5602
Mail-Order Pharmacy	1-877-363-1303	http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Prescriptions/Filling Prescriptions/TMOP
Retiree Dental Plan	1-888-838-8737	http://www.trdp.org
TRICARE Overseas	1-888-777-8343	http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/overview/Regions/RegionsNonUS
TRICARE United States	Phone numbers on their website	http://tricare.mil
TRICARE For Life	1-866-773-0404	http://www.tricare.mil/tfl/default.cfm
TRICARE Eligibility—Pharmacy (Medicare info)	1-877-363-1303	http://www.tricare.mil/CoveredServices/Pharmacy/Eligibility.aspx
Federal Long-Term Health Insurance	1-800-582-3337	http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc/
CG Health Benefits Advisor	1-800-942-2422	
Veterans Benefits	Phone	Websites/Notes
Department of Veterans Affairs	1-800-827-1000	http://www.va.gov
Insurance Information	1-800-669-8477	http://www.insurance.va.gov
Veteran's Group Life Insurance		http://www.insurance.va.gov/sglisite/vgli/vgli.htm
New VGLI Applications and VGLI Reinstatements: OSGLI PO Box 41618 Philadelphia, PA 19176-9913	1-800-419-1473 Overseas phone (973) 548-5699 Overseas fax# (973) 548-5300	Death and accelerated benefits claims only: Fax: 1-877-832-4943 All other fax inquiries: 1-800-236-6142 or e-mail: osgli.claims@prudential.com All other inquiries: osgli.osgli@prudential.com General Correspondence: Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance 80 Livingston Avenue Roseland, NJ 07068-1733
Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents	1-800-827-1000	http://www.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.asp VA Pamphlet 80-02-1
Headstones and Markers	1-800-697-6947	http://www.cem.va.gov/hm.htm
To join our mailing list to receive The Retiree Newsletter and other updates via email, send an email to: cgretired-owner@cgl.uscg.mil		

(Continued on page 27)

*(Continued from page 26)***Other Important Phone Numbers and Websites**

Other	Phone	Websites/Notes
Final Active Duty Pay	1-866-772-8724 Overseas (785) 339-2200	http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/ses/ Commanding Officer (SEP) USCG Pay & Personnel Center 444 SE Quincy St Topeka, KS 66683-3591
Contact PPC (SEP) for information on Severance Pay, Separation Pay, Disability Severance Pay, LES's, IRS Form W-2.		
Travel Claims	1-866-772-8724 Overseas (785) 339-2200	http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/tvl.asp Send final travel claim to: Commanding Officer (TVL) USCG Pay & Personnel Center 444 SE Quincy St. Topeka, KS 66683-3591
Service Records	(314) 801-080	http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/ Write to: National Personnel Records Center Military Personnel Records 1 Archives Drive St. Louis, MO 63138-1002
Veterans or next-of-kin of a deceased veteran can log on http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records and make requests. All others must write in and include complete name, rank/grade, SSN, dates of service and date of birth of the veteran. DD-214s are also available via the website.		
Social Security	1-800-772-1213	http://www.ssa.gov
WWII U.S. Merchant Marine Awards and Decorations	(202) 366-2646	http://www.marad.dot.gov/mariners/mariner-medals Maritime Administration U.S. Department of Transportation 200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590
National Coast Guard Retiree Council Help Desk Telephone/E-mail "HOTLINE"	(202) 475-5381 or toll free 1-866-664-6245 (ext 55381)	E-mail: NRHDesk@gmail.com

ARE YOU NEARING YOUR 65TH BIRTHDAY? IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR MEDICAL BENEFITS

When you turn 65, your medical benefits will change. MEDICARE will become your primary medical coverage and TRICARE pays secondary to MEDICARE. You **MUST** enroll in MEDICARE PART B to retain your TRICARE coverage. If you are within 90 days of your 65th birthday, you should log on to <http://www.ssa.gov> or <http://www.medicare.gov> to enroll in MEDICARE PART B. Additional information can be found on the TRICARE web site at http://www.tricare.mil/Welcome/Eligibility/MedicareEligible.aspx?sc_database=web or by telephone at: 1- 866-773-0404. You may also call the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) at 800-538-9552.

US DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
COMMANDING OFFICER (RAS)
COAST GUARD PAY & PERSONNEL CENTER
444 SE QUINCY ST
TOPEKA KS 66683-3591

PRESORT STANDARD
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
U. S. COAST GUARD
PERMIT NO. G-157

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

Retiree & Annuitant Services

We're on the web!
www.uscg.mil/hq/psc



every hour every day around the clock and around the world