









The Retiree Newsletter

(USCG-NOAA-PHS)

"Semper Paratus"

April—June 2017

Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty

Issue 2/2017

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Arctic Cutter *Bear*—"A symbol for all the Service represents"

William H. Thiesen, Ph.D. Atlantic Area Historian, United States Coast Guard

The Bear is more than just a famous ship; she is a symbol for all the service represents—for steadfastness, for courage and for constant readiness to help men and vessels in distress.

--Captain Stephen Evans, *The United States Coast Guard,* 1790-1915

As the quote above indicates, the *Bear*'s story reflects the Service's core values. This extraordinary ship, on which legends were made, remains the most famous cutter in Coast Guard history.

Built in 1874, *Bear* was designed specifically to work in ice-bound conditions before the use of icebreakers. She was a 198-foot, 700-ton barkentine rigged steamer constructed in Scotland for sealing in northern waters. In 1874, iron proved too brittle for use in the cold Arctic, so *Bear's* hull was built of wood, reinforced with six-inch thick oak planks and sheathed with Australian "ironwood" for a total hull thickness of ten inches. *Bear* also boasted a steel-plated bow, retractable screw and, in case of long periods underway, she had extra space for fuel, supplies or added passengers.

In 1881, LT Adolphus Greely, a member of the U.S. Army's Signal Corps, led an expedition to study the weather and winter conditions on Ellesmere Island northwest of Greenland. Attempts to relieve Greely's expedition in 1882 and 1883 proved unsuccessful and members of the expedition began to die of disease and starvation. In 1884, the U.S. Navy purchased *Bear* and, in June 1884, she helped rescue Greely and the five surviving members of his expedition.

In the spring of 1885, the Navy transferred *Bear* to the Revenue Cutter Service and, in early November, she began a voyage to California around Cape Horn. Captain Michael Healy took command of *Bear* in April 1886 after she arrived at her homeport of San Francisco. A veteran of Alaskan waters and skilled ice pilot, Healy was the first African American to receive a commission from the U.S. Government and the first to command a Federal ship. Under Healy, *Bear* served on the Bering Sea Patrol, which comprised between 15,000 and 20,000 miles of cruising. Conditions on the Bering Sea were harsh, dangerous, stressful and, at times, deadly. Healy described the pressures of serving on the Bering Sea assignment: "to stand for forty hours on the bridge of the Bear, wet, cold and hungry, hemmed in by impenetrable masses of fog, tortured by uncertainty, and the good ship plunging and contending with ice seas in an unknown ocean."

As an Alaskan cutter, *Bear* saved lives at sea and preserved the lives of those struggling to survive in Alaska's frozen frontier. The native people of Alaska had

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CO's Corner—Greetings from the Pay and Personnel Center. The last several months have been very busy as we closed out the calendar year and issued 2016 tax forms. While most tax forms were sent without any issues, some folks in Washington State experienced a few hiccups in getting their forms. I appreciate the patience of all of our retirees and annuitants as we worked out the bugs with our new printing contractor. All that said, overall, PPC produced and mailed over 200,000 tax forms with resounding success.

Speaking of printing contracts, the printing contractor PPC is currently using to produce the Retiree Newsletter has decided to not exercise the next option year of the contract. This means we are in the midst of changing printing contractors and will not be producing a July Retiree Newsletter. We plan on being back on schedule with the October edition. During this transition, PPC and Mr. Bob Hinds (Retiree Services Program Manager www.uscg.mil/retiree/) are working closely to review the content and format of the Newsletter. Our collective goal is to make sure the Retiree Newsletter remains relevant and that the information and content is useful and valuable to our entire retiree and annuitant communities. If you have any suggestions for how we can improve the Newsletter, please feel free to contact us at: ppc-dg-customercare@uscg.mil.

I mentioned this in a previous Newsletter, and it is worth mentioning again, that PPC and the Coast Guard Retiree Services Program have great websites (www.uscg.mil/ppc/ and www.uscg.mil/retiree/) with lots of useful information.

If you navigate on the PPC website to the "Retiree and Annuitants (RAS)" page (link is on the left side of the page) you will see information and links related to a number of topics including: income tax filing requirements, Direct Access – Self Service access and user guides, CRDP/CRSC, forms and worksheets, retiree pay and benefits, VA claims processing, Survivor Benefits, TRICARE and much more. There is also a terrific user guide to help navigate the different functions available through Direct Access - Self Service. Self Service is an easy and convenient way to update your contact information, access your retiree account statements, print your IRS tax forms (1099 and 1095), change your federal and state tax withholdings and more. Of course, if you can't find it on our website, the PPC staff is standing by to assist you with all of your questions and concerns.

As always, we look forward to hearing from you. We hope you have a delightful spring and an enjoyable summer.

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

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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.

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, 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/

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 SKC Anthony Lim at hawaiiretiree.cc@gmail.com if you have any questions.

The Cape May Maritime Museum is a wonderful resource for Coast Guard history. Please visit their website at: www.capemaymaritimemuseum.org.

TRACEN Yorktown Retiree Council office is located in the lobby on the first floor of Steuben Hall. We meet every Wednesday morning in the Enlisted Dining Facility for breakfast at 0630 and move to the Cyber Café in Steuben Hall for visibility and camaraderie. 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, Kargaburun 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 AI 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 iccom.

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)

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.

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

Friends of Pomham Rocks Lighthouse, Riverside, Rhode Island announces their intention to restore the interior of the lighthouse commencing in June. For further information, please contact MKCM (ret) Dennis Tardiff at : denshirl52@verizon.net.

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 the 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.

The Northern California Coast Guard Retiree Council announces the 26th All Services Retiree Seminar on April 29, 2017 from 0800-1200 in the Gresham Conference Center, Coast Guard Island, Alameda, CA. Speakers and information tables will provide the latest information on TRICARE, current legislation, legal assistance, scams, fraud, Space-A travel and more. Additional information is available at: http://sites.google.com/site/NCCGRC or contact: David.D.Swanson@Outlook.com or by phone at (510) 390-6312.

Point of Inquiry — It has been 30 years since the closing of Base Gloucester City. Many of us, especially Reservists, are interested in a reunion in 2017. Consequently, we are looking for anyone who may have served at Base Gloucester City and would like to join us for an informal gathering. Should we generate enough interest, we hope to include dinner and dancing. Spouses and friends are certainly welcome. Please respond with your interest, guest number and comments to mstchiefjim@verizon.net at your convenience if interested. We are looking forward to hearing from you soon. Respectfully, Jim Weber, MSTC (Ret).

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

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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.

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.

Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association will host their 2017 biennial convention at the Crown Plaza Hotel in San Diego, CA., May 8-12, 2017. All Coast Guard veterans are invited to attend, including non-members of the CGCVA. Come join us for the great hospitality, camaraderie, a silent auction and the awards banquet. For additional information, please feel free to contact MCPO Mike Placencia (Ret) at: cgmasterchief22@hotmail.com. First opportunity to register will be in August. For up-to-date information and CGCVA membership eligibility and application, check out our website at: www.coastguardcombatvets.org/.

USCGC BURTON ISLAND (WAGB-283) Reunion will be held in Las Vegas, NV from September 11th to September 15th, 2017. For more information, you may contact Ralf Mauther, Treasurer by mail at: 13190 Cedarwood Drive, St. George, KS 66535 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.

USCGC JARVIS (WHEC 725) Reunion - July 21-23, 2017, Wilmington, NC. All former crew members are invited. Contact SCPO Henry Connors (Ret) at: mikohank@live.com for further details.

Station New Canal – 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 – 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.

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.

(Reunions and Notices continued on page 6)

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.

An announcement for Coast Guard retirees with connections to the Patos Island Lighthouse and Coast Guard Station, San Juan Islands, Washington State. The Keepers of the Patos Light lighthouse friends group would like to announce their intention to restore the flag and flagpole by, hopefully, August 2017, to coincide with a Coast Guard service members reunion planned for that month. Feel free to contact Linda Huston at PO Box 334, Lopez Island, WA 98261 for more information.

The Coast Guard Air Reunion (AKA Cosmic Air) will hold its 58th AND FINAL reunion at the Silver Legacy Resort & Casino in Reno, NV, May 8 – 10 2017. Yes, we are closing the hangar doors. We have blocked rooms at \$89.50 per night. This includes all taxes and fees. Register by calling (800) 687-8733 and use Group Code **USCG17**. Reservations must be made by April 7, 2017 to receive this rate. For further information call Linda Etheridge at (707) 869-0157, or Roger Schmidt at (925) 548-3256. Email Linda at LEther7294@aol.com or Roger at: rogngina@sbcglobl.net . This is it folks! The numbers just are not there to continue, so if you have been putting off attending, this is your last chance. Let's make the final one a great one. Bring the kids, the neighbors, friends or anyone else you might think would enjoy it.

IRS Webpage for Veterans: https://www.irs.gov/individuals/information-for-veterans. Designed to provide timely federal tax-related information to veterans about tax credits and benefits, free tax preparation, financial education and asset-building opportunities available to veterans.

UCCGC CAMPBELL (WPG-32) Reunion on May 8/10, 2017 in Baltimore, MD. Contact Bob Dell at (610) 222-4645 or rbard1@verizon.net for information and details. All 327 sailors are invited.

Greetings from Sector San Juan, Puerto Rico. On January 14, 2017 0900, the first meeting of the proposed establishment of the USCG Retiree Council (RC) for the San Juan area of responsibility (AOR), which include Puerto Rico (PR) and the US Virgin Islands (USVI), was held at Sector San Juan's building 100.

The meeting's agenda was accomplished. According to D7, there are approximately 200 retirees in PR & USVI. A survey was sent to all by CWO Carlos Lopez, USCGR (ret), approximately 25 replied.

The assembled members upon agreement, and concurrence of the volunteered nominees accepted Captain Ignacio Rivera, USCGR (ret) and Senior Chief John Mast, USCG (ret) as Sector San Juan's RC Co-Chairs. MKCS Mast was present and accepted nomination, Captain Rivera was not present due to a family emergency but had his availability expressed through SKC Luis Torres, USCGR (ret).

In order to establish the RC, it was discussed that a letter to the Sector San Juan Commander be sent with the results of the election and the intent to establish a RC in the San Juan AOR. And to follow, a letter to HQ asking for a charter of the RC.

It was agreed to assemble again on April 29, 2017 at 0900 at Sector San Juan. After this meeting and the presence of other members it can be discussed when and where future meetings will be held.

Topics for next meeting.

- Formal presentation of Co-Chairs.
- Veterans Administration benefits, please bring all your questions or concerns.

All retired members that receive The Retiree Newsletter, feel free to forward this communication and reach out. No need to complete a survey: send an email to uscg.sj.rc@gmail.com with name, rank held, telephone number, email (if any) and mailing address.

There will be topics of great interest in the meetings and there may be social gatherings as well.

Let's communicate and carry the Coast Guard life and values well beyond retirement.

MEC Jose R. Baltar, USCGR (ret)

(Reunions and Notices continued on page 7)

Coast Guard CW Operators Association 19th Annual Reunion will be September 18-21, 2017 at the Best Western Merry Manor Inn, Portland, ME.

Details at http://www.comm-one.club/

The Coast Guard Aviation Association (Ancient Order of the Pterodactyl) will meet Sept 11-15 in Atlantic City, NJ. Details will be published in the Pterogram and all members and non-members are urged to review the website www.aoptero.org for details.

West Coast EMTEL, IT, TT and Friends Reunion will be held July 14-16, 2017 in Forest Grove, OR. For more information, please contact David Swanson, at: (510) 390-6312 or by email at ddswanson@msn.com, for details.

USCG Lightship Sailors Association will be holding their annual reunion in Norfolk VA, October 23 thru 25. 2017. Contact Information: Bill Quigley at phone number, (603) 966-8690 or at the following email: wanderingmanitook1@msn.com. To learn more about the USCG Lightship Sailors Association, view our website: www.uscqlightshipsailors.org.

East Coast EMTel-TT Reunion— Here Ye! Hear Ye! All you old pole climbers, frame room executives, cable splicers, Wheatstone Bridge specialists, Cable Boat operators and crew are invited to the East Coast EMTel-TT-IT reunion held at the Pine Grove Camp Ground in Chincoteague, VA. Dates are May 19-21, 2017. RV camping spaces available. Check Hotels.com for accommodations as there are many motels in the area. There will be a test on telephone cable pair color codes. For more information contact: TTCM Curtis Leary at phone number (919) 270-2136 or curtleary@ieee.org or TTCS Bo Stapleton at phone number: (757) 340-3732

2017 Coast Guard Yesteryears Breakfast—Will be held on Sat. November 11th at the Chincoteague High School Cafeteria located at 4586 Main Street in Chincoteague, VA. Join us again this year as we meet new friends, reconnect with old shipmates, swap sea stories and listen to guest speakers. Doors open at 7am and breakfast served at 8am. For more info contact Jerry Tarr at: jtarr42@gmail.com or (757) 894-2317. We look forward to seeing you there.

COAST GUARD MUTUAL ASSISTANCE ... LOOKING AFTER OUR OWN



Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA) is the Coast Guard's official financial relief organization. Over the years CGMA has proven to be a highly effective way to get help to fellow shipmates and their families in times of need. Since its beginnings in 1924, CGMA has provided over \$181 million in direct financial

assistance. In 2016 over \$4 million in assistance went out to Coast Guard individuals and families, including \$375,143 to Coast Guard Retirees.

True to its motto, "We Look After our Own," CGMA relies on voluntary contributions from within the Coast Guard community to support its many assistance programs. Coast Guard Retirees continue to play a major role in making sure CGMA stays strong and fiscally sound. Many choose to contribute by allotment from retired pay. Others choose to contribute by check or credit card. All contributions to CGMA are tax deductible.

Please consider how you might help this year. All contributions are gratefully accepted, as are bequests and other special contributions from individuals or estates.

If you would like to learn more about programs CGMA offers, or you are in need of assistance, please visit www.cgmahq.org or call (800) 881-2462.

Editor's Note: When submitting your reunion or notice to the newsletter, please keep in mind the following helpful guidelines:

- Know your audience: ask yourself who you want to invite to your reunion or who will be reading your notice.
- Ensure any website you link to is up and running.
- Ensure your email address is correct.
- Ensure your phone number is correct and include the area code.
- If you reference anyone else in your submission, please ensure they know you have referenced them.

A JOURNEY IN LEADERSHIP: Adm. Paul Zukunft addresses Coast Guard Academy Corps of Cadets

This article was initially published on the Coast Guard's official blog, All Hands, which focuses on the needs of U.S. Coast Guard service members, civilian workforce, retirees and their families. For more articles like this one, please visit <u>allhands.coastguard.dodlive.mil</u>. Written by David M. Santos, Director of Communications, U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

During his annual leadership address at the <u>Coast Guard Academy</u>, <u>Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Paul Zukunft</u> took the <u>Corps of Cadets</u> on a journey in leadership, sharing insights from more than 40 years of service. He began by asking the crowd, "What does it mean to be a leader, to begin with? The way I would define a leader is, it's really a mindset. And when you look at our service, that aspires to our core values of Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty, that is our brand," he said. "The word out on the street right now," he added, "is our brand has never been greater."

Showing a photo of an older cutter on a large screen in Leamy Hall he said, "What you see there is a museum. It's



U. S. Coast Guard Adm. Paul Zukunft, Commandant of the Coast Guard, talks about about topics ranging from diversity, to shifting immigration trends, March 1, 2017. Official U.S. Coast Guard photos by Petty Officer 2nd Class Patrick Kelley

called the Coast Guard Cutter Taney. It was my first ship when I left the Coast Guard Academy." Recalling anecdotes from his own leadership journey, he told the cadets that they would encounter many examples of leadership in the fleet. "There will be good examples, and examples you would not want to aspire to. As you see the good examples, seek out a mentor," he advised. "Don't go it alone." Adm. Zukunft also emphasized the need for young officers to build trust and earn respect. "You've got to know your people, on an individual level. You can't just know what their job is on a watch guarter station bill. Know where they grew up. Know what their background is, before they came in the Coast Guard. Know what their dreams are as well. If you do that, as a leader you've already accomplished job one. You have to build trust and earned respect, because these things." he said, pointing at the rank insignia on his sleeve. "They don't earn respect. What's in your heart, that is what will earn respect."

Having served extensively in the cutter fleet, Zukunft commanded the cutters <u>Cape Upright</u>, <u>Harriet Lane</u>, and <u>Rush</u>. During his address he spoke about the need to take decisive action, and how this would play into their future careers. To describe the challenging operational environment young Coast Guard officers will undoubtedly face, the Commandant used the acronym VUCA, short for Voluntary, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous. To illustrate his point he shared an example from the historic <u>Mariel boatlift</u>, the mass emigration of Cubans headed to the U.S. in 1980.

While underway toward Mariel Harbor as the young commanding officer of the Cape Upright, Zukunft recalled spotting out on the horizon, "a 45-foot boat with 200-plus people on it." Assessing the situation, he decided to lay his ship alongside. "As soon as they saw us," he said, "everyone went to one side of the ship. I thought for sure this ship is going to capsize." As the cutter came alongside, his crew saw infants among the huge crowd of Cuban migrants onboard. "And the first thing they did, they started pitching infants at us like hay bales. Now, we don't have TTP (tactics, techniques, procedures) for that. How do you catch babies as they are thrown from one boat to the other? This was about as ambiguous as it can get. An example of VUCA," he told the cadets. "Sometimes you must instinctively do what you think is the right thing to do." The Commandant also talked about the lasting bonds formed at the Academy, and how they would follow the cadets for many years to come. "I'm hosting a reunion at my quarters. A lot of these people I haven't seen in 40 years," he added. "If there is anything that has paid a lifetime of dividends, it's the relationships I have forged at the Academy." In closing, he addressed the future and the service's need for strong, empathetic leadership. "Your journey is about to begin," he reminded the cadets. "Thirty-plus years from now, one of you is going to be up on this stage. My crystal ball does not know what the world is going to look like 30-plus years from now. But tranquility is not breaking out among us. We have got to be strategic thinkers," he said. "But above all, we've got to be compassionate leaders."

RETIREE PAYDAYS FOR CY 2017

Feb 1 June 1 September 29

March 1 June 30 November 1

March 31 August 1 December 1

May 1 September 1 December 29

COAST GUARD COMBAT RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION

Coast Guard Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) provides military Retirees a tax-free monthly compensation that is intended to replace some or all of the retired pay that is withheld due to receipt of Veterans Affairs (VA) compensation. CRSC is payable for disabilities that are found to be related to combat, including disabilities that were incurred in actual combat, while engaged in hazardous service, in the performance of duty simulating war, training for combat or as a result of an instrumentality of war.

The Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2015, Section 221, clarifies that members of the Coast Guard are eligible for CRSC. Coast Guard members may qualify for CRSC if their disability was incurred while engaged in Coast Guard missions such as:

- a. In the performance of duties for which special or incentive pay was paid;
- b. In the performance of duties related to a statutory mission of the Coast Guard, such as:
 - 1. Law enforcement, including drug or migrant interdiction;
 - 2. Defense readiness:
 - 3. Search and rescue:
 - 4. While engaged in a training exercise for the performance of a duty described in subparagraphs (a) and (b)(1-3);
 - 5. As the result of an instrumentality of war;
 - 6. Aviation duty;
 - 7. Diving duty;
 - 8. Rescue swimmer or similar duty; or
 - 9. Hazardous service duty onboard a Coast Guard vessel.

The missions listed above are not exhaustive. Coast Guard members injured during other hazardous service may qualify as well. Coast Guard members receiving disability benefits that believe they are eligible under the clarified criteria or were previously denied CRSC may submit a claim using form DD2860 found at:

http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/forms/eforms/dd2860.pdf.

All claims may be sent to: COMMANDER (PSC-PSD), Personnel Service Center 2703, Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20593-7200.

All necessary CRSC documents and instructions may be found at:

http://www.uscg.mil/psd/de/crsc.asp.

If you have further questions please contact Coast Guard CRSC Coordinator: HSC Vinkel Valentin at (202) 795-6631 or by email at Vinkel.J.Valentin@uscg.mil.



CG RETIREE SERVICES PROGRAM

By Bob Hinds, CG RSP Manager Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil, 202-475-5451 http://www.uscg.mil/retiree/

2017 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COAST GUARD NATIONAL RETIREE COUNCIL

The Coast Guard National Retiree Council (CGNRC) will hold its 16th annual meeting from 11-12 April 2017 at CG Headquarters in Washington, DC. The Retiree Services Program is strongly supported by the Commandant, Deputy Commandant for Mission Support (DCMS), Assistant Commandant for Human Resources (CG-1), and Director of Reserve and Military Personnel (CG-13) – the CG Retiree Services Program Director. CGNRC Co-Chairs, RADM Ron Rábago (Ret.) and MCPO Kevin Isherwood (Ret.), will preside over the meeting with members representing 17 regional retiree councils and at-large members – Ms. Lula Carpenter, annuitant-at-large; YNC Penny Collins USCG (ret), Fleet Reserve Association, and YNC Kim Lorigan, USCG (ret), President of the CPOA. The meeting will focus on the Council's top priorities and deliverables assigned to workgroups established in February 2017. Among the key deliverables is a *Strategic Communications Plan*, which will describe how the Retiree Services Program will strengthen communications between CG leaders, members, and the CG military retiree community. The plan will include CG active duty messaging/communications, the CG Retiree Services Guide, CG Retiree Websites/Newsletters, External Websites/Newsletters, and Social Media. A complete list of the Council's top priorities is accessible at: http://www.uscg.mil/retiree/. Feedback from the CG military retiree community is strongly encouraged and may be provided to me or any of the CGNRC members listed below:

Name RADM Ron Rabago MCPO Kevin Isherwood **QMCM Thomas Hall** CAPT David Bernstein PSC John Milkiewisz OSCM Dave Bunch CAPT Barry Compagnoi LT Ted Stacy **CAPT Mike Rosecrans** YNCM Bobby Wester CDR Don Goldstein MSTCM LeRoy Dennison **CAPT Ken Harrison** YNCM Marc Fagenbaum **BMCS Jack Crowley CAPT Jim Montgomery** TCCS Paul Siebenkittel MCPO Keith Livingstone MCPO T. Regis Cooney PO Bill Schmidt CDR Salvador Romo, Jr. ITCM David Swanson RADM Bert Kinghorn LCDR Phil Johnson CAPT Robert Lachowsky CDR John Whiddon CAPT Rod Schultz CAPT Ignacio Rivera MKCS John Mast

Ms. Lula Carpenter

YNC Penny Collins

YNC Kim Lorigan

CG Retiree Council CGNRC (Co-Chair) CGNRC (Co-Chair) North East (Boston) Capital Area Capital Area Yorktown, VA East Central, FL East Central, FL Jacksonville, FL Jacksonville, FL Tampa Bay, FL Tampa Bay, FL Miami, FL Miami. FL Central Gulf Coast New Orleans, LA New Orleans, LA Saint Louis, MO Cleveland, OH Cleveland, OH Northern California Northern California Northwest Northwest Kodiak Kodiak Hawaii San Juan, PR San Juan, PR CGNRC (Annuitant) CGNRC (FRA)

CGNRC (CPOA)

E-Mail Rabago.CGNRC@Yahoo.com kevin.d.isherwood@gmail.com tadahall@msn.com dberns01@gmail.com locke45@hotmail.com vktnretiree@gmail.com barrycompagnoni@gmail.com cstacy@cfl.rr.com m.rosecrans@gmail.com bwester2549@aol.com DGoldstein1@tampabay.rr.com LeRov@dennison.com kenharrison@sugarmansusskind.com Marc.M.Fagenbaum@uscg.mil Jackcrowlevir@gmail.com jamesmontgomery@usa.net psiebenkittel@netzero.net bassbolt@vahoo.com cgret@att.net william.a.schmidt@uscg.mil sromojr40@yahoo.com ddswanson@msn.com CoChairs@cgretirenw.org CoChairs@cgretirenw.org roblachowsky@yahoo.com ibwhiddon52@gmail.com rschultz369@gmail.com captrivera42@hotmail.com john.a.mast@gmail.com leecarp@verizon.net penny@FRA.ORG

kimlorigan7@verizon.net



Nama	Grada	Date of	Nama	Grada	Date of
Name	Grade	Retirement	Name	Grade	Retirement
ABBOTT,DANA	ВМ3	20161229	HUDSON,WILLIAM	SN	20170119
AGAPITO,JOHN	MST1	20170201	JAEGER,PHILIP	GM2	20170117
ALGARINSANTOS, JERRY	F&S4	20170201	JORDAN,JONATHAN	BM1	20170204
BALDWIN,WILLIAM	FSCS	20161214	KEENER, GEORGE	OSC	20170201
BARNES,KATHLEEN	HSC	20161211	KERSEN,KEVYN	DC3	20161203
BEAL,ELIHU	MKCM	20170212	KING,MATTHEW	LCDR	20170201
BECKETT,NIUAM	FS2	20170101	KISTLER,KRISTIN	LT	20170201
BECKWITH,WALTER	LT	20161214	KLEIN, CHARLES	BM1	20170201
BEECHLER, NATHAN	IT2 DC2	20170217 20170206	KOMISO,LAURA	SK3 LCDR	20170210
BENWAY,JAMES BRADY,TERRY	MEC	20161206	KONECCI,SEAN KOPERA,MARK	MKC	20170201 20161227
BRANNON,RICHARD	CDR	20170218	KOPS,MICHAEL	LCDR	20170201
BRUMBLE,RONALD	F&S3	20170210	KRAEMER,RONALD	CAPT	20170120
BUSH,CHAD	MK1	20170104	KROTZ,TROY	BMC	20161210
CAMARILLO, CARLOS	EM2	20161221	KRUG,RICHARD	GMCM	20170205
CAMINITI,ERIC	MKCS	20170101	LANDOLT,KRISTOPHER	MK2	20161213
CAPIAK, JAMES	BMC	20170119	LASTER,JERVARIS	SK1	20170101
CARTER, JOHN	BMC	20170210	LAVENDER,RICHARD	MST2	20170215
CASADO,MARC	YNCS	20161224	LISNER,JASON	BM1	20170101
CHANCE, CHRISTOPHER	FS2	20170101	LLOYD,KAREN	CDR	20170214
CHERRY,TIMOTHY	PSC	20170111	LUCAS,RONALD	MKCM	20170115
CIFERS,JAMES	OSCS	20170101	MANOS-SHARPE,ELIZABETH	SK1	20170106
CLARK,ROBERT	BOSN4	20170201	MARTIN,MICHAEL	LCDR	20170101
COFFEY,TIMOTHY	MEC	20170201	MATS,JARET	BOSN4	20170101
CONGER,MARK	BM2	20170115	MATTHEWS, YANCY	MK2	20170103
COOPER, CHRISTOPHER	F&S2	20161227	MCARTHUR, JAMES	CDR	20161211
CORDER, CASEY	FS3	20170103	MCGREGOR,KELLY	DC1	20170101
COTE, MICHAEL	SN YN1	20170116 20170201	MCKENNA,FRANCIS	AMT1 FS2	20161228 20170103
CROLL,MICHAEL CURRY,EVELYN	PERS3	20170201	MELENDEZ,ANGEL MELIN,ROBERT	BOSN4	20170103
DABLING, WILLIAM	ME2	20170123	MELSOM,STEPHEN	LCDR	20170101
DAILEY,RICHARD	MKC	20170101	MEYER,JO	YNC	20170107
DANIELSON,TRINITY	BM1	20161213	MINNIS,RONALD	BM2	20161224
DAVIS,WILLIE	MK2	20170208	MINUTELLO,ROBIN	OS2	20161222
DAWKINS, COURTNEY	YNC	20170101	MITCHELL, ROBERT	LCDR	20161230
DECHANT, RICHARD	CDR	20161222	MITCHELL, DEBORAH	YN1	20170120
DEMARTINO,MARGUERITE	PACS	20170120	MORGAN,ROGER	MK2	20170204
DITRANI,MICHAEL	MECS	20170120	MORIARTY,MICHAEL	CAPT	20161222
DODGE,GENE	ET1	20170202	MORRIS,WILLIAM	MSSE3	20170101
DUNCANSON,ROBERT	BM2	20161220	NOVAK,CHARLES	BMC	20161206
ENG,RICHARD	ISC	20170116	NUNEZ,ERICK	EM1	20170106
FELICIANO, NICHOLAS	BM2	20170204	OKSENDAHL,THOR	MKC	20161217
FENNELL,SEAN FIDLER,MARK	PERS4	20170101	OROZCO,GREGORY	MK2 EM1	20170202
FIDLER,MARK FOSTER,QASIM	AVI3 MSSE2	20170101 20170101	OSETEK,SCOTT PAGE,AIMEE	MUCS	20170201 20170201
FOSTER, QASINI FOWLER, RYAN	MKC	20170101	PARKS, JAMES	MKC	20170201
GARZA,SEAN	FN	20170131	PELLETIER, MICHAEL	BMC	20170112
GIRTON,TIMOTHY	CAPT	20170124	PENN,MICHAEL	YN1	20170214
GULDEN,MICHAEL	ITC	20170206	PETRARCA,MARK	BMCM	20161208
HAHNER,SEAN	BM1	20170131	PIERCE, CHRISTOPHER	MKC	20170101
HANDFORD,LEE	CDR	20161214	PIERCE, JONATHAN	ET1	20170101
HANSON,JAMES	SKC	20170103	POPE,BRYANT	IS3	20170127
HARKINS,MAUREEN	CAPT	20161217	POWERS,MICHAEL	LCDR	20170119
HASTINGS, DAVID	MKC	20170201	ROMERO, CATHERINE	OSC	20170101
HENNEN, ANDREW	MK2	20170211	ROSE, MICHAEL	MEC	20170101
HENNESSY,CHELSEA	SN	20170103	ROSS,KAYLA	YN3	20170116
HEPNER, DEVIN	LTJG	20170117	RUSSELL, JOHN	LCDR	20170202
HESS, JEANNINE	FSC DC3	20170107	SAGE,PRIYA	FS3	20170106
HOGAN,JOHN HOLMAN,SUNNY	DC3 BM1	20170202 20170101	SATTLER,MICHAEL SCHAEFFER,DANIEL	BOSN2 BMC	20170113 20170220
HOLMAN, SUNNY HONIG, HARVEY	PSS4	20170101	SCHEREN, MICHAEL	EM2	20170220
HOPMANN,MATTHEW	FS3	20170112	JOHEN CHANGE	LIVIL	20101207
		20.70100		(Retireme	ents continued on page 12)
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Page 12		The Retire	e Newsletter
(Retirements continued from page 11)			NELSON,L
			PACHECO
SCHWARTZ,MARK	SK2	20170205	PEARSON
SCIARA,ANGELO	ME1	20170204	PETERSO
SHIPPERT, DAVID	CAPT	20170218	ROBINSOI
SIKULA,ARIEL	OS3	20170109	ROSADO,
SILVERSTEIN, JUDITH	PAC	20170122	SAVOIA,S
SIM,MICHAEL	CAPT	20170101	SLAWSÓN
SMITH,COREY	BM3	20170105	SMITH,SU
SPEER,BRUCE	MK3	20170128	SULLIVAN
STEVENS,EDGAR	LT	20170202	SUTTON,J
TERBUSH, JEFFREY	PERS3	20170125	TAH,TINA
THOMAS,ROBERT	CAPT	20170201	TOMPKINS
THOMAS,JOSHUA	ET2	20170202	WEBB,JAN
THOMPSON, JENNY	ME3	20170103	
TOLEDO,LUDWIG	MK1	20170121	
TOWEY,MATTHEW	BM2	20170202	
TUCKER,MINDY	HSC	20170201	CC
WAINSCOTT, CHENEY	AST2	20170103	
WARE,MARK	LT	20170112	
WATERMAN, HAWLEY	CDR	20170104	
WEBB,EMILY	AMT1	20170209	FAII
WEIR,ROBERT	ME2	20161213	FAII
WHITE, DILLON	IT3	20161223	
WHITING,LAWRENCE	YN3	20161222	
WHITSON, DAVID	BM3	20170202	
WILLIAMS,RICHARD	MSSE4	20170101	
WILLIFORD, DAVID	MSSE2	20170101	_
WINSLOW,BRANDON	OS1	20170103	USIN
WOODS,JERRY	SN	20170209	
WOWAK,DANIEL	BM1	20161214	
YOEST,LINDA	SKCM	20170122	The mos
YORK,MATTHEW	LCDR	20170101	Payslip a
ZMACHINSKI,JOHN	BM2	20161206	Self Serv



COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

America's Health Responders

AINSWORTH, ROBIN ANLIKER, TINA BLACK, JULIE BRYNGELSON, JAY BURNS, DARIN BURT, MARIA CAMARGO, WANDA DAVIS, CELESTE DOWNING, BRET DRUEY, KIRK FORBES, ABNNAH FOUST, WILLIAM GRAY, MARK HACKETT, KARLA HAMMACK, THOMAS HILLER, ANN HWANG, INZUNE JENSEN, MICHAEL JOHNSON, CHARLENE JOHNSON, JOEL JONES, MICHAEL KELLY, DAWN LALONDE, FRANCOIS LEBARON, CHARLES LYON, ROBERT MCCORMICK, MARY MITCHELL, TINA	CAPT CAPT LCDR CDR CDR CAPT CAPT CAPT CDR CAPT CAPT CDR CAPT LCDR CAPT COPT COPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CA	20170101 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170101 20170101 20170101 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170101 20170101 20170101 20170201 20170101 20170101 20170101
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MOHS,KIMBERLY	CAPT CAPT	20170101 20170101
MOLINA,FRANK	CAPT	20170101

NELSON, LAWRENCE PACHECO, PATRICIA PEARSON, DELREY PETERSON, ROBIN ROBINSON, GREGORY ROSADO, GUILLERMO SAVOIA, STEPHEN SLAWSON, KATHY SMITH, SUSAN SULLIVAN, RICHARD SUTTON, JAMES TAH, TINA TOMPKINS, DANIEL WERR, JAMES	CAPT CAPT CDR CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT	20170201 20170101 20170101 20170101 20170201 20170201 20170201 20170101 20170101 20170101 20170201 20170101 20170101 20170101
WEBB,JAMES	CAPT	20170101

April-June 2017

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS

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(Continued from page 1)

relied heavily on whaling and fishing when the territory came under U.S. control. However, after foreign whaling, fishing and sealing vessels entered Alaskan waters, fish stocks began to diminish causing large-scale malnutrition and starvation in native villages. To solve the problem, Healy convinced authorities that Siberian reindeer should be introduced to Alaska. Healy's views won over government officials and, in 1892, he brought over the first shipment of reindeer to the Seward Peninsula and established a reindeer station at Port Clarence. By 1930, Alaska's domesticated deer herds totaled 600,000 head and 13,000 native Alaskans relied on the herds for life's essentials.

Under Healy, *Bear*'s humanitarian support of Alaska not only included better nutrition for native communities, she also protected endangered seal herds from poachers. Cutters patrolled the waters of the Pribilof Islands seizing poaching vessels of all nationalities. *Bear* enforced seal hunting regulations into the early 1900's and, in 1892, she was on hand when military action nearly erupted between the U.S. and Great Britain over seizure of British sealing vessels.

By 1896, Healy had served ten grueling years on the Bering Sea Patrol. During this time, *Bear* controlled illegal liquor distribution used to exploit native people in the territory. Native people called the *Bear "Omiak puck pechuck tonika"* or "the fire canoe with no whiskey." Ironically, while one of *Bear's* missions was to interdict the smuggling of illegal liquor to native Alaskans, the stress caused by a decade of cruising encouraged Healy's own drinking problem. In 1896, the Service relieved him of command, dropped him to the bottom of the captain's list, and placed him out of Service for four years. The Service later reinstated him and he commanded other cutters before retiring in 1903 as the third-most senior officer in the Revenue Cutter Service. Physically spent, he died a year later at the age of sixty-five.

A year after Healy transferred off the *Bear*, eight whaling ships became trapped in pack ice near Point Barrow, Alaska. Concerned that the ships' 265 crewmembers would starve to death, the whaling companies appealed to President William McKinley to send a relief expedition. For a second time in her history, *Bear* would support a major rescue mission into the Arctic. In late November 1897, soon after completing her annual Alaskan cruise, the *Bear* took on supplies and sailed north from Port Townsend, Washington. This would be the largest of several mass rescues of American whalers undertaken by *Bear* during the heyday of Arctic whaling. And, it was the first time before recent global warming that a ship deliberately sailed into Arctic waters during the harsh Alaskan winter.

To lead the so-called Overland Relief Expedition, *Bear's* captain, Francis Tuttle, placed LT David Jarvis in charge of a team including LT Ellsworth Bertholf, Surgeon Samuel Call and three enlisted men, and tasked them with driving a herd of the newly introduced reindeer to the whaling ships. Using sleds pulled by dogs and reindeer, the rescue party set out on snowshoes in mid-December 1897.

In late March 1898, after over three months and 1,500 miles in ice and snow, the rescue party arrived at Point Barrow. The expedition delivered 382 reindeer to the starving whalers with no loss of human life. Jarvis later recounted the rigors of the expedition: "Though the mercury was -30 degrees, I was wet through with perspiration from the violence of the work. Our sleds were racked and broken, our dogs played out, and we ourselves scarcely able to move, when we finally reached the cape [at Pt. Barrow]" For their work, Congress awarded Bertholf, Call and Jarvis a specially struck Gold Medal. Jarvis later assumed command of Bear, as did Bertholf, who rose through the ranks to become the first commandant of the modern Coast Guard.

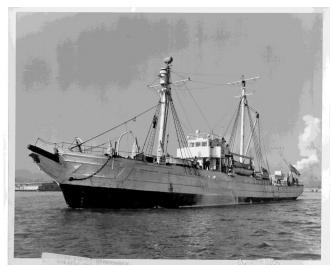
Gold had been discovered in Canada's Klondike in 1896 bringing with it hundreds of thousands of prospectors, miners and their followers to the coastal towns of Alaska. The Klondike was followed by gold discoveries in Nome and then Fairbanks, Alaska. This rapid migration to the Alaskan gold fields continued over ten years and brought with it the need for law enforcement, medical services and humanitarian relief. In the boomtowns of Nome and St. Michel, revenue cuttermen from the *Bear* and other cutters patrolled the streets, cared for the sick and enforced the law where there had been none before. In addition, *Bear* evacuated hundreds of invalids, criminals and sick and desperate miners from the gold fields back to Seattle, where they received proper care.

During the 1898 Spanish-American War, U.S. military leaders had harbored a fear that Spanish privateers would terrorize the West Coast. Consequently, they hatched a plan to defend the coast using revenue cutters stationed out of California and Washington. This plan included arming and armoring the *Bear*. But the war ended before *Bear* had a chance to complete the Overland Relief Expedition so there was no need to fortify the cutter. During World War I

(Continued from page 13)

the U.S. remained neutral through much of the war and faced few threats in the Pacific theater after it entered the conflict. Consequently, the *Bear* continued her Bering Sea Patrols as she had before the war. *Bear* also provided humanitarian relief to regions outside of Alaska. For example, the cutter was laid up in San Francisco when the 1906 Earthquake struck. In the quake's aftermath, *Bear*'s men immediately set to work using the cutter's steam launch to transport goods to the waterfront and worked with local authorities in search and rescue and law enforcement. During this effort, *Bear* personnel worked closely with U.S. Army units then under the overall command of General Adolphus Greely. After the relief effort, President Theodore Roosevelt personally thanked the Revenue Cutter Service for its "*prompt, gallant and efficient work*."

By the mid-1920s, *Bear* had served Alaska for over forty years and over thirty Bering Sea Patrols. During that career, the whaling fleet had sailed out of the Arctic fogs into the mists of memory and waves of miners had come and gone. As Alaskan settlements developed, civilizing influences once provided from the sea by *Bear* became locally available



Appearing very different from her last Greenland visit in 1884, USS Bear returned in 1944 as part of the Coast Guard's Greenland Patrol. (U.S. Coast Guard)

on land. Life in Alaska had become more civilized as new technology shortened distances between Alaska and the lower forty-eight states. These improvements included modern aids to navigation and lighthouses, the telegraph, military bases, steel steamships, the submarine cable, reliable aircraft and the radio. The venerable cutter had witnessed many changes in the north and, in 1927, President Calvin Coolidge officially signed *Bear* over to the City of Oakland to become a historic museum ship.

But the venerable *Bear* was destined for greater glory. After her retirement by the Coast Guard and her brief career as a floating museum, Arctic explorer Richard Byrd re-activated the famous cutter. In 1928, Byrd used *Bear* as one of two ships for his first Antarctic expedition in which he established the well-known research base at Little America. He returned home in 1930 and used *Bear* on a second expedition in 1933. Byrd's expeditions were the first American scientific missions to the Antarctic and they resulted in advanced discoveries in weather, climate and geography. Meantime, *Bear* still relied on her 19th century sail rig and coal-fired steam engine.

Describing his trusted ice-ship, Byrd claimed: "There was a joy and spirit to the Bear's attack . . . She was built for the ice . . . She could lower [her] head and bore in. Therein lay the merit of the honorable and ancient Bear . . ."

In the late 1930s, President Franklin Roosevelt placed Rear Admiral Byrd in charge of the United Sates Antarctic Service. And, in 1939, Byrd employed *Bear* once again to reach his base in Antarctica. Prior to this cruise to the Antarctic, technological change had overtaken *Bear*'s original design and construction. Her new diesel power plant no longer required a tall coal-fired smoke stack and *Bear*'s barkentine rig was altered to support a scout plane. By 1941, with war clouds forming on the horizon, *Bear* evacuated the scientific personnel stationed at the Antarctic bases and returned to the States.

Bear not only served a variety of populations, she carried an ethnically and racially diverse crew. Like other Pacific-based cutters, Bear proved to be a cultural and ethnic "melting pot"--much more so than the nation she served. Bear carried a crew whose native lands not only included U.S. natives, but also Asian and Pacific Island nations, Europeans and Scandinavians. Bear held the distinction of carrying not only Michael Healy, the first African American to take a ship into the Arctic; she also carried George Gibbs, Jr., the first person of African descent to set foot on the Antarctic continent.

In 1944, at seventy years of age, *Bear* was re-activated by the Navy for service in Greenland, where she undertook her first mission as a United States ship in 1884. *Bear* served in the Greenland Patrol as USS *Bear*, only this time she looked very different from her first year in the Navy. In 1941, the Navy cut down her masts to support radio gear, added modern armament and equipped her to carry an amphibious reconnaissance aircraft. And unlike 1884, *Bear*

(Continued on page 15)

relied on a Coast Guard crew during World War II. As a part of the Greenland Patrol, *Bear* cruised Greenland's waters and, in October 1941, she brought home the German trawler *Buskoe*, the first enemy vessel captured by the U.S in World War II.

In May 1944, the Navy decommissioned *Bear* for the last time and transferred her to the U.S. Maritime Commission. *Bear* remained in surplus until 1948 even though her timbers were still sound. Buyers from Halifax purchased *Bear*

hoping to use her in the sealing trade. She remained moored in Halifax for years until her Canadian owners finally sold her to a restaurant entrepreneur in Philadelphia. In March 1963, a seagoing tug took the old cutter in tow to her new home. During the transit, heavy seas developed and, at a point south of Halifax and 200 miles off the Massachusetts coast, *Bear* parted the tug's towline. *Bear* began taking on water through her seams and the tug evacuated the crew trapped on board the powerless vessel. The historic ship began sinking and finally left the surface of the water at 9:10 a.m. on March 19th, 1963.

Over her long life, *Bear* explored, policed, protected, nurtured, defended and helped preserve the polar regions of the world and the populations of humans and animals that inhabit the earth's frozen regions. During that time, she performed the missions of search and rescue, ice operations, law (Photo: U.S. Coast Guard) enforcement, environmental protection, humanitarian relief,



The colorful Captain "Hell Roarin" Mike Healy, first commissioned African-American ship captain and famed skipper of the *Bear*. (Photo: U.S. Coast Guard)

polar research and exploration, and maritime defense. And, she recorded many firsts: such as the first to ship to deliver reindeer to Alaska; first to journey into the Arctic in winter; first to chart parts of the Bering Sea; and first and only ship to serve under the U.S. Navy, Revenue Cutter Service, Coast Guard and Antarctic Service. Cutter *Bear* and the men who sailed her remain a part of the United States Coast Guard's Arctic lore.

ELIGIBILITY FOR THE TRICARE RETIREE DENTAL PROGRAM INCLUDES "GRAY AREA" RETIREES

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) is available to all military retirees (including "gray area" retirees under age 60) and their eligible family members, un-remarried surviving spouses and their eligible children, as well as Medal of Honor recipients and their eligible immediate family members.

The program covers cleanings, exams, fillings, root canals, gum surgery, oral surgery and dental accidents on the first day that coverage becomes effective; after 12 months of being in the program, it then covers crowns, bridges, partials, braces and dental implants. (New retirees who enroll within four months after retirement from the Uniformed Services or transfer to Retired Reserve status are eligible to waive the 12-month waiting period for major services; supporting documentation is required)

The TRDP provides every enrollee an annual maximum of \$1,300 per person, a \$1,200 annual maximum for dental accidents and a \$1,750 lifetime maximum for orthodontics. It is important to note that the money that the TRDP pays out for preventive and diagnostic services doesn't count against the annual maximum – those benefits are in addition to the \$1,300. Retirees can find more information on the program, as well as enroll 24/7/365, online by visiting trdp.org.

TRDP enrollees realize the maximum program savings (an average of 22%) when seeing a network provider. To find a network provider, as well as utilize the **Consumer Toolkit** to view processed claims, see annual maximum information, sign up to receive paperless Explanation of Benefits and more, please visit **trdp.org**. You can also obtain more information by contacting Joe Montoya at imontoya@delta.org.

BOOK REVIEW: THE LOST ELEVEN

By Matthew O'Connell



The 11 African-American World War II soldiers murdered by the Nazis during World War II are memorialized as "The Lost Eleven." (Picture from the National Archives)

They were Americans, just Americans like millions of others who went to war. But they had a distinction: they were African-Americans fighting for a country that treated German prisoners better than it treated its own black soldiers, and in a pasture in Belgium just days before the Christmas of 1944 the utter horror of racism and bloodlust expostulated by Adolph Hitler and his minions, the Waffen SS, visited itself upon eleven brave soldiers of the 333rd Field Army Battalion (FAB).

Unlike most of our black WWII soldiers, the men of 333rd FAB, were not relegated to a service battalion; instead, they were trained in the fine and high art of firing the 155 mm Howitzer. Their journey began at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma where they first noticed the German POWs were better fed and better treated than they, actual American soldiers, were. They put up with

the prevailing racist attitudes of their Commanding Officer, who thought them so mentally inferior to their white counterparts, he informed their Captain they were just too stupid to learn the intricacies of the 155. Proving him wrong, they bested the white "experts" by a full minute. Under the command of VII Corps, they landed on Utah Beach on June 19, 1944.

Authors Denise George and Robert Child interviewed family members and G.I.'s in recounting the neglected story of these brave Americans. In a new book, "The Lost Eleven: The Forgotten Story of Black American Soldiers Brutally Massacred in World War II," they recover their story and ensure the collective amnesia of those times is expiated.

In alternating chapters, the authors recount the history of the events leading up to the murders as well as bring to life the hopes, dreams and aspirations of the forgotten eleven. Space does not permit me to summarize the lives of all eleven of the men (you will have to read the book to do that), but two fellows capsulate their history and bring to the fore their humanity. George Davis, known as Lil' Georgie, is from Bessemer, Alabama and in 1936, he read the results of the Olympics in Berlin where Jesse Owens, in a direct strike to the heart of the Nazi myth of racial superiority, won four gold medals. He carries with him into war a newspaper picture of Owens winning the hundred meter quarter final. Then there is Sergeant Thomas Forte. In September, he and his fellow soldiers arrive in a newly liberated Paris. He was unable to afford a real wedding ring when he married his wife, Angelina, back in Louisiana. Five of his friends contribute money to his mission to get one with a real diamond.

In October, the 333rd FAB established a camp at Schonberg just outside of St. Vith in eastern Belgium where they were to support the 2nd Division Artillery. But December was coming and with it Hitler's great gamble: The Battle of the Bulge. Hitler wasn't the only one who gambled. General Omar Bradley left only a thin line of defense opposite the forest in Ardennes. In early December, the 106th Infantry Division stocked mostly with inexperienced soldiers yet to be tested in battle assumed the defensive perimeter.

On December 16, Germany launched its last major offensive sending four armies in excess of 450,000 men against

(Continued from previous page)

the American lines. U. S. troops were caught unaware. By the next morning, the 106th was surrounded and the slaughter began.

Captain McLeod, the white officer in charge of the eleven, realized that the howitzers were useless at close measure. He surrendered, thinking the Geneva Convention would apply. It was not on the minds of the German soldiers who methodically shot and killed the wounded. In the confusion, the fated eleven escaped, running for three hours until they came upon a farmhouse in Wereth. Mathias Langer, already hiding two Belgian deserters, gave them entrance and attempted to save them. This was one of the most remarkable acts of bravery on the part of a civilian in the entire war—many of his neighbors were German sympathizers and one soon betrayed him.

Herman Langer, then only twelve, and his family treated the wounded Americans until the SS pounded at the door. The family urged the men to retreat into their basement but Sergeant Stewart, the senior Non-Com, told them he could not in good conscience put them into any more danger. They surrendered. The SS removed them to a field where they began to systematically torture and kill them. The horrific details of their deaths are found in the book and they are stomach-turning as the SS betrayed all of the principals of modern combat.

Some important postscripts:

- On February 15, 1945, Army Captain William Everett examines the frozen bodies and reports he believes the men to have been killed by the Waffen-SS, part of Major Gustav Knittel's First SS Panzer Reconnaissance Division. After emptying out their pockets, he finds, among other things: a faded newspaper clipping of Olympic star Jessie Owens and a broken diamond ring.
- In 1947, the U.S. government officially closes its investigation.
- On July 26, 1948 President Harry Truman signs Executive Order 9981 abolishing racial discrimination in the U.S. Armed Forces.
- In 1949, a final Congressional Report on War Crimes lists twelve incidents of murdered troop and Belgian citizen massacres but omits any mention of the eleven black Americans killed in the Wereth field.
- On September 11, 1994 on the 50th anniversary year of the massacre, Herman Langer returns to his family home and, using pieces of their gravestones, erects a cross on the site where the eleven were murdered.
- In 1998, the first official memorial to honor the slain men is held.
- In 2001, three Belgians begin to raise funds to create a permanent and official memorial.
- On May 23, 2004 a permanent memorial, monument and plaque is erected.
- On May 1, 2007, at the annual remembrance ceremony in Wereth, Brigadier General Via, commander of the Fifth Signal Command in Mannheim, Germany tells the audience they should "focus on the heroic lives of these eleven Americans."
- On May 17, 2014 Colonel L. Mitchell Kilgo, Commandant, Fifth Signal Command, lauds Herman Langer, saying he could not "forget the compassionate example of his father."
- In 2013, a resolution, House of Representatives Concurrent Resolution 68, calls on the U.S. Senate's Armed Service Committee to "correct the omission" of the 1949 subcommittee report to include recognition of the massacred eleven (again, the original report documented a dozen similar massacres but did not mention the black soldiers of the 333rd).
- Hermann Langer, the last witness to the final moments of the brave eleven, died on June 21, 2013. He always remembered one of the G.I's gave him a Chiclet.
- Final note: The eleven massacred men of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion were posthumously awarded five combat decorations, including the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and World War II Victory Medal. They are no longer forgotten.

CHANGES ARE HAPPENING

Effective April 1, 2017, all address changes and State income tax changes must be submitted in writing to RAS. We are in the process of creating a change form to be used in the future; however, it was not completed prior to the printing of this newsletter.

The change form will be loaded onto the RAS website when completed.



USCG TAPS



LACTNAME	FIRST NAME	CDADE	■ ◎	CITY	CTATE
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
ALLEN	RICHARD	PSC	20170112	PORTSMOUTH	NH
ANCIELLO	PATRICK	MKCS	20170129	ROCKPORT	MA
ANDERSON	ANDREW	CDR	20161224	PARKLAND	FL
BATTON	VICTOR	AE1	20170107	SEQUIN	TX
BEATTY	ROLAND	TCC	20170121	RIVERVIEW	FL
BELL	JOHN	MKC	20161223	INDIALANTIC	FL
BENNETT	EUGENE	TTC	20170122	THE VILLAGES	FL
BERRY	HILBERT	CWO4	20161225	COCOA	FL
BLAKE	JAMES	CWO2	20170120	NORTH PORT	AL
BLAKE	DENNIS	FA	20161227	BLOOMFIELD	CT
BOCHENEK	JOSEPH	IVCS	20170214	MOBILE	AL
BOOTH BOWEN	THOMAS JAMES	LCDR HS1	20170126 20170129	LOS ANGELES CASA GRANDE	CA AZ
BOYD	JAMES	ETCS	20161225	LAKELAND	MI
BROCK	ROBERT	BMC	20170203	TRAVELERS REST	SC
BROCK	HAROLD	CDR	20161224	WALNUT CREEK	CA
BROWN	LEROY	BMCS	20170227	LEXINGTON	SC
BRYANT	CECIL	CSC	20161227	ELIZABETHTOWN	KY
BUCKLEY	JAMES	YN1	20170204	AUBURN TWP	OH
BUECHNER	DANIEL	BMC	20170113	RIVERVIEW	FL
BUGBEE	LELAND	RM1	20161227	HAMPTON	NH
BURKE	JAMES	CS2	20170201	CARY	NC
BURNS	FRANCIS	SN	20170126	ORMOND BEACH	FL
BURNS	RICHARD	LCDR	20161201	SUN CITY WEST	ΑZ
BURROWS	LEONARD	CDR	20170216	AUSTINBURG	ОН
BUXTON	WINSLOW	CAPT	20170208	BELLEVUE	WA
CALABRETTA	SALVATORE	CWO4	20170115	PALM CITY	FL
CANTRELL	VERNON	ADCS	20170113	VERNON	TX
CARPENTER	CURTIS	BMCM	20161227	CHINCOTEAGUE	VA
CARPENTER	EARL	RM1	20170212	SEQUIM	WA
CARR	MICHAEL	HSC	20170125	UNION	WV
CARR	JOHN	HS1	20170118	VANCOUVER	WA
CASPER	MAX	CDR	20170119	OAKHURST	CA
CASTOR CIANCAGLINI	MARCELINO DAVID	CWO4	20161211	WHITE PLAINS	NY
		RADM	20170124	WOODBRIDGE	VA
CLEMENT CLEVENGER	HOWARD ERNEST	BMC QMC	20161130 20170112	ELLSWORTH UNCASVILLE	ME CT
COMERFORD	PHILIP	CDR	20170112	NAPLES	FL
COOKE	CLAUDE	FS1	20170107	CHULA VISTA	CA
COOLEY	KRISTINA	MK3	20170104	KEY WEST	FL
CORRELL	CHARLES	CDR	20161218	AKRON	PA
COTCH	DALE	PERS4	20170129	STAR PRAIRIE	WI
COX	CARL	DCC	20161202	SALEM	WV
CRANE	STEPHEN	BM2	20161224	PORTLAND	OR
CRUZ	LUIS	FS1	20170216	MURRIEDTA	CA
CULVER	WILLIAM	LTJG	20170205	SEAFORD	DE
DARROW	GEROLD	YNC	20170111	EVERETT	WA
DAVIN	JOHN	CAPT	20170104	ODENTON	MD

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LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
(TAPS continued from page 18)					
DAVIS	WILLIAM	CWO4	20170105	CHESAPEAKE	VA
DAVIS	ALBERT	COMM3	20170102	SAN JOSE	CA
DEBROWSKI	DANIEL	CWO4	20170122	ODESSA	FL
DECKER	BRUCE	LCDR	20161216	FALLS CHURCH	VA
DEMORE	RICHARD	RMC	20170211	ABILENE	TX
DENNER	ROBERT	BMC	20170107	CORVALLIS	OR
DINCO	ROBERT	QMC	20170212	TEATICKET	MA
DOUGLAS	JAMES	BM1	20170112	FORT VALLEY	GA
DOWNS	THOMAS	CDR	20161209	YORKTOWN	VA
DUMONT	DONAT	ENC	20161209	LAGRANGE	ME
		LCDR			
DUVALL	MICHAEL		20170123	EUNICE	LA
EBERWEIN	RUDOLPH	CWO2	20170118	GRAFF VALLEY	CA
EDDLEMAN	CLAYTON	AMTC	20161215	PALMETTO	FL
ESPARZA	SAMUEL	BM1	20170103	SANTA BARBARA	CA
FINDLEY	JONATHAN	FS2	20170124	CHILLICOTHE	MO
FRANCO	JOSE	CWO4	20170224	SAGAMORE BCH	MA
FROST	ALBERT	CAPT	20170114	WOODBRIDGE	VA
GABRIELSON	RICHARD	YN2	20170226	TOPEKA	KS
GALL	JOSEPH	CDR	20170223	CHARLOTTE	NC
GALLIHER	THOMAS	CWO4	20170103	SAVANNAH	GA
GARDNER	KENYON	MK1	20170128	COLCHESTER	CT
GARRETT	ROBERT	LCDR	20161218	VIENNA	VA
GIBBS	RICHARD	LCDR	20170201	FT LAUDERDALE	FL
GILLESPIE	RICHARD	ENC	20161217	SUN CITY WEST	ΑZ
GOLEMBESKI	THOMAS	BOSN2	20170213	BOILING SPGS	SC
GRAHAM	RICHARD	oscs	20161211	SPRING BRANCH	TX
GRANGER	EDWIN	MKCM	20170203	SAN LEANDRO	CA
GRAVITT	BENNY	F&S2	20170110	FERNANDINA BE	FL
GRYMES	ROBERT	YNCM	20170206	WICKENBURG	ΑZ
GUZMAN	ROBERTO	SK2	20161203	CAGUAS	PR
HAGNER	RALPH	MKC	20161215	ATCO	NJ
HALEY	JAMES	CDR	20170128	KAILUA	HI
HALL	EDWARD	CWO4	20170120	BRUNSWICK	GA
HALL	ROBERT	CDR	20170103	TIGARD	OR
HALL	GROVER	CWO2	20170130	ELK RIVER	MN
			20170107		
HANSEN	GARY	RMCS		MARANA	AZ FL
HARGIS	MARK	AT1	20161215	JACKSONVILLE	
HATCHER	WILLIAM	CWO3	20170221	KINGSTON	WA
HEBRON	DALE	CDR	20161218	SURPRISE	AZ
HENDRIX	BILLY	BMC	20170119	SOUTH MILLS	NC
HENNIGS	WILBUR	GMC	20161227	FERNDALE	WA
HEVENER	GEORGE	EN2	20170128	NEW BRAUNFELS	TX
HIRES	KANTRELL	MST1	20170114	PORTLAND	TX
HOOVLER	ARLYN	ENCS	20161202	PLEASANTVILLE	PA
HORTON	RALPH	BMCM	20170110	VERO BEACH	FL
HOWARD	THOMAS	QM1	20170123	WAYNESBORO	TN
HOWELL	BURTON	LCDR	20170208	CAPE MAY	NJ
HUTCHINSON	DALE	LCDR	20170214	NAPLES	FL
INGRAM	CHARLES	ETCS	20161205	SAIPAN	MP
IVERSEN	JAMES	CAPT	20170215	EDGEWATER	MD
JACKSON	WALLACE	MKCS	20170106	RINCON	GA
JAFFE	RICHARD	CDR	20170105	PHOENIX	AZ
JOHNSON	PAUL	CWO4	20170226	WILLOW ST	PA
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LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
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(1111 5 commaca from page 17)					
JOHNSON	JEROME	AT1	20170209	ELIZABETH CITY	NC
JORDAN	JESSE	RMC	20170116	SOPHIA	NC
KAVLICK	DAVID	HSCM	20170112	KNOXVILLE	TN
KAYATI	MARIE	YNC	20170210	COCOA BEACH	FL
KEE	WALTER	CWO3	20161226	HOUMAR	LA
KELLER	RICHARD	RMC	20161210	ST PETERSBURG	FL
KISSELBURG	JACK	ETC	20170121	SOPER	OK
KLEIN	JACK	PO1	20170102	GEORGETOWN	TX
KLINE	EDWARD	ET1	20161230	MADISON	AL
KODIS	PETER	MKCS	20170116	MATTAPOISETT	MA
LAIN LANGHORNE	THOMAS	CDR	20170106	GREENSBORO	NC
LAVOIE	ROBERT HAROLD	SKC BM1	20161225 20170119	VIRGINIA BEACH HARRISBURG	VA PA
LAYNE	ROBERT	YNC	20170119	BELLE HAVEN	VA
LECATO	JERRY	CWO4	20161220	AVON PARK	FL
LEE	GENE	HS3	20170111	PORTSMITH	VA
LESPERANCE	GERALD	CAPT	20170111	AIEA	HI
LEWIS	JOHN	TT1	20170127	MANASQUAN	NJ
LIBURD	MICHAEL	YN1	20170214	STERLING HEIGHT	
LITCHFIELD	ALVIN	EMC	20170107	MONKS CORNER	SC
LOOK	LAWRENCE	MK3	20170207	TAHLEQUAH	OK
LOVELAND	NORMAN	PSC	20170112	KIRKWOOD	MO
LUCE	RICHARD	F&S4	20170122	AUBURN	MA
MADURA	RENALDO	ENCM	20161206	WESTMINSTER	CA
MALEK	FRANK	MK1	20170122	PROCTOR	VT
MANN	FREDERICK	CWO4	20170109	MCALLEN	TX
MATCHETT	JACK	BMC	20161217	PEWAUKEE	WI
MATHIS	LAWTON	BMC	20161219	SAVANNAH	GA
MATHISON	RAYMOND	CWO4	20170217	GAINESVILLE	FL
MATTHEWS	EUGENE	BMC	20161230	BROOKSVILLE	FL
MATTSON	ROBERT	MKC	20161217	WINTER HAVEN	FL
MCGINNIS	CHARLES	SKC	20170217	ELK	WA
MCKEE	MARVIN	EN3	20170129	FRANKLIN	TN
MEARS	JAMES	CDR	20170125	SANDUSKY	ОН
MILLER	CAROL	CDR	20170107	NORTHEAST HARE	
MITCHELL	HARRY	BMC	20170207	EDGEWATER	FL
MODLIN	JARVIS	CWO2	20170122	CALGARY ALBERT	
MOLINA	CARLOS	BM1	20170121	CORONA	NY
MOORE	ALAN	CDR	20170119	DAYTONA BEACH	FL
MORELAND	EDWARD	BMCS	20161205	BELLEVILLE	IL E
MORRIS	GEORGE	CWO2	20161203	WEST PALM BCH	FL
MORRIS	ALBERT	BMC	20170111	HILLSBORO	OR
MORRISON	JACK	ETCM	20170208	SAUKVILLE	WI
MORROW MUTH	JAMES	CAPT CAPT	20161205	JOLIET CHESAPEAKE	IL VA
NEWMAN	HAROLD DORWIN	CDR	20170223 20161208	TUCSON	VA AZ
NOWELL	WILLIAM	MK1	20170214	LITTLETON	NC
OKSENDAHL	THOR	MKC	20161216	GREAT FALLS	MT
PAGE	CLARENCE	QMC	201701210	LITTLETON	CO
PANZERO	THOMAS	SKCM	20161209	APO	AP
PARKER	HAROLD	RADM	20170125	SILVER SPRING	MD
PARSONS	RICHARD	PS1	20170127	MADISON	AL
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LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
(TAPS continued from page 20)					
PEARSON	DAVID	EM3	20170107	MAUSTON	WI
PETERSON	GERALD	ASMCS	20170107	CLEARWATER	FL
PICKHOVER	BRIAN	LCDR	20170203	MANSFIELD	MA
PILATSKY	FRED	CWO4	20170203	N CAPE MAY	NJ
PLUNKETT	WILLIAM	LT	20170113	BLYTEWOOD	SC
PORTER	CLARENCE	CDR	20161217	DULUTH	MN
PRETZER	MICHAEL	IVCS	20170212	IMPERIAL BCH	CA
RAGGIO	VICTOR	SN	20161202	RIO RICO	AZ
RAMISCAL	NICOSTRATO	FSC	20170111	CARSON	CA
REDMAN	EDWARD	CDR	20161202	COLUMBIA	SC
RHODES	LUTHER	DCCS	20161204	PIEDMONT	SC
ROBERTSON	BRUCE	STCM	20170224	NEWCASTLE	OK
ROLLINS	HARRY	YN1	20170201	ACWORTH	GA
ROSENFIELD	MANUEL	CDR	20170222	MATTAPOISETT	MA
ROSSETTI	DAN	EMCS	20161215	FULLERTON	CA
RUNKLE	WILLIAM	GMCS	20161224	LAGUNA BEACH	CA
SANDS	DANIEL	BMCS	20170113	ARLINGTON	WA
SCANLON	FRANCIS	ENCS	20170208	CHEBOYGAN	MI
SCARBOROUGH	HOWARD	FSC	20170207	COTTAGEVILLE	SC
SCHLETTE	PETER	RDC	20170219	DENHAM SPGS	LA
SCHROEDER	RONALD	CWO4	20161220	SUN CITY	CA
SHEPARD	CHARLES	FS2	20161222	JACKSONVILLE	FL
SILVA	DANFORD	LT	20170210	ABINGDON	MD
SILVER	JAMES	BM1	20170113	RUTHERFORDTON	NC
SMILEY	STEPHEN	BMC	20170121	COLLINS	MO
SMITH	CLIFFORD	BMCS	20161224	LAFAYETTE	LA
SMITH	RICHARD	HS1	20161209	WILMINGTON	NC
SOUTHERN	LEMUAL	FN	20161209	PRINCETON	WV
SOUTHWOOD	WILLIAM	LCDR	20161209	TIAGARD	OR
SPIEGEL	HERBERT	CAPT	20170130	NASHVILLE	TN
STEIGER	HERBERT	CDR	20170127	GRS PTE WOODS	MI
STERBACK STEVENSON	RUDOLPH GERALD	SK1 MKC	20170131 20161130	SHELTON CROSSVILLE	CT TN
STEWART	FRANK	MK1	20170205	TAMPA	FL
STORMER	JOHN	ISCM	20170203	ELKINS	WV
STRATTON	JAMES	ENCM	20170218	WESTMINSTER	CA
STROH	ORVILLE	YNCS	20170125	RACINE	WI
TATUM	KENNETH	EM1	20170123	GREENSBORO	NC
TENGBERG	ERNST	SN	20170211	QUINCY	MA
THOMPSON	KEITH	EMCS	20161206	SALT LAKE CITY	UT
TOEPKE	CHARLES	AD1	20170211	SEATTLE	WA
TROUTMAN	WILLIAM	CDR	20170120	HERNDON	VA
VANCE	GEORGE	CDR	20161228	VENICE	FL
VANDEVER	JEFFERY	MKC	20170216	STAFFORD	VA
VONKESSEL	JON	CWO4	20170109	HONOLULU	HI
VONUCKERMANN	FRANZ	MKC	20170105	SAN FRANCISCO	CA
WALKER	MICHAEL	BM1	20161220	BROOKLYN	NY
WARD	EDMOND	YN3	20170125	NEW ALBANY	IN
WARD	ROBERT	MKCS	20161224	SNOW HILL	MD
WAYT	LAWRENCE	QMCS	20170127	PHOENIX	AZ
WEART	DAVID	DC1	20161202	BRADFORD	PA
WEEKS	LARRY	RMCM	20170205	TULSA	OK
WELCH	RAYMOND	MU1	20170209	NORWICH	CT

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LAST NAME (TAPS continued from page 21)	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
WELCH WENRICH WHEDBEE WIGGER WILLIAMS WILSON WOOD YUHAS	RICHARD PAUL JERRY ELBERT JAMES BOBBY THOMAS ROBERT	MKC YNC ADCS YN1 DCC BMC BMC CAPT	20161230 20161221 20170107 20161227 20170101 20170221 20170201 20170124	CARTHAGE SELINSGROVE HERTFORD YULEE CAROLINA BCH PLANTERSVILLE MIDLOTHIAN BONITA SPRINGS	IL PA NC FL NC AL TX FL
1525		NOAA TAPS			P.
FLIOR	ARTHUR	CAPT	20170202	POTOMAC	MD
-523		PHS TAPS			P.
ABDELLAH ALLIS BOND BRINLEY CAHILL CAMERON DELA PAZ HODGE HOLT KITTREDGE KOCH LITTLETON MCCLELLAN MILLER MILLS MYER NIGHSWONGER SNOW SOLARI SOLLAZZO TYSON WAGNER WEST WRIGHT	FAYE JOHN HAROLD FLOYD DANIEL RAY FE FREDERICK JOHN JOHN DAVID NORMAN THOMAS LOWELL LOREN DONALD WILLIAM JOHN LOIS LEOPOLD HUGH M T JOHN BEVERLY	RADM CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT CAPT	20170224 20161219 20161231 20170111 20161205 20170104 20161216 20161213 20170208 20170201 20161228 20170225 20170114 20161226 20161130 20161202 20170106 20170109 20170207 20161216 20170222 20170123 20161215	FAIRFAX CHEYENNE FRONT ROYAL BOULDER RALEIGH W VALLEY CITY LAWTON DAVIDSONVILLE EDISON TUCSON SUN LAKES RICHMOND PIEDMONT HOUSTON KENNEWICK SELAH LEES SUMMIT DALLAS ADA SANTA FE CHAPEL HILL LA GRANGE BROOKLYN	VA WY VA CO NC UT OK MD OH AZ VA OK TX WA MO TX NM NC GA NY

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.

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DEPENDENT TAPS

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Name of Dependent	Relationship	Date of Death	Location
Linda C. Bless	Wife of BMCM William R. Bless, USCG Ret Wife of CAPT Anderson B. Funke, USPHS Ret Wife of RMC Carl E. Lippman, USCG Ret Wife of BMCM George Moore, USCG Ret Wife of CAPT Thomas W. Ruszala, NOAA Ret Wife of SS1 Richard J. Widman, USCG Ret	30 Jan 2017	Milford, DE
Debora L. Funke		16 Nov 2016	Abbeville, SC
Mary Ann Lippman		26 Sep 2016	Aurora, CO
Connie M. Moore		06 Nov 2016	Lexington,. KY
Geraldine Ruszala		05 Jan 2017	Seattle, WA
Eileen T. Widman		01 Aug 2016	Monticello, 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.

THE SHIELD

Here is an article from "The Shield," a publication of U. S. Coast Guard Training Station St. Augustine, FL. It was published in the 1 March, 1944 edition and gives great insight into our collective Coast Guard past. It appears below exactly as it was published and reflects the abbreviations and spelling in effect at that time. Kudos to LCDR Clare Blakeslee from the Public Health Service for bringing this to our attention. It is a real snapshot of another time.

Lieut. (jg) G. A. Whitlaw, Seventh Naval District insurance officer, is urging all Navy personnel to buy the \$10,000 limit of national service life insurance. In reviewing the amount of protection afforded families in the service by the insurance program, he also pointed out other means by which these dependents are cared for by the government.

"While I am primarily interested in national service insurance," said Lieut. Whitlaw, "I cannot stress too strongly the other benefits that are available to service men, and to emphasize the fact that families of American fighting men are protected to a greater extent than those of any other nation."

Lieut. Whitlaw told of an interview with the wife of a Navy flier killed within the Seventh Naval district. "This young woman told me that the total of \$159.48 Uncle Sam sends every month will enable her to raise her son to be the type of boy his dead father would want him to be," Lt. Whitlaw said.

The district insurance officer outlined the amounts this Navy widow was receiving as follows:

National service life insur	\$55.10
Widow's pension	50.00
Child's pension	15.00
Social Security benefits	
(widow)	23.63
Social security benefit	
(child)	<u>15.75</u>
	\$159.48

In addition, she received six months death gratuity paid in one lump sum and totaling \$1,440.

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.

You may contact them at phone: (757) 398-6765 or via email at: d05-smb-dcms-watch@uscq.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 <u>does not</u> 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: <u>alex.potter@hhs.gov</u>. For a **corrected** Statement of Service send your email to: <u>phsccassignments@hhs.gov</u>.

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 1099-R (reporting taxable income)

or you need to change:

- ◆ Your and your dependents' home mailing address (for retired/annuitant statement, newsletter, 1099-R, 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 <u>telephone</u>, by <u>fax</u> or in <u>writing</u>. 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 <u>fax</u> 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. <u>PPC (RAS) cannot accept a faxed W-4 or W-4P.</u> 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 May 9, 2017

RETIREE CUSTOMER SERVICE

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

Page 26	The Retiree Newsle					
Other Important Phone Numbers and Websites						
Medical/Dental Benefits	Phone	Websites/Notes				
Eligibility (DEERS)/ID Cards	1-800-538-9552 (TTY/TDD)	http://www.tricare.mil/deers				
	1-866-363-2883	In CA: 1-800-334-4162; In AK & HI 1-800-527-560				
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.as 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@cgls.uscg.mil

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(Continued from page 26) Other Important Phone Numbers and Websites					
Other	Phone	Websites/Notes			
		http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/ses/			
	1-866-772-8724	Commanding Officer (SEP)			
Final Active Duty Pay	Overseas	USCG Pay & Personnel Center			
, ,	(785) 339-2200	444 SE Quincy St			
	,	Topeka, KS 66683-3591			
Contact PPC (SEP) for information on Se	verance Pay, Separation Pay, Disab	bility Severance Pay, LES's, IRS Form W-2.			
		http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/tvl.asp			
		Send final travel claim to:			
	1-866-772-8724	Commanding Officer (TVL)			
Travel Claims	Overseas	USCG Pay & Personnel Center			
	(785) 339-2200	444 SE Quincy St.			
		Topeka, KS 66683-3591			
		http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-			
		service-records/			
Service Records		Write to: National Personnel Records Center			
	(314) 801-0800	Military Personnel Records			
		1 Archives Drive			
		St. Louis, MO 63138-1002			
	nd include complete name, rank/gr	ives.gov/veterans/military-service-records and ade, SSN, dates of service and date of birth of the			
Social Security	1-800-772-1213	http://www.ssa.gov			
		http://www.marad.dot.gov/mariners/mariner-			
		medals			
		Maritime Administration			
WWII U.S. Merchant Marine Awards		U.S. Department of Transportation			
and Decorations	(202) 366-2646	200 New Jersey Ave, SE			
		Washington, DC 20590			
National Coast Guard	(202) 475 5291	E mail: NDHDask@gma!! cam			
	(202) 475-5381 or toll free	E-mail: NRHDesk@gmail.com			
Retiree Council Help Desk Telephone/E-mail	1-866-664-6245 (ext 55381)				
"HOTLINE"	1-000-004-0243 (EXI 33381)				
HOTEINE					

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.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

