



EVENING COLORS



A Newsletter for Coast Guard and NOAA Retirees "Semper Paratus"

JULY 2002

"AN HONORABLE CAREER OF SERVICE"

ISSUE 3

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

↓ Council Meets	1
↓ CG Mascots	3
↓ PSU 311 Returns and Madrona Decommissioned	4
↓ Long Term Health Care	5
↓ TRICARE	6
↓ Editors Notes	9
↓ NOAA News	10
↓ Nautical Trivia	11
↓ European Vacations	15
↓ Survivor Guide	27

Commandant's Retiree Council Meets



Pictured above (left to right): Pacific NW Council Co-Chair Captain Dana Starkweather, North Coast Council Chair Captain William Wilkings, Co-Chair RADM Gordon Piche , ADM James Loy, VADM Thomas Collins, Capital Area Council Rep. CWO4 Betty Splaine, Northern Cal. Council Rep. Mrs. Lois Dolliver, Tidewater Council Chair Capt. Ed Ard, Co-Chair MCPO Bill Phillips, Capital Area Council Chair Captain Charles Glass, Yorktown Council Co-Chair MCPO Adrian Rymer

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>Memories and Where are they Now???</i>	12
<i>Reunions and Notices</i>	16
<i>Locator</i>	17
<i>Retirements</i>	19
<i>TAPS</i>	22
<i>Dependent TAPS</i>	24
<i>Directory Assistance</i>	25

The inaugural meeting of the Commandant of The Coast Guard Retiree Council, representing all categories of the 40,000 retirees and annuitants in the Coast Guard, just got off the ground on April 7, 2002. RADM Piche and MCPO Phillips Co-Chaired the council meetings in Washington DC that mirrored the Retiree Councils from the other Armed Forces in DOD. This new program is designed to reconnect the retirees with the Active Duty Coast Guard.

The Commandant of The Coast Guard Retiree Council meeting was kicked off on April 7, 2002, with an icebreaker at the Marriott Residence Inn in Pentagon City, Virginia. The Retiree Council joined the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Retiree Council at the event. Welcome aboard packets were given out, along with the agenda for the week with all the retiree issues and concerns that had been presented to the National Council from the field.

On Monday morning we began our first session at the Navy Yard in Washington, DC, with numerous briefs concerning the well being of the retiree community. We received wonderful briefs from top Navy and Marine Corps leadership, including the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Mr. William Navas, the Vice Chief of Naval Operations ADM William Fallon, and the Surgeon General of the Navy VADM Michael.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

A very warm thank you to The Secretary of The Navy Retiree Council for their inclusiveness and hospitality to our maiden voyage, as this was the first full meeting for the Commandant of The Coast Guard Retiree Council. A special thanks to Lt Gen Matthew Cooper USMC (Ret) and MCPON William Plackett USN (Ret), the Co-Chairmen for the SecNav Retiree Council, for their invitation to join them and all their hard work to include us at their briefs and Ms. Pam Nemfakos of the SECNAV staff for making it happen.

The Councils met at the Admiral Gooding Center at the Washington Navy Yard on Monday morning and after all the very informative briefs were completed, we transferred to CGHQ on Wednesday at noon. At CGHQ our council was briefed by MCPOCG Vince Patton on the status of the Armed Forces Retirement Home and our invitation to join the other 4 armed forces in eligibility for our enlisted members to join. That issue is being worked at CGHQ by G-WPM.

The Council was extremely pleased to meet with ADM Loy and VADM Collins and discuss the reenergized Retiree Council. As you can see on the front cover they both took the time to have a photo taken with the Council. Team Coast Guard truly is at work here at CGHQ with the Active, Reserve, Civilian, Auxiliary and Retirees. Retirees believe that the Team in Team Coast Guard means Together Everyone Achieves More and that the Retirees have a great deal to offer back to the Coast Guard.

During our week in Washington, DC, we discovered that the top issues for military retirees today are Concurrent Receipt, ensure Tricare financial support and enhanced coverage and SBP changes repealing the social security offset at age 62 from 55% to 35% to the annuitant and the paid up portion to be accelerated to 2003 from 2008.

For Coast Guard Retiree issues we worked on the rewrite of Commandant Instruction 1800.5D, Commandant of the Coast Guard National Retiree Council Program, that should be published very soon. As your National Council we believe that retirees wish to be engaged with the Coast Guard and our effort will help reenergize the program. The Commandant will be sending out new Charters for the Regional Councils and those will be National Capital Area, Tidewater, Yorktown, North Coast, Pacific Northwest, Northern California and New England. The Co-Chairs are disappointed that previously issued charters do not have any participation at New Orleans, Coast Guard Academy, Greater Mobile, Greater Miami, Western Pennsylvania and Southern California. Our hope is that the Councils will reenergize and become active again.

Our Council would like to thank RADM Eldridge for taking the time to talk with our group about Government Relations and what retirees may be able to do for the Coast Guard in future activities, RADM Brice-O'Hara for her support of the National Council and listening to our out brief, LCDR Hughes and MCPO Villegas for the brief and dialogue from the CG Recruiting Command especially where retirees may be able to help recruiting personnel via college campus and training school because the retiree is on staff or has contacts at the location, and LCDR Brewster G-WPM-2 Compensation Branch for his continued support of the Council.

Co-Chairs RADM Piche and MCPO Phillips wish to express their appreciation to the following Council members that took the time out of their busy schedules to participate in the National Council Meeting, Mrs. Lois Dolliver, CAPT Ed Ard, CAPT Charles Glass, CAPT Dana Starkweather, CAPT William Wilkins, CWO4 Betty Splaine, and MCPO Adrian Rymer.



North Coast Chapter of Commandant's Retiree Council Being Reactivated

The Ninth District Commander has asked retired Captain Bill Wilkins to coordinate reactivation of the North Coast Chapter of The Commandant of the Coast Guard Retiree Council. Bill is seeking 12 volunteers from among retired officer and enlisted members as well as annuitants living in the Ninth District to serve as members of the Council. Those interested in learning more about the Retiree Council may contact him by e-mail at wrwilkins@aol.com, telephone at 440-892-3495 or by mail at 1880 Holdens Arbor Run, Westlake, OH 44145. Your help will be greatly appreciated and will bring more voices to the Retiree community.

Coast Guard Mascots Source: CG Historian Web

Sailors have always carried a variety of animals on board their ships. Many were brought on board as a food source while others became lucky charms. Some animals, such as cats, served a useful purpose by keeping the vessel's rat population in check. Over time the custom became more and more ingrained in many maritime societies and eventually many believed that a ship that sailed without a mascot was considered, by the always superstitious sailors, to be an unlucky ship. Mascots, be they dogs, cats, bears, goats, or even penguins, once adopted and taken in by a cutter or tender, were considered to be a part of the crew. Woe to those who made light of any vessel's adopted member of the animal kingdom.

The Coast Guard, and those who served in the Revenue Cutter Service and the Lighthouse Service, followed this age-old custom. Here is one of the animals that served, with distinction and in combat, with the nation's oldest sea service. He was even formally inducted into the service, complete with service number, personnel record, rank, and all of the privileges and responsibilities that go with enlisting in the service of their country.

SINBAD, C. K9, USCG (Ret.)

The Coast Guard's Most Famous Mascot. As Life Magazine reported: "An Old Sea Dog Has Favorite Bars and Plenty of Girls in Every Port."

The crew of the cutter *Campbell* adopted a mixed-breed puppy in 1938. Little did they know that their canine companion would become a world famous Coast Guard veteran. He sailed with the crew through World War II, enjoyed liberty in the ports the rest of the crew did, and served his country honorably. Until recently he had the honor and distinction of being the only Coast Guardsman to be the subject of a biography! It was *Sinbad of the Coast Guard*, written by Chief Specialist George R. Foley, USCGR and published by Dodd, Mead and Company of New York!

Although he served honorably, he did run into a bit of trouble on occasion, as any sailor might during a long career. He caused an international incident in Greenland, another in Casablanca, and was busted in rank for a number of minor infractions. As another author noted:

"Sinbad is a salty sailor but he's not a *good* sailor. He'll never rate gold hashmarks nor Good Conduct Medals. He's been on report several times and he's raised hell in a number of ports. On a few occasions, he has embarrassed the United States Government by creating disturbances in foreign zones. Perhaps that's why Coast Guardsmen love Sinbad, he's as bad as the worst and as good as the best of us."

He earned the respect of his shipmates during one famous battle between his cutter and the Nazi submarine *U-606*. The cutter was severely damaged and the commanding officer ordered all but essential personnel off the ship. They transferred to a nearby destroyer but a hardy few stayed on board while the cutter was towed to safety, patching her hull and insuring that she stayed afloat for the voyage. Among that few was Sinbad. He served faithfully on board *Campbell* for eleven years before retiring to the Barnegat Light Station. He passed away 30 December 1951 and was laid to rest beneath the station's flagstaff.



USCG Human Resources Service & Information Center

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Editor, Retiree Newsletter

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

PSU 311 RETURNS HOME

LOS ANGELES -- Crewmembers from the Coast Guard's Port Security Unit 311 based in Los Angeles returned home April 9th to fanfare, family greetings and recognition from an Admiral. The 50-member unit deployed October 3rd having augmented port security operations in the Los Angeles and Long Beach ports following the terrorist attacks of September 11th.

The six-month deployment to the Middle East was in support of force protection for naval vessels engaged in Operations Enduring Freedom and Southern Watch. During this time the unit safeguarded over 60 U.S. and Allied naval vessels with more than 1,500 hours underway.

In a 4 p.m. ceremony, Vice Admiral Ray Riutta, Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area, presented the members with the Coast Guard Unit Commendation.

Most of the members are Reservists who will return to their regular jobs of fire sprinkler designer, construction project manager, pest control company owner, police officers, firemen, and a host of 'civilian' occupations.

CG Public Affairs



LOS ANGELES -- GM3 Michael Gordon greets his wife and daughter April 9 after six months deployment in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Southern Watch. Gordon served with San Pedro, Calif. based Port Security Unit 311. Photo by CWO4 Lance Jones



COAST GUARD CUTTER DECOMMISSIONED AFTER 59 YEARS IN SERVICE

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. - The Coast Guard Cutter *Madrona* (WLB 302) one of America's oldest warship was taken out of service. The ceremony took place at Coast Guard Base Charleston, S.C. South Carolina's First Congressional District Representative Henry Brown, and Seventh District Chief of Staff, Capt. John Crowley spoke at the ceremony on April 12th.

After the decommissioning ceremony, *Madrona's* crew began preparations for the commissioning of the new 225-foot Coast Guard Cutter *Oak*. The cutter *Oak* is scheduled to arrive in Charleston this winter to replace *Madrona* in maintaining aids to navigation, Homeland Security, enforcing laws and protecting the environment.

Zenith Dredge Company of Duluth, MN. built the Coast Guard Cutter *Madrona* in 1943. *Madrona*, a 180-foot seagoing buoy tender, is one of 20 similar cutters that maintain the aids to navigation system of the United States, which includes nearly 48,000 lighted and unlighted buoys. *Madrona*, just like all Coast Guard cutters, has served as a multi-mission platform to conduct search and rescue, law enforcement and goodwill assignments throughout *Madrona's* 59-years of service.

Upon commission, the *Madrona* was assigned to Miami from which the cutter was an active participant in World War II. In 1984, *Madrona* entered the Coast Guard Ship Yard in Curtis Bay, MD. to undergo renovation. *Madrona* remained there for five-and-a-half-years until the ship was returned to service at its current homeport of Charleston, S.C.

"*Madrona* remains a very sound and well running ship, thanks to a long line of proud Coast Guard men and women who have meticulously maintained *Madrona* through the years, said Lt. Cmdr. James Cash, commanding officer of the *Madrona*. As the last crew, we regret that our ship will retire from its duties in the United States Coast Guard April 12th. However, we are very proud that our efforts to keep the cutter in top operational condition will allow *Madrona* to continue in public service for many years to come as the new flag ship of the El Salvadorian Navy," Cash said.

Source: CG Web

Federal Long Term Care Insurance Available



By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem, USA
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, April 3, 2002 -- A period of early enrollment into the new Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program is now open. Federal personnel managers estimate as many as 20 million people are eligible to use this new benefit.

The federal Office of Personnel Management has contracted with John Hancock and MetLife insurance companies to provide this additional benefit for all federal employees, including military, and (military) retirees.

The insurance program is designed to cover expenses associated with long-term care in a nursing home or in the beneficiary's home. Federal employees will be able to purchase the insurance for themselves, spouses, children and parents. Federal retirees are entitled to enroll only themselves and their spouses, according to information on the program's Internet home page at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc> "The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program is an option that can protect us emotionally, financially and socially at a time when family members face unimagined challenges," OPM Director Kay Coles James said March 25. "With access to long-term care insurance, we can act responsibly by planning well in advance for future care costs, giving us more time to focus our love and attention on what's really important -- family."

The early enrollment period began March 25 and runs until May 15. An initial six-month-long open enrollment season begins July 1. Officials stressed the early enrollment period is designed to accommodate people who are familiar with long-term care insurance and know what coverage they wish to purchase.

Those who still have questions should wait until the open season. An information campaign under way now will help educate people about the benefit by the open enrollment period, officials said.

Applicants may be required to answer health-related questions, provide medical records or be interviewed personally to be eligible for the insurance.

During early enrollment, pre-packaged policies can be purchased for three- or five-year periods, with daily benefits of \$100 or \$150. Individuals wishing greater flexibility can buy policies with daily benefits from \$50 to \$300. Additional plan options, including an unlimited benefit, will be available during the regular open enrollment, according to an OPM news release.

For individuals between ages 18 and 30, premiums are \$8.40 per month for a policy that offers daily benefit of \$100 over three years and after a 90-day waiting period; the same policy with inflation protection starts at \$32 a month. After age 30, premiums will vary based on age, amount and length of coverage, the waiting period before benefits kick in and other factors, the release said.

Long-term care is not medical care but rather is designed to help people with chronic conditions to perform daily life functions, such as getting out of bed, dressing, eating and going to the bathroom. Care can be received in at home, a hospital, nursing home, assisted living facility, adult day care center or hospice.

Experts caution that since long-term care is not medical care, it isn't covered by many medical insurance plans, including Medicare and TRICARE.

For full details, including premiums, packages, benefits, rules and how to enroll, visit the OPM Long-Term Care Insurance Web site at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc/> or the LTC Partners web site at <http://www.ltcfeds.com/> or call the LTC toll-free number at 1-800-LTC-FEDS (1-800-582-3337) or TDD 1-800-843-3557



Non-Medical Attendant Now Authorized Travel Reimbursement When Accompanying TRICARE Prime Patients for Specialty Care

The fiscal year 2002 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), signed into law by President Bush on Dec. 28, 2001, authorizes travel orders and reimbursement for one non-medical attendant to accompany a non-active duty TRICARE Prime patient referred for medically necessary specialty care more than 100 miles from the patient's primary care manager location. The non-medical attendant travel benefit will be implemented April 1, 2002, and will be retroactive to Dec. 28, 2001.

The non-medical attendant must be a parent or guardian of the traveling non-active duty TRICARE Prime patient. The non-medical attendant may also be another adult who is a member of the patient's family. The parent or guardian is not required to be age 21, but if the non-medical attendant is not the parent or guardian, he or she must be age 21 or older. The military treatment facility or lead agent office, in coordination with the TRICARE Prime patient's primary care manager, is responsible for determining if the requirement for a non-medical attendant exists and issuing the appropriate travel orders.

If the non-medical attendant parent, guardian, or adult family member is an active duty member, or a Department of Defense (DoD) civilian employee, he or she is entitled to temporary duty (TDY) allowances (per diem and mileage), not actual expenses. If the non-medical attendant parent, guardian, or adult family member is a civilian not affiliated or employed with DoD, he or she is authorized reimbursement of actual travel expenses up to the government rate. Actual expenses for gas; oil; highway, bridge and tunnel tolls; and parking fees are authorized up to the government rate for transportation. Non-medical attendants also are authorized reimbursement (within limits) for other expenses related to travel such as lodging (including taxes and service charges) and the cost of meals (including taxes and tips, but not including alcoholic beverages).

Beneficiaries with questions about the Prime travel benefit and the new non-medical attendant entitlement, should contact their local military treatment facility or lead agent travel representatives or beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator (BCAC) for assistance. Telephone numbers and addresses for BCACs are available on the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil.

TRICARE Fiscal Year Catastrophic Cap Reduced for Retirees, Their Family Members and Survivors

The TRICARE fiscal year "catastrophic cap" has been reduced from \$7,500 to \$3,000 for uniformed services retirees, their family members and survivors. The cap is the maximum amount of out-of-pocket costs these beneficiaries are required to pay for medical care during a fiscal year (Oct. 1 through Sept. 30).

For active duty family members, the catastrophic cap remains \$1,000 per fiscal year. The catastrophic cap reduction is retroactive to Oct. 1, 2000. Retirees, their family members and survivors who have paid more than \$3,000 out-of-pocket for TRI-

(Continued on page 7)

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CARE-covered services are eligible for reimbursement. The managed care support contractors (MCSC's) will search their files and identify beneficiaries due refunds.

Beneficiaries who have saved their receipts and choose to initiate a request for reimbursement, may do so by contacting their regional claims processor for guidance on where to submit their receipts and claims. It is not necessary for beneficiaries to resubmit claims already paid by TRICARE to qualify for reimbursement of the amount paid over the catastrophic cap.

For retirees, their family members and survivors enrolled in TRICARE Prime, there is an enrollment year cap. The enrollment year cap begins on the anniversary date of enrollment in TRICARE Prime, and applies to all enrollees. Catastrophic caps, both fiscal year and enrollment year combined, will not exceed \$3,000 in a given 12-month period for retirees, their family members and survivors, and \$1,000 for family members of active duty members.

Once the catastrophic cap and enrollment year cap (combined) are met by TRICARE Prime enrollees, TRICARE will pay up to the TRICARE allowable amount for all covered services (excluding point-of-service charges which do not count toward the catastrophic cap).

For beneficiaries who are not enrolled in TRICARE Prime, TRICARE will pay up to the TRICARE allowable amount for all covered services for the remainder of the fiscal year after the fiscal year cap is met. Retirees, family members, and survivors remain responsible for the cost of all services and treatments received which are not TRICARE covered benefits.

Some beneficiaries mistakenly believe that the \$3,000 catastrophic cap is the ceiling on the amount that TRICARE will cover for a family during any given year, however the opposite is true. The cap will protect retirees, their family members and survivors from paying more than \$3,000 out-of pocket for medical care.

For additional information on catastrophic cap reduction, beneficiaries are encouraged to contact the nearest TRICARE service center or military treatment facility beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinators for assistance. TRICARE benefit information is also available on the Military Health System/TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil, or by calling 1-888-DoD-LIFE (1-888-363-5433).



Are You Eligible for

Wraparound Coverage?

DoD's Medicare

Since the implementation last year of expanded pharmacy and medical benefits under TRICARE Senior Pharmacy and TRICARE For Life, many Medicare-eligible uniformed services beneficiaries, age 65 and over, are now enjoying the peace of mind that comes with having a robust health care benefit.

They no longer have to pay expensive supplemental insurance premiums, higher co-payments, or entire prescription charges because the TRICARE For Life program acts as second payer to Medicare, and the pharmacy program provides coverage they don't have from Medicare.

"Beneficiaries have reported savings of \$3,000-4,000 on their prescriptions, alone. With most prescriptions available to them for a \$3 or \$9 co-pay, some can now purchase prescriptions they didn't feel they could afford before. Not only are they saving money, but many are enjoying a better quality of daily living," states Thomas Carrato, Executive Director of TRICARE Management Activity (TMA).

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

While most of the 1.5 million TRICARE For Life-eligible beneficiaries have been located through extensive outreach communications efforts by TMA, regional lead agents, managed care support contractors, and various beneficiary associations, many still do not know they have this coverage. Their files in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) have not been updated, and they have not renewed their military identification (ID) cards. Continued eligibility for military benefits must be established periodically, because certain events (like divorce from a military retiree, or remarriage of a widow) may cause eligibility to end.

As a result, when Medicare "automatically" sent its first 5 million claims to TRICARE for its newly eligible over-65 beneficiaries, it became evident that some of these claims belonged to beneficiaries whose information had not been updated, and whose ID cards were expired. These claims initially were denied by TRICARE, but agency officials have announced that they will pay these claims temporarily, without requiring beneficiaries or providers to resubmit them.

"We will use this opportunity to advise people on their Explanations of Benefits that they must update their information and ID cards. Those who fail to do so will have future TRICARE claims denied," explained Mr. Carato.

After Aug. 1, 2002, all claims for beneficiaries with expired eligibility will be denied until their eligibility information is updated. During March, DEERS will notify many of the people with outdated information and expired ID cards with a letter.

DEERS also sends an "age-in" letter to newly eligible beneficiaries 90 days before their 65th birthdays, explaining how they can remain eligible for TRICARE benefits.

The best way to verify TRICARE eligibility in DEERS and to obtain a current ID card is to go to an ID card issuing facility. Its personnel can provide information about the documentation that is necessary, its address and hours of operation. If it is not possible for a beneficiary to go to an ID card facility, he or she should call the DoD Reverification line, 1-800-361-2620, for guidance. Information about the nearest ID card facility can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl>, or by calling TRICARE's toll-free number, 1-888-DOD-LIFE (1-888-363-5433).

The TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program Celebrates First Anniversary

April 1, 2002, marked the first anniversary of the Department of Defense TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program. The senior pharmacy benefit became available last year to 1.5 million beneficiaries age 65 and older through the Fiscal Year 2001 National Defense Authorization Act, and has become one of TRICARE's greatest success stories.

The TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program is one of the best pharmacy benefits available to older Americans, according to those who use the benefit. It entitles Medicare-eligible retirees of the uniformed services, their family members and survivors to the same pharmacy benefit as uniformed services beneficiaries under age 65. Many of these beneficiaries had no pharmacy coverage previously, and the cost of their medications absorbed a significant portion of their household budgets.

During its first year, 10.5 million TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program prescriptions have been filled through the National Mail Order Pharmacy and at local retail pharmacies. Since its implementation, beneficiaries have reported glowing accounts of its outstanding operation. Retired Navy Capt. Clarence Creel and his wife Eunice think the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program "is the greatest thing since sliced bread." They are saving nearly \$4,100 per year on prescription medications. According to retired Army Col. Chuck Partridge of the National Association for Uniformed Services, the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program was "a major step in restoring the promise of lifetime health care."

TRICARE Management Activity officials expect the second year of the program to be even more successful than the first. For additional information about the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program, please visit the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy or call the toll-free telephone number, 1-877-DoD-MEDS (1-877-363-6337) between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday.

Editor's Note....

In our April 2002 Issue I had ran an article for voluntary recall to active duty. Due to circumstances beyond my control some of you did not receive your publication in a timely fashion. I deeply regret any confusion and frustration caused from receipt after the deadline. Please see below an addendum to the message that may help you. ~Ron

"Although the announced deadline of 1 May 2002 for submitting requests for recall from retirement has passed, CGPC-opm will continue to consider requests for retired recall since some vacancies remain and some new positions may become available through the year. All other information in the ALCOAST should be adhered to. The needed specialties remain the same. Waivers of the retirement date will be considered based on needs of the Service. Note the FAX Number listed for OPM in ALCOAST 128/02 is not correct. The correct FAX number is 202-267-4320. Any Reserve Retired member inquiring about the volunteered recall ALCOAST should contact LT Dave Roberts at (202)267-1919"

West Virginia Tax Exemption:

The Governor of West Virginia recently signed legislation to exempt the first \$20,000 in military retirement from state income tax. The measure will affect nearly 9,000 military retirees in the state. West Virginia joins 14 other states who exempt military retired pay in one form or another including Alabama, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. Each state has specific qualifications so you need to check with your state tax authority for details. [Source: FRA News-Bytes]

WWII POW Pay:

Sailors and Marines who were prisoners of war during World War II are authorized to receive promotion back pay under the provisions of the fiscal 2001 defense authorization act. The pay goes to members who were selected for promotion but were not available to accept the promotion because of their internment. Dates of eligibility are between Dec. 7, 1941 and Dec. 31, 1946. Surviving spouses are also entitled to the back pay. PERSNET www.persnet.navy.mil/pers62/WWIIPOW/WWIIPOW.html provides application information and how to obtain forms.

If a dog jumps in your lap, it is because he is fond of you; but if a cat does the same thing, it is because your lap is warmer.

~Alfred North Whitehead

HRSIC Email Data

HRSIC RAS now has the capability of capturing your Email addresses for future correspondence, announcements, and notifications. This option/tool is very helpful to both the member and personnel working in HRSIC. If you have an Email address you would like to add, please send to: hrrsic-ras@hrrsic.uscg.mil. Please include your SSN and full name. If you change your Email address in the future, simply send us the new one for updating. If you have already sent your address to the Editor of the newsletter, we will need it again as there is currently no way to transfer the data without an SSN.

FOR HAWAII RETIREES

The Pearl Harbor Retired Activities Office (RAO) serves all USN, USCG and USMC retirees and their families in Hawaii. You can contact RAO at phone 808-473-4222, then menu item # 6. If you want to talk to a Coastguardsman, my shift is Thursday mornings. RAO is located in the Fleet and Family Support Center, 820 Willamette Street (in back of MacDonald's), Pearl Harbor Naval Station, Hawaii 96860-5108. I have an e-mail list of about 30 Hawaii CG retirees and would like to expand it so that I can pass any Hawaii-specific retiree news quickly. If you want to be on this list, Email me at jlesperance@hawaii.rr.com. I anticipate that you won't receive more than 6 messages a year from me, **Gerald O. "Jerry" Lesperance, CAPT (Ret) USCG** The annual Hawaii seminar for retired USN, USCG and USMC personnel, living spouses, and surviving spouses is always held on the first Saturday of November. The next conference will be 2 November 2002, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Banyans, 915 North Road, Pearl Harbor Naval Station. Contact CAPT Lesperance at 808-488-5205 or jlesperance@hawaii.rr.com for details as the event approaches.



**Meet Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., U.S. Navy (Ret.)
Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and
NOAA Administrator**

A native of Philadelphia, Pa., and a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy (Class of '64), Vice Admiral Lautenbacher has served in a broad range of operational, command and staff billets.

Operational tours include Division Officer in USS WASP (CVS-18), and USS HENRY B. WILSON (DDG-7), a second tour on the USS HENRY B. WILSON (DDG-7) as Department Head, and Executive Officer of USS BENJAMIN STODDERT (DDG-22). Areas of expertise include Anti-submarine Warfare, Anti-air Warfare, and Naval Surface Fire Support, with expertise gained during a number of deployments to the Western Pacific and Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War.

Command experience includes tours as Commanding Officer of USS HEWITT (DD-966), Commander Naval Station Norfolk, Commander of Cruiser-Destroyer Group Five with additional duties as Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Riyadh, during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, where he was in charge of Navy planning and participation in the air campaign. As Commander U.S. Third Fleet, he introduced Joint training to the Pacific with the initiation of the first West Coast Joint Task Force Training Exercises (JTFEXs). A leader in the introduction of cutting edge information technology, he pioneered the use of information technology to mount large-scale operations using sea based command and control. He was the architect of the USS CORONADO transformation to a prototype Joint Command and Control ship (JCC), a founding father of the current Fleet Battle Experiment program, and originator of the Sea Based Battle Laboratory concept for significantly reducing the time to move technology to the fleet.

Staff duties include higher education as well as significant assignments in senior management. Vice Admiral Lautenbacher attended Harvard University receiving MS and Ph.D. degrees in Applied Mathematics. He was selected as a Federal Executive Fellow and served at the Brookings Institution. He served as a guest lecturer on numerous occasions at the Naval War College, the Army War College, the Air War College, The Fletcher School of Diplomacy, and the components of the National Defense University.

As a Cost Analyst in OSD Systems Analysis, he became an expert in building cost estimating models for major acquisition programs with specialization in aircraft R&D and procurement. He was one of the original members of the Cost Analysis Improvement Group (CAIG) independent cost estimating effort. As Assistant for Strategy with the CNO Executive Panel, and Program Planning Branch Head in the Navy Program Planning Directorate, he continued to hone his analytic skills resulting in designation as a specialist both in Operations Analysis and Financial Management.

As a Flag Officer he served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Management/Inspector General on the staff of Commander in Chief U.S. Pacific Fleet; and Director of Force Structure, Resources, and Assessments (J-8) on the Joint Staff, where he contributed to the development of the Base Force and was a prime architect of the Bottom Up Review military force structure. He also served as director, Office of Program Appraisal, on the Staff of the Secretary of the Navy and his last assignment on active duty was Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Resources, Warfare Requirements and Assessments) personally responsible for developing the Navy Future (five) Years Program and \$80B annual budget. These positions resulted in the development of significant expertise in federal government processes within both the Executive and Legislative branches.

After transitioning to the civilian sector, he formed his own management consultant business, and worked principally for
(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

Technology, Strategies & Alliances Inc. He was President and CEO of the Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education (CORE) before joining NOAA Monday, Dec. 10, 2001. This not-for-profit organization has a membership of 65 institutions of higher learning, and a mission to increase basic knowledge and public support across the spectrum of ocean sciences.



Nautical Trivia

Log Books

1) Today, any bound record kept on a daily basis aboard ship is called a "log." Originally, records were kept on the sailing ship by inscribing information onto shingles cut from logs and hinged so they opened like books. When paper became more readily available, "log books" were manufactured from paper and bound. Shingles were relegated to naval museums but the slang term stuck.

2) In the old days of sail, literally the only way of determining a ship's speed was to cast a small log secured to a line from the bow of the ship. By paying out the marked length of the line and timing how long it took for the log to reach the stern, the ship's speed could then be calculated. During each watch, the log had to be cast every hour, and the ship's speed and compass course noted in a book so the captain could use it for his navigation. It soon became customary and then required to note other observations such as weather conditions, time of sunrise and sunset, moonrise, sea state, and any happenings on board the ship.

Port Hole

The word "port hole" originated during the reign of Henry VI of England (1485). King Henry insisted on mounting guns too large for his ship and the traditional methods of securing these weapons on the forecastle and aftcastle could not be used. A French shipbuilder named James Baker was commissioned to solve the problem. He put small doors in the side of the ship and mounted the cannon inside the ship. These doors protected the cannon from weather and were opened when the cannon were to be used. The French word for "door" is "porte" which was later Anglicized to "port" and later went on to mean any opening in the ship's side, whether for cannon or not.

Posh

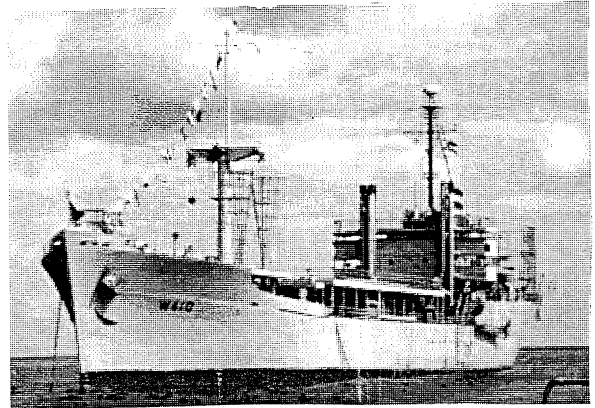
This comes from the days of Britain's East India Company. Aboard the ships that sailed from England to India, the most comfortable quarters were found on the PORT side of the ship going OUT to India (Because the sun rose in the east, thus warming that side of the ship first, and setting in the west, which cooled that area earlier from the heat of the day). Returning from India to England, the more comfortable quarters were now on the opposite side of the ship for the same reason, or STARBOARD HOME. Naturally, these quarters were much more expensive for passengers traveling by ship. Thus, only the more wealthy families could afford to have the initials P.O.S.H. (Port Out, Starboard Home) entered into the ship's log book when they made their reservations.

When we think of friends, and call their faces out of the shadows, and their voices out of the echoes that faint along the corridors of memory, and do it without knowing why save that we love to do it, we content ourselves that friendship is a Reality, and not a Fancy--that it is built upon a rock, and not upon the sands that dissolve away with the ebbing tides and carry their monuments with them.

Mark Twain- ~ Letter to Mary Mason Fairbanks

Where are they now and memories....

The following story is from Rev. Gil Riggs currently residing in San Rafael, NM. He had served on the COURIER from 1957-1959 as an EN1 (RAC, Refrigeration, Air Conditioning) A reunion is listed in our section this issue of the same. Gil had the unique duty of serving on the USCGC COURIER (WAGR 410), operating the Voice of America out of Rhodes Greece This is a tribute to those that have served on this unusual vessel:



USCGC COURIER WAGR-410, a very unusual CG vessel, who worked for the United States Information Agency (USIA), Voice of America (VOA), code named "Vagabond Able."

The idea of this ship was of the VOA in 1950 to have a complete radio relay station aboard a seagoing vessel. President Harry S. Truman, and Joint Chief's of Staff approved the idea in 1951. Originally it was proposed for six additional like ships. Due to high cost, only the COURIER was put into service. Its duty would be to broadcast "The Truth" behind the Iron Curtain countries and to fill the information gap that the Communists had imposed upon East Asia.

The COURIER was launched as a C1-M-AVL cargo ship for the U. S. Maritime Commission in 1945. A 338 foot, 5800 ton vessel and was the "Coastal Messenger." The COURIER was obtained from the Maritime Commission and transferred in 1951 to the USIA. After being fitted out with (3) locomotive type diesels to drive the A/C generators, 500 KW each, (3) powerful broadcasting transmitters, a 150 KW medium wave and two 35 KW short wave. The transmitters were installed on concrete pads having a sandwich of cork filler to isolate them from the vibration of the ship's engines. A small studio and control center to use for special programs were installed, iron flasks filled with 150,000 cubic feet of helium, five barrage balloons, each measuring 69 X 33 feet. These balloons could lift the antenna's aloft to place the broadcast, and a winch under a hole in the flight deck to spool the balloon cables up and down. She received her military commission in Bethlehem Steel Company shipyard, Hoboken, NJ on February 15, 1952. CDR Oscar C. B. Wev was the first Commanding Officer and its (96) man crew sailed to Washington DC and was dedicated by President Harry Truman on March 4, 1952. The ship had a six week shakedown cruise in the Caribbean, Canal Zone, and Mexico, and was now ready to go to Korea. While taking on stores and small arms, orders were changed to the island of Rhodes, Greece.

The ship was not allowed to broadcast on the high seas, only operate within the territorial waters of nations which granted their permission. The ship arrived in Rhodes, which had been under Italian rule from 1912 until the end of World War II, in August 1952, and began broadcasting on September 7.

When the ship arrived in Rhodes, there were a lot of mixed feelings among the locals, who were just out of a Civil War against the Communists. There were still many followers of Communism, having their own newspaper, which always condoned the COURIER, the crew and America. It once published an article stating that a submarine was on its way to sink the ship. Captain Wev sailed to a safe harbor in Turkey, located only a few miles away from Rhodes. There was no attempt to sink the COURIER, so it was back to Rhodes.

Things began to settle down, COURIER families were renting homes, so were the single men. Most of us had maids, buying from local merchants, employing the locals to work at various jobs aboard ship resulting in a lot of money put into the local economy.

However, this did not stop all the problems of raising and lowering the balloon, so a triangular antenna was rigged between the mast, which reduced the broadcasting range, but eliminated many problems.

The COURIER had (3) small boats attached, LCM, LCVP and a LCU. The LCU was never put in the water. Our paint scheme was all Navy Gray, the only Coast Guard Ship I knew of being gray. That later changed, as Stan Ferro, then BM1, had the task of getting the "Gray Lady" into white. I believe this was the last of 1958, or the beginning of 1959, she really looked good in white. We had occasional drills, usually fire drills to check out the pump, hoses, hydrants, and men. REPEL BOARDERS was the other

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

drill. The crew was manned with fire hoses, shotguns, and fire axes. I recall standing by the huge tubes in the Transmitter room, and we were about the same size. Chilled water was circulated around the base. With the chilled water system made with a copper tank and all, made one think it was a NC moonshine still, ... then again maybe not!

The main engine was a Norberg (German) direct reversible. The largest engine I had ever seen, a man could stand inside a cylinder. It had a large Dragon painted on it with fire coming out of the mouth and nostrils. The A/C room was very colorful also, all three engines had Walt Disney characters painted on, including "Micky Mouse," and "Pluto." On the Scuttlebutt was "Chief Crazy Horse" standing on hot coals, representing our now late ENC.

For extended medical for crew and dependents, they were sent to Athens, Tripoli, Libya (North Africa) and Wiesbaden, Germany.

There was a lot of activity ashore. This included the "COURIER CLUB" where there were many parties, and celebrations for our holidays. Swimming, snorkeling, picnicking, sight seeing, hunting for Partridge, playing softball against many Navy ships, with the COURIER winning 75% of the games. There was a school for our children, and a Brownie Scout troop established. There were some of those skirmishes with some young locals that had to "test" the Coastguardsmen's might. Some of those were called "EOKA," a group that had fought in Cyprus.

A musical group "The Platters" came down from Athens one afternoon and performed for us and was broadcast at the same time. Two movies were made while we were assigned, "Surprise Package" with Mitsie Gaynor and Yul Brenner, and "Guns of Naverone" with Gregory Peck, Anthony Quinn and David Nevin. Some of our dependents were lucky enough to perform as extras.

The COURIER was on the air daily, seven days a week, broadcasting up to thirteen different languages, and being heard several hundred miles away. The transmitting was so powerful that "Hotspots" were about the main superstructure, and barriers had to be put up while broadcasting, or someone could be cooked similar to a Microwave. Speaking of "Hotspots," once after receiving permission from the OOD, I was up on the Stick repairing the ship's whistle, with legs wrapped tightly around the same. My legs started to become warm, likewise between my legs. Quick thinking, I looked down by the Flying Bridge, and saw that the ET had put up the barrier signs, of which they had received permission. Down the stick like a squirrel, straight to the Quarter Deck and the OOD as my words were extremely strong to him. I did get an "I am sorry" from him and started to go to the CO, but calmed down and spoke to the EO. A real close call!! There were a few bets won by some of the crew members against our Navy counterparts, including yours truly. At night while broadcasting, you could point a fluorescent up towards a boom, it would light up and you could walk down the gangway with it still lit... so the Navy boys had to pay up.

The programs that were broadcast were originated in Washington, and huge transmitters between Vanceboro and Greenville, NC. Relay stations at Munich, Germany, Tangiers North Africa, Wofferton, England and Salonika, Greece. Then in 1964 a station had been built in Rhodes, and at that time it was time for the "Lady" to go home. This concluded (12) beautiful years, out of the USA longer than any other military vessel. The crew had been increased to approximately (140) Enlisted, (11) Officers of which (40) of the crew were ET's. The COURIER CLUB was liquidated, some money was split up, with proceeds from the liquor sales went to the Coast Guard Academy Chapel fund for rebuilding. In May of 1964 the ship went up to Piraeus, Greece for (30) days, removing the A/C generators, transmitters, and reading for the voyage home to Yorktown, VA. Enroute, stops were made at Naples, Italy, Barcelona, Spain and the Azores. In Yorktown she was converted to train Reserve Units and did so for (10) years. In 1974, like all good things, they must pass, as did the "Strangest Ship in the World" as ENC Joe Bodnar put it. She had her twenty plus in, and was retired and later "Passed the Bar." A job well done, leaving many good and sad memories. Of those that had accidents and deaths, of the great crew members, marriages, girl friends. Dave Newell, the COURIER Association President and I once discussed the ship being similar to the movie "Mr. Roberts". Our reunion in Rhodes in October will be "For the Good Times."

William J. Seney writes about his tour of duty on the USCGC Bibb in 1972. He had ridden out a winter storm in which the Bibb had taken much damage and flooding. His account in prose...



Important Address Change Information! Don't delay the prompt processing of your address change! Include your Social Security number. If you are an annuitant, include your sponsor's Social Security Number or after one year of loss, the annuitant SSN and phone number. And most important –

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY!

(Continued from page 13)

Dear Editor,

Enclosed please find a copy of a poem I wrote about an incident while stationed on the USCGC Bibb. The Bibb was a 327 foot CG Cutter home ported on Boston, MA. She was tasked with manning mid-Atlantic weather patrols. While on patrol in January 1972 and engaged in a MEDEVAC of an injured merchant seaman, she found herself in the midst of a mid-winter hurricane force storm. The poem "The Storm" attempts to capture the event.

The Storm
By
William Seney
LCDR, USCG, Ret.

Ring formed round the moon that night
Bode ill that was to follow.
Pressure dropped, the wind came up,
The storm came on the morrow.

By morn the wind began to moan.
The ship became unsettled.
Day dragged on. The sea built up;
A test of the cutter's mettle.

Night falls on a chaotic scene.
The wind comes from who knows where.
The ship fights valiantly for her life
Adventure has turned to terror.

My heart leaps up into my throat;
I cannot believe my eyes.
As I look out upon the wave,
That towers to the skies.

For days we've labored near despair
As the terrible storm blows fright.
Midst the screaming wind and the crashing sea
We long for the morning light.

Near dawn a thundering crash is heard
By the terrified sailors on deck,
As a mountainous wave explodes o'er the bow;
Port lifeboat reduced to a wreck

The damage is great and mounts by the hour;
Starboard lifeboat now lost to the blast.
Food stores destroyed and flooding begun;
Will the cutter continue to last.

How foolish I felt as the eye of the storm

Arrives to give us relief.

To the captain I said, "We've survived; We're not
dead."

His head shook in sad disbelief.

"Son you're new to such storms," he said with no scorn
As he told me the worst was to come.
I watched on in fear as the storm's wall drew near;
The calm eye was soon to pass on.

As the fury returned, the crew prayed and hoped
That the cutter would remain intact;
But the loss of her masts and life rails caused fear
That survival was not yet a fact.

Hour after hour the ship struggled on.
The sixty foot seas were a sight.
Though battered and torn she continued to warn
Other ships of a terrible plight.

Day three has begun and we wondered, each one,
Will we live to see family and friend,
Or will we all perish in furious seas,
And meet each a disastrous end.

The glass starts up, our hope renewed
That the storm will soon be over.
The rain, it stops; the wind abates;
The seas begin to lower.

We have survived. Was there ever a doubt
That our ship would see us through.
She was built strong and ably manned
By a brave and intrepid crew.



Armed Forces Recreation Center Resorts in Europe

Contact: Corey Henderson
Address: AFRC Resorts in Europe
Attn: Marketing
Unit 24501
APO AE 09053

CIV 08821-729119
DSN 440-2525
FAX 08821-729230



Email: chenders@afrc.garmisch.army.mil

AFRC Takes Retirees on European Escapes

The Armed Forces Recreation Center Resorts in Europe announce an exciting selection of European tours designed for retirees only. The program called "European Escapes" invites retirees living in CONUS and Europe on a package containing tours to favorite European cities, hotel accommodations at both of the AFRC Resort Areas, and dining in AFRC Resort's restaurants.

Retirees may choose from five differently scheduled packages throughout 2002. All packages include a Welcome Reception, transportation to and from Munich airport, daily breakfast, hotel accommodations, transportation and admission to all featured tours and events, and Farewell Dinner Banquet.

For example, the April Adventure package features tours to the German destinations of Rothenburg, Wasserburg, and Herrenchiemsee Island. The other four packages offered during different times of the year bring retirees to destinations such as Vienna, Austria and Brixen, Italy.

"We added exclusive destinations to these packages running at the time of year that the attraction is at it's best", explained Mark Hendryx, Director of Operations. "For example the trip to Nuremburg in December coincides with their famous Christmas Market."

All itineraries provide a day of rest during the busy schedule for guests to relax at the Garmisch Resort. While in the Garmisch Resort area retirees may swing towards the 9 holes at the AFRC golf course or shop for souvenirs in the dozens of downtown Garmisch curiosity shops. AFRC Resorts hosts guests throughout the week with their own tour guides, AFRC restaurant and hotel staff, and a trip coordinator assigned to taking care of every guest's needs.

"We run this program especially for retirees because we understand that even though service members may have been stationed here on assignment, they just now have time to see their desired destinations", said Terry Hodges, AFRC Conferences Coordinator.

To view a list of package descriptions and costs please visit the AFRC Resorts in Europe web page at: www.afreceurope.com.





Reunions and Notices



USS CALLAWAY (APA-35) will have a reunion on 7 – 11 October 2002 in Charleston, SC. Please contact Wallace Shipp, 5319 Manning Place NW, Washington DC 20016-5311, Tel: (202) 363-3663.

C G C Cape Fairweather

First Reunion of WPB 95214 - Cape Fairweather crewmembers is contemplated for October 2002, in Orlando Florida, depending on response. Any ex-crewmembers interested, please contact CDR Harry Oldford, E-mail HARBARONE@aol.com or 407-834-8245.

Reunion for Reserve Unit Traverse City MI

Planning is underway for August 25, 2002. Need names and addresses for all members. Please contact asap Pat Scharf HSC (Ret) at 4252 North 5 Mile Rd., Williamsburg, MI 49690. Or Email at bingoleta@hotmail.com

USCGC ANDROSCOGGIN (WHEC-68)

Officers and Crew from Viet Nam era 1967-68. Date: September 2002 – Specific dates to be announced later. Location: Jacksonville Beach, Florida. Please contact RMCM J. L. Thomas, Sr., (Ret), 6605 Morocco Drive, Louisville, KY 40214. Email NBNP374@aol.com, Tel: 502 364 9861 or RMCM Jack Cunniff (Ret), 1130 Oceanwood Drive, Neptune Beach, FL 32266, Email RMCM JACK@aol.com.

GREAT LAKES RIO is sponsoring a Retiree Seminar, open to all branches of the military at Great Lakes Naval Training Center September 14, 2002. For information please call (847-688-3603, Ext 118. Toll Free 1-888-231-0714. Fax 847-688-2827. Hours Monday thru Friday 0900-1500.

USS COR CAROLI (AK-91) Reunion notice for all Coast Guard personnel serving on the above vessel during World War II. Date is 12 – 15 September 2002 in Denver Colorado. Please contact Lee Bergfield, 806 S. Garfield St., Steeleville, IL 62288-2318

USS CAVALIER (APA-37) Joint Reunion USCG/USN crews (1947-1968) on 29 September – 3 Oct 2002 at the San Remo Hotel, Las Vegas, NV. Please contact CWO4 John E. Giles, USCG (Ret.), P.O. Box 325, Pacific City, OR 97135, Tel: (503)965-6732 or Email: jegiles@oregoncoast.com

Morgenthau Plank Owners Reunion (WHEC-722) (first commissioning March 10, 1969) is scheduled for July 18, 19 and 20, 2003, and will be held at the Three Chimneys Inn located in Durham, NH. For information contact Jim Meehan at telephone number 954-680-1736 (home) or 954-993-4216.

USCGC WESTWIND (WAGB-281) Reunion

Date: August 9, 10, and 11 2002. Location: Philadelphia, PA, please contact Alex Mavica, 13 Knightsbridge Court, Nanuet, NY 10954 Tel: 845 352 7040, Fax 845 352 7440 Email: amavica@aol.com

The 1951 Class of Nevis High School, Nevis Minnesota are looking for Carl Selstead who they reported as joining the USCG in the 1950 era. They want to invite him to an all class reunion and the high school's centennial recognition.

Information can be reported directly to the High School at 218 652 9200 or to me, CWO2 Retired Orville O. Sullivan at 360 892 6664 or write at address 9107 NE 9th Street, Vancouver, WA 98664-3237

Reunion Posting USS/USCGC LANSING (DE/DER-388, WDE-488)

October 16-20, 2002. Best Western Landmark Hotel, Metairie LA (New Orleans). Please contact: Terry A. Moberg, 902 Cindy St., Brainerd MN 56401-3959 and Tel 218 829 3288. Email tmoberg@brainerd.net, Web contact www.ussslansing.org

USS Tripoli Association will hold it Twelfth annual reunion Sept 18-22nd 2002 in Hot Springs AR. The organization is trying to contact former crew members, flight crews and Marine Squadrons. Your help will not only be appreciated by those already located but also by those former crew members in your area who are unaware of our present existence. FFI contact Jim Metts, 3360 Lake Arthur Dr., Pt. Arthur, TX, Tel: (409)722-1468, Email jrmetts@ih2000.net.

USS LST 829 (CG Manned) will be holding its 20th ship's reunion 26-29 Sept. 2002 at the Lafayette Plaza Hotel in Mobile, AL. Reunion coordinators are CDR Robert Pinkerton, USNR (Ret.), 616 Sawara Ct., Pensacola, FL 32506-6208 Tel: (850)453-3553 or CWO Albert J. Ryzner, USCG (Ret.) 4 Autumn Court, N. Dartmouth, MA 02747-5315, Tel: (508) 995-0734

The USCGC Courier (WAGR-410, WTR-410)

Association will have its next reunion in RHODES, GREECE, Celebrating the 50th anniversary of going to Rhodes and begin broadcasting for the Voice of America, and continued for 12 years. Reunion date: 11 through 18th of October 2002 at the Hotel Mediterranean. Banquet (Gala Dinner) Approx. 80 in attendance at this time. Tours/sightseeing planned. The Courier was probably the only U. S. Ship that was stationed out of the USA for that long period. It was known as the Strangest Ship in the World. Contact Gil Riggs, P.O. Box 28, San Rafael, NM 87051, Tel: 505 287 3338 or Dave Newell, Email: dnewell3@charter.net

Notice of Reunion USCG Lightship Sailors. Date: 1-2-3 August 2002. Location New Bedford, MA, Please contact Marty Krzywicki, 940 Albermarle St., St. Paul, MN 55117, Tel: 651 488-0504. Email Lightshipsailor@msn.com

U. S. Coast Guard Combat Veterans Assn. Reunion to be held in Reno Nevada, Oct 28-Nov 01 2002. Please contact for info or application for membership: Patrick E. Ramsey, 552 Stanley Spencer Mt. Rd., Gastonia, NC 28056, Tel Toll Free: 1-866-242-8277

The 25th annual reunion of USCG LORAN construction and operations personnel will be held September 5, 6, & 7, 2002 at Palmer Gulch Lodge in the Black Hills of South Dakota. This is the 2nd time the reunion has been held here---a beautiful site and only 5 miles from Mt. Rushmore. The reunion was started by WW II LORAN personnel but USCG LORAN personnel from all years are invited and encouraged to attend. For further information contact: Roger Kehm, 2610 S. Hawthorne Ave. Sioux Falls, SD 57105-4512 Phone: (605)-338-0234 (November - May) (605)-388-0234 (May - November) e-mail: rldmk@dtgnet.com

U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters is assisting U.S. Customs – In their search for an experienced person with Coast Guard experience to act as the **Senior Maritime Advisor** at the American Embassy in Tbilisi, Georgia. This advisor shall be the principal manager on all matters related to the development of autonomous institutional capabilities within each country to curb employment of the nation's waterway systems for unlawful purposes. As such, they shall develop and coordinate in conjunction with other U.S. government agencies, agencies within each country's governments, and other members of the Embassy staff, the execution of a plan to enhance capabilities to prevent the movement of illegal drugs, precursors and any other essential chemicals, and other illicit products along navigable waterways and ports. This will include long-term advisory services, procurement of equipment, and coordination of various in-country training opportunities, working in conjunction with the International Affairs staff at CGHQ.

The successful candidate will be hired by the U.S. Customs Service under a personal services contract at a competitive salary and benefits package. Housing and utilities will be paid for and provided through the American Embassy in Tbilisi. This is an unaccompanied tour of duty.

Interested personnel should email or send a resume detailing their Coast Guard experience to LCDR Jeff Dixon at jdixon@comdt.uscg.mil, contact by phone at (202)267-2555 or Mr. Jim Kelly at James.F.Kelly@customs.treas.gov and may be contacted at (202)927-0722.

The U. S. Coast Guard National Association of Former Stewards and Stewardmate Inc. will be celebrating their 13th Reunion August 9-11th 2002 at the Holiday Inn, located at 150 Park Ave., Orange Park, FL 32073. Please contact CPO (Ret.) John Nixon, P.O. Box 352447, Palm Coast, FL 32135, Tel: (386) 446-8575

USCG Portland Maine Cutterman's Association will be holding their 5th Reunion held August 2-4, 2002 in Portland, ME. All the membership is invited to attend as well as Cuttermen having served or currently serving on Coast Guard vessels in Portland. This includes Government Weathermen. For more info contact: Portland Maine Cutterman's Association, P.O. Box 15172, Portland ME 04112. Registration: Wes Splettssoesser, Tel (207) 854-4016, Email: wesspletss@msn.com

The crew of the USCGC Duane (WHEC 33) Association will hold its 11th Annual Reunion in Portland, Maine on September 26-29, 2002. Events include visits to Spring Point and Portland Head Lights, L.L. Bean store in Freeport, a one-hour cruise among the islands of Portland Harbor aboard the MV Chippewa, a Downeast Lobster Bake on House Island, a great hospitality suite, gala banquet, and outstanding raffle. The official hotel is the Best Western in South Portland with all rooms priced at \$99 per night. For more information, please contact Tom Grabowski at (412) 856-1151 or coastie@stargate.net.

The North Texas Coast Guard Association holds it's semi-annual "Salty Dog Luncheon" at noon on the last Saturday of April and October of every year at the Mercado Juarez Restaurant, 1901 W. Northwest Hwy, Dallas, TX 75220. All Coastie veterans, active, reserve, or retired who either live in the North Texas area or who just happen to be in the area are welcome. We'll raise a glass to anybody who holds red racing stripes on a white or black hull in reverence. For further info contact Sam Goforth, Public Affairs Specialist, North Texas Coast Guard Association at goforths@swbell.net

USCGC's Absecon and Chincoteague second reunion will be held Oct 3 - 6, 2002, in downtown Norfolk, VA, at the Radisson Hotel, across from Scope Convention Center, 700 Montebello Ave, Norfolk, VA. 23510, [757] 627-5555, Toll Free: 1-800-333-3333. Anyone [both Navy and Coast Guard] who served on either Vessel from date of Commissioning in 1943 to Decommissioning in 1972, when both Cutters were turned over to South Vietnam, are welcome to attend [families included]. On **Thursday**, Oct 3, from 3 pm to 7 pm, the **Hotel is hosting a reception:** Hors-d'oeuvre, beer and wine will be included. All reunion attendees are welcome. At our **Banquet Saturday night**, Oct 5, the former Commandant, **Admiral James M. Loy** will be the **Special Keynote Speaker** Those interested contact John R. Peters, 905 Laconia Court, VA. Beach VA. 23464, [757] 479-0000, e-mail odupeters@aol.com or Harry S. Huggins, 5411 Greenfield Drive, Portsmouth, VA 23703, [757] 484-3700. e-mail muzz4poppi@cs.com

Reunions and Notices Cont'd...

Patrol Frigate Reunion Association, August 25-September 1, 2001, Embassy Suites, Charleston, SC, Roberta Shotwell, 622 Southgate Ave, Daly City, CA, 94015, (650) 756-7931, e-mail: Patrolf@aol.com.

The Ancient Order of the Pterodactyl, a Coast Guard Aviation fraternal organization, will hold its Annual Roost at the Adams Mark Hotel in Mobile, AL from 10 to 14 October 2002. The Roost is open to all current or former CG aviation personnel and others interested in preserving Coast Guard aviation history. For further information contact CAPT Bob Watterson at (261) 639-1798 or rjbobw@bellsouth.net. Information and registration forms are also available at our Website - www.aoptero.org

CGC Coos Bay W-376 joint reunion with USS Coos Bay in Seattle, Wa. October 13th thru 17th, Best Western Executive Inn. Contact Bill Forte 111 Riverfront Dr. Cashmere, Wa. 98815 or e-mail blf1111@aol.com



Bryan R. Parker CWO, USCG, RET would like to locate anyone that served with him while in the Coast Guard. His duty stations were as follows: Boot Camp-Cape May-Delta 49, CGL Cherokee-Norfolk, Engineman School-Groton, CGC Absecon-Norfolk, CGC Matagorda-Hono, Portsmouth HarSta-New Castle NH, CGC Reliance-Corpus Christi, ComEastArea Trg. Det.-NY, CGC Durable Brownsville, CGC Spike-Mayport FL, CG LorSta Kure Island, CGC Pt. Baker Port Aransas TX. Please contact at 2302 Quail Trail, Brownsville, TX 78520. Tel: 956-541-9665, or Email brekrap@cs.com

SKCS Henry E. O'Briant (Ret) would like to locate a couple of old shipmates; **John Cutright CWO (F&S)**. He was stationed with Henry in the early to mid 60's at TRACEN Groton, CT and believes he was originally from West Virginia. Second is **John Gates, CWO (Ship's clerk??)**. Jack believes he went from YN1 to SKC then CWO. He was stationed with him on the USCGC WINNEBAGO out of Hono in the late 50's. Originally from CA. Any info please contact Henry at johank@ricconnect.com, or snail mail; 15 Stenton Ave., Westerly, RI.

Chuck Olsen, GM1, USCG (Ret.) would like to get in contact with **Mark Cornejo, CWO, USCG (Ret.)**. Please contact at (360) 452-3715 or Email at ciman_1@msn.com

James Maguire would like to find **DCC Bill Ribbing**. They were stationed together at Base Yorktown in 1976. If out there please contact James at 2809 Denison, Ct. Cocoa, FL 32926, Email: maguir_j@bellsouth.net

BMC Earl (Buddy) Wilson would like to hear from any shipmates that he was stationed with. He can be contacted at 311 Agler Lane, Jacksonville, NC 28540, tel: (910) 455-6904 or Email captbuddyw@aol.com

Vincent Presley, GM1 (Ret) would like to get in touch with the following old shipmates: **Kenneth Raymond (SSC Ret?)**, **William Martin (GM1 Ret)**, and **Robert Wilhelm (GM1 Ret)**. Email address is vpresley83@vol.com. If anyone knows where they are, please let them know Vincent is looking for them.

LCDR Joe Dowdell (Ret) would like to hear from **AMTCM Charles Caddy** (boot camp class X-RAY 16), who retired 2001 Oct 01. Please write to 318 Arthur St., DeLeon Springs, FL 32130 or email at Jdowdell50@aol.com.

THIRD ANNUAL GUARDSMEN OF YESTERYEARS BREAKFAST

On September the 7th 2002 Coast Guard Group Eastern Shore will host a breakfast for any one who served in the United States Coast Guard. This breakfast will start at 0800 but coffee will be available at 0700...It will be held at the Chincoteague High School Gymnasium located at 4586 Main Street in Chincoteague, Va. 300 tickets will be available. These will be sold on First Come Basis. Tickets price are \$5.00 in advance and \$7.00 at the door the morning of the breakfast. Come out and see shipmates of the past, enjoy good food and possibly win a door prize. A special speaker will have a few words for us. Tickets can be purchased in person or by mail, please contact CWO Dave Lewis at (757) 336 2891 or BMC Wayne Merritt at (757) 336 2872 for details. Our mailing address is 3823 Main Street Chincoteague, Va. 23336. Additional info on motels and area interest can be obtained from either of the POC listed above.

LCDR James Q, Alligood, (Ret.) is in an Assisted Living home in St.Petersburg, Florida and I am sure he would be so happy to hear from anyone who knew him during his Coast Guard days. He served from 1924 - 1948 and was the coach of the US Coast Guard Academy Rifle Team in New London from 1934-1940 and was also a member of that team. Prior to that he was a welter-weight boxer for the Coast Guard national boxing team and won 46 out of 52 fights. During WWII he served in the Pacific aboard the American Seaman (1940-42), the Serpents (1943-44 --sunk at Guadacanel) and the Mintaka (1944-45). Prior to that he served aboard the Downs and the Cossin. Before retiring in 1948 he was commanding officer of the U.S. Coast Guard base at St. Petersburg. He then served as an officer in the U.S. Merchant Marine and retired once again in 1968 -- serving mostly in Vietnam and Latin America. In 1968, he opened Alligood Marine Supply in Marathon, Florida and then moved his business to St. Petersburg in 1975 -- working every day until 1994. **At age 89 he FINALLY retired.** Today he is 97, in good health, both mentally and physically -- but could use a little company in the form of letters or in person.

He can be reached at:

James Alligood
Bon Secours Place #115
10401 Roosevelt Blvd.
St.Petersburg, Florida 33716



USCG Retirements



Name	Rank	Date of Retirement	Years of Service
ADAMS, DARIN	EM2	20020401	21
ADAMS, PHILIP	FSCM	20020126	41
ALBINIO, JACOB	BM1	20020401	26
ALLEN, RAYMOND	ET1	20020315	27
ASHENFELTER, HOLLY	YN2	20020301	21
BACHMAN, KIPP	BM1	20020301	20
BAILEY, JEFFREY	AVTC	20020401	20
BARNES, JAMES	YN1	20020301	20
BARRETT, WILLIAM	PSCS	20020331	43
BOSCH, MIGUEL	FS1	20020212	28
BOTTIGLIERI, LOUIS	F&S4	20020221	41
BOUDREAU, WINSTON	LCDR	20020205	41
BOWMAN, PERRY	BM1	20020401	20
BOYLE, THOMAS	LTJG	20020211	28
BRENKMAN, TIMOTHY	YN1	20020301	20
BRENNEMAN, JOHN	YN1	20020401	20
BRENT, DAVID	BM2	20020401	20
BROWN, RONNIE	PS1	20020324	29
BRUDNICKI, LAWRENCE	CAPT	20020301	29
BUDER, CHAD	ET3	20020318	03
BURBAGE, MARK	ET1	20020401	20
BUSCHER, ROBERT	HS1	20020223	37
BYBEE, JAMES	CDR	20020225	36
CEDENO, MARK	AMTC	20020301	23
CENTA, FRANK	ELC4	20020224	37
COLMAN, DAVID	FTC	20020401	20
CROY, DALE	MK2	20020401	20
DATU, BENEDICTO	MKCS	20020301	29
DAVIES, WILLIAM	BMCS	20020401	25
DAVIS, ROBERT	QMC	20020301	20
DAVIS, RUSSELL	AST2	20020301	20
DEGLAU, PETER	AMTC	20020401	22
DELANEY, TIMOTHY	HSC	20020301	20
DEWYS, DONALD	BMC	20020316	35
DIEMER, EARL	BM1	20020305	37
DIMONDA, MICHAEL	BMCS	20020326	31
DODGE, TODD	BM2	20020401	20
DOOLEY, VAUGHN	DCC	20020401	20
DUGIN, ROBERT	FSCM	20011229	28
DUNNO, ROBERT	MKC	20020401	22
EDMISTON, PAUL	LCDR	20020210	40
EISENHART, PATRICK	CDR	20020303	30
ELLINOR, DAVID	AMT1	20020301	20
FAULKENBERRY, BLAINE	AMTC	20020201	20
FIERRO, JOSEPH	LT	20020301	22
FISHER, FREDERICK	CDR	20020215	35
FORKER, DAVID	AMT1	20020301	22
FULLGRABE, PORTIA	PERS4	20020320	28
GARDNER, JEFFREY	AMT1	20020401	20
GARDNER, ROGER	FSC	20020301	21
GEORGE, PATRICK	BM1	20020301	20
GODBEY, EDWARD	F&S4	20020401	26
GORDON, JOHN	AVT1	20020401	20
GRANEC, MARTIN	MKC	20020301	20
GRANT, DUNCAN	BOSN3	20011201	27
GRIESE, ROBERT	BM1	20020401	20
HAMILTON, JON	CDR	20020219	41
HARPER, ROBERT	LT	20020301	20
HARRIS, BRUCE	AMT1	20020401	20
HARRISON, KENNETH	CDR	20011215	34
HART, TROY	AMT1	20020401	20
HENKE, JOSEPH	LT	20020215	34
HIGH, ROBERT	PS1	20020327	31
HOBACK, WARREN	AVT1	20020401	20
HOLLOWAY, CECIL	YN1	20020401	20
HUNT, MARK	FSC	20020401	20
IANNONE, VICTOR	MK1	20020401	20
ISTRE, HELEN	YN2	20020401	20

Name	Rank	Date of Retirement	Years of Service
JENKINS, JEFFREY	TCC	20020401	20
JOHNSON, CHARLES	TTCM	20020401	30
JOHNSON, KENT	HS1	20020228	20
JOHNSON, RUFUS	PS1	20020320	32
JURKIEWICZ, IAN	RDC	20020401	21
KACZUR, DANIEL	CDR	20020401	36
KELLY, JAMES	LCDR	20020203	41
KNIGHT, EDWIN	MK1	20020325	35
LAMASTUS, ROBERT	BMC	20020401	24
LANG, MARC	MAT3	20020401	30
LAUREANO, RAFAEL	BMC	20020401	27
LAVOIE, REGINALD	AVI4	20020301	30
LAWRENCE, NELSON	ENG4	20020227	35
LEBOW, JONATHAN	IVCS	20020328	35
LEHMAN, ROBERT	BMC	20020301	20
LIPSCOMB, WILLIAM	ET1	20020401	20
LITTLE, JIMMY	DC1	20020301	22
MACARTHUR, DOUGLAS	PSS4	20020304	34
MARTIN, JAY	HSC	20020401	20
MARTIN, STEVEN	CDR	20020207	37
MCADAMS, KELLY	YNC	20020301	25
MILLER, JAMES	AVTC	20020301	20
MILLER, JOHN	DC1	20020223	36
MOONEY, JOEL	FS1	20020301	20
MORROW, KENNETH	SKC	20020401	26
MOUNT, TOMMY	MAT4	20020401	30
MOYNIHAN, DAVID	QMC	20020401	20
NELSON, JACK	CDR	20020311	36
NICKE, ERIK	EM1	20020401	21
NOLAN, WILLIAM	TCC	20020328	26
NOVAK, JOHN	LT	20020401	26
OLDFIELD, RONALD	BM2	20020401	21
OLDRIDGE, RICHARD	AVI4	20020301	30
SEGARRA, WILFREDO A.	LT	20010701	23
PAVAO, MATTHEW	ET1	20020301	20
PHIPPS, RODNEY	WEPS2	20020301	20
PILANT, STEPHEN	LCDR	20020213	27
POSTON, TOBY	AMTC	20020201	21
QUILES, MARCOS	AMT2	20020301	21
RATLIFF, RANDALL	ET1	20020301	20
RECK, RONALD	CAPT	20020301	30
REGISTER, STANLEY	YN2	20020308	33
RENTAS, EDIL	HSC	20020301	21
REYES, HARALD	TCC	20020401	21
RICE, LAWRENCE	MK1	20020218	34
RIVERACORDERO, IGNACIO	CAPT	20020227	26
RUSZCZYK, MICHAEL	CAPT	20020226	38
RYAN, WILLIAM	CDR	20020204	39
SCHAEFER, PAUL	MKC	20020401	22
SCHARF, JAMES	EM1	20020207	38
SCHNEIDER, BRUCE	QM1	20020401	20
SEIDL, VINCENT	AVTC	20020401	20
SELLERS, JOSEPH	AMT1	20020301	20
SEUBERT, GERARD	YNC	20011126	23
SHEPARD, EVELYN	CDR	20020203	35
SHUEY, TOBIN	MSTCS	20020201	20
SIMBRE, LEONARD	F&S4	20020401	30
SISCO, RONALD	SKC	20020301	20
SMITH, DAVID	TC1	20020401	20
SPOONER, GRANT	MST1	20020227	29
STPIERRE, DAVID	QMC	20020401	21
SZILASI, DAVID	AMT1	20020401	20
THOMAS, JIM	PSC	20020308	35
THOMAS, SIDNEY	CAPT	20020113	36
THOMPSON, WILLIAM	AST1	20020301	22
THUMSER, NELSON	ENG3	20020202	32
TOBIN, JOHN	AMTCS	20020201	26
TURNER, RONALD	YNCS	20020301	30

VATH, DANIEL	YN2	20020301	20
VAUGHN, TOREY	SKC	20020401	23
WATSON, CHARLES	PSC	20020202	32
WEIDNER, KENNETH	DC1	20020301	20
WELTMAN, CRAIG	LT	20020201	20
WEST, BOBBY	PS3	20020330	23
WHITELEY, ROBERT	MK1	20020211	39
WILLIAMS, ARTHUR	AVI4	20020301	27
WILLIAMS, HAROLD	RDC	20020301	20
WOLANSKI, LEONARD	BM2	20020203	27
WOLFE, CRAIG	DCC	20020301	20
WOOD, WILLIAM	IVC	20020326	24
WRZESNIEWSKI, WALTER	LCDR	20020401	30

NOAA



BRAINARD, RUSSELL	CDR	20020401	20
DAVIS, ERIC	CDR	20020401	29

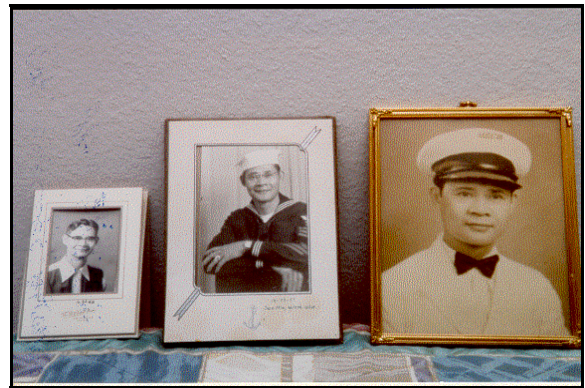
Have a happy Retirement!!!!!!!!!!!!



Oldest Living Coastguardsman Celebrates 104

Chief Commissaryman Eracleo Alimpolo turned 104 on April 22nd. Chief Alimpolo was born in 1898 and is a descendent of the Philippines. He joined the Coast Guard in 1928 after serving four years in the Navy, and retired in 1951 as a Chief Steward after serving on 11 cutters and 13 shore units. His first three cutters included the Sebago, Pontchartrain, and the Alexander Hamilton, which was a full sailing ship. He's a World War II veteran and has been decorated with the American Campaign Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

Happy Birthday Chief!





TAPS

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	RANK	DATE	CITY OF DEATH	STATE
ABNEY	WILLIAM	BMC	20020228	COCOA	FL
ADDIS	RICHARD	LCDR	20020226	SAN FIDEL	NM
AL	ROBERT	SS1	20020304	SAN DIEGO	CA
ALLEN	ROBERT	CDR	20020406	MARYSVILLE	WA
ALLEN	THOMAS	ENCS	20020215	BRISTOL	RI
ARMPFIELD	DONALD	AT1	20020301	JACKSONVILLE	NC
AUSTIN	OSWALD	ENC	20020301	POPLAR BRANCH	NC
BALDWIN	WILLIAM	EN3	20020214	HUNTINGTON BC	CA
BARNES	WARREN	CAPT	20020414	WINCHESTER	MA
BELL	C	SK1	20020221	GARNER	NC
BIRCH	REGINALD	TTC	20020409	CHINCOTEAGUE	VA
BOBECK	DANIEL	CDR	20020314	SLIDELL	LA
BOGART	BOB	BM1	20020209	NEWPORT	OR
BORDER	DONALD	CSC	20020220	PLEASANT HILL	MO
BOURNE	RICHARD	BMC	20020314	FREMONT	CA
BROWN	JAMES	CWO2	20020325	BALTIMORE	MD
BRUSH	ELIZABETH	SKC	20020224	PENNS GROVE	NJ
BUSCA	AURELIO	MUC	20020401	FORT MYERS	FL
CAFFY	DORION	AMC	20020330	ST PETERSBURG	FL
CALHOUN	CHARLES	MCPO	20020224	SANTA ROSA	CA
CAREY	EMIL	BMCM	20020325	CHATHAM	MA
CARLSON	ROBERT	YNCM	20020214	BRADENTON	FL
CHRISTENSEN	ROBERT	SN	20020224	ADDISON	IL
COFFIE	HERMOGENES	BM1	20020405	CABO ROJOO	PR
COMEAU	ANN	CDR	20020223	MESA	AZ
CRAMER	LARRY	HSCS	20020301	LOUISVILLE	KY
CROUSE	LAWRENCE	BMC	20020321	WATERTOWN	MA
DAWE	WILLIAM	BM1	20020317	CLEARWATER	FL
DECOSTA	JOSEPH	LCDR	20020325	CAPE CORAL	FL
DOHERTY	JOHN	CAPT	20020323	TIBURON	CA
EATON	LESLIE	CWO3	20020317	HOUSTON	TX
EMERY	JAMES	LT	20020318	TUCSON	AZ
ERGONIS	FRANK	SKCM	20020302	LODI	CA
FARLEY	ROBERT	MK1	20020302	WHITE MARSH	VA
FIELDS	CECIL	BM1	20020222	DEMOPOLIS	AL
FORMAN	CARL	LTJG	20020319	KENNESAW	GA
FOX	JACK	ENC	20020309	GAFFNEY	SC
FULCHER	DOILY	CWO4	20020312	KING GEORGE	VA
GEISZ	LAWRENCE	CWO3	20020301	RIVER RIDGE	LA
GOLAMBOS	STEPHEN	BMC	20020208	TUSCON	AZ
GORE	JAMES	RDC	20020123	AIEA	HI
GOSLIN	JAMES	EMCS	20020315	SPRINGFIELD	MO
GRAVES	ROBERT	CWO3	20020327	MADISONVILLE	TN
GRIFFIN	ROBERT	GMC	20020216	TRACY	CA
GUINARD	PHILIP	FN	20020331	BOISE	ID
GUTIERREZ	JOJO	SS1	20020308	PHILIPPINES	RP
HAKKINEN	JOHN	BMCS	20020326	VANCOUVER	WA
HALL	WILLIAM	CSC	20020221	CAPE MAY C H	NJ
HAMPTON	WILLIAM	CDR	20020226	MIAMI	FL
HARMON	LEROY	CWO4	20020307	GLEN BURNIE	MD
HARPIN	NORRIS	BMCS	20020228	MCKINLEYVILLE	CA
HEBERT	VIRGIL	BMC	20020407	TOLEDO	OH

HERTICA	RAYMOND	CAPT	20020324	ESCONDIDO	CA
HODGDON	GEORGE	PS1	20011215	DRACUT	MA
JACKSIE	JAMES	BMC	20020320	ELM GROVE	WI
JENNINGS	LEO	CWO4	20020316	LTL EGG HBR T	NJ
JUUDICE	ROBERT	CWO4	20020327	HAMPTON BAYS	NY
JOHNSON	JERRY	MK1	20020224	THEODORE	AL
KELLER	MATTHEW	ENC	20020228	TULLAHOMA	TN
LANPHERE	HOWARD	CS1	20020403	SANFORD	MI
LONG	MELVIN	LCDR	20020224	BEAN STATION	TN
LYNN	ROBERT	FN	20020309	SOUTHFIELD	MI
MIDGETT	MARVIN	EN1	20020306	ELIZABETH CTY	NC
MOONEY	ARTHUR	CWO2	20020307	JACKSONVILLE	FL
MOORE	GEORGE	MMC	20020309	SUFFOLK	VA
MORGAN	CALVIN	ENC	20020310	ELIZABETH CIT	NC
MURPHY	CHARLES	EMC	20020313	ALBUQUERQUE	NM
NELSON	MONDAL	MK1	20020309	DUNBAR	WV
OLSEN	HAROLD	BMC	20020229	OAKDALE	CA
OVERTON	ROBERT	CAPT	20020411	SCARBOROUGH	ME
PALLAM	JOHN	ADC	20020302	FELTON	DE
PERRY	ELLIS	VADM	20020302	LAWRENCEBURG	TN
PFEIFER	CARROLL	LCDR	20020218	BROOKLYN	NY
PILOTTE	EDWARD	LCDR	20020213	FRAMINGHAM	MA
PRICE	JAMES	CWO3	20020402	WILMINGTON	NC
PRIDGEN	ALSON	SKC	20020329	WILMINGTON	NC
ROBBINS	CHARLES	CWO3	20020409	OCALA	FL
RYAN	JOHN	CWO3	20020405	CROWNSVILLE	MD
RYDBLOM	WILLIAM	TTC	20020326	TILLAMOOK	OR
SAYEN	JOSEPH	TTCM	20020324	HANCOCK	MI
SCEARCE	RICHARD	QM2	20020101	ROANOKE	VA
SEIBEL	HERMAN	GMC	20020404	JACKSON HEIGH	NY
SEILER	PAUL	CWO3	20020413	HAYWARD	CA
SEUBERT	GERARD	YNC	20011126	TOPEKA	KS
SHARP	PAUL	BMCS	20010216	STANFIELD	OR
SHINE	JUDY	YN1	20020218	OKLAHOMA CITY	OK
SIMPSON	MALCOLM	MK1	20020403	HALIFAX	MA
SMITH	ROBERT	CDR	20020215	OYSTER BAY	NY
SNOW	KENNETH	CWO3	20020312	CAPE MAY CT H	NJ
STINSON	WENDELL	ADCS	20020311	ESCONDIDO	CA
STONEY	ROBERT	BMCS	20020413	LAWRENCE	MA
STRANG	DONALD	CWO3	20020314	ROSEBURG	OR
STRINGER	THOMAS	CWO3	20020327	HOLLYWOOD	FL
TAYLOR	CHARLES	HMC	20020225	HURRICANE	WV
THOMPSON	DONALD	BM2	20020211	GRIFFIN	GA
VERNON	ALBERT	CAPT	20020221	REHOBOTH BCH	DE
VOLTZ	JAMES	MKCS	20020223	FOX PT	WI
WEST	RALPH	CAPT	20010304	SEVERNA PARK	MD
WRIGHT	ROBERT	FN	20020311	IRMO	SC
ZUHONE	KRIS	CWO3	20020307	WILLIAMSBURG	MI

NOAA

GILMORE	ROSS	CAPT	20020324	SEATTLE	WA
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Sea Fever by *John Masefield*

I must go down to the seas again to the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by,
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sails shaking,
And a grey mist on the sea's face and a grey dawn breaking.
I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume and the seagull crying.
I must go down to the sea again, to the vagrant gypsy life,
To the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted knife:
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow rover,
And a quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trip's over.

Dependent TAPS

Debbie Bowman, wife of FS1 Steven Bowman	4 January 2002	Garland Tx
Catherine Fisher, wife of LCDR Kent Fisher	3 April 2002	Grand Rapids MI
Rita P. Roughgarden, wife of Capt Kenneth Roughgarden	1 April 2002	Gales Ferry, CT
Glady E. Keck, wife of SKC Earl N. Keck	28 February 2002	Silver Springs, FL
Jane Elizabeth Morrison, wife of BMC George S. Morrison	6 April 2002	Eastport, ME
Glenease Bessire, former wife of YNCM Royal (Roy) C. Bessire	4 April 2002	Waco, TX
Ann D. Krueger, wife of Daniel T. Krueger	25 February 2002	Easley, SC
Marjorie G. Poulter, wife of Capt E. A. Poulter (passed in Oct 1985)	11 October 2001	Santa Rosa, CA
Josephine M. Matteson, wife of CWO4 Everett J. Matteson	6 March 2002	Portsmouth, VA
Phyllis M. Biscuti, wife of PHCS Philip A. Biscuti	29 March 2002	North Wales, PA
Charles L. Adams Jr. son of FTCS Charles L. Adams	16 October 2001	Winnsboro, SC
Ann D. Krueger, wife of QMCS Daniel T. Krueger	25 February 2002	Easley, SC
Sunny J. Stubbs, wife of MKC James A. Stubbs	3 December 2001	Lamarque, TX
Belinda Wimmer, wife of LCDR Robert R. Wimmer	13 April 2002	Spokane, WA
Mary C. Swaim, wife of CDR Fair L. Swaim	9 September 2001	Birlington, NC
Geraldine L. Eaton, wife of BMC George R. Eaton	15 March 2002	San Jose, CA

If you have lost a loved one and would like their name printed in Dependent TAPS, please contact the Editor with their name, date of death, your name and retired rank, and city/state of residence. You can write the Editor at USCG Retiree Newsletter, HRSIC (RAS), 444 SE Quincy Street, Topeka, KS 66683; or e-mail the Editor at: "HRSIC-rasnewsletter@hric.uscg.mil". You may also fax your request to (785)-339-3772.

DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE

Coast Guard/NOAA Retired Pay & Annuities



For information on:

- CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR RAS
- CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR NEWSLETTER
- START, STOP OR CHANGE OF ALLOTMENTS

Write, Call or Fax us at:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
Coast Guard Human Resources
Service & Information Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591



Toll Free 1-800-772-8724
Commercial (785)339-3415
Email: HRSIC-RAS@HRSIC.USCG.MIL
FAX (785)339-3770

You may submit by letter, Email, Phone or Fax us for requests to:

- Change SITW
- Change FITW
- Change Banking Info

Write to:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
Coast Guard Human Resources
Service & Information Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591



Or FAX to:
(785)339-3770

Exception: Must submit a W4/W4P if claiming 10 or more exemptions or claiming simple exempt status.

Report of Death



To report the death of a Coast Guard, NOAA retiree/annuitant, or a Lighthousekeeper call: 1-800-772-8724

Or write:

Commanding Officer(RAS)
Coast Guard Human Resources
Service & Information Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591



Commercial: (785)339-3415



FAX: (785)339-3770

DEERS

Find
DEERS & RAPIDS
information on the
web at:
www.dmdc.osd.mil



Call your local ID issuing office or call:

Toll Free: 1-800-538-9552
In CA: 1-800-334-4162
In AK & HI: 1-800-527-5602



TRICARE/Medical Benefits



Call your CG Health Benefits Advisor at:

1-800-942-2422



Visit the TRICARE web site at:
"www.tricare.osd.mil"

Final Active Duty Pay

Visit the "SES web page at:
www.uscg.mil/hq/hrsic/ses.htm



For information on Severance Pay, Separation Pay, Disability Severance Pay, LES's, IRS Form W-2, while on Active Duty prior to separation/retirement call or write:

Commercial: (785)339-3550



Commanding Officer (SES)
Coast Guard Human Resources
Service & Information Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591



Service Records



Visit the National Personnel Records Center web site at:
www.nara.gov/regional/mpr.html

For copies of DD214's, personnel records, medical & dental records, and service medals - requests must be in writing and include complete name, rank, SSN, dates of service and date of birth. Write to:



National Personnel Records Center
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Commercial: (314)538-2050



Social Security

Visit the Social Security Administration's web page at:
www.ssa.gov/SSA_home.html



For information about Social Security benefits contact your local Social Security Office or call Toll Free:

1-800-772-1213



VA Benefits



Visit the VA's web page at: www.va.gov/

For information about available VA benefits contact your local VA office or call Toll Free:

General Information: 1-800-827-1000
Insurance Information: 1-800-669-8477
Headstones: 1-800-697-6947



Veteran's Group Life Insurance (VGLI)

Find information on insurance coverage for veterans including VGLI on the VA's website at:
www.va.gov/benefits/insurfaq.htm

For information on VGLI coverage costs and renewal options write or call:

OSGLI
213 Washington Street
Newark, NJ 07102

1-800-419-1473



Travel Claims



Visit the TVL web page at:
www.uscg.mil/hq/hrsic/tvl.htm

For information, call Toll Free: 1-888-872-4885
Or write: Coast Guard Human Resources
Service & Information Center (TVL)
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

HOW IS OUR CUSTOMER SERVICE?

Please help us measure your satisfaction with our service. The information you provide is strictly confidential and will be combined with many other responses and used for statistical analysis. We appreciate and value your reply, which will help us improve our service to you.

Please rate us in the following customer service areas:

Telephone Inquiries - In rating our telephone inquiry service, please consider:

	Never		Usually		Always
* Are you able to reach us easily by phone?	1	2	3	4	5
* Are our employees helpful & courteous?	1	2	3	4	5
* Are our employees knowledgeable?	1	2	3	4	5

Written Correspondence - In rating our written correspondence, please consider:

	Never		Usually		Always
* Is our correspondence clear?	1	2	3	4	5
* Do we respond to you in a timely fashion?	1	2	3	4	5
* Do you receive the Retiree Newsletter?	1	2	3	4	5
* Do you read the Retiree Newsletter?	1	2	3	4	5
* Is the Retiree Newsletter informative and helpful?	1	2	3	4	5

Payroll Delivery - In rating our payroll delivery, please consider:

	Never		Usually		Always
* Does your pay arrive on time?	1	2	3	4	5

USCG/NOAA Pay Statements (Sent only when a change has been made to your account.)

	Never		Usually		Always
* When received, does your pay statement explain your pay entitlements & deductions satisfactorily?	1	2	3	4	5

Customer Expectations

	Never		Usually		Always
* Are we meeting your needs and expectations?	1	2	3	4	5

Comments: (please include your name if you'd like a response:

Please mail or fax form as follows:

Fax: 785-339-3770

Mail: COMMANDING OFFICER (RAS)
 USCG HRSIC ATTN: CUSTOMER SURVEY
 444 SE QUINCY ST
 TOPEKA KS 66683-3591

WHEN THE TIME COMES, WILL YOUR SURVIVOR KNOW -----?



- ↓ How to file a death report
- ↓ How to claim final retired pay due
- ↓ How to get the elected survivor annuity started
- ↓ How to claim other federal benefits that may be due such as:

- Department of Veterans Affairs Entitlements
- Dependency Indemnity Compensation
- Social Security
- ID Cards
- Burial Flags

After a retiree dies the survivor is faced with applying for many benefits, with little knowledge of the often very confusing processes. All this happens while they are trying to deal with overwhelming grief. To help answer the many questions during that stressful time we have simplified our Survivor Information Booklet. By taking the time now to review this booklet, gather the supporting documents that are required and filing them in a location from which they can be readily retrieved, you can help to ease the stress that is experienced during this time. To further assist your survivors, we have initiated an Express Annuity Start system to simplify the processing and expedite payment of benefits. To take advantage of this new system, fill out the Form HRSIC-1884, (found in booklet) sign, date and return to us.

The booklet "**Information for Survivors of USCG, USCGR, and NOAA Retirees**" is available now on our web page: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/hrsic/>

NOTE: For those requesting by mail, booklets are being printed at this time. After submitting your request please be patient and they will be mailed as soon as available.

You may order by providing the following information to us either by mail, fax, or E-mail:

Name and Rank _____

SSN _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Mail to:

COMMANDING OFFICER (RAS)
USCG HRSIC ATTN: SURVIVOR PKT
444 SE QUINCY
TOPEKA KS 66683-3591

Fax to: 785-339-3770

E-Mail: hrsic-ras@hrsic.uscg.mil

US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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SERVICE & INFORMATION CENTER
444 SE QUINCY ST
TOPEKA KS 66683-3591
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PERMIT NO. G-157

Retiree & Annuitant Services



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www.uscg.mil/hq/hrsic



every hour every day around the clock and around the world