



The Coast Guard/NOAA Retirees' Newsletter

"Semper Paratus"

July-September 2009

Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty

Issue 3/2009

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Coast Guard gets new escort for nuke subs



The Coast Guard Cutter Sea Dog, a newly-designed 87-foot coastal patrol boat, transits Tampa Bay, Fla., May 6, 2009 during sea trials. Coast Guard photo/ Petty Officer 3rd Class Rob Simpson.

KINGS BAY, GA. - The Coast Guard cutter Sea Dog (WPB 87373) is scheduled to arrive at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay Monday at approximately 4:00 p.m. Sea Dog is an 87-foot coastal patrol boat commanded by Chief Warrant Officer Tyrome Tillett, and it has an assigned crew of 10 Coast Guard personnel. Sea Dog is the 73rd Marine Protector Class patrol boat constructed by Bollinger Shipyards of Lockport, La. Among many upgrades and uses of advance technology are integrated bridge systems and a stern launched small boat.

Sea Dog will be joining the cutter Sea Dragon, which was formally commissioned in January 2008. Both Coast Guard cutters are assigned to Coast Guard Maritime Force Protection Unit Kings Bay, which provides dedicated security to the Navy's submarine fleet as they transit in and out of Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay.

Sea Dog will be formally commissioned during a ceremony scheduled for July 2 at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay. Rear Adm. Steve Branham, Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District, will preside over the time-honored naval tradition, which marks the formal establishment of the new cutter. U.S. Sen. Saxby Chambliss is scheduled to attend the commissioning along with his wife, Julianne. Mrs. Chambliss is the ship's sponsor and will also speak during the ceremony.

(Source: Coast Guard News Release dtd May 22, 2009)

CO's Corner –

Hello from Topeka, Kansas where the heat of summer is already here. Since the last issue, we met with the Coast Guard Retired Council in Washington DC, to hear their concerns on behalf of PPC Topeka Retired and Annuitant customers. They brought up the following three issues: 1. They would like to see self service computer options for our retired annuitant customers. 2. They would like to make sure reserves between Ret 2 and Ret 1 status remain in touch with updated addresses and e-mail information on file. 3. They would like to go to electronic distribution of "The Retired Newsletter" eventually for those that prefer that option.

Here is our feedback on these issues: 1. We want to provide self service options for Retired and Annuitant customers, but CG policy currently prohibits sending passwords to home computers not on the .mil network, effectively precluding this service at this time. We will continue to advocate for self service and work to resolve the information security concerns with headquarters. 2. We welcome updated information at any time through our Customer Call Center for those between Ret 2 and Ret 1 status. When a member is six months away from Ret 1 status we send information to their address on file so they can be ready to request and receive their benefits when they turn sixty. Once a member attains Ret 1 status they work directly with the Retiree & Annuitant Services (RAS) Branch. 3. We will move to electronic and e-mail options where possible, but will provide an option for those that prefer to continue to receive a hard copy of the newsletter. It is very important that all our customers keep their contact information updated with us. We welcome your input on these issues.

As reported last issue, our Concurrent Retirement and Disability Payments (CRDP) record review has been completed. We are still responding to valid inquiries on this and also seeing some negative blog comments from a vocal minority of customers. Please let me remind everyone in this category that the Veteran's Administration (VA) is still dealing with challenges in this area. As reported, we provided all data to the VA computer data center. When you call the VA central customer service number or the regional office, they may tell you they haven't gotten info from the Coast Guard. This is most likely due to the VA not disseminating the data within their system to one of their 50 regional service centers. CG veterans on their "Benefits Data Network" (BDN) system have probably already been paid. Unfortunately, payments for veterans on their "VetsNet" system (majority of CG vets) may take longer as the VA is manually processing those payments.

I was very gratified to get the following survey comment from a retired Coastie just yesterday: "I have to assist DOD retirees on many occasions with unraveling problems with DFAS and I am so happy that my retired pay, CRDP, etc. is kept in the CG family." He felt strongly enough that he called me personally to recognize PPC service. We want all of our customers to feel that same way!

That is enough news for this edition. Have a great and safe summer, and don't forget to check out our PPC web site <http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/ras/> Thank You!

PPC values are: Customers First; Committed to Employees; Stewardship and Integrity.

Semper Paratus!

J. D. Phillips, Captain, USCG
Commanding Officer, PPC Topeka

U. S. Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center

CAPT Jay Phillips
Commanding Officer

Michael P. Sullivan
Executive Director

Debra G. Farley
Chief, Retiree & Annuitant Services

CWO3 Marie Hallford
Chief, Procedures & Development Branch

William L. Weakly
Editor, The Coast Guard/NOAA
Retirees' Newsletter

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

TRICARE NEWS

Nearly six months after startup, the new TRDP contract is in full swing

On April 1, 2009, the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will celebrate its sixth month of operations under a new contract. Delta Dental of California began the new five-year term as administrator of the TRDP on October 1, 2008; they have administered the program since it began in 1998, and in the fall of 2007, the Department of Defense awarded Delta Dental the contract to continue to administer the TRDP through September 2013.

The TRDP, authorized by Congress as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1997, offers affordable dental benefits as a voluntary option to the nation's five million-plus Uniformed Services retirees and their eligible family members. With a current enrollment of over 1.1 million covered lives, the TRDP is the nation's largest voluntary, all-enrollee-paid dental program.

With the new contract that began October 1, the Enhanced TRDP featured some additions to an already comprehensive scope of benefits, such as coverage of dental implant services at 50 percent of allowable charges, an increase in the orthodontic lifetime maximum from \$1,200 to \$1,500, and 80 percent coverage for posterior composite fillings. Also starting October 1, TRDP benefits under the new Enhanced-Overseas Program were made available to retirees and their eligible family members who reside overseas. Until then, enrollees had to return to the Enhanced TRDP service area to receive dental care. Additionally, Enhanced Program enrollees who live within the service area are now covered for emergency treatment when they are traveling outside the service area.

The TRDP is a national, combined fee-for-service/preferred provider program that offers enrollees access to any licensed dentist in all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Canada. While enrollees may seek care from any licensed dentist in this service area, optimal benefits will be available to those enrolled retirees and their family members who choose a participating network dentist.

After a mandatory 12-month enrollment obligation is satisfied, enrollees can remain in the program on a month-to-month basis. The Basic Program remains closed to new enrollees but continues with no change in benefits for those already enrolled and who wish to remain enrolled. The TRDP carries a \$50-per-person-per-year deductible with a family cap of \$150 and an annual maximum of \$1,200 per person (\$1,000 for Basic Program enrollees) against which preventive and diagnostic services are not counted. Coverage for these services as well as for basic restorative services, periodontic service, endodontic services, oral surgery and dental emergencies is available immediately upon the effective date of coverage. Crowns, bridges, full and partial dentures, many implant services and orthodontics will be available after only 12 months of continuous enrollment, payable at 50 percent.

More information about the TRDP, including how to enroll online, can be found on the TRDP web site at <http://www.trdp.org> or by calling Delta Dental toll-free at 888-838-8737.

VA News

President Obama's 2010 Spending Plan Initiates Transformation for VA Services

May 7, 2009

Record Budget Enhances VA's Ability to Become a 21st Century Organization

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced President Obama's 2010 budget for VA. The budget emphasizes a Veteran-centric commitment to expanded services with a 15.5 percent increase over 2009, the largest percentage increase for VA requested by a president in more than 30 years.

"Our 2010 budget represents the President's vision for how VA will transform into a 21st Century organization that is Veteran-centric, results-driven, and forward-looking," Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki said. "This transformation is demanded by new times, new technologies, new demographic realities, and new commitments to today's Veterans. It requires a comprehensive review of the fundamentals in every line of operation the Department performs. We must be sure that valuable taxpayer dollars are invested in programs that work for our Veterans."

The centerpiece of the \$112.8 billion VA budget proposal is a dramatic increase in Veteran health care funding, with an 11 percent increase over the current year's funding (excluding one-time Recovery Act funds).

"Organizational transformation requires changes in culture, systems, and training," Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs W. Scott Gould said. "This will require resources, but it will also demand commitment and teamwork. The entire Department is dedicated to serving the needs of Veterans, and every VA employee has a stake in transformation to meet those needs."

That transformation is already underway. For instance, the enhanced use of automated tools, coupled with more efficient processes, recent staffing increases, and improved training is expected to reduce the compensation and pension claims processing time to 150 days in 2010, or 16 percent faster compared to 2008, while reducing the pending inventory and improving accuracy. VA anticipates an 8 percent increase in education claims in 2010 compared to this year due largely to the improved education benefits of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act. Nonetheless, VA's goal is to complete all education claims without any increase in average processing days. "We are making the smart choices today to improve the services that our Veterans receive tomorrow," Secretary Shinseki said.

VA's budget request contains four major categories of activities. These activities include: creating a reliable management infrastructure, delivering ongoing services, making progress on Departmental priorities, and instituting new initiatives critical to meeting the needs of Veterans now and in the future.

Nearly two-thirds of the increase (\$9.6 billion) would go to mandatory programs (up 20 percent); the remaining third (\$5.6 billion) would be discretionary funding (up 11 percent). The total budget would be almost evenly split between mandatory funding (\$56.9 billion) and discretionary funding (\$55.9 billion).

VA's new budget request provides for an estimated 122,000 more patients to be treated over the current year. Many of these patients will have multiple visits in the course of the year. VA expects to end fiscal year 2010 with nearly 6.1 million individual patients having received care, including 419,000 Veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan war zones who separated from service.

"VA has too often in the past been seen as difficult and bureaucratic as it relates to its charge of providing for our Nation's Veterans," Secretary Shinseki said. "Changing that perception will require a significant transformation. We will not nibble at the edges of this change. We must be bold and demand that we begin immediately showing measurable returns on investment in a responsible, accountable and transparent manner."

(VA News continued on page 7)

Editor's notes

We have recently changed our name from
Personnel Service Center (PSC) to
Pay & Personnel Center (PPC)

Need a corrected DD-214?

If your DD-214 is incorrect and you want a corrected form (DD-215), you need to send your request in writing to:

COMMANDER (ADM-3)
PERSONNEL SERVICE CENTER
US COAST GUARD STOP 7200
4200 WILSON BLVD STE 1100
ARLINGTON VA 20598-7200

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 gain access to their DD-214 online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>. This will cut the waiting time veterans have had in the past waiting for copies of their DD-214s.

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.

Coast Guard/NOAA Retiree Personnel Locator: If you are searching for a Coast Guard/NOAA 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.

KEEPING RETIREE & ANNUITANT SERVICES INFORMED

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

Send your reunion or other notices to:

The Coast Guard/NOAA Retirees' 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

VA compensation payments and federal income taxes

If you retired from the USCG or NOAA 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.

REUNIONS AND NOTICES

"STORIS MUSEUM"- We are in the process of obtaining the former CGC STORIS for a museum in Juneau, AK. We are currently looking for any historical information and artifacts for the museum. Contact: Jim Loback @ (714) 968-8964 or <http://www.storismuseum.org>.

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 Lesperance at jlesperance@hawaii.rr.com if you have any questions.

Those interested in joining the membership to the **COAST GUARD RETIREE COUNCIL** of Jacksonville, FL or if you have questions, contact YNCM Bobby Wester, USCG, retired at Bwester2549@aol.com (subject line: CG Retiree Council), (904) 645-5552 (leave message), or by regular mail to 3327 Brachenbury Lane, Jacksonville, FL 32225-3709 (please provide a telephone number where you can be reached).

TRACEN CAPE MAY, Retiree Council Office is located in the Work Life Building. Open hours are Tue -Thu from 0900 - 1500, and we'll take appointments for other times. It's open to CG Retirees and Active duty personnel. This includes other Armed Forces who need the service we provide. Ib.F.W.Andersen@uscg.mil
kc2jpo@comcast.net <http://www.cpoacapemay.org/rcgrc.htm>. Office: 609-898-6387 Cell: 609-972-6453

WW II Coast Guard manned USS Centaurus (AKA-17) 18th reunion will be September 28 - October 1, 2009 at the Mystic Hampton Inn and Suites, Mystic, CT. The ship participated in six amphibious assaults in the Pacific and was awarded six battle stars and credited with downing two Japanese kamikaze planes at Okinawa. For further information please contact George E. McCabe, Jr., at (904) 280-3013 or congem@comcast.net

Canaveral Coast Guard Reunion Week-End will be held October 9-10, 2009 at the Doubletree Hotel Cocoa Beach Oceanfront, 2080 North Atlantic Avenue (A1A), Cocoa Beach, FL 32931. Phone: (321) 783-9222. For hotel reservations at this time frame go to <http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/MLBASDT-USC-20091009/index.jhtml>. For reservations that extend outside this time frame, you will have to call the hotel and give the group code **USC**. If you have questions or need further information, contact us at: (321) 452-5426 or e-mail: BMerrilees@cfl.rr.com

USCGC Spencer Association is holding their annual reunion at the Hilton Boston/Dedham Hotel in Dedham, MA, September 24-27, 2009. For further information contact Jack Shampine @ (770) 336-2056 or e-mail: shampine32@comcast.net

TRACEN YORKTOWN Retiree Council office hours are 0800-1400, Mon-Wed, except all Federal Holidays, phone number (757) 856-2136. E-Mail: Adrian.H.Rymer@USCG.Mil, LFCConley@USCG.Mil or JAMES.D.OCALLAGHAN@USCG.MIL

U.S. Coast Guard National Association of Former Stewards and Stewardmates Inc. will be holding their twentieth (20) reunion.

Place: Clarion Hotel & Convention Center
6821 Black Horse Pike
West Atlantic City, NJ

Dates: July 30, 2009 thru August 1, 2009

Contact: CWO Harold Wise, USCG, Ret
Phone: (646) 707-8505 or (718) 341-2450

Wilmington, NC is designated a "Coast Guard City" and a directory is being formed to get in touch with all Coast Guard personnel that live in and around the surrounding area. If interested in receiving information about activities and possibly reunions in our area, please provide the following information. Name, rank (active or retired), address, phone and e-mail. Send all information to:

CWO2 David W. Foster, USCG, Ret
110 West Pointe Road
Rocky Point, NC 28457
Phone: (910) 602-3888, E-mail: dwfcwo2@msn.com

"Joint Military Services Retiree Appreciation Day Sep 26, 2009. Pre Registration requested by Sep 10, 2009 to be eligible for a special drawing. Cost \$27.00 per person, for more Information contact Navy RAO Tuesday or Thursdays between 10:00 and 1400 at 612 726-9391, or Air Force RAO at Fort Snelling, at 612 713-1516 or 800 231-3517 for general information. Cost includes continental breakfast, lunch and a day of camaraderie "along with a lot of helpful and useful information."

(Reunions and Notices continued on page 15)

(VA News continued from page 4)

The budget supports the administration's goal to gradually expand health care eligibility to more than 500,000 new enrollees by 2013, while maintaining excellent care quality and timeliness. In 2010, the transformation of VA health care will support scheduling of 98 percent of primary care appointments within a month of the desired date.

The new budget proposal places a high priority on initiatives aimed at making servicemembers' transition to civilian life and VA benefits seamless. This includes the President's initiative for VA and the Department of Defense to collaboratively develop and implement a joint "Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record." The new system supports the administration's initiative for a uniform registration of all servicemembers with VA, will improve delivery of benefits by assuring availability of medical and administrative data useful both in future medical care as well as in the determination of service-connection in disability ratings.

"The Department's number one priority is providing for our Veterans," Deputy Secretary Gould said. "We have an obligation to make sure that every dollar goes to delivering timely, high-quality benefits and services to our clients—the Veterans. A strong corporate model will enable decentralized provision of services at VA by professionals in the field while providing integrated policy and coordination through a central office." The fiscal year 2010 VA budget fosters strong support for Veteran-focused information technology, providing more than \$3.3 billion to ensure reliable, accessible and secure computer systems. In addition to improvements in VA's electronic health records, this investment will support the President's goal of making claims decisions timely, fair, and consistent with the extension of a new paperless processing initiative expected to lead to an electronically based benefits system by 2012.

VA-managed national cemeteries will be preserved as shrines while maintaining the current high level of service. The National Cemetery Administration would receive \$242 million in operations and maintenance funding in the fiscal year 2010 request. The budget provides for activation of three new national cemeteries, Bakersfield National Cemetery in California, Alabama National Cemetery near Birmingham, and Washington Crossing National Cemetery in southeastern Pennsylvania. VA expects to perform 111,500 interments in 2010, a four-percent increase from the estimate for the current year.

The President's budget for construction projects and other capital programs in VA is more than \$1.9 billion. This continues work on five major medical projects already in progress, begins seven new ones, and provides resources to support the cemetery system's expansion needs, including resources for improvements at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, Illinois, and Houston National Cemetery. It also contains \$600 million for minor construction projects, \$85 million in grants for construction of state extended care facilities, and \$42 million in grants for state Veterans cemeteries.

The seven new medical facility projects move VA towards new construction or renovations at VA medical facilities in Brockton, Massachusetts; Canandaigua, New York; Livermore, California; Long Beach, California; Perry Point, Maryland; San Diego, California; and St. Louis, Missouri. Capital funds also will support ongoing improvements at medical centers in Bay Pines, Florida; Denver, Colorado; Orlando, Florida; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and St. Louis, Missouri.

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USCG Retirements

Name	Rank	Date of Retirement
ALBEE, KENNETH	CDR	20090401
ALLEN, ELMER	BOSN4	20090329
ALMOND, NEAL	GM1	20090401
ANDERSON, ROBERT	CAPT	20090306
ARCHER, TIMOTHY	IT1	20090401
BACCARO, JOHN	FS2	20090520
BAKER, MARK	ETC	20090401
BALL, JAMES	ETC	20090401
BATTIATA, VICTOR	HSC	20090320
BEHR, JOHN	DC2	20090326
BENNER, SUSAN	YN1	20090328
BERLINSKI, MICHAEL	PSC	20090418
BERNHEISEL, ERIC	OSS3	20090401
BEVERS, RONALD	SK1	20090513
BIRD, WILLIAM	FSC	20090225
BISHOP, JAMES	PSCM	20090315
BISIGNANO, CHRISTOPHER	MSSE4	20090501
BOCCASSINI, EDWARD	PSC	20090520
BOHLER, JOHN	CDR	20090510
BRADLEY, RONALD	IVC	20090324
BRIGGS, THOMAS	MUCS	20090501
BROOKS, GERALD	PS1	20090327
BROSSARD, BENJAMIN	BM2	20090421
BROWN, RAYMOND	CDR	20090301
BROWN, TRACY	DCC	20090301
BROWNING, DAVID	AMTC	20090401
BULLOCK, SANDRA	LCDR	20090301
BUNKER, STEPHAN	LCDR	20090515
BUNTING, WILLIAM	BMCS	20090315
BURBANK, DANIEL	CAPT	20090401
CALDER, MARK	PS1	20090411
CALKINS, DONALD	CDR	20090418
CARR, RONALD	LCDR	20090326
CERNAT, CHARLES	F&S2	20090401
COOK, CHARLES	LT	20090301
CORDZ, ROBERT	CDR	20090228
COTHAM, J	ISCS	20090401
CRADDOCK, DAVID	WEPS3	20090501
CRAIG, ALBERT	PERS2	20090301
DAVIDSON, RANDALL	ETCS	20090501
DAVIRRO, DANNY	SKC	20090501
DAVIS, CONSTANCE	YN1	20090425
DILLARD, DAVID	ELC4	20090401
DONNELLY, KEVIN	GMC	20090301
DOYLE, THOMAS	LCDR	20090509
DUBE, MAURICE	LT	20090508
DUGGER, LARRY	LCDR	20090309
DUMP, IVAN	EMCS	20090501
DUNLAP, BRYAN	LCDR	20090501
DUPREE, GARY	AV14	20090301
DUQUETTENACUA, CHRYSTALYN	BM3	20090326
EAST, GLORIA	OSS2	20090501
EICKHOFF, DAWNA	IT1	20090501
ENGINGER, JOSEPH	COMM4	20090410
ETHERIDGE, SCOTT	BM3	20090324
FARWELL, JEFFREY	CDR	20090505
FAYARD, JAMES	MSSD2	20090501
FLANDERS, DAVID	LT	20090301
FORSTE, KARL	BMC	20090501
FOWLDS, JOHN	LT	20090401
GILLIAM, WILLIAM	IVC	20090411
GOMEZ, ROBERT	ET1	20090301

Name	Rank	Date of Retirement
GRANT, JOSEPH	LCDR	20090325
GRANTHAM, ERIC	FSCS	20090501
GRENOT, DAVID	SKCM	20090501
HAIRSTON, CLIFTON	EM1	20090310
HANSON, HAROLD	IV2	20090318
HARRIS, DAVID	YNC	20090301
HARRISON, JOHN	AMTC	20090401
HENN, STEVEN	BM1	20090405
HERBERT, JOHN	BM1	20090501
HERVEY, TIMOTHY	BM1	20090226
HOOK, JEFFREY	HS1	20090301
HOWELL, STEVE	OSC	20090301
HUGHES, MORRIS	BM1	20090401
JOHNSON, RANDALL	MKC	20090331
JOHNSON, STEPHEN	IVC	20090429
JOHNSON, STEFANIE	BM2	20090416
KLIMECK, BRIAN	BOSN3	20090401
KOLB, JOSEPH	CAPT	20090501
KORSON, SAMUEL	LCDR	20090416
KOVAL, RICKY	AMTC	20090301
KRUSE, ALVIN	PS2	20090309
KUFFLER, RICHARD	FSC	20090501
LAMCZYK, PAUL	LCDR	20090401
LATNER, LUTHER	MST2	20090409
LAWRENCE, STEPHEN	LCDR	20090324
LEDBETTER, THOMAS	EM1	20090401
LEDoux, PAUL	LCDR	20090501
LEMMON, LANT	EM2	20090302
LEMON, DANNY	CDR	20090511
LIPIAN, HENRY	LT	20090419
LOPEZ, FERNANDO	MK1	20090513
MARTIN, TOMMY	MKC	20090401
MCCAFFERTY, CHARLES	MKCS	20090418
MCCUTCHEON, JOHN	ET2	20090319
MCELVEIN, PAUL	IVCM	20090509
MCGRUDER, KENNETH	SKC	20090227
MELONE, MATTHEW	MUCS	20090301
MEYER, ELIZABETH	YNCS	20090410
MEYERS, NICHOLAS	MSSE4	20090301
MILES, THOMAS	HSC	20090401
MOORE, LYNN	DC1	20090301
MOORE, DAVID	LT	20090405
MORE, PAULA	PERS3	20090409
MOSHER, EUGENE	MKCS	20090401
MURPHY, VANCE	F&S2	20090301
MYERS, JAPHETH	EM2	20090302
NEWBERN, LINDA	LCDR	20090413
OBRIEN, DAVID	CAPT	20090314
OLMSTED, SHERYL	LT	20090501
ORLANDO, FRANCIS	CDR	20090505
PAINTER, PAUL	OSC	20090501
PAPOTNIK, DALE	PSC	20090309
PAQUET, JOHN	CDR	20090320
PARKER, WESLEY	BOSN3	20090501
PAUL, JAMES	MSSD3	20090501
PAYNE, DEHAVEN	MKC	20090501
PEARSON, ERIC	LT	20090501
PEKAREK, KEVIN	LCDR	20090401
PENDERGRAFT, GARY	BMCS	20090501
PHIPPS, LINDA	YN1	20090316
PITTMAN, BARRY	BMC	20090501

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PORTILLOS, JOE	DCC	20090301
RAKSNIS, RICHARD	CDR	20090301
RASICOT, GARY	CAPT	20090301
REED, LEO	BMC	20090507
RICH, ERIC	ETC	20090301
RIEDINGER, RONALD	LCDR	20090301
ROUZER, BRETT	OSS2	20090301
ROWLEY, CLARENCE	F&S3	20090501
RYAN, JOHN	BM1	20090330
SALDANA, SANTIAGO	MKC	20090514
SAMSON, THOMAS	LCDR	20090302
SASSIN, LORETTA	SKC	20090501
SCHNEIDER, DANIEL	GMC	20090501
SCHULZE, RALPH	OS1	20090502
SCOTT, CRAIG	BM1	20090301
SCOTT, DAVID	CDR	20090301
SEABOLDT, DALLAS	DC2	20090413
SEIDL, CHARLES	BM2	20090315
SELBY, GREGORY	BMC	20090401
SELF, CASEY	SN	20090318
SHADE, PENN	LCDR	20090227
SHARP, RICHARD	YNMCM	20090501
SHELTON, SUSAN	YNC	20090519
SHOVER, MICHAEL	FSC	20090302
SINDE, VINCENT	AMT1	20090401
SMALL, EDWIN	YN1	20090503
SMITH, GARY	YN1	20090501
SMITH, KENNETH	EM1	20090301
SRIODOM, CHARLES	CDR	20090301
STARLING, TINA	MED2	20090501
STOUTENBURGH, RICHARD	LT	20090501
SULLIVAN, ROSS	MK2	20090318
TABATA, FRANCIS	LCDR	20090409
TAYLOR, STEVEN	CAPT	20090301
THEIRRIEN, JOHN	AMT1	20090301
THOMPSON, ANDREW	F&S4	20090301
TRAYER, JILLIAN	YN3	20090406
TREMAIN, RONNIE	ASTC	20090401
TULL, SCOTT	YN1	20090301
VANCE, SUSAN	LCDR	20090329
VANEK, KENNETH	MSSE4	20090501
VANHORN, MICHAEL	IT1	20090501
WAVERKA, JOHN	AETC	20090501
WEAVER, MARK	MUCS	20090301
WEUM, EDWARD	PSCS	20090506
WHITLEY, DOUGLAS	MK1	20090318
WILKINS, MARK	BMC	20090501
WILLIAMS, DANIEL	ASTCS	20090501
WILLIAMS, MICHAEL	FS1	20090501
WILSON, SHANE	MKCS	20090501
WITHERSPOON, SEAN	AETC	20090301



KOZAK, STEPHEN	CAPT	20090401
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****NEWS RELEASE****

White House Gives Welcome News to NAUS: No TRICARE Fee Increase

Springfield, Virginia (5/6/09) – Bill Matz, President of the National Association for Uniformed Services® (NAUS), was called by White House staff assistant Matthew Flavin, and told that the President's 2010 Budget, due to be released in the next few days, will not include any TRICARE fee increases. The White House call was in response to NAUS' strongly worded letter hand-delivered by Matz when he met President Obama in early April. This is welcome news for military health care system beneficiaries, who have battled against Defense Department plans to increase TRICARE fees for the past three years. Until receipt of the White House call, the new Administration plans were uncertain. It was widely thought that the Pentagon would continue its attack on TRICARE fees as recommended by the Defense Department's hand-picked 2007 Task Force on the Future of Military Health Care.

Matz was told that the President used words to the effect of, *We're not touching TRICARE*. The President also said, "We have a sacred trust to those who wear the uniform of the United States of America. It's a commitment that begins at enlistment, and it must never end."

"This is an important budget victory and shows that President Obama is willing to listen to the concerns of our nation's uniformed servicemembers and retirees," Matz said. "Giving priority in the budget to the health care promises made to our men and women who serve, and have served, in uniform is an important recognition of our nation's commitment to those who serve and sacrifice in her defense...particularly, when we're at war."

NAUS is a nonprofit, non-partisan association dedicated to protecting the interests of - and benefits earned by - members of the uniformed services for themselves, their families and survivors. NAUS provides administrative support to the Society of Military Widows. For more information please contact Steve Hein, Director of Marketing, at 703-750-1342, x1009, or at shein@naus.org, or visit the Association's web site at <http://www.naus.org>.

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Congratulations to all

Letters to the Editor**From the Coast Guard Institute**

Retirees,

Did you know you are eligible to receive college degree plans and official transcripts through the Coast Guard Institute? Just go to the CGI's webpage at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg1/cgi/ve/tco.asp> and complete CGI Form 1561 (degree plans) or CGI Form-1564 (transcript). It is never too late to receive a college education.

CG Training Center Yorktown student dining hall dedication in honor of MCPO Stanley 'Nick' Ferro, USCG, Ret. MCPO Ferro had retired after 42 years of honorable service. He served on 9 cutters, including a tour in Viet Nam, served 14 years as a Command Enlisted Advisor (CEA) and was the first CEA ever designated at TRACEN. He continues to be an active member of this Training Center and the Coast Guard community. MCPO Ferro continues to serve as a mentor to countless "A" school students through his personal interactions. He is a dedicated member of the local Disabled American Veterans (DAV) chapter where he works diligently to support disabled veterans and also provides a wealth of information for service members transitioning from active duty.

MCPO Ferro has dedicated nearly 6 decades of his life to serving his country and Coast Guard members. It's only fitting for the student hall of the Coast Guard's largest Training Center to be named MCPO "Nick" Ferro Dining Hall.

RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY (RAD) **26SEP09 (0900 - 1200)**
U.S. ARMY SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY
BIGGS ARMY AIR FIELD
FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79916-6812

ALL MILITARY RETIREES AND THEIR DEPENDENTS TO INCLUDE MILITARY WIDOWS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT EVENT. BRIEFINGS ON VETERANS BENEFITS BROUGHT ABOUT BY CONGRESSIONAL ACTION AND FUNDING, PARTICULARLY MEDICAL BENEFITS AND RESTORATION OF PAY FOR RETIREES RECEIVING VETERANS ADMINISTRATION DISABILITY PAYMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED TO INCLUDE REPRESENTATION BY LOCAL MILITARY VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS. ADDITIONALLY, UPDATES ON BASE, REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURES (BRAC) ISSUES AND BASE TRANSFORMATION (BT) WILL BE PROVIDED AS THEY AFFECT RETIREES IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

Would greatly appreciate any assistance in this matter. If further information is required, please contact me.

Thank you in advance.

Jose Luis Hernandez
Retirement Services Officer

HQ, USAADACEN&FB
BUILDING 500A, ROOM 102
500 SHANNON ROAD
FORT BLISS, TX 79916-6812

(915) 569-6233/568-5204

joseluis.hernandez@conus.army.mil




TAPS

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	RANK	DATE	CITY	STATE
ALBRIGHT	JOHN	LCDR	20090513	SEAL BEACH	CA
ALDRICH	IRVIN	DCCS	20090420	TORRANCE	CA
ALLUMS	FREDERICK	BMC	20090310	MOBILE	AL
ANDERSON	GEORGE	MKC	20090501	LAPORTE	IN
BARRY	KEVIN	CAPT	20090424	CHANTILLY	VA
BARTH	RONALD	MK1	20090409	LAKEWOOD	CA
BAYSIC	PRIMO	FSCM	20090513	MURFREESBORO	TN
BEITEL	RONALD	ETC	20090421	SPOONER	WI
BELL	DAVID	CWO4	20090411	MOREHEAD CITY	NC
BIRCH	MYRON	SK1	20090312	CHINCOTEAGUE	VA
BLACKWELL	DAVID	YN1	20090418	KATY	TX
BRANIN	SAMUEL	LCDR	20090310	ANNAPOLIS	MD
BRATONJA	VINCENT	PSC	20090320	THE VILLAGES	FL
BRINKMIER	WILLIAM	CAPT	20090406	DELAND	FL
BURAS	EUGENE	YNC	20090331	COLUMBUS	NJ
BUTLER	BOBBY	CWO4	20090503	APOLLO BEACH	FL
CHATELAIN	DONALD	FICS	20090420	LAKE CITY	FL
CHENEY	LEROY	CAPT	20090506	CLAREMONT	CA
COLLINS	THOMAS	LCDR	20090325	ROSWELL	GA
COX	SAMUEL	QMCM	20090412	DENNYVILLE	ME
CRAWFORD	JAMES	ENC	20090506	IRASBURG	VT
CROGHAN	JOSEPH	MSTC	20090501	ARNOLD	MD
CUSHING	ARTHUR	CWO1	20090303	PINELLAS PARK	FL
DAVIS	GEORGE	ENC	20090409	SEBASTAN	FL
DECASTRO	ROMEO	SKC	20090413	FREMONT	CA
DEMORAT	DAVID	SKCS	20090417	WEYMOUTH	MA
DENEHY	JAMES	YNC	20090423	NEWPORT	NC
DIVEGLIA	DANIEL	CWO3	20090420	BEDFORD	PA
DOLLIVER	RICHARD	CDR	20090407	WINDSOR	CT
DUNCANSON	PAUL	CDR	20090322	LUCAS	TX
EARLE	GEORGE	RDC	20090422	PUNTA GORDA	FL
EDMONDSON	AUSTIN	TTC	20090420	LAKELAND	FL
FARMER	JAMES	CWO3	20090224	ST LOUIS	MO
FISHER	GORDON	YNCS	20090327	ANAHEIM HILLS	CA
FORD	ALVIN	CSC	20090315	HAYWARD	CA
FOX	HAROLD	CWO4	20090325	WILLIAMSBURG	VA
FURNISH	FLOYD	BMCS	20090224	WEST DEPTFORD	NJ
GAINES	HARRY	LCDR	20090308	FRESNO	CA
GONZALEZ	JORGE	LT	20090228	COOPER CITY	FL
GRILL	VINCENT	CDR	20090310	RENSSELAER	NY
GRUSS	KARL	QM1	20090510	CHURCH HILL	MD
GUEVARRA	JESUS	SKC	20090430	ROWLAND HEIGHTS	CA
HACK	THOMAS	ET2	20090314	POINT PLEASANT	NJ
HALEY	JAMES	BMC	20090517	QUILCENE	WA
HANCOCK	ARTHUR	CAPT	20090402	WILLIAMSBURG	VA
HOKOANA	JOE	SD1	20090308	PALM BAY	FL
HOLMAN	HOWARD	CWO2	20090414	LILLIAN	AL
HRIBAL	JOSEPH	MKCS	20090422	BOTHELL	WA

(Continued on page 12)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	RANK	DATE	CITY	STATE
<i>(Continued from page 11)</i>					
HUGHES	WILLIAM	RDC	20090308	ELKRIDGE	MD
JACOBSON	IRA	CDR	20090422	BOSTON	MA
JAMESON	HOPO	EN1	20090327	SAN DIEGO	CA
JARRETT	JAMES	MKC	20090226	CRAWFORDVILLE	AR
JASIELUM	MICHAEL	ADC	20090301	SPRINGFIELD	PA
JENSEN	RALPH	BMC	20090302	ESTACADA	OR
JOHNSON	DONALD	BM2	20090409	FORT WAYNE	IN
JONES	WILSON	CWO4	20090504	LILBURN	GA
KAARSTAD	GERALD	CWO3	20090417	GOODYEAR	AZ
KELLEHER	MARTIN	GMCM	20090411	NEWPORT NEWS	VA
KINDRICK	ARVARD	EMCM	20090504	OKLAHOMA CITY	OK
KING	OSBORNE	TN	20090413	KINGSTON	NC
KING	DUDLEY	ATC	20090508	CHESAPEAKE	VA
KLEES	BRAD	ADC	20090408	THEODORE	AL
KOBURGER	CHARLES	CAPT	20090511	ARLINGTON	VA
KOTILA	LARRY	ENG4	20090507	RENTON	WA
KRATOCHVIL	FRANK	LT	20090324	ALAMEDA	CA
LACROIX	EUGENE	CWO4	20090419	GROVES	TX
LAMBERT	MICHAEL	AE2	20090425	LEXINGTON	OK
LAWLOR	LEROY	FSC	20090410	LAKE RONKONKO	NY
LAWRENCE	JAMES	YNM	20090312	ALEXANDER	VA
LEUI	SIAMOULI	FS1	20090510	FEDERAL WAY	WA
LINDE	DAVID	CAPT	20090513	DUNWOODY	GA
LIPSCOMB	GEORGE	EN1	20090408	ROWLESBURG	WV
LOFGREN	WILLIAM	YNC	20090303	DEKALB	IL
LOUNDREE	LORNE	MK1	20090225	SAINT HELENS	OR
MACEY	PATRICK	BMC	20090318	MANCHESTER	CT
MANSFIELD	ROLAND	BMC	20090331	DAGSBORO	DE
MARTINS	ARTURO	SR	20090310	PHILADELPHIA	PA
MATHESON	GEORGE	CWO4	20090503	CHARLESTON	SC
MAYO	DONALD	DC1	20090410	SAN JOSE	CA
MCCARTHY	EMMETT	CDR	20090501	BERLIN	MD
MCCLAIN	SAMUEL	BMC	20090319	VIRGINIA BEACH	VA
MCKINNEY	WILLIAM	CWO4	20090403	ONTARIO	NY
MILLER	MICHAEL	SN	20090429	GLENDORA	CA
MISHAEL	WILLIAM	GMCS	20090308	JACKSONVILLE	NC
MOORE	MILTON	LCDR	20090401	OMAHA	NE
MUNROE	REUBEN	SKCM	20090306	SPARKS	NV
NEUMANN	DONALD	EN1	20090411	PORT RICHEY	FL
PALUMBO	MARIO	CS1	20090407	ORLANDO	FL
PEIFER	DOUGLAS	BMC	20090311	ST LOUIS	MO
PHELPS	WILLIAM	BMC	20080817	CHARLOTTE	NC
PHILLIPS	JAMES	RMCS	20090227	GRAND RAPIDS	MI
PIERCE	LAWRENCE	LCDR	20090508	GAINESVILLE	FL
PIVER	HORACE	CWO4	20090331	CHESAPEAKE	VA
RABY	THOMAS	BMC	20090507	MILL VALLEY	CA
RAYNER	RONALD	FSCS	20090509	BURLINGTON	CT
REEDER	JAMES	LCDR	20090224	SEWELL	NJ
RICKS	WILLIAM	AM1	20090509	BEAUFORT	NC
RYAN	KENNETH	CDR	20090401	PITTSBURGH	PA
SCHIFFERS	GOTTFRIED	BM1	20090509	LACOMBE	LA
SCHOLL	ROBERT	BMC	20090428	CALLAHAN	FL
SCHWARZ	DONALD	CWO3	20090323	LAMBERTVILLE	MI

(Continued on page 13)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	RANK	DATE	CITY	STATE
<i>(Continued from page 12)</i>					
SILVA	MICHAEL	FS2	20090304	BAKERSFIELD	CA
SIMONKA	ALEXANDER	LCDR	20090314	GALES FERRY	CT
SMITH	SCOTT	CDR	20090413	LAGUNA NIGUEL	CA
STARR	JACK	CWO4	20090424	NEW ATHENS	IL
TATE	MARK	MKC	20090315	APPLE VALLEY	CA
TATE	THOMAS	ADCM	20080315	LAS VEGAS	NV
TENINTY	DAVID	ENS	20090413	NEVADA CITY	CA
THOMAS	ALLEN	MKC	20090323	DEVARY	FL
THRO	GUY	HS1	20090426	STOCKTON	CA
TILLET	ALTON	ENC	20090315	FARMINGDALE	NJ
TORRESRAMOS	FREDDIE	SN	20090424	AGUADILLA	PR
TRANT	DONALD	BM2	20090323	WOODBIDGE	VA
TRUMAN	WILSON	ALC	20090306	REDWOOD CITY	CA
TUCKER	ROGER	CDR	20090408	BELLEAIR	FL
TYLER	ROBERT	YN1	20090606	ALEXANDRIA	VA
VERMILYEA	HENRY	CWO2	20090516	SHREWSBURY	NJ
VILLANUEVA	MOSMAN	BMC	20090413	TANEYTOWN	MD
VISAK	BRUCE	PS1	20090319	LAPORTE	IN
WALKER	SIGSBEE	SR	20090227	NAPLES	FL
WARDRIP	BRYAN	EM3	20090226	SHELLEY	ID
WATKINS	HAROLD	BTC	20090506	LAKE WACCAMAW	NC
WEBB	LARRY	FS1	20090305	PRESCOTT VALLEY	AZ
WELTON	RICHARD	CDR	20090318	LITTLETON	CO
WICKS	JOSEPH	CAPT	20090506	CUSHING	TX
WILLENBORG	DONALD	CDR	20090415	SYRACUSE	NY
WIMBROW	JOHN	CWO3	20090226	BERLIN	MD
YOUNG	EDWIN	RMC	20090324	PLYMOUTH	MA
ZABINSKI	DONALD	PS2	20090420	LEBANON	TN
ZUCHELLI	DONALD	CDR	20090420	MILTON	DE

VA Accepting Applications for Post-9/11 GI Bill Benefits

WASHINGTON (May 1, 2009) - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today that Veterans can begin submitting applications on-line for the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

"There is no better investment than education," said Tammy Duckworth, VA's assistant secretary for public and intergovernmental affairs. "The Post-9/11 GI Bill will provide new opportunities that are essential to our Veterans, our workforce and our economy."

Veterans, service members, reservists and National Guard members with active duty since Sept. 10, 2001, may be eligible for this benefit. Veterans will remain eligible for benefits for 15 years from the date of last discharge or release from a period of active duty of at least 90 continuous days.

Eligible applicants must have served for an aggregate period of at least 90 days since Sept. 10, 2001, or served at least 30 continuous days on active duty since Sept. 10, 2001, and received a discharge for disability.

Benefit payment rates range from 40 percent of the maximum benefit for a person with at least 90 days, but less than 6 months of aggregate service and up to 100 percent of the benefit for people with at least 36 months of aggregate service or 30 continuous days and a discharge due to a service connected disability. Prospective beneficiaries may apply on-line through the GI Bill Web site at <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>.

Qualified Veterans will receive a "Certification of Eligibility" as well as additional information regarding

(Continued on page 14)

Dependent TAPS

Name of Dependent	Relationship	Date of Death	Location
Eevaliisa E Hubble	Wife of MKCM Daniel Lee Hubble, USCG, Ret	21 Mar 09	Portsmouth, VA
Mildred E Lowe	Wife of CWO2 Edward T Lowe, USCG, Ret	02 Dec 08	N Stonington, CT
Drucilla J Jackson	Wife of LT Jerry Jackson, USCG, Ret	29 Mar 09	Elizabeth Town, NC
Linda Sue Henderson	Wife of RMC Mark K Henderson, USCG, Ret	23 Mar 09	Shelton, WA
Susan Marie Howell	Wife of MKC Raymond Howell, USCG, Ret	24 Mar 09	Cape May, NJ
Margaret R Smith	Wife of ADCS Thomas Smith, USCG, Ret	08 May 08	Bonney Lake, WA
Mary A Maxim	Wife of SKC John D Maxim, USCGR, Ret	24 Dec 08	Leominster, MA
Dorothy N Cumming	Wife of CWO William C Cumming, USCG, Ret, Decd	24 Mar 09	Alexandria, VA
Cecelia A Huston	Wife of AMC Gerald F Huston, Sr., USCG, Ret	02 Mar 09	New Bedford, MA
Shirley C Adams	Wife of CWO3 Arnold A Adams, USCG, Ret	31 Dec 08	Silver Spring, MD
Barbara A Benedetto	Wife of CWO4 William R Benedetto, USCG, Ret	07 Mar 09	Wilsonville, OR
Penelope A Shaw	Wife of YN1 Richard Shaw, USCG, Ret	15 Apr 09	Portland, ME
Trudy R Alonzo (SPAR 1944-1946)	Wife of LCDR Frank Alonzo, USCG, Ret	17 Apr 08	Midwest City, OK
Rita C Kelly	Wife of CAPT James R Kelly, USCG, Ret, Dec'd	23 Apr 09	Seneca, SC
Dorothy J Howland	Wife of CWO4 Ralph C Howland, USCG, Ret	27 Apr 09	Barneгат, NJ
Mercy F San Juan	Wife of SSC Apolinar G San Juan, USCG, Ret	25 Jan 09	Laguna, Philippines
Elizabeth "Betty" Cain	Wife of CWO3 George E Cain, USCG, Ret	12 Mar 09	North Cape May, NJ

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 Coast Guard/NOAA Retirees' 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.

(Continued from page 13)

benefits they may qualify for under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, which will become effective on Aug. 1, 2009.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill, passed by Congress last year, is the most extensive educational assistance program authorized since the original GI Bill was signed into law in 1944. It provides eligible applicants with tuition payments to assist them in getting a college education. For many participants, it also provides a housing allowance and a stipend for books and supplies.

Information about the new program and VA's other educational benefits can be obtained through <http://www.gibill.va.gov/> or by calling 1-888-GIBILL1 (1-888-442-4551).



The VONAPP (Veterans On Line Application) website is an official U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) website that enables service members, veterans and their beneficiaries, and other designated individuals to apply for benefits using the Internet. <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>

(Reunions and Notices continued from page 6)

USS CALLAWAY (APA – 35) U. S. Coast Guard Manned Attack Transport 43rd reunion. Former crew members will gather October 12-16, 2009 in Branson, MO at the Grand Plaza Hotel. For more details contact: Wallace E. Shipp, 11240 John Kline Lane, Broadway, VA 22815-2687, phone (540) 896-1194

Reserve Reunion Dinner and Dance

USCG Station/Base Boston Reserves

24 October 2009

Base Boston All Hands club

Contact: BMC Skip Newell at (508) 238-4443 or e-mail to astroskip@aol.com

Anyone interested, instructors, base support personnel & students, in a reunion of Coast Guard Training Station, Groton, CT, contact LT Cliff Reeves, USCG, Ret at 1260 Mendenhall Penn. Road, Juneau, AK 99801. Phone: (907) 790-7214, e-mail: reevesalaska@hotmail.com

1972-74 Tillamook Bay Lifeboat Station Crew reunion will be September 18-20, 2009 for a get together in Garibaldi and Tillamook to tell sea-stories. Please contact Ken Foshaug for further details at fosdawgs@msn.com or phone (360) 275-3813.

The 2009 Guardsmen of Yesteryears Breakfast will be held on Saturday Oct 17th. The breakfast is open to anyone who served in the United States Coast Guard. It will be held at the Chincoteague Elementary School located at 6078 Halie Whealton Smith Dr., Chincoteague Island, Virginia.

Coffee and meeting of friends will start at 7AM

This year's guest speaker will be Retired Commandant of the USCG, Admiral Loy.

Information and/or tickets can be obtained from the following.

David Lewis @ 757 336 1853 or cell 757 894 4095

Wayne Merritt @ cell 757 894 8240

Jerry Tarr @ 757 336 1204

2009 Alaska/Bering Sea Patrol Reunion will be held September 13-17, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Diego, CA. Rooms are \$115.00 per night plus tax. For further information please contact Randy Fitschen at (830) 438-3829 or e-mail: ranjean@gvvc.com

COURIER/KUKUI Reunion will be held October 18-23, 2009 at the Radisson in New London, CT. For reservations call 1 800-333-3333. For further information please contact David Newell, 6800 Golf Course Blvd, P70, Punta Gorda, FL 33982, phone: (941) 505-0426.

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND Military Retiree Activity Day will be August 22, 2009 at the Augusta Armory in Augusta, Maine. All military retirees including gray area and dependents are invited. Registration starts at 0800 with the opening ceremony at 0900. Stations and displays will be open from 0930-1400. Take Exit 109 of the Maine Turnpike, stay right on Western Ave. Armory is 1/2 mile on left. For further information contact: LTC (Ret) James Laflin at (207) 685-3152 or e-mail jlaflin@roadrunner.com or MAJ Philip Trevino at (207) 626-4499 or e-mail: phillip.trevino@us.army.mil. If you will be requesting a new DEERS/ID card, please be sure and have 2 valid pieces of ID with you.

Senior Retired Officers (O5 and above) in the 9th District geographic area are invited to contact ISC Cleveland Decedent Affairs Officer if they would like to be placed on a notification list for the timely dissemination of information such as the death of CG Flag Officers. Those interested in being a part of this notification list are encouraged to reply via e-mail with their rank, name and e-mail address. Those who are currently on the DAO notification list need only reply if their email information has changed.

Decedent Affairs Officer
LT Jeannie Paschal
ISC Cleveland, OH
Phone: 216-902-6285
e-mail: jeannie.a.paschal@uscg.mil

NOAA, National Association of Black Scuba Divers Explore Shared History

May 20, 2009

NOAA archaeologists will be in the Florida Keys this month training members of the National Association of Black Scuba Divers in underwater archaeology as part of a new education initiative to explore the maritime heritage of African-Americans and engage the community in marine resource conservation.

“By telling the many stories about African-Americans in seafaring, naval service, and the maritime trades, the project inspires a rediscovery of African-American maritime roots,” said Tim Runyan, NOAA maritime heritage program manager.



Fifteen participants will be taught the science of maritime archaeology and learn basic underwater surveying, recording and mapping techniques during the May 22-24 training course. The course will include classroom and field-work exercises on a shipwreck in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, stress the importance of conservation and preservation of the nation's underwater cultural heritage.

NABS member Bill Murrain said the dive group's commitment to education and public outreach aligns perfectly with the African-American "Voyage of Discovery" education and outreach initiative coordinated by the NOAA Office of National marine Sanctuaries.

“African-Americans have made significant contributions to the country's maritime history and the archaeological training course will give NABS an opportunity to help bring this history to wider public,” Murrain said.

The training is also part of a larger NOAA effort to create a cadre of skilled volunteers who can assist with archaeological field work and historic research occurring within the National Marine Sanctuary System.

NOAA's Maritime Heritage Program and the Nautical Archaeology Society developed the training course to introduce divers to the field of maritime archaeology. Since the training program began, about 20 people have been trained as volunteer divers, seven of whom have become members of the national marine sanctuary volunteer diving program.

NOAA understands and predicts changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and conserves and manages our coastal and marine resources.

(Source: NOAA News Release dtd May 21, 2009)

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

Questions, Address or Direct-Deposit Changes

If you need information or have questions about:

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

or you need to change:

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

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

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

Allotments, SBP Coverage and Beneficiary Changes

If you need to:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Income Tax Withholding Changes

If you need to:

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

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

:

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

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

Report of Death

To report the death of a Coast Guard, NOAA retiree/annuitant or a Lighthouse keeper 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 (phone menu option #4). The deadline for the next issue is August 9, 2009.

1 800 PPC-USCG/1 800 772-8724

If outside the U.S. (785) 339-3415

Other Important Phone Numbers and Websites

Medical/Dental Benefits	Phone	Websites/Notes
Eligibility (DEERS)/ID Cards	1 800 538-9552 (TTY/TDD) 1 866 363-2883	http://www.tricare.mil/deers In CA: 1 800 334-4162 In AK & HI: 1 800 527-5602
Mail-Order Pharmacy	1 866 363-8667	http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Prescriptions/FillingPrescriptions/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 available on web site	http://tricare.mil
TRICARE For Life	1 866 773-0404	http://www.tricare.mil/tfl/default.cfm
Senior Pharmacy Program	1 877 363-6337	http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Prescriptions/FillingPrescriptions
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
Veterans Group Life Insurance		http://www.insurance.va.gov/sglisite/vgli/vgli.htm
New VGLI Applications and VGLI Reinstatements: OSGLI PO Box 41618 Philadelphia, PA 19176-9913	1 800 419-1473 Overseas phone (973) 548-5699 Overseas Fax # (973) 548-5300	Death and accelerated benefits claims only: Fax: 1-877 832-4943 All other fax inquiries: 1 800 236-6142 or e-mail: osgli.claims@prudential.com All other inquiries: osgli.osgli@prudential.com General Correspondence: Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance 80 Livingston Avenue Roseland, NJ 07068-1733
Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents	1 800 827-1000	http://www.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.asp VA Pamphlet 80-02-1
Headstones & Markers	1 800 697-6947	http://www.cem.va.gov/hm.htm
Other	Phone	Websites/Notes
Final Active Duty Pay	1 866 772-8724 Overseas (785) 339-2200	http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/ses/ Commanding Officer (SES) USCG Pay & Personnel Center 444 SE Quincy St Topeka, KS 66683-3591
Contact PPC (SES) for information on Severance Pay, Separation Pay, Disability Severance Pay, LES's, IRS Form W-2.		

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Other Important Phone Numbers and Websites

Other	Phone	Websites/Notes
Travel Claims	1 866 772-8724 Overseas (785) 339-2200	http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/tvl.asp Send final travel claim to: Commanding Officer (TVL) USCG Pay & Personnel Center 444 SE Quincy St. Topeka, KS 66683-3591
Service Records	(314) 801-0800	http://vetrecs.archives.gov Write to: National Personnel Records Center 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132-5100
For copies of 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. DD-214s are now available via the website http://vetrecs.archives.gov		
Social Security	1 800 772-1213	http://www.ssa.gov
WWII U. S. Merchant Marine Awards and Decorations	(202) 366-2646	http://www.marad.dot.gov/contact_us.html Attn: Patricia Thomas, Medals and Decorations Maritime Administration U. S. Department of Transportation 400 7th Street, SW, Room 7304 Washington, D.C. 20590
National Coast Guard Retiree Hotline Council Help Desk Telephone/E-mail "HOTLINE"	1 866 664-6245* (toll free) or 1 202 475-5381 *enter 55381 when you Hear the voice greeting	E-mail: nrhdesk@gmail.com

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

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