

◆ Retiree Newsletter ◆

Volume III

They Also Serve

October 1998

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\$100 Million to be raised for planned World War II Memorial

25 May 1993 President Clinton signed Public Law 103-32, authorizing the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) to establish the

bronze laurel wreaths, symbols of victory in battle. Low walls of stone with a decorative metal grate will wrap around the memorial plaza, symbol-



Artists rendering of the WWII Memorial to be built in Washington D.C.

World War II Memorial in our Nations Capital. Primary funding for the \$100 million Memorial must be raised from private contributions. The World War II Memorial will be located on 7.4 acres of the Mall in Washington D. C., situated at one end of the Reflecting Pool, between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. Elm trees once destined for destruction, will now be preserved and act as a natural frame for the memorial. Two 36-foot-tall granite arches on the north and south ends of the memorial will house

izing the unity and strength of the na-

tion. The Monument will include a Registry of Remembrances which will list the names of individual Americans who participated in the war effort. The Registry will be kept on permanent public display so future generations will always remember the sacrifices of those who served their country.

Anyone who served in the armed forces during World War II, and any civilian who helped on the home front, is eligible for the Registry. Home front

activities include, but are not limited to, working in defense-related industries, growing a victory garden, recycling of materials needed for the war effort, participating in civil defense maneuvers and more. You may register your own name, or that of a family member or friend.

All Americans can help build the World War II Memorial by becoming Charter Members of the World War II Memorial Society and generously contributing. Tax deductible donations will be used to raise the \$100 million needed to construct the Memorial.

Over 30 organizations are helping to support the WWII Memorial including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, The Navy League, The Reserve Fleet Association, The Retired Enlisted Association, The Retired Officers Association, The Merchant Marine Association and the Marine Corps League to name a few.

For further information to the World War II Memorial, please write the **American Battle Monuments Commission at 2300 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 501, Arlington, VA 22201, or call 1-800-639-4WW2.**

No Retiree Benefit Taxes in North Carolina

In deciding the case of *Bailey vs. North Carolina* on May 8th, the North Carolina Supreme Court affirmed a lower-court ruling that the state had unconstitutionally taxed state retirement benefits paid to former state and local government employees. The lower court was directed to determine how those refunds were to be paid.

According to the Federal Retiree Tax Equity Task Force, a private group, the *Bailey* decision prompted the state to agree that any state, local, or federal retiree, including a military retiree, who had five or more years of creditable state, local or federal government service as of August 12, 1989 would be exempt from paying North Carolina income tax on his or her retirement benefits. The state apparently was willing to include federal retirees in the agreement by virtue of the 1989 U.S. Supreme Court decision on *Davis vs. Michigan*. The agreement will require approval by both the court and the state legislature.

The exemption extends to heirs of a government employee who are receiving government benefits based on the employee's service and also applies to government employees who have not yet retired. The state agreed to establish a court-managed fund of \$799 mil-

lion to pay refunds. Procedures for identifying people entitled to refunds and paying them have not been established. For more information you may write to the **Federal Retiree Tax Equity Task Force, 3317 Kinnamon Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27104.**

Additional information and updates are available on the Internet at: <http://baileypatton.wcsr.com>

Computer Reservation

Computer Reservations Systems (CRSs), which compare airline schedules and ticket prices, were once the exclusive domain of travel agents. Now you don't have to use a travel agent to find and book your next trip if you have access to the Internet.

Most CRSs have a "best fare" search engine. In addition to searching for the lowest available airfares, it checks for alternate days and times that may lower price. Several sites also allow you to compare rates on rental cars, hotels, vacation packages, or cruises.

Many major airlines offer special bonuses or frequent flyer miles if you book tickets at their sites.

If you want to make your own travel

arrangements, or at the very least find some cheap airfares before calling a travel agent, get on the Web. You may end up saving a lot of money.



WEBSITES



Computer Travel
Reservation Sites

Internet Travel Network:

www.itn.net

Microsoft Expedia:

www.expedia.com

Preview Travel:

www.reservations.com

TISS:

www.tiss.com

Travelocity:

www.travelocity.com



Airline Sites

TWA:

www.twa.com

America West:

www.americawest.com

Continental:

www.flycontinental.com

Delta Airlines:

www.delta-air.com

Southwest Airlines:

www.iflyswa.com

United Airlines:

www.ual.com

U.S. Airways:

www.usair.com

USCG HUMAN RESOURCES SERVICE AND INFORMATION CENTER

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Commanding Officer

CDR Paul Gauthier
Executive Officer

H.W. Heineken
Operational Technical Director

Nancy L. Hawkins
Chief, Retiree & Annuitant Services

Ronda L. Klein
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.

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary - New Missions, New Challenges

by Martin Hill - USCG Auxiliary

I know, as retired Coast Guard men and women, you think you know all about the Coast Guard Auxiliary, right?

As it approaches it's 60th anniversary, the Auxiliary's traditional cornerstone missions of recreational boating safety, member services and fellowship have remained, but today there are new opportunities and new challenges for its 34,000 volunteer members - including opportunities for retired members of the Coast Guard family like yourselves.

Being Coast Guard retirees, you probably know more about the Auxiliary than the average citizen. The Auxiliary was formed in 1939 as the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve, to provide a cadre of experienced civilian boaters to aid the Coast Guard's boating safety mission. With WWII looming on the horizon, the organization's name was changed to the Coast Guard Auxiliary to make way for a military reserve component. During the war, many Auxiliarists volunteered for the Temporary Reserves, conducting port security and beach patrols, and coastal picket patrols against German U-boats marauding East Coast shipping.

After the war, Auxiliarists returned to their basic missions of boating safety education and search and

rescue with a vigor that has never ceased. In 1977, for instance, Auxiliarists instructed 250,000 boaters in boating safety, performed courtesy safety examinations on 175,000 recreational boats and personal watercraft, conducted 460,000 hours of waterway patrols, and saved 481 lives and more than \$500 million in property.

In 1996, Congress amended the law governing Auxiliary activities to allow the Commandant or his appointed representatives to utilize Auxiliarists in any way deemed necessary to promote the Coast Guards missions, short of direct involvement in law enforcement or combat operations.

Today, Auxiliarists are working alongside their active duty counterparts at shore installations and afloat aboard cutters and rescue boats. At Coast Guard Activities San Diego, for instance, Auxiliarists stand regular watches at the Operations Center, while others serve as crew members aboard the 41-footers at the small boat station. Still other Auxiliarists have been qualified as MSO vessel examiners, assisting active duty inspectors as well as conducting their own examinations of commercial fishing boats and six-pack charter boats.

During recent flooding along North Dakota's Red River, Auxiliarists provided mobile VHF communications in areas where the Coast Guard had no radio coverage. Auxiliary aircraft also

transported supplies and provided aerial reconnaissance of flood areas. As a result, Auxiliary Division 9, Eighth District, Western Rivers Region has become a formal part of the Coast Guard flood response planning for the region. MSO St. Louis, MO has equipped Auxiliarists there with a Coast Guard Disaster Response Unit including three 16-foot shallow draft flood punts and trailer, immersion suits and portable radios.

Today more than ever before, the Auxiliary is an integral part of Team Coast Guard, but as its missions and activities grow, the Auxiliary

needs new members - particularly members with the skills retired Coast Guard members such as yourselves possess. Coast Guard retirees and family members 17yrs or older are encouraged to join the Auxiliary. Ownership of a boat or aircraft is no longer required. All you need is the desire to help the world's premiere maritime organization - the U.S. Coast Guard.

Be a part of the action!!

For information on joining the Auxiliary, call 1-800-GET-USCG or visit the Auxiliary website at:

CG Mutual Assistance Education Loan and Grant programs available

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA) expresses its appreciation to all of the retirees who contributed to the fund during the most recent campaign. It is only through these contributions and the returns on investment that CGMA can continue to provide the record levels of financial assistance to our fellow Coast Guard members in need. During 1997, CGMA provided over \$500,000 in financial assistance to

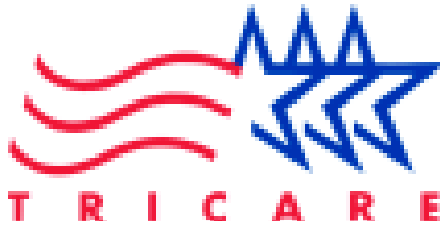
our retired members.

CGMA would like to remind our retired members that CGMA sponsors the Federal Stafford and Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) loan programs for post-secondary education. These loan programs are available to all CGMA members, their spouses, and their dependent children. The advantage of applying for these loans through CGMA is that CGMA will reimburse the student's

account for the 3% loan origination fee and will also pay the 1% guarantee fee.

CGMA also sponsors the CGMA Education Grant Program. For the Academic Year 1999-2000 (Aug 1999-Jul 2000), CGMA plans to distribute at least 250 education grants based on need. CGMA provided 250 Education Grants in the amount of \$1000 each to spouses and depend-

(Continued on page 4)



“Dual Eligibles” must enroll in Medicare Part B in order to get TRICARE benefits

If you're TRICARE-eligible, under age 65, and also qualify for Medicare benefits because of a disability or because of end-stage kidney disease (in other words, if you have dual eligibility), you must be enrolled in Medicare Part B in order to keep your health care benefits under TRICARE.

Medicare Part B is supplemental medical insurance you can buy (if you're Medicare eligible), that pays for doctor visits, outpatient services, and certain medical equipment. If you're under age 65, are Medicare eligible, and you aren't buying Medicare Part B supplemental insurance, you aren't eligible for coverage under TRICARE Prime, TRICARE Extra or TRICARE Standard.

Earlier this year, the Department of Defense identified nearly 13,000 under-65 Medicare eligibles who did not purchase Medicare Part B when they had the opportunity to do so. DoD sent a letter to these persons in March, explaining that, by law, they needed to be enrolled in

Medicare Part B, in order to keep their TRICARE benefits.

Part B benefits didn't begin until 1 July 1998, for any of the under-65 Medicare eligibles mentioned above who signed up before the 31 March 1998, deadline. So, Congress enacted a law (Public Law 105-174, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act) which allows DoD to provide TRICARE coverage until 1 July 1998, for those who purchased Part B by 31 March. Further, the law provides TRICARE until 30 Sept 1998, for persons who weren't able to purchase Part B by the 31 March deadline. Congress is also considering a proposal to extend the 30 Sept 1998 TRICARE coverage date until 1 Jul 1999.

If you declined Medicare Part B coverage when you first became eligible for it, you can sign up when the annual open-enrollment period comes around again (it runs from 1 Jan thru 31 Mar each year). If you do sign up after having initially declined the opportunity, the Social Security Administration (SSA) will add a 10% surcharge to your monthly premiums for each year that has passed since your initial eligibility.

Social Security Administration may waive the surcharge in cases where there's evidence of an error, misrepresentation, action or inaction by an employee or agent of the government. This process is called "equitable relief".

Equitable relief can't be granted because of hardship, or because there

was "good cause" for your failure to enroll when you first had the chance - such as if you preferred another health plan that was later terminated. Also, adverse effects of the base realignment and closure (BRAC) process aren't a basis for equitable relief, unless you can also provide evidence of government error.

If you feel that you declined Medicare Part B based on an error, misrepresentation, action or inaction by the Department of Defense, the DEERS Support Office can research your equitable relief request and make recommendations to SSA in those cases where there's evidence of an error by a DoD representative. If any other government agency advised you incorrectly, contact SSA directly.

Equitable relief requests to DSO should include a statement which identifies the alleged misinformation, the identity of the government representative, and any other information explaining why you declined Medicare Part B coverage.

If you have questions about Medicare, contact your nearest SSA office. Information about Medicare is also available on the Internet at: www.hcfa.gov/medicare/intro.htm

CGMA Education Loans (continued)

(Continued from page 3)

ent children of CGMA members for the 1998-1999 Academic Year. Completed grant applications must be received at CGMA Headquarters no later than 5 March 1999 to be considered.

Applications for the loan and grant program are contained in the CGMA Education Brochure for the 1999-2000 Academic

Year, which will be available in Oct/Nov of 1998 from your local CGMA Representative and from CGMA Headquarters. Please call your local CGMA Representative, or call CGMA Headquarters at 1-800-881-2462 or 1-202-267-2557 for additional information or to request an education brochure. You may also write to Coast Guard Mutual Assistance, Commandant (G-ZMA), 2100 2nd Street SW,

Washington D.C. 20593-0001 to request an education brochure.



Spouses/Children may enroll in Retiree Dental Plan

Spouses and eligible children of retired military sponsors may enroll in the Defense Department's TRICARE Retiree Dental Program - but only if the sponsor is also enrolled.

The sponsor may be a retired member of the uniformed services who is entitled to retired pay, or a member of the Retired Reserve who is entitled to retired pay, but who hasn't yet reached the age of 60, and who therefore isn't yet drawing retired pay.

Also eligible for the dental plan for retirees are; unremarried surviving spouses and eligible children of deceased uniformed services members who died while in retired status, or who died while on active duty for a period of more than 30 days, and whose eligible family members are not eligible - or are no longer eligible - for dental benefits under the TRICARE Family Member Dental Program for active-duty families. An eligible child is one who is unmarried, and:

- Is under the age of 21; or
- Is under age 23, is enrolled as a full-time student at an accredited college or university, and is more than 50% dependent on the sponsor for support; or
- Has a disabling illness or injury that occurred prior to age 21 (or between the ages of 21 and 23 if he or she was enrolled as a full-time student), and is more than 50% dependent on the sponsor for financial support.

The retiree dental program, which is operated by Delta Dental Plan of California, began operation 1 Feb 1998. It covers diagnostic, preventive, and basic restorative services (including endodontics); oral surgery; and emergency services. It's available to persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern

Marianna Islands, and Canada.

Premium costs are paid by enrollees; there's no government contribution. Premiums are collected monthly through payroll deductions from members who receive retired pay - or, if the member isn't drawing retired pay, by direct monthly billing.

The monthly premiums vary, depending on where enrollees live, and on the type of enrollment - single, two persons, or a family enrollment (three or more people). Average premiums in the first year of the program are \$12.26 for one person, \$23.80 for two people, and \$39.31 for a family.

Enrollees get care from civilian dentists. They may choose to use a dentist who has agreed to be part of the contractor's network, or any licensed dentist. Claims are filed with Delta, either by the dentist or by the patient.

Cost sharing varies with the type of service provided. Some services (mostly diagnostic and preventive services) don't require a cost-share payment by enrollees, and aren't subject to a yearly maximum payment. Other services require enrollees to pay cost-shares of 20 or 40 percent after an annual deductible of \$50 is satisfied, and have a maximum annual benefit of \$1,000.

The contractor, Delta Dental, has a website at: www.ddpdelta.org, which has more information about the program as well as enrollment forms. You can also reach Delta by telephone, by regular mail, or by e-mail, as follows:

Customer Service:
PO BOX 537007
Sacramento, CA 95853-3260
1-888-336-3260
e-mail: ddpservice@delta.org

Enrollment:
PO BOX 537008
Sacramento, CA 95853-7008
1-888-838-8737
e-mail: ddpenroll@delta.org

Billing:
PO BOX 537008
Sacramento, CA 95853-7008
1-888-336-3260
e-mail: ddpbill@delta.org

Walgreen's Pharmacy chain no longer in Network

As of 10 July 1998, the Walgreen's pharmacy chain no longer participates in TriWest HealthCare Alliance's pharmacy network in the TRICARE Central Region. To continue receiving TRICARE Prime or Extra pharmacy benefits after this date, another pharmacy within the network will need to be used. The following resources are available to help you locate a new network pharmacy:

- * ValueRx 1-800-789-7214
- * TriWest website: www.triwest.com
- * Provider Listings - Mailed to Prime households or available at TRICARE Service Centers (TSCs)

Should you have any questions, please call your local TSC or TriWest's toll free number:

1-888-TriWest (1-888-874-9378).

Generic vs. Brand-name Drugs

The use of generic drugs is mandated by the Department of Defense for the TRICARE program. When a TRICARE beneficiary visits a pharmacy or uses the mail order service, generic equivalent medications will be substituted for brand-name drugs, unless the physician has documented the medical necessity for the brand-name drugs. If no generic equivalent exists, the brand-name drug will be given. Military treatment facility (MTF) pharmacies follow the same rules.

Generic drugs do not lack quality. In fact, they are strictly regulated for quality and consistency. Like brand-name drugs, generics are tested and approved by the FDA. Generic drug makers must prove to the FDA that the active ingredients in their product have the same medical effect as its brand-name counterpart.

Your cooperation with this policy will help control rising health care costs.

“What are they doing now?”

TTCM Edward R. (Eddie) Adams USCGR (retired)

Upon my retirement in 1982, I continued my long time hobby of teaching bowling. Until my retirement I did it as a sideline, and since then I have been teaching practically full-time. I work with Dick Ritger, one of the legends of bowling, who I have been affiliated with for the past 22 years. We now teach all over the United States and around the world including various sites in Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. We started teaching in Ithaca, New York with 23 students and it has grown so that we are teaching well over a thousand each year. Since my wife passed away in 1993, the teaching and traveling have been a very rewarding experience. During my travels, I have run into many Coasties and Navy folks I've known previously. I have lost track of a lot of my old shipmates and would like to hear from any that would like to correspond. My e-mail address is: SNCadams@relex.com, so if anyone is looking for some bowling help, or just wants to say “Hi”, please get in touch and I'll get back to you. SEMPER PARATUS!

LT Charles A. Brinson USCG (retired)

Since retiring in August 1986, I have been pretty much on the go. I began a second career as Quality Control Director at a shipyard in Charleston, then to Assistant General Manager of a shipyard in Savannah. When I got a chance to get aboard vessels once again, I took over as Director of Marine Operations/Captain for a dinner-dance vessel in Augusta, GA. After a couple of years of cruising the river, I spent some time on pilot boats out of Savannah. I moved over to the Gulf Coast as Operations Manager of a shipyard. Back on active duty in 1992 as Senior Field Inspector in Morgan City, LA and in March of 1994, I took over as Senior Captain of a 1200 passenger sternwheeler for Harrah's Cruising Casinos of Joliet, cruising the Illinois riverway where I am presently employed.

After leaving the Coast Guard, I have been able to upgrade my license to Unlimited Master of Great Lakes and Inland waters, along with Master 1600 tons, near coastal. I would enjoy hearing from my old shipmates, and may be contacted at: 523 County Road - Apt #1, Wilmington, IL 60481 or by phone at (815)476-0506.

QMC William E. Knight USCG (retired)

After my service during World War

II on 3 different CG manned Navy ships (USS Western Star/YP-362, USS Etamin/AK-93, USS Admiral H.T. Mayo/AP-125) and about 10 years of additional re-

search, I have written a book entitled, “The Coast Guard Navy of WWII”. The book is about the different CG manned Navy ships in WWII such as the AK's, AP's, LST's, YP's, DE's, Sub chasers and so on. There are numerous photos included as well as a good collection of the Japanese propaganda leaflets.

If you would like to contact me or purchase a copy of the book (\$25.00), you may reach me at 1052 East Timber Lane, Freeland, VA 98249, phone: (360)331-7220.

**Send submissions
for publication in the
Retiree Newsletter to:
Retiree Newsletter
Attn: Editor
USCG HRSIC(RAS)
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS**

Employment Opportunities



Now retired, kids in college?
Let me show you how to earn \$100, \$500, \$1000 extra a month. Looking for individuals that want to work a few extra hours a week out of their home. For more information, please call (219) 824-8482 or write RMC Stan Johnson (USCG retired) at 2142E 400N, Ossian, IN

Primerica Financial Services, a subsidiary of Travelers Group, offers unique entrepreneurial opportunity part-time or full-time. Instruction provided. Unlimited compensation potential. For more information please contact: Sam Naplepa (USCG retired) at: (516)462-6900.

Where are you???



**Has your address
changed?**

**Tax season is fast
approaching!!**

**To be assured your 1099R gets
to you as soon as possible,
please write, fax, or call
HRSIC (RAS)
prior to
1 November 1998**

**(see Directory Assistance on
page 26 for information on how**

“Every Coastie a Recruiter”



Recently Assistant Commandant for Human Resources, RADM Ames, briefed the Commandant on personnel shortages and the Coast Guard’s efforts to “fill the workforce”. Although currently the Coast Guard has a positive picture on the civilian side, little progress has been made to increase our active duty and reserve roles. According to current figures, with an increase in billets of about 340, the gap to full strength is predicted to widen at the end of this FY to approximately 986 below full strength.

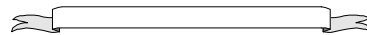
A multitude of new recruiting and retention initiatives for all Coast Guard workforce components have helped overall retention remain fairly consistent. For those qualified for reenlistment on active duty, the first term reenlistment rate is 65% and subsequent reenlistments is 88%. The challenge with a currently smaller recruiting force has steadily become greater with the booming economy. The propensity for today’s youth to enlist in the Armed Forces is at an all time low and for the Coast Guard in particular lower by far than the other services (7% vs. 30% for DoD). Competition from the other services is at unprecedented levels. The substantial difference has much to do with our

inability to get our message out to the “market” and generate interest in what we feel to be “jobs that matter”. This “interest” gets turned into what the recruiting folks call “leads” which they follow up.

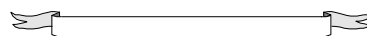
One of the Coast Guard’s most important recruiting initiatives involves the entire Coast Guard “family” - active duty, reserve, civilian, retiree, and auxiliary. The Coast Guard still needs you.

Get in touch with your local recruiter and find out how you can help. Prominently display recruiting materials and encourage contact with our recruiters at any special events and civic functions you might attend. These are just a few of the ways you can help and there are many more out there. The Coast Guards most valuable resource is it’s people.....”Be a part of the Action!”

Call 1-800-GET-USCG to be connected to the Coast Guard Recruiter nearest you or contact YN1 Mark McCracken at (703)235-4755 for more



Semper Paratus



WEBSITES provide valuable information



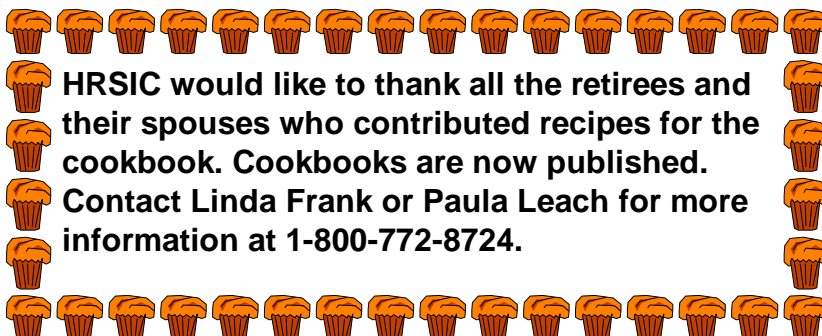
The following Websites are provided as sources of information that may be of interest to our readers:

- American Retirees Association - “www.americanretirees.com”
- Navy MWR Memphis - “www.mwrmemphis.com”
- Military City Online Web Outpost - “www.militarycity.com”
- Alabama Military Retirees Win Tax Refund - “www.amf.org”
- The Military Network: Source for Military Publications Online - “www.military.net”
- Military Retirees Activities Eglin AFB, FL - “www.eglin.af.mil”
- National Military Veteran Alliance - “www.naus.org”
- TRICARE News - “www.ha.osd.mil”
- Military Affairs Hampton Roads - “www.vpcc.org/military.html”
- Military Womans Message Center - “www.militarywoman.org/center/”
- AF Times Online - “www.airforcetimes.com”

Happy Surfing!



Thank You!!

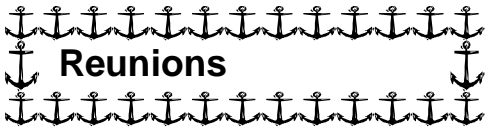


HRSIC would like to thank all the retirees and their spouses who contributed recipes for the cookbook. Cookbooks are now published. Contact Linda Frank or Paula Leach for more information at 1-800-772-8724.

Coming Soon!

Your RASOMI (Retiree/Annuitant Statement of Monthly Income) is getting a new look!





Reunions

- ◆ **USCG Academy Filipino Reunion:** Plans for the 1st Filipino USCG Reunion for those previously stationed at the USCG Academy are currently underway, tentatively scheduled for September of 1999 in Las Vegas, NV. For further information you may contact: QMC D.S. "Alex" Alejandro, USCG (retired) at ph: (425)481-0112, fax: (425)481-9240, e-mail: "valejan963@aol.com".
- ◆ **USCGC Casco (WAVP 370):** Any former crew members of the USCGC Casco who would like to be placed on a mailing list of shipmates and activities that includes a reunion every several years, please contact: Gordon C Kelly at P.O. BOX 141, Lyons WI 53148.
- ◆ **AP Transport Group:** A reunion is being planned for AP Transport Group including the USS General's Mitchell/AP114, Randall/AP115, Gordon/AP117, Richardson/AP118, Weigel/AP119, Hodges/AP144, Breckinridge/AP176; USS Admiral's Capps/AP121, Eberle/AP123, Hughes/AP124, and Mayo/AP125. It will be held 3-6 Jun 99 in Ft. Mitchell, KY. The reunion includes Navy, Coast Guard and Marines. For further information please contact: Chuck Ulrich at 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park NY 11040 or phone: (516) 747-7426.
- ◆ **USS General Harry Taylor (AP 145):** A reunion is scheduled for 3-6 Jun 99 in Ft. Mitchell, KY. For information please contact: Jim Bonnot, Jr. at 312 Bellwood Ave, Pigeon Forge, TN 37863 or phone: (423) 429-5698.
- ◆ **USS Lowe (DE 325):** USCG WWII will hold their 9th Annual Reunion at the Days Inn - Mystic CT on 17-21 May 99. All DE, DER, WDE sailors from the Lowe are welcome. Please contact Tom Taylor at 104 Covered Wagon Road, Baltimore MD 21220 or phone: (410) 335-3381.
- ◆ **PAMRA (Philipino American Military Retired Assoc):** A reunion is planned for 12-16 Jan 99 in Manila, Philippines. For information please contact CWO Fil Servino at (617) 242-4563, ETCS Danny Perpuse at (206) 938-2825, QMCM Roger Reyes at (410) 969-3614 or SSCM Ed Mamenta at (727) 789-5894.
- ◆ **CG Air Reunion:** Aircrews and Support Personnel are invited to the reunion scheduled for May 16-18, 1999 in Laughlin, NV at the Riverside Hotel. For information/reservations please contact Mr. Hugh Dayton, 5401 Locust Ave, Carmichael, CA 95608-6643 or phone (916) 486-1319.



Please note: The Retiree Newsletter is published in January, April, July and October. In order to ensure that your Reunion notice appears in the newsletter please forward it to arrive 60 days prior to publication month. Your cooperation will allow us to serve you better.

**Forward your notice to: USCG HRSIC (RAS)
Attn: Retiree Newsletter Editor
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591**



Locator

Henry J. Kaminski is looking for Harrie E. Smith, USCG Reserve. He served 1944-46 in Ketchikan, AK aboard the USS Bittersweet. If you have information please contact Henry Kaminski at RR2 - Box 442, North East, PA 16428-9801

Former Coastguardsman William B. Hebson would like to hear from Coasties whom he served with in the Aleutian Islands during WWII. To contact him, please write him at 8900 Jeff Hamilton Road, Mobile, AL 36695-8312

LT Bob Moynihan would like to hear from the following shipmates: EN1 Joe Woods-CGC Matagorda, CS1 Bob Fitch-CGC Bramble, DCCM Fred Meier-CGC Bramble & YNC Bruce Turner-CGC Casco. His address is: Route 1, Box 188BJ, Martinsburg, WV 25401

Jack A. Pfeifer would like CG Retirees who served on USS LST 22 to contact him for information on reunions. Please write him at: 11325 Timberline Drive, Beaverton, OR 97008

I am an ex-CG (AMM/AD) compiling data for a written history of the Biloxi Air Station. Anyone with any information, newspaper articles, photos, handwritten memories, citations, awards, any kind of information, please contact Ted A. Morris, LTC, USAF Retired at 1213 Edgewood Ave, Las Cruces, NM 88005-1127. All original material will be copied and returned.

Social Security & your military retirement

Numerous calls come in to HRSIC with questions concerning how Social Security and military retirement work together. The following information is provided as general background from SSA Publication 05-10017 dated January 1998 to assist you in understanding this process:

The earnings of people who serve in the military services on active duty or on active duty for training have been covered under Social Security since 1957. Inactive duty service in the armed forces reserves (such as weekend drills) has been covered by Social Security since 1988. However, people who served in the military before 1957 did not pay into Social Security directly, but their records were credited with special earnings for Social Security purposes that count toward any benefits that might be payable. Additional earnings credits are given to military personnel depending on when they served. This fact sheet explains how and when these special earnings are credited and provides other general information military personnel need to know about the benefits available from Social Security.

While you're in the military serv-

ice (from 1957 on), you pay Social Security taxes the same way civilian employees do. Those taxes are deducted from your pay and an equal amount is paid by the U.S. government as your employer. In 1998, the tax rate is 7.65 percent up to a maximum of \$68,400. If you earn more than that, you continue to pay the Medicare portion of the tax, 1.45 percent, on the rest of your earnings.

You must have credit for a certain amount of work covered by Social Security before any benefits can be paid on your record. In 1998, you earn four credits (the maximum) if your annual earnings are \$2,800 or more. (You earn one credit for each \$700.) The amount needed for each credit will increase in future years to reflect increases in average wages. The number of credits you need to qualify for Social Security depends on your age and the type of benefit you might be eligible for. Nobody needs more than 40 credits (10 years of work or military service) to be eligible for Social Security. In some situations, you can qualify with less than 40 credits.

The "credits" mentioned in the previous section determine if you are eligible for Social Security. The amount you get from Social Security depends on earnings averaged over much of your working lifetime. Generally, the

higher your earnings, the higher your Social Security benefit.

Under certain circumstances, special earnings can be credited to your military pay record for Social Security purpose. These extra earnings may help you qualify for Social Security or increase the amount of your Social Security benefit. The extra earnings credits are granted for periods of active duty or active duty training. (No additional earnings are granted for inactive duty training, and Social Security cannot add extra earnings credits to your earnings record until you file for Social Security benefits.)

Here's when the additional earnings are granted:

- Service in 1978 and later - For every \$300 in active duty basic pay, you are credited with an additional \$100 in earnings up to a maximum of \$1,200 per year. If you enlisted after 7 September 1980, and didn't complete at least 24 months of active duty or your full tour, you may not be able to receive the additional

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Judge dismisses health care lawsuit



Judge Roger Vinson of the U.S. District Court in Pensacola, FL has dismissed the health care lawsuit filed against the government by Colonel George "Bud" Day's (USAF-retired) Class Action Group. The lawsuit contended that the government wrongfully took the property (the promised health care) of retirees who entered the service before June 7, 1956. That was the date the first law was passed specifying that retirees would be entitled to care on a "space available" basis. The same judge previously had dismissed another part

of the suit on behalf of post-1956 entrants, but had agreed to review the case for the older retirees.

Vinson's comments in dismissing the suit were similar to those accompanying the dismissal of similar suits against the government in the past. He didn't disagree that the government had promised retirees lifetime health care, but only about how the current situation can be redressed. "I must conclude that the plaintiffs certainly have a strong equitable argument that the government should abide by its promises," Vinson wrote in his decision. "Regrettably, the law

does not permit me to order the United States to do so. Under Constitutional separation of powers, relief for the plaintiffs must come from Congress and not from the Judiciary."

The Class Action Group plans to appeal the decision. A separate group, the Council of Retired Military Veterans (CORMV) also is appealing the similar dismissal of its own lawsuit by a Federal District Court in South Carolina.

Social Security (continued)

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earnings. Check with Social Security for details.

- Service in 1957 through 1977 - You are credited with \$300 in additional earnings for each calendar quarter in which you received active duty basic pay.
- Service in 1940 through 1956 - If you were in the military during this period, including attendance at a service academy, you did not pay Social Security taxes. However, your Social Security record may be credited with \$160 a month in earnings for military service from 16 September 1940 through 31 December 1956, under the following circumstances:

- 1) You were honorably discharged after 90 or more days of service, or you were released because of a disability or injury received in the line of duty; or
- 2) You are still on active duty; or
- 3) You are applying for survivors benefits and the veteran died while on active duty.

You cannot receive these special earnings credits if you're already receiving a federal benefit based

on the same years of service. But there is one exception to this rule: if you were on active duty after 1956, you can still get the special earnings for 1951 through 1956, even if you're receiving a military retirement based on service during that period.

There are many kinds of benefits available from Social Security besides those for retirement and disability. Members of your family and your dependents can receive survivors benefits if you should die. There's also Medicare coverage and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments. For more information about these benefits, ask Social Security for a copy of booklet, *Understanding The Benefits* (Publication No. 105-10024).

When you apply for Social Security benefits, you'll be asked for proof of your military service (DD Form 214), or information regarding your Reserves or National Guard service.

You can get both Social Security benefits and military retirement. Generally, there is no offset of Social Security benefits because of your military retirement. You'll get your full Social Security benefit based on your earnings. However, your Social Security benefit may be reduced if you also receive a government pension based on a job in which you didn't pay Social Security taxes. Ask Social Security for a copy of the fact sheet, *A Pension From Work Not Covered By Social*

Security (Publication No. 05-10045).

Social Security survivors benefits may affect benefits payable under the optional Department of Defense Survivors Benefit Plan. Check with the Department of Defense or your military retirement advisor for more information.

You can get recorded information about Social Security coverage 24 hours a day by calling Social Security's toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213. You can speak to a service representative between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on business days. Social Security's busiest times are early in the week and early in the month, so if your business can wait, it's best to call at other times. Whenever you call, have your Social Security number handy.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing may call SSA's toll-free "TTY" number, 1-800-325-0778, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on business days.

You can also reach Social Security on the Internet at "www.ssa.gov" to access Social Security information.



Check it out!

For your information

Did you know?

The Uniformed Services Former Spouses Protection Act (Public Law 97-252, as amended) does not automatically divide retired pay as property. It does authorize a state court to treat military retired pay either as property of the retiree and his or her spouse in accordance with the law of the court's jurisdiction.

This authorization permits a court to award a portion of military re-

tired pay to a former spouse as property (in addition to any other court-awarded spousal or child support or division of other marital property). A court may award more than 50 percent of a retired servicemembers paycheck to the former spouse as property, but the federal government is only authorized to send up to 50 percent directly to the former spouse.

In order to be eligible for the direct disbursement of military retired pay as property by a Military Finance and Accounting Service Center, the former spouse must have been married to the military member for 10 years or

more, during which the servicemember must have performed 10 years service creditable for military retirement.

Did you know?

Public Law 97-35, effective 1 October 1981, sharply restricted the payment of the \$300 burial allowance from the VA. Payment of this allowance is limited to veterans who

were entitled to receive VA compensation or pension or who would have

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Exchange credit program's many benefits

DALLAS - Since it started in 1979, the Exchange Credit Program (better known as the Deferred Pay Plan or DPP), has changed from an extended layaway into a full service credit program. In fact, the Exchange Credit Program is the eighth largest private label, retail credit card program in the U.S.!!

In 1992, there were only 200,000 DPP customers. Today, there are more than one million. In 1992, only customers stationed in Europe and the Pacific could use DPP. Today, it can be used at most Army, Air Force and Marine Corps Exchanges worldwide.

In 1997, the Exchange Credit Program generated nearly \$600 million in sales with nearly \$20 million in dividends going to the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) of the military services.

Many people today still think of DPP as an extended layaway program. This misconception deters many qualified customers from obtaining an Exchange Credit Card account.

Why does AAFES want to get customers excited about the credit card?

"The 'Exchange Credit Card' as it exists today is a good benefit to customers," said Harold Lavender, Exchange Credit Program chief. "Customers benefit because the

Exchange Credit Card offers low competitive interest rates, charging an Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of prime + 4.75 percent. At today's rates, this is a 13.25 percent annually. Even though many banks offer low introductory interest rates, these are normally for short periods of time and then they go to interest rates averaging about 16 percent. Major retailers...charge their customers between 18 and 23 percent interest."

Another benefit to customers is better military quality of life - the Exchange Credit Card can be used at Army, Air Force and Marine Corps Exchanges worldwide. Also, the exchanges have made arrangements to ensure the service can be used in remote locations whenever possible. Profits generated by the Exchange Card are shared with the military community through contributions to the MWR Funds of the military services. These funds are used to build libraries, child care centers, gymnasiums, bowling alleys and recreational facilities for service members and their families around the world.

AAFES is a company store - this means the Exchange Credit Card is offered to authorized military exchange customers only, like a "members only" card. Since it's an extension of the benefits package offered to the military, using this card contributes to the future success of the exchange. Also, since the ex-

change is experienced with providing service to the military community, it takes steps to protect and support the financial stability of the military service member.

Using the Exchange Credit Card instead of a different credit card helps to reduce store expenses. Whenever a major credit card transaction is processed in the store, a merchant fee, averaging about 1.6 percent of the sale is paid to the issuer of the bankcard. Also, all profits realized by the bank for the use of that card go to the owners and stock holders of that bank. In 1997, the exchange paid about \$22.5 million to banks. This comes directly from the stores' bottom line and is lost revenue for MWR Funds of the military service.

"We want customers to be informed and understand how this impacts AAFES and MWR. Our desire is to be our customers' first choice in credit," said Lavender.



**"Serving the greatest customers
all over the world"**

FYI (CONTINUED)

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been entitled to compensation but for receipt of military retired pay. This benefit also may be authorized when a veteran's death occurs in a VA facility. It is not automatically authorized for military disability retirees, but they may apply and be granted authorization before the need arises.

Contact your local VA for more information.

Did you know?

As a general rule, a retired military officer who has qualified for a "second" retirement from civil service may receive his or her total federal retirement according to either of these two methods:

- You may choose to waive your military retired pay and receive credit for active military service in your civil service retirement annuity. (It should be noted that only active military service may be counted for this purpose, even though inactive service would have been used to compute military pay).
- Or, you may receive two separate

retirement payments for two separate periods of federal service (military and civil service).

You may choose whichever of these two methods works to your best advantage. You can find additional information on military service credit toward federal retirement and "dual compensation" on the Internet at: "www.troa.org".



Retirements

LAST NAME	FIRST	RANK	RETIREMENT DATE
ABBOTT	JEAN	PS1	980720
ADAMIUK	JOAO	EM1	980801
AGEN	WILL	LT	980601
ALBERTINE	GERARD	DCC	980801
ALHEIM	LAWRENCE	MSTCS	980701
ALLEN	DAVID	MK1	980601
ALLEY	DAVID	LCDR	980601
ALVAREZ	MICHAEL	ETC	980601
ANDREWS	CURTIS	SK2	980801
ANDRUSS	GEORGE	LT	980701
ANGSTROM	JOHN	HS1	980502
ARGALAS	ROGER	CAPT	980701
ASARO	RICHARD	CAPT	980701
ASHBAUGH	EDWARD	EMCS	980707
ATKINSON	WILLIAM	QMC	980801
AURICH	MERRITT	CAPT	980701
BAKER	KENNETH	MKC	980602
BALEY	HENRY	CAPT	980701
BALLARD	MARK	TCC	980801
BALTHAZOR	DAVID	LCDR	980701
BANNISTER	WILLIAM	CAPT	980701
BARCO	ALBERT	CDR	980701
BARKER	CHARLES	LCDR	980601
BARNETT	ANTOINE	DC1	980701
BARNETT	SCOTT	HS1	980801
BARROW	LARRY	CDR	980801
BASLER	MICHAEL	AD2	980516
BASTEK	JOHN	CAPT	980701
BAXTER	MICHAEL	ETC	980701
BEARD	NELSON	CWO2	980701
BECHTLE	JON	LCDR	980601
BELL	MATTHEW	ET2	980321
BELL	GORDON	CAPT	980617
BELL	JAMES	MK3	980615
BENFIELD	DANIEL	FSCS	980601
BENNETT	EDDIE	EMCS	980701
BENNINGTON	ROBERT	CWO2	980601
BENTLEY	JACK	CDR	980701
BICE	JAMES	DC1	980719
BISHOP	JACK	IVC	980710
BLACKBURN	THOMAS	CWO2	980701
BLANEY	HAROLD	CAPT	980701
BLATTEL	MARK	BM2	980701
BOLDAN	CLIFFORD	CWO3	980801
BONKOWSKI	ERIC	MKC	980801
BOOTH	RICHARD	LCDR	980601
BOROWSKI	ANTHONY	PSC	980516
BOUNDS	KEITH	LT	980701
BOVARD	JAMES	AM1	980510
BOWMAN	STEVEN	FS1	980701
BRAY	ROBERT	MKC	980801
BREITHAUP	GREGORY	LCDR	980601
BRENNAN	TERRANCE	LT	980701
BROOKS	DANIEL	SK1	980801
BROUGHTON	DAVID	CDR	980701
BROWN	JOEL	LT	980801
BROWN	KENNETH	YN1	980801
BRYAN	MICHAEL	MSTC	980701
BUESING	LUTZ	CDR	980701
BUMATAY	EDWARD	MKC	980517
BUNN	WINSTON	CWO4	980622
BURDETTE	WILLIAM	BM2	980601
BUSH	ERIC	MK2	980701
BUSICK	PAUL	RADM	980701
BUTTERY	GARY	MUC	980801
BYCZEK	JOHN	CDR	980701
BYRD	RILEY	CWO4	980801

CARDONA	CARLOS	GM1	980601
CAREY	EDWIN	BM1	980801
CARLE	MICHAEL	BM2	980602
CARLYLE	RAYMOND	CWO2	980601
CASTANEDA	MANUEL	CWO3	980701
CASTRO	FREDERICK	YN1	980801
CAUDLE	WILLIAM	BM1	980801
CERASALE	MARK	LCDR	980601
CHILDS	BRETT	HS1	980701
CHRISTIAN	ROBERT	CAPT	980731
CICHOWSKI	KENNETH	BM1	980701
CLARK	ALFRED	RD1	980801
CLARK	EARL	WCS	980601
CLARK	RICHARD	CAPT	980701
CLARK	ROBERT	QM1	980801
COATES	EDWARD	CDR	980601
COLWELL	KEITH	CDR	980701
COMER	CLIFFORD	CDR	980801
CONRAN	EDWIN	TCC	980601
COOPER	SCOTT	CAPT	980801
COUNCIL	JOSEPHINE	TC3	980707
CROOK	RANDY	AM1	980801
CROSTICK	ARTHUR	CAPT	980701
CURTIS	DAVID	FS1	980630
CYMANSKI	DENNIS	CWO3	980601
DABNEY	JAMES	CDR	980801
DAGNESE	PHILIP	LCDR	980601
DALSANTO	PAUL	LCDR	980601
DASH	DAVID	AT1	980601
DAVIS	KIMBERLY	LCDR	980701
DAWKINS	ALEXANDER	TC1	980701
DECKER	JEFFREY	BMCS	980701
DEEM	JEFFERY	ETCM	980701
DELAND	TRACY	MCM	980701
DELAURIER	JOHN	CWO4	980701
DEMARCHI	LAWRENCE	LCDR	980801
DEMETRIF	GERALD	LCDR	980701
DERWEY	DANIEL	BM1	980601
DIBELLA	PETER	MKC	980622
DICKMAN	DAVID	CDR	980701
DIGGS	JAMES	PS1	980705
DIGIACCO	NICHOLAS	CWO4	980801
DIGNAN	WILLIAM	AM2	980531
DINLOCKER	RONALD	CWO4	980701
DINSMORE	PAUL	SKCM	980701
DIRSCHEL	GEORGE	CAPT	980527
DISNEY	WILLIAM	CDR	980602
DIXON	WILLIAM	PS1	980708
DODSON	JAMES	MK1	980801
DOLAN	GERALD	LT	980601
DOLAN	THOMAS	CAPT	980701
DOLAN	WILLIAM	CWO3	980701
DOMINI	FREDERICK	MKC	980601
DONOHUE	GERALD	CDR	980701
DONOHUE	KATHLEEN	CDR	980801
DORSEY	CECIL	LCDR	980709
DORT	CHRISTOPHER	BM1	980515
DOTY	BROOK	LCDR	980801
DOUGLAS	IAN	CWO3	980701
DUKE	ROBERT	YN1	980701
ECHOLS	KURT	CWO2	980801
EDMONSON	YVONNE	SK1	980601
EDWARDS	NORMAN	CAPT	980701
EDWARDS	ROBERT	ET1	980701
ELCHESEN	RONALD	CDR	980728
ELDERS	VICKY	CWO3	980601
ELION	TERRY	HSC	980701
ELLIS	RANDY	TC1	980801
EMERSON	GEORGE	EMCS	980601
ENGILES	ROBERT	LCDR	980701
ENGLISH	THOMAS	LCDR	980801
ERAUSQUIN	CARLOS	EMCS	980522
ERIKSEN	BRUCE	TCC	980701
ERNESTO	MICHAEL	LT	980601
ESTES	BLAKE	ADCM	980701
FAGAN	MICHAEL	AM1	980801
FARNUM	STEPHEN	WO3	980601

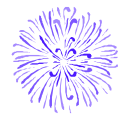
FEHNEL	JOHN	SK1	980801
FIELDS	DAVID	CWO3	980701
FIELDS	JOHN	CWO4	980219
FILCHER	GERALD	HSC	980801
FINN	RICHARD	BM3	980621
FIORE	ANTHONY	BMC	980701
FLAHERTY	MICHAEL	CWO4	980801
FLEMING	HAROLD	QM1	980801
FORRESTER	MITCHELL	LCDR	980601
FOSTER	MICHAEL	AT1	980701
FOWLER	JAY	YN1	980620
FREDELLA	JOHN	LCDR	980801
FREEMAN	MARTHA	BMC	980601
FREEMAN	RONNIE	GMC	980801
FRIEDMAN	RONALD	MK1	980716
FUENTES	AESTE	LCDR	980701
FULLAM	THOMAS	LCDR	980601
FULLER	WILLIAM	MK1	980721
FULTON	CHARLES	BMCS	980625
GARCIA	ROLANDO	BMC	980701
GARLAND	ROBERT	BM1	980530
GERMINO	VICTOR	CWO4	980611
GIACOMA	RHAE	LCDR	980801
GILBERT	RONALD	TCC	980701
GLASS	DANIELLE	EM3	980615
GORMAN	MARK	HSC	980801
GRAHAM	THOMAS	LCDR	980701
GRANDONICO	MARK	HSC	980801
GRAVES	ERNEST	CDR	980614
GRAY	PATRICK	DC1	980801
GREEN	DARRYL	SK1	980601
GREINER	NICHOLE	QM3	980601
GRONBERG	ROBERT	CAPT	980701
GROSS	FRANK	CDR	980701
GUNDERSON	CHARLES	ATCM	980701
GURBA	WALTER	BMC	980601
HAARMANN	EDWARD	MKC	980701
HAAS	ANDREW	PSC	980526
HAAS	RONALD	LCDR	980701
HAIL	LAIRD	CAPT	980701
HAINES	PAMELA	LT	980801
HALSTEAD	DAVID	CDR	980613
HALYARD	LEE	TCC	980801
HAMBERG	WILLIAM	CWO2	980801
HANKINS	WAYNE	CWO2	980601
HARDER	DEAN	CAPT	980701
HARDIN	DANIEL	LT	980801
HARMON	JAMES	CDR	980701
HATCHER	JAY	CWO3	980601
HATHAWAY	MICHAEL	CAPT	980701
HAYES	MARK	GMC	980701
HEBERT	DAVID	LCDR	980601
HEBERT	GERARD	EM1	980701
HEFNER	CHARLES	CWO3	980701
HEINLEIN	RICHARD	RD1	980801
HELLKAMP	MICHAEL	ATC	980717
HENSEL	RONALD	LT	980801
HERR	RICHARD	VADM	980801
HESTED	JAMES	CAPT	980701
HILLIARD	GREGORY	EMC	980701
HOAGLAND	DOUGLAS	BMC	980601
HOLLAND	GEORGE	CWO4	980801
HOLUB	JOHN	CDR	980701
HOOKER	JAMES	MK1	980701
HOOVER	TERRY	LCDR	980801
HORN	HENRY	BMC	980801
HORNER	FENTRESS	BM1	980801
HOSTETTER	JERRY	RDCS	980601
HOWARD	RANDY	GM1	980801
HULEN	DAVID	ETCS	980620
HUNTING	KENNETH	CWO4	980701
HURWITT	ROBERT	CAPT	980701
HUTCHINSON	DALE	LCDR	980601
INNES	ROBERT	CAPT	980701
ISAAC	EDWARD	MK1	980601
JACKSON	MARTIN	LCDR	980601
JARVIS	WAYNE	ETCM	980801
JOHNSON	WILLIAM	CDR	980701

JONES	PHILIP	CDR	980701
JONES	ROBERT	CAPT	980701
JONES	ROGER	ATC	980801
JULIO	ARSACIO	DC1	980601
KAHLER	CARL	BMCM	980421
KANTZ	STEPHEN	LCDR	980601
KARNIS	EDWARD	CAPT	980701
KEIGANS	RUFUS	MK1	980701
KELLOGG	ALVIN	CDR	970816
KELLY	EUGENE	CDR	980725
KENNEDY	RAYMOND	CWO3	980601
KEYPORT	MITCHELL	EMCS	980601
KIERN	LAWRENCE	CAPT	980801
KILEY	EDMUND	CAPT	980701
KLOSTERMAN	DALE	CDR	980509
KNESEBECK	DONALD	CWO3	980701
KOCH	DAVID	FS1	980601
KORUNKIEWICH	ROMAN	MKCS	980609
KOWALEWSKI	RICHARD	CDR	980601
KRAMEK	ROBERT	ADM	980601
KRUMEL	ROBERT	EMC	980701
KUC	JOHN	QM1	980517
KUHN	RICHARD	CAPT	980531
KUNKEL	CARL	CAPT	980718
LAKATOS	DAVID	CWO2	980801
LAKE	MARTIN	CAPT	980619
LANDEAU	CHARLES	CWO4	980601
LANE	EDWARD	CDR	980701
LAPENSE	CHRISTIAN	MKCS	980801
LAPIERRE	DARREN	BMCM	980601
LAVALLE	VINCENT	MK1	980801
LEAHY	MICHAEL	CAPT	980517
LECLAIR	HEATHER	MST2	980603
LEIDEL	RUSSELL	SK1	980801
LEWIS	ALAN	CWO3	980701
LEWIS	RANDY	CWO2	980801
LINDBERG	BRIAN	EMCS	980701
LIPPERT	CONRAD	PSC	980622
LIZAK	FRANCIS	BM1	980504
LODGE	JAMES	LCDR	980701
LOEWY	ANTHONY	ET1	980610
LOVE	HENRY	MK1	980612
LOVELY	ROGER	MKC	980701
LUTHER	JOHN	CAPT	980801
LUZNY	SCOTT	BMC	980701
MACNEALY	JOHN	BM2	980531
MAKI	ROBERT	CDR	980701
MALKASIAN	MALCOLM	PS1	980622
MANDELLA	STEVEN	EMCM	980601
MANGINI	LISSA	HS1	980601
MANN	JOHN	DC1	980713
MANUEL	THOMAS	HSCS	980601
MAR	THEODORE	CDR	980801
MARKOFF	ROBERT	CAPT	980602
MARMOL	EDMUND	CDR	980801
MARPLE	CHRISTOPHER	CDR	980701
MARSHALL	MICHAEL	ADC	980801
MARSHBURN	MICHAEL	CWO3	980801
MARTIN	MATTHEW	CWO4	980701
MAUTH	JAMES	BMCM	980731
MAYNE	MARK	CAPT	980701
MAZZIOTTA	MICHAEL	EMCS	980601
MARTHUR	DONALD	SK1	980601
MCCLAIN	SHARRON	EM1	980606
MCCOLLUM	WILLIAM	LCDR	980801
MCDOWELL	JOSEPH	LT	980701
MCHENRY	WILLIAM	LCDR	980601
MCINTYRE	DAVID	DC1	980801
MCKENZIE	JAMES	CDR	980801
MCKERNAN	CLAUDE	CWO3	980801
MCKINNEY	DEXTER	CWO2	980701
MCKINNEY	DOUGLAS	MK1	980701
MCPMAHON	JOHN	CWO4	980512
MCNAUGHT	MICHAEL	CWO4	980801
MEAD	RICHARD	CAPT	980601
MERCHANT	BRUCE	CAPT	980701
MERCIER	GEORGE	CAPT	980701

MERRILEES	GEORGE	RADM	980725
MESSINGER	TIMOTHY	LT	980801
METZLER	EILEEN	QMC	980801
MEYN	WILLIAM	LCDR	980601
MICHAELS	BRENTON	LCDR	980801
MIERZWA	MICHAEL	CAPT	980701
MILLER	DAVID	CAPT	980801
MILLER	DEAN	CWO4	980701
MILLER	WILLIAM	FA	980610
MILLS	BOYD	TCCS	980601
MIZELLE	TIMOTHY	SKCS	980801
MONACO	LEONARD	YNC	980801
MORRIS	JAMES	CAPT	980701
MORRISON	ROBERT	CDR	980601
MORROW	CHRISTOPHER	AEC	980601
MORTAGNE	RICHARD	ET1	980723
MOTT	ROBERT	GM1	980701
MOULTON	RAY	LT	980801
MULLER	RICHARD	PACS	980801
MUNN	ALAN	YN2	980601
MUSARRA	LAWRENCE	LCDR	980701
MYERS	ROBERT	CAPT	980615
NEMETH	WILLIAM	PS1	971017
NEWELL	TERRY	CAPT	980701
NEWTON	GEORGE	YNC	980725
NICKERSON	GREG	GM2	980801
NIESEN	BRADLEY	CAPT	980701
NILSSON	MAGNUS	CDR	980505
NOKUTIS	STEVEN	LCDR	980701
NORDESTE	JOHN	EM1	980526
NORDLING	DONALD	FS1	980801
NORTHROP	EDWARD	ATC	980701
NOSAL	WALTER	BMC	980801
NOWOCIEN	WAYNE	MKS	980601
ODGERS	ARTHUR	ETCM	980701
OGONOWSKI	EDWARD	CWO3	980701
OLSSON	PAUL	RDC	980701
ONEILL	ANTHONY	FN	980519
ONUFRYK	JOHN	CWO3	980701
PACHECO	ALBERTO	YN1	980601
PADUKIEWICZ	JOHN	LCDR	980801
PALMER	JAMES	TCCM	980601
PANCOTTI	JOSEPH	LCDR	980601
PANTANO	RICHARD	DCC	980801
PARKER	DANIEL	YN1	980607
PARRENT	STEPHEN	AE1	980801
PARSONS	BRUCE	MKC	980701
PARSONS	DANIEL	MK1	980601
PASSMAN	DAVID	CWO4	980601
PAWLOSKI	PAUL	YNC	980701
PECK	GEORGE	CAPT	980706
PERSON	JAMES	CDR	980701
PETERS	BRUCE	MSTCM	980601
PETERSON	KURT	EMC	980601
PETRELLA	MICHAEL	MK1	980801
PHILLIPS	WILLIAM	AT1	980801
PICHE	GORDON	RADM	980701
PICHSON	MONTE	PS1	980628
PICKARD	BART	TC1	980801
PIPER	RICKY	CWO4	980801
PITZER	DAVID	FSC	980714
POORE	BARRY	CDR	980701
PORTE	PHILLIP	CWO3	980601
PORTIS	ROSA	YN2	980614
POTTER	DAVID	CAPT	980701
POULIOT	GERARD	AD1	980801
POWERS	ROBERT	CAPT	980701
PRICE	RICKY	FS2	980801
PRINCE	MARK	BM2	980801
QUEIRO	RAMON	EM3	980618
QUICK	ROBERT	LT	980701
QUIRK	ROBERT	CDR	980601
RAGLAND	EDWARD	SK2	980701
RAGSDALE	MICHAEL	CAPT	980701
RAKER	RANDALL	MKC	980801
RAPOSA	THOMAS	MK3	980604
RAY	KENNETH	MKC	980801
RAY	THOMAS	MKC	980601

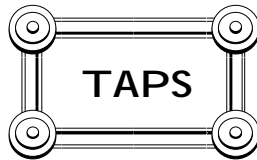
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REEVES	JEFFREY	LT	980801
REEVES	MARTIN	CDR	980701
REITER	RAYMOND	BMC	980701
RICHMOND	CHARLES	AM1	980601
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RICKER	BRUCE	MKCS	980625
RIPLEY	EDWARD	BM2	980727
ROBNETT	WALTER	LCDR	980721
ROCHE	WILLIAM	ETCS	980801
RODRIGUEZ	CHARLES	FTC	980601
ROEMER	ROBERT	CDR	980701
ROMAT	DAVID	Æ1	980801
ROMEY	DUSTIN	ENS	980601
ROS	JOHN	MK1	980701
ROSE	VICTOR	MKCS	980620
RUDD	VERNON	TTC	980801
RUGGIERI	VINCENT	YN3	980506
SAARI	LAWRENCE	ETC	980701
SALAS	JUAN	CAPT	980701
SANDERSON	FRANK	SK1	980801
SANDUSKY	JAMES	MKC	980601
SANKER	WILLIAM	BM1	980801
SANSONE	JEANNIE	SK2	980801
SASSIN	PAUL	ETC	980801
SAUR	THAD	AM1	980801
SAWYER	JOHN	CWO4	980701
SAWYER	STEPHEN	MKC	980601
SCHAFFER	AARON	ASM3	980706
SCHEID	KEVIN	CAPT	980701
SCHELLING	MARK	YNC	980701
SCHERR	JOSEPH	ETCM	980701
SCHLECHTE	GENE	LCDR	980601
SCHOLLENBERGER	THOMAS	CWO3	980601
SCHROEDER	MATTHEW	QMC	980701
SCHUBERT	CHARLES	CAPT	980603
SEASE	GARY	AD1	980701
SECHLER	THOMAS	CAPT	980801
SECRETAN	ERIC	CDR	980801
SEGARRA	DANIEL	EMCS	980601
SEIBERT	MICHAEL	CWO4	980701
SEVIGNY	RICHARD	FS1	980701
SHATNEY	JOHN	MK2	980801
SHEAHAN	ERIK	HSC	980801
SHELLEY	FRANCIS	CDR	980801
SHEPARD	FRANK	YNM	980701
SHIPMAN	EDDIE	SKC	980601
SILER	WILLIAM	CWO4	980610
SILVA	REYNALDO	CWO3	980601
SIMS	THOMAS	CAPT	980630
SKAGGS	ARTHUR	BMCS	980801
SLACK	MICHAEL	CAPT	980701
SMITH	DALE	SK1	980801
SMITH	JAMES	SK1	980701
SMITH	JAMES	CAPT	980701
SMITH	LORNE	CWO4	980601
SOKOL	TIMOTHY	FS1	980801
SOTO	WILLIAM	TCC	980701
STACHEL	WAYNE	CWO3	980801
STENSON	ERIK	MK2	980603
STEVENSON	JOHN	MKC	980701
STILWELL	ALBERT	GMCS	980701
STIMATZ	JOSEPH	CAPT	980701
STONE	MICHAEL	DCC	980801
STRANGE	GEORGE	LT	980801
STROCK	DENNIS	CWO3	980701
SULLIVAN	THOMAS	IVC	980502
SUMMY	ALAN	CAPT	980701
SUNDBERG	KIRK	CWO3	980801
SVEJCAR	GRISEL	CWO2	980601
SWANN	UNDRAY	AM1	980701
SWARTZ	RICHARD	LCDR	980612
SWINTON	ANTHONY	EM1	980701
TAIRA	WARD	PSC	980526
TALBOT	PHIL	MKC	980630
TAYLOR	GREGORY	LCDR	980801
TAYLOR	ROBERT	CWO2	980701
TEGARDEN	ARLEIGH	TTCM	980701

TERESA VAVE	PETER	MKC	980701
THIBODEAU	ROBERT	CDR	980518
THOMPSON	DAVID	ETC	980801
THORWICK	MICHAEL	MKC	980801
THRUSH	HAROLD	CWO4	980601
TILGHMAN	TIMOTHY	CDR	980601
TIMPE	GERALD	CDR	980701
TOLER	LARRY	CWO2	980801
TOMLINSON	DAVID	CWO3	980701
TOOLE	LAWRENCE	CDR	980605
TORRES	WILFREDO	AM1	980801
TRACY	MATTHEW	TCCS	980601
TRENT	ERIC	MPOC	980701
TURNER	TERRY	AD1	980801
VACCARIELLO	VICTOR	EM2	980521
VANDERGRACHT	SEAN	DC2	980705
VANMOURIK	GARRETT	CWO3	980601
VARGAS	ANGEL	SK1	980602
VAUGHN	JONATHAN	CAPT	980701
VAZQUEZ	ALEJANDRO	BM1	980601
VAZQUEZ	ANGEL	SK1	980701
VERDOW	DENNIS	CDR	980523
VIDA	CHARLES	SKC	980801
VIETH	WILLIAM	CDR	980801
WALSH	DAVID	QMC	980801
WALTON	PAUL	LCDR	980701
WALZ	STANLEY	CAPT	980701
WARD	ROBERT	MKC	980801
WASHINGTON	JOHN	MK2	980701
WATSON	ROY	BM2	980601
WEAVER	KENNETH	AD1	980801
WEEMS	TERRY	SK1	980601
WELDEN	JOHN	CWO4	980601
WELLER	DOUGLAS	CWO2	980701
WELLS	RICHARD	LCDR	980601
WETZEL	WILLIAM	CDR	980801
WHEATON	WALTER	MK1	980801
WHITE	DENNIS	TCCM	980601
WIDNER	BROADUS	YNC	980801
WILLIAMS	GAIL	PA1	980701
WILLIAMS	RICHARD	CWO4	980801
WILLIAMS	WILLIAM	AMC	980701
WILLIAMSON	JAMES	CDR	980701
WILT	DONALD	CDR	980601
WILTON	RONALD	BMCS	980801
WOJCIK	JOHN	RDCS	980514
WOLF	ERIC	FT1	980620
WOMBLE	BURTON	CAPT	980528
WOOLEVER	GERALD	RADM	980601
WRIGHT	ROBERT	CDR	980801
WYAND	TIMOTHY	CWO3	980701
YAMADA	ANTHONY	CDR	980701
YANIKLIAN	ARA	LCDR	980601
YOKES	THOMAS	MKC	980801
ZAPPALA	MICHAEL	EMCS	980801
ZEIGLER	SCOTT	CWO3	980701



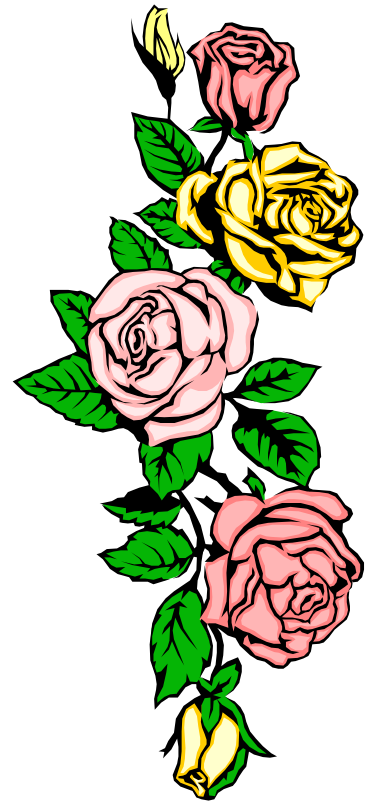
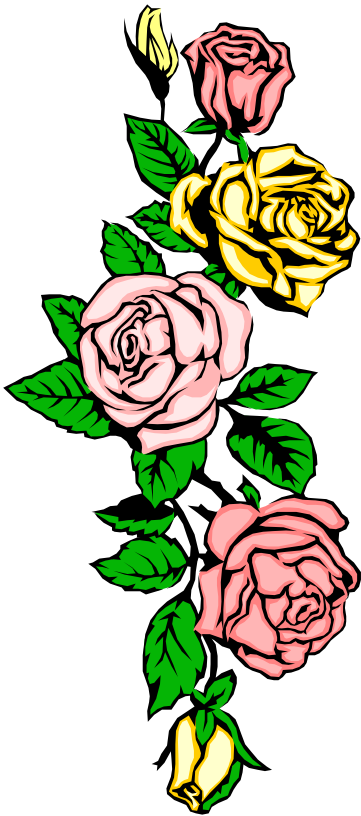
Congratulations to all of our new retirees!





LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	RANK	DATE OF DEATH	CITY	STATE
ADAIR	PHILIP	CAPT	980707	HUNTSVILLE	AL
AGAR	FRANCIS	CDR	980702	GREEN VALLEY	AZ
ALEXANDER	PAUL	CDR	980801	N MYRTLE BCH	SC
ALLOGGIO	ANTHONY	LCDR	980702	HOUSTON	TX
AMBURGEY	RODNEY	BM1	970708	HAZARD	KY
AMES	RUSSELL	ATC	980716	SAN DIEGO	CA
ANDERSON	IVAN	CWO2	980702	MANAHAWKIN	NJ
ARRITT	JAMES	LCDR	980807	WOODBRIDGE	VA
ARTHUR	EARL	GMC	980731	RICHMOND	VA
ARZT	WILLIAM	BMC	980811	WHITEHALL	MT
BAKER	EARL	LCDR	980514	BON AIR	VA
BARTHOLOMEW	DEFOREST	QMC	980602	OLA	AR
BATEMAN	NELVIN	CWO2	980531	PENNS GROVE	NJ
BERG	LARRY	ETCS	980718	BREMERTON	WA
BETTILYON	ALONZO	AD2	980422	LYONS	TX
BISHOP	RUSSELL	CWO3	980725	PUTAGORDA	FL
BLACK	JAMES	SOC	980724	GAINSVILLE	FL
BLAIR	BERNARD	EMC	980716	WOLFEBORO	NH
BLANCHARD	JOSEPH	CDR	980531	NIANTIC	CT
BRINKMAN	EARL	ENC	980725	PORTLAND	OR
BRITTAIN	JOHN	CAPT	980715	REDINGTON BEACH	FL
BROMLEY	SAMUEL	LCDR	980627	STUREGEON BAY	WI
BRONNER	REGINALD	LCDR	980623	SEATTLE	WA
BROWN	BARTON	CDR	980624	PAHRUMP	NV
BROWN	CRAIG	CWO3	980813	NEW BADEN	IL
BROWN	ROBERT	FN	980707	BELLEVUE	WA
BROWN	WILLARD	ADC	980702	ROCK HILL	SC
BROWNING	DAVID	GMC	980813	JACKSONVILLE	FL
BUCKMAN	DONALD	SN	980507	DOWNIEVILLE	CA
BURNESS	HENRY	CDR	980626	ELIZABETH CITY	NC
BUTLER	WILLIAM	QM1	980721	FOXBORO	MA
CARBINO	MICHAEL	BMC	980524	EAST SEBAGO	ME
CARMICHAEL	ROBERT	YNC	980610	ONEIDA	NY
CARTER	BOBBY	ETCS	980702	YUBA	CA
CHANAY	JAMES	YN1	971228	FEDERAL WAY	WA
CLANCY	EDWARD	ENCM	980809	OCEAN CITY	MD
CLAWSON	PAUL	MK1	980626	JACKSONVILLE	FL
CLIFTON	WILFRED	SS2	980709	GREELEY	CO
CORNICHUK	LARRY	AD1	980513	LOXAHATCHEE	FL
CRUZ	EDGARDO	SS1	980803	PORTLAND	OR
DAVIS	GERALD	CDR	980608	PINOPOLIS	SC
DEMERITT	WILLIAM	CAPT	980727	ST AUGUSTINE	FL
DOKKEN	DONALD	LT	980602	TIVERTON	RI
DORAN	MICHAEL	EMCM	980703	MANAHAWKIN	NJ
ELLETT	DON	QM1	980701	SAN JOSE	CA
EPLEY	THOMAS	CAPT	980630	FRISCO	TX
ERCOLIN	JAMES	BMC	980618	FORT LAUDERDALE	FL
ERICKSON	ROBERT	BMC	980421	LAS VEGAS	NV
FITCH	FRANK	CWO4	980606	STONINGTON	CT
FITCH	ROBERT	CDR	980628	ENGLEWOOD	FL
FLEMING	RICHARD	BMC	980803	VANCOUVER	WA
FOGELSTROM	THURMAN	CWO2	980604	LEESBURG	FL
FORSBERG	KARL	YNC	980604	WHEATLAND	CA
FOSTER	FRED	ENC	980723	MOSS LANDING	CA
FULLER	CLAUDE	CDR	980520	HENDERSON	NV
GALVAN	VICTOR	ETC	980726	ABILENE	TX
GARNER	GEORGE	CAPT	980725	VIRGINIA BEACH	VA
GARRATT	DOUGLAS	PS1	980526	GRESHAM	OR
GARRETT	HAL	WO1	980722	MONROE	GA
GLASSCO	WALTER	CWO4	980731	EWA BEACH	HI
GRANEY	JAMES	BMC	980513	PORT ST LUCIE	FL
HARRISON	PAUL	HMC	980719	POLAND	ME
HEFFERMAN	JOHN	MUC	980619	WATERFORD	CT
HEIMERL	TUGG	CWO4	980813	WINTER HAVEN	FL
HOSTETTER	ALBERT	RMC	980714	TALLAHASSE	FL
HUFFMAN	LUTHER	YNC	980711	WHITESBURO	TX

IZZO	CARMEN	CDR	980630	SPRING HILL	FL
JENSEN	BRUCE	CDR	980603	MANSFIELD	LA
JIMENEZ	JOSE	CWO4	980815	HARVEY	LA
JOHANSEN	JULIAN	RADM	980619	PORTSMOUTH	VA
JOHNSON	FRANK	BMC	980724	ST PETERSBURG	FL
JOHNSON	HERBERT	CAPT	980619	WALNUT	CA
KADERBEK	JAMES	ETCM	980609	WILIMINGTON	NC
KALE	SAMUEL	TTC	980728	NEW BERN	NC
KENT	JOHN	WO1	980619	MT JULIET	TN
KERNS	JAMES	BMCS	980529	BRICKTOWN	NJ
KERSHAW	HERBERT	CDR	980518	STILLWATER	OK
KUHNERT	GUSTAV	CWO2	980818	VICKSBURG	MS
LARNARD	JOSEPH	BMC	980815	NEWBURYPORT	MA
LEDOUX	PHILIP	LT	980725	MIDDLETOWN	RI
LEFORS	HENRY	BM1	980706	ARANSAS PASS	TX
LESKELA	RAYMOND	CDR	980512	ST PAUL	MN
MALAE	GAFOA	BM1	980618	PAGO PAGO	AS
MARINER	JACKIE	PS1	980714	DECATUR	IL
MARTIN	ROBERT	MK1	980712	REDMOND	WA
MATHIS	CHALKLEY	BMC	980616	LOMPOC	CA
MCCRARY	THEODORE	HS1	980726	JACKSON	TN
MEISELBACH	CARL	HS1	980609	FAIRHOPE	AL
MILLER	BILL	LT	980601	ALICE	TX
MILLER	WILLIAM	CDR	980516	MARGATE	FL
MILLS	GENE	ETC	980611	THEODORE	AL
MITCHELL	JASPER	CS3	980611	ZEPHYRHILLS	FL
MOLINA	ROBERT	ET1	980712	VALLEJO	CA
MOORE	CARL	QMCM	980607	ROUND POND	ME
MOORE	LLOYD	CAPT	980706	SAFETY HARBOR	FL
MOORE	ROBERT	CDR	980812	HONOLULU	H
MOROTTA	GEORGE	RD1	980614	BROOKLYN	NY
MYERS	HARVEY	GM1	980814	SPARKS	NV
NOVAK	EDMUND	CWO4	980701	AUSTIN	TX
OLSON	RAYMOND	CWO3	980523	MESA	AZ
OUTLAW	WILLIAM	CSC	980525	NEW LONDON	CT
PARADA	ERNEST	CAPT	980417	SAN JUAN	PR
PEARCE	ROBERT	AEC	980710	ST PETERSBURG	FL
RAMIREZ	HUMBERTO	CSC	980407	RIO PIEDRAS	PR
REICHERT	HAROLD	YNC	980731	PALM CITY	FL
RHOADES	DUANE	ENC	980806	KENT	WA
RICHARDS	WILLIAM	LT	980603	MISHICOT	WI
RIX	HOSEA	BMC	980522	PEMBROKE PINES	FL
ROSENBLOOM	JEROME	EN1	980605	GULFPORT	MS
ROYES	ROBERT	QMC	980722	PALM HARBOR	FL
SANDERLIN	SIDNEY	CWO3	980702	VIRGINIA BCH	VA
SHINGLER	JULIAN	CAPT	980519	CHARLESTON	SC
SINNOTT	THOMAS	LTJG	980718	BOOTHWYN	PA
STEELE	DORRIS	CWO4	980723	SAN DIEGO	CA
STEELE	JOSEPH	RADM	980729	FOUNTAIN VALLEY	CA
STRATMANN	GERALD	CWO4	980627	BAITING HOLW	NY
SWEENEY	JOHN	BMC	980506	PORT ORANGE	FL
TANNER	LEON	ADC	980614	MT PLEASANT	MI
TAYLOR	DOUGLAS	CWO3	980731	PALM CITY	FL
THOMPSON	EUGENE	EMCS	980613	HIGHLANDS	NJ
THOMPSON	HARRY	WO1	980708	NEGAUNEE	MI
TUNGATE	DONALD	CDR	980721	ELK GROVE	CA
TUTTLE	ROYDEN	MKC	980515	PORT ST. LUCIE,	FL
VANDERBERG	WILLIAM	CWO4	980611	LYNNWOOD	WA
VANLING	CHARLES	MKC	980625	ATMORE	AL
WAESCHE	RUSSELL	RADM	980528	OVERLAND PARK	KS
WARHOOVER	CLARENCE	CWO4	980816	ST LOUIS	MO
WEEKES	OLYN	MMC	980430	METAIRIE	LA
WELKER	WILLIAM	CDR	980715	GALT	CA
WENDT	ROBERT	ENCM	980614	MOBILE	AL
WILLETT	EUGENE	CWO3	980813	SAN LORENZO	CA
WILLIAMS	JOHN	EMCS	980627	BROOKER	FL
WILLIS	CALAIS	BMC	980807	MOREHEAD CITY	NC
YOUNG	RICHARD	DC1	980627	BRIDGMAN	MI



Crossing the Bar

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar
When I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound or foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell
When I embark.

For though from out our bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar....

written by

Dependent TAPS

Ginger Ann Dilley wife of CW04 John W. Dilley passed away 17 July 1998.

Commissaries = savings

Ft Lee, VA - Commissary shoppers will see bigger savings and more choices as stores expand the Super Saver program and test the popularity of "value brand" items.

"Super Savers" are promotions, similar to private grocery chains' weekly specials - which commissaries sell at prices comparable to the lowest available anywhere.

Value brand lines will be introduced in large commissaries in the south-eastern U.S. and may expand if they prove popular, agency director Richard E. Beale, Jr. said. Value brands, the agency's answer to grocery-chain house brands, are cheaper than national brands. Stores for several years have carried value brands in categories such as bleach, detergent, soda pop and cereal, he said. New lines on the shelves will include peanut butter, canned pasta, olives, pasta sauce, salsa, juice, applesauce, canned beans, tea and dog food.

Commissary prices are cost plus a 5 percent surcharge that covers store construction, renovation, maintenance, supplies and other expenses. Beale said agency surveys consistently show shoppers save 25 to 30 percent annually on their purchases.

RAPIDS site locator on Internet

If you need to find the RAPIDS site nearest you, now you can get that information on the Internet at "www.dmdc.osd.mil/". On this site you enter your residence zip code and the three closes RAPIDS sites "pop up". The listing will tell you the branch of service of the site, the sites name, driving distance, address, and telephone number.



check it out!

Let your voice be heard

In today's world, you can find and do just about anything on the Internet, including letting your voice be heard in the House and Senate! You now can research current legislation and send email to your Representatives and Senators via the Internet.

To find out about bills currently in the House go to website: "www.vnis.com/legislation/housebills.htm".

To find bills currently in the Senate, go to website: "www.vnis.com/legislation/senatebills.htm".

Find your Representatives and Senators email addresses at: "[//vets.com/inside/zipper.htm](http://vets.com/inside/zipper.htm)".

Make your opinion count!

Keep your DEERS data current

The Department of Defense (DoD) reports continuing significant problems with maintaining accurate and current addresses in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) database, particularly for retired members and their families and survivors.

Unfortunately, this has a direct impact on delivery of many important services such as health care. In particular, the Defense Support Personnel Center in Philadelphia reports that some members are being denied participation in DoD's Mail Order Pharmacy benefit because they do not have a current address in DEERS.

The DoD Health Affairs staff has stated that the single most important step members can take to help ensure smooth delivery of their earned benefits is to keep their addresses in DEERS up to date.

Members with email capability can keep their address data current by emailing any updates directly to the DEERS Management Office at: "addinfo@osd.pentagon.mil". Email updates should include: sponsors name & social security number, address change and names of other family members affected by the change, effective date of address information and telephone number with area code.

Additionally, members can update DEERS information by calling 1-800-538-9552 (except for California, Hawaii and Alaska). The number for California is: 1-800-334-4162. For Alaska and Hawaii, it's: 1-800-527-5602.



News Briefs

- House and Senate conferees reached an agreement on the 1999 Defense Authorization Bill that is awaiting final approval. Among the provisions highlighted in the bill are a 3.6 percent active duty pay raise, improved amendments to healthcare programs and 24 commissary shopping days for reservists.
- Congress took steps to avoid another federal government

shutdown by voting for an extra nine days to enact fiscal 1999 appropriations legislation. The continuing resolution (CR), known as a stopgap bill, will keep the government operating until Oct 9. Some legislators believe that additional short-term CRs may be needed if Congress fails to enact the legislation prior to the extended date.

- The president signed into law legislation that establishes criteria for credit union membership. The Supreme Court ruled earlier this year

(Continued on page 24)

Notes from the Editor



I have received numerous letters and phone calls requesting sources that retirees can use to obtain CG items such as T-shirts, sweatshirts, bumper stickers, hats, etc with the Coast Guard logo on them. Unfortunately, there is not just one place to obtain these types of items. Many professional organizations sell CG speciality items. You can contact the nearest Chief Petty Officers Association Chapter or the Retired Officers Association, they usually have a limited variety of these items available for sale with a portion of the proceeds helping to support the organization. Additionally, AAFES carries at many of their Exchanges or through the Exchange catalog with a portion of the sale helping to support the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) Program. The following is a list of possible sources for these items....I'm sure there are many more but these should give you a place to start.

- AAFES - You may request a catalog by writing to AAFES at PO BOX 660211, Dallas, TX 75266-0211 or on-line shopping and the catalog are available on the Internet via

the AAFES website at "www.aafes.com". You may reach customer service by phone at 1-800-527-2345.

- CG Recruiting orders CG logo merchandise such as bumper stickers, T-shirts, rulers, magnets etc from Barker Specialty Promotional Products at 27 Realty Drive, Cheshire, CT 06410. Call them at (203)272-2222 for a catalog.
- Personalized mugs, steins, ashtrays, embroidered patches for all services and ratings are available from Military Supply Company at PO BOX 286, Gainesville, FL 32602. Their phone is: (352)378-2016, FAX (352)373-9772. You can write them for a free catalog.
- Various CPO Chapters sell a variety of CG logo material. I found the following CPOA Chapters advertising various CG logo items:

North Bend CPOA
2000 Conneticut Ave
North Bend, OR 97459

St Louis CPOA
2703 Aberdeen Drive
Florissant, MO 63033

Mid-America CPOA
PO BOX 991
Topeka, KS 66601
Port Angeles CPOA
PO BOX 632

Port Angeles, WA 98362

Alexandria CPOA
7323 Telegraph Road
Alexandria, VA 22310

Portsmouth CPOA
PO BOX 1071
Portsmouth, VA 23704

I've also received several letters requesting that I reprint information pertaining to the Air Force Space-A lodging toll-free number:

The toll free number for CONUS lodging reservations at AF lodging facilities is: 1-888-AF-LODGE (1-888-235-6343). After you dial the toll free number, you will hear a recorded prompt asking you to dial the first three digits of the base. For example, if you are calling to make reservations at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, you would punch in "RAN" (7-2-6). This toll free number is for Air Force lodging operations located in the continental United States (including Hickam AFB, Hawaii). Additionally, the Air Force lodging directory can be accessed through the Internet at the Air Force Services Agency website: "www.afsv.af.mil".



News Briefs (cont)

(Continued from page 23)

that the National Credit Union Administration incorrectly interpreted a 1982 law and allowed credit unions to add members outside their core constituencies. The ruling meant that credit union members serving in the military or as government employees who returned to the private sector, would have to give up their membership in

the credit union. The current legislation means that once you join a credit union, you can remain a member for life. It also allows to recruit outside their core groups if the new groups are less than 3,000 each.

- Delaware residents who served in the Merchant Marines between December 7, 1941 and August 15, 1945 may be eligible for a bonus that has been approved by the state legislature. For more information, contact the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs at 1-800-344-9900 or 1-302-739-

2792.

- France wants to bestow the National Order of the Legion of Honor on surviving U.S. veterans who fought on French soil during World War I. It is that country's highest honor. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is assisting the French government in identifying and locating an estimated 900 World War I veterans who served in France and currently receive VA benefits. The medal will not be posthumously awarded to U.S. veterans. Applications must be

(Continued on page 25)

Enrollment begins for TRICARE-Medicare Test

Washington (AFPS) -

Military retirees over age 65 began enrolling 15 July in TRICARE Senior Prime at Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, WA.

Madigan is the first site selected to demonstrate Senior Prime, also known as Medicare Subvention. The medical center began offering its health care services under the plan September 1.

The test runs through 31 December 2000. Defense health officials hope it will show DoD medical facilities can provide cost-effective healthcare to Medicare-eligible military beneficiaries. If the test is successful, the program is expected to eventually become available to military retirees everywhere.

If you enroll in Senior Prime, you continue to receive Medicare benefits as well as TRICARE, but you pay only for Medicare Part B coverage - \$43.80 per month, with a \$100 annual deductible and some co-pays.

Enrollment will begin soon at the demonstration sites: Keesler AFB, MS; Brooke Army Medical Center, Wilford Hall Medical Center and Sheppard AFB, all in Texas; Fort Sill, OK; Fort Carson and the U.S. Air Force Academy, both in Colorado; Naval Medical Center,

SanDiego, CA; and Dover Air Force Base, DE.

Enrollment at all the test sites is first-come, first-serve and limited to a portion of the total eligible population, officials said. For example, the Madigan Senior Prime test is open to 3,300 Medicare-eligible retirees - 18,000 live in the area.

Military retirees and their spouses can enroll for the test if they:

- Are age 65 or older
- Are covered by Medicare Part A and B
- Live in a ZIP code in the demonstration sites service area
- Received care in a military medical facility before 1 July 1997, or became eligible for Medicare after 1 July 1997.
- Do not have end-stage kidney disease.
- Have not elected hospice coverage.
- Agree to get all covered health care services through their primary care manager, except for emergency and urgent care.

If you're under 65, enrolled in TRICARE Prime at a demonstration site and already have a primary care manager at your participating military medical facility, you can elect the Senior Prime option once you turn 65.

For details and enrollment assistance, contact the TRICARE Service Center or military medical facility

health benefits advisor nearest you. More information is also available on the Internet at the TRICARE and Medicare websites. For TRICARE website look at: "www.ha.osd.mil" and for Medicare look at "www.medicare.gov".

New law restores DIC to

Washington - The surviving spouses of deceased veterans who lost Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) survivor benefits when they remarried may be eligible for restored Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) benefits if they are no longer married.

Legislation signed by the President 9 June repealed a 1990 law that permanently terminated eligibility for DIC for a veteran's surviving spouse who remarried after the death of the veteran. The pre-1990 policy, which was renewed 1 October (and will not be retroactive before that date), allows benefits to be restarted if the marriage is terminated.

Veterans' spouses should contact their local VA Regional Office or call 1-800-827-1000 for assistance. Information on DIC benefits may also be found on VA's Internet Home Page at "www.va.gov".

News Briefs (cont)

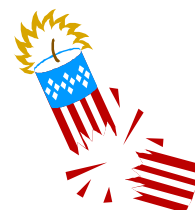
sent by

- veterans or their representatives directly to the French Embassy in Washington D.C. While the VA will assist the French Embassy in verifying and authenticating veterans' records of service, the French government will make final determinations on the awarding of the Legion of Honor.
- Starting 1 October 1998, the VA is enrolling all veterans for VA

health care. Those veterans not required to be enrolled include veterans with a service-connected disability of 50 percent or more; veterans seeking care for a service-connected disability and veterans discharged from military services for less than one year for a disability that was determined to have been incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, but not yet rated by the VA.

- The Senate is planning a vote on the proposed Constitutional amendment which would allow Congress to pass laws to protect

the American flag from physical desecration. The Citizens Flag Alliance reports that four more votes are necessary to guarantee the required two thirds majority that is needed to pass the amendment, Senate Joint Resolution 40.



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 444 SE Quincy Street
 Topeka, KS 66683-3591



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 Commercial (785)357-3415
 FAX (785)295-2639

You must write or FAX us for requests to:

- Change allotments
- Start allotments
- Stop allotments
- Change SITW
- Change FITW



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 Service & Information Center
 444 SE Quincy Street
 Topeka, KS 66683-3591



Or FAX to:
 1-785-295-2639

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



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 Coast Guard Human Resources
 Service & Information Center
 444 SE Quincy Street
 Topeka, KS 66683-3591



DEERS

Call your local ID issuing office or call:

Toll Free: 1-800-538-9552
 In CA: 1-800-334-4162





TRICARE/Medical Benefits

Call your CG Health Benefits Advisor at:



1-800-942-2422
TDD: 1-800-327-5273



Active Duty Pay

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)357-3550



Commanding Officer (SES)
Coast Guard Human Resources
Service & Information Center
444 SE Quincy Street



Service Records

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 Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63132-5200



Commercial: (314)538-4141



Social Security

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

1-800-772-1213



VA Bene-

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

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

213 Washington Street
Newark, NJ 07102



1-800-419-1473



Travel

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



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