



U. S. COAST GUARD

Evening Colors

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

April-June 2005

Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty

Issue 2/ 2005

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Coast Guard Tsunami Relief Operations



COAST GUARD ISLAND, ALAMEDA, Calif. - January 10, 2005 - A Coast Guard tsunami relief team of two C-130 aircraft and 42 people began the final leg of their flight to Utapao, Thailand, from Kadena Air Force Base, Japan, today.

The team from across the U.S. rendezvoused in Honolulu and began their trip across the Pacific Ocean Wednesday, making two overnight stops in Guam and Japan.

The Coast Guard C-130's are used for maritime patrol, search and rescue, and logistical support. Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point, Hawaii, and Coast Guard Air Station Sacramento, Calif., each provided one aircraft to the relief effort.

The tsunami relief team includes 28 flight-crew members, made up of seven-crewmembers from air stations: Barbers Point, Hawaii; Sacramento, Calif.; Elizabeth City, N.C., and Clearwater, Fla. There are 11 members from the Coast Guard's Pacific Area Strike Team from Novato, Calif., in addition to a surgeon, a public affairs specialist and a liaison officer.

The aircraft will transport emergency supplies and strike team members will address hazardous material spills in the communities devastated by the tsunami.

The Coast Guard forces will be assigned to U.S. Joint Task Force 536 that is conducting humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations in South Asia.

The 378-foot Coast Guard Cutter Munro, home ported in Alameda, Calif., departed Singapore today to rejoin the US Navy's Abraham Lincoln Battle Group that is on scene providing humanitarian assistance to areas affected by the Asian tsunami. Munro was enroute to the Persian Gulf as part of the battle group that was diverted for disaster relief.



Coast Guard Mutual Assistance—A Tradition of Compassion

For more than 80 years, Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA) has been a source of essential financial aid to those in need; and, as such, it has been instrumental in establishing a tradition of compassion within the Coast Guard. CGMA provides a vital financial safety net for families and individuals, promoting financial stability and general well being throughout the Coast Guard community.

CGMA exists because Coast Guard men and women care about what happens to their fellow shipmates and co-workers, taking seriously the motto, "We Look After Our Own." Through their generosity, thousands of Coast Guard people receive financial help each year. As an example, CGMA activity in 2004 included:

Financial assistance totaling almost \$6 million provided in close to 7,400 cases.

Over \$103,400 in grants and loans provided for hurricane relief.

Education grants totaling over \$420,000.

Phone cards provided to Coast Guard members deployed overseas in support of the war on terrorism.

A new program established to provide lifetime benefit and entitlement information services to the surviving spouse and/or dependent children of Coast Guard members who die on active duty or when drilling under Reserve orders, after 1 July 2004.

CGMA provided over \$230,000 in interest-free loans and grants to Retired members in 2004.

Though working closely with the Coast Guard, CGMA is an independent non-profit corporation and receives no appropriated or non-appropriated government funds. In order to continue performing its vital role, CGMA must rely on voluntary contributions. CGMA conducts a fundraising campaign each spring to raise awareness both of the need for contributions and the availability of assistance for those who need it. Again this year campaign materials are being sent out to individuals in the retired community, with a convenient contribution form and postage-paid return envelope included.

The Retired community has been a key supporter of Coast Guard Mutual Assistance. Contributing to CGMA is a trustworthy way to meet needs within the Coast Guard community and help carry on the tradition of compassion.

Contributions, including memorial contributions, bequests and other special contributions from individuals or estates, are welcome at any time throughout the year. Information and contribution forms are available on the CGMA Web site: www.cgmahq.org.

Contribution checks or money orders, made payable to "CGMA," may be mailed directly to Coast Guard Mutual Assistance, 4200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 610, Arlington, VA 22203. Contributions to Coast Guard Mutual Assistance are tax deductible.

For more information about CGMA, visit their Web site or call CGMA Headquarters at (800) 881-2462.

Your support of Coast Guard Mutual Assistance is strongly encouraged!

U. S. Coast Guard Personnel Service Center

CAPT Richard A. Rooth
Commanding Officer

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Executive Director

Debra G. Farley
Chief, Retiree and Annuitant Services

CWO4 K. Mitch Baker
Chief, Procedures and Development Branch

William L. Weakly
Editor, Evening Colors

Evening Colors 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.

Form W-4 (2005)

Purpose. Complete Form W-4 so that your employer can withhold the correct federal income tax from your pay. Because your tax situation may change, you may want to refigure your withholding each year.

Exemption from withholding. If you are exempt, complete only lines 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7 and sign the form to validate it. Your exemption for 2005 expires February 16, 2006. See Pub. 505, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax.

Note. You cannot claim exemption from withholding if (a) your income exceeds \$800 and includes more than \$250 of unearned income (for example, interest and dividends) and (b) another person can claim you as a dependent on their tax return.

Basic instructions. If you are not exempt, complete the **Personal Allowances Worksheet** below. The worksheets on page 2 adjust your withholding allowances based on itemized deductions, certain credits, adjustments to income, or two-

earner/two-job situations. Complete all worksheets that apply. However, you may claim fewer (or zero) allowances.

Head of household. Generally, you may claim head of household filing status on your tax return only if you are unmarried and pay more than 50% of the costs of keeping up a home for yourself and your dependent(s) or other qualifying individuals. See line E below.

Tax credits. You can take projected tax credits into account in figuring your allowable number of withholding allowances. Credits for child or dependent care expenses and the child tax credit may be claimed using the **Personal Allowances Worksheet** below. See Pub. 919, How Do I Adjust My Tax Withholding? for information on converting your other credits into withholding allowances.

Nonwage income. If you have a large amount of nonwage income, such as interest or dividends, consider making estimated tax payments using Form 1040-ES, Estimated Tax for Individuals. Otherwise, you may owe additional tax.

Two earners/two jobs. If you have a working spouse or more than one job, figure the total number of allowances you are entitled to claim on all jobs using worksheets from only one Form W-4. Your withholding usually will be most accurate when all allowances are claimed on the Form W-4 for the highest paying job and zero allowances are claimed on the others.

Nonresident alien. If you are a nonresident alien, see the Instructions for Form 8233 before completing this Form W-4.

Check your withholding. After your Form W-4 takes effect, use Pub. 919 to see how the dollar amount you are having withheld compares to your projected total tax for 2005. See Pub. 919, especially if your earnings exceed \$125,000 (Single) or \$175,000 (Married).

Recent name change? If your name on line 1 differs from that shown on your social security card, call 1-800-772-1213 to initiate a name change and obtain a social security card showing your correct name.

Personal Allowances Worksheet (Keep for your records.)

A Enter "1" for **yourself** if no one else can claim you as a dependent. **A** _____

B Enter "1" if: {
 • You are single and have only one job; or
 • You are married, have only one job, and your spouse does not work; or
 • Your wages from a second job or your spouse's wages (or the total of both) are \$1,000 or less. } . . . **B** _____

C Enter "1" for your **spouse**. But, you may choose to enter "-0-" if you are married and have either a working spouse or more than one job. (Entering "-0-" may help you avoid having too little tax withheld.) **C** _____

D Enter number of **dependents** (other than your spouse or yourself) you will claim on your tax return **D** _____

E Enter "1" if you will file as **head of household** on your tax return (see conditions under **Head of household** above) . . . **E** _____

F Enter "1" if you have at least \$1,500 of **child or dependent care expenses** for which you plan to claim a credit . . . **F** _____

G Child Tax Credit (including additional child tax credit):
 • If your total income will be less than \$54,000 (\$79,000 if married), enter "2" for each eligible child.
 • If your total income will be between \$54,000 and \$84,000 (\$79,000 and \$119,000 if married), enter "1" for each eligible child plus "1" **additional** if you have four or more eligible children. **G** _____

H Add lines A through G and enter total here. (**Note.** This may be different from the number of exemptions you claim on your tax return.) **H** _____

For accuracy, complete all worksheets that apply. {
 • If you plan to **itemize or claim adjustments to income** and want to reduce your withholding, see the **Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet** on page 2.
 • If you have **more than one job** or are **married and you and your spouse both work** and the combined earnings from all jobs exceed \$35,000 (\$25,000 if married) see the **Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet** on page 2 to avoid having too little tax withheld.
 • If **neither** of the above situations applies, **stop here** and enter the number from line H on line 5 of Form W-4 below.

Cut here and give Form W-4 to your employer. Keep the top part for your records.

Form **W-4** **Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate** OMB No. 1545-0010

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service **2005**

Whether you are entitled to claim a certain number of allowances or exemption from withholding is subject to review by the IRS. Your employer may be required to send a copy of this form to the IRS.

1 Type or print your first name and middle initial Last name 2 Your social security number

Home address (number and street or rural route) 3 Single Married Married, but withhold at higher Single rate. **Note.** If married, but legally separated, or spouse is a nonresident alien, check the "Single" box.

City or town, state, and ZIP code 4 If your last name differs from that shown on your social security card, check here. You must call 1-800-772-1213 for a new card.

5 Total number of allowances you are claiming (from line H above or from the applicable worksheet on page 2) 5 _____

6 Additional amount, if any, you want withheld from each paycheck 6 \$ _____

7 I claim exemption from withholding for 2005, and I certify that I meet both of the following conditions for exemption.
 • Last year I had a right to a refund of all federal income tax withheld because I had no tax liability and
 • This year I expect a refund of all federal income tax withheld because I expect to have no tax liability.
 If you meet both conditions, write "Exempt" here **7** _____

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this certificate and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Employee's signature (Form is not valid unless you sign it.) **Date**

8 Employer's name and address (Employer: Complete lines 8 and 10 only if sending to the IRS.) 9 Office code (optional) 10 Employer identification number (EIN)

Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet

Note. Use this worksheet *only* if you plan to itemize deductions, claim certain credits, or claim adjustments to income on your 2005 tax return.

- 1 Enter an estimate of your 2005 itemized deductions. These include qualifying home mortgage interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes, medical expenses in excess of 7.5% of your income, and miscellaneous deductions. (For 2005, you may have to reduce your itemized deductions if your income is over \$145,950 (\$72,975 if married filing separately). See *Worksheet 3* in Pub. 919 for details.) **1** \$ _____
- 2 Enter: $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \$10,000 \text{ if married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er)} \\ \$ 7,300 \text{ if head of household} \\ \$ 5,000 \text{ if single or married filing separately} \end{array} \right\}$ **2** \$ _____
- 3 **Subtract** line 2 from line 1. If line 2 is greater than line 1, enter "-0-" **3** \$ _____
- 4 Enter an estimate of your 2005 adjustments to income, including alimony, deductible IRA contributions, and student loan interest **4** \$ _____
- 5 **Add** lines 3 and 4 and enter the total. (Include any amount for credits from *Worksheet 7* in Pub. 919) **5** \$ _____
- 6 Enter an estimate of your 2005 nonwage income (such as dividends or interest) **6** \$ _____
- 7 **Subtract** line 6 from line 5. Enter the result, but not less than "-0-" **7** \$ _____
- 8 **Divide** the amount on line 7 by \$3,200 and enter the result here. Drop any fraction **8** _____
- 9 Enter the number from the **Personal Allowances Worksheet**, line H, page 1 **9** _____
- 10 **Add** lines 8 and 9 and enter the total here. If you plan to use the **Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet**, also enter this total on line 1 below. Otherwise, **stop here** and enter this total on Form W-4, line 5, page 1 **10** _____

Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet (See *Two earners/two jobs* on page 1.)

Note. Use this worksheet *only* if the instructions under line H on page 1 direct you here.

- 1 Enter the number from line H, page 1 (or from line 10 above if you used the **Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet**) **1** _____
- 2 Find the number in **Table 1** below that applies to the **LOWEST** paying job and enter it here **2** _____
- 3 If line 1 is **more than or equal to** line 2, subtract line 2 from line 1. Enter the result here (if zero, enter "-0-") and on Form W-4, line 5, page 1. **Do not** use the rest of this worksheet **3** _____

Note. If line 1 is *less than* line 2, enter "-0-" on Form W-4, line 5, page 1. Complete lines 4-9 below to calculate the additional withholding amount necessary to avoid a year-end tax bill.

- 4 Enter the number from line 2 of this worksheet **4** _____
- 5 Enter the number from line 1 of this worksheet **5** _____
- 6 **Subtract** line 5 from line 4 **6** _____
- 7 Find the amount in **Table 2** below that applies to the **HIGHEST** paying job and enter it here **7** \$ _____
- 8 **Multiply** line 7 by line 6 and enter the result here. This is the additional annual withholding needed **8** \$ _____
- 9 Divide line 8 by the number of pay periods remaining in 2005. For example, divide by 26 if you are paid every two weeks and you complete this form in December 2004. Enter the result here and on Form W-4, line 6, page 1. This is the additional amount to be withheld from each paycheck **9** \$ _____

Table 1: Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet

Married Filing Jointly						All Others		
If wages from HIGHEST paying job are—	AND, wages from LOWEST paying job are—	Enter on line 2 above	If wages from HIGHEST paying job are—	AND, wages from LOWEST paying job are—	Enter on line 2 above	If wages from LOWEST paying job are—	Enter on line 2 above	
\$0 - \$40,000	\$0 - \$4,000	0	\$40,001 and over	30,001 - 36,000	6	\$0 - \$6,000	0	
	4,001 - 8,000	1		36,001 - 45,000	7		6,001 - 12,000	1
	8,001 - 18,000	2		45,001 - 50,000	8		12,001 - 18,000	2
	18,001 and over	3		50,001 - 60,000	9		18,001 - 24,000	3
				60,001 - 65,000	10		24,001 - 31,000	4
\$40,001 and over	\$0 - \$4,000	0	65,001 - 75,000	11	31,001 - 45,000	5		
			75,001 - 90,000	12	45,001 - 60,000	6		
			90,001 - 100,000	13	60,001 - 75,000	7		
			100,001 - 115,000	14	75,001 - 80,000	8		
			115,001 and over	15	115,001 and over	15	80,001 - 100,000	9
					100,001 and over	10	100,001 and over	10

Table 2: Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet

Married Filing Jointly		All Others	
If wages from HIGHEST paying job are—	Enter on line 7 above	If wages from HIGHEST paying job are—	Enter on line 7 above
\$0 - \$60,000	\$480	\$0 - \$30,000	\$480
60,001 - 110,000	800	30,001 - 70,000	800
110,001 - 160,000	900	70,001 - 140,000	900
160,001 - 280,000	1,060	140,001 - 320,000	1,060
280,001 and over	1,120	320,001 and over	1,120

Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice. We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. The Internal Revenue Code requires this information under sections 3402(i)(2)(A) and 6109 and their regulations. Failure to provide a properly completed form will result in your being treated as a single person who claims no withholding allowances; providing fraudulent information may also subject you to penalties. Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation, to cities, states, and the District of Columbia for use in administering their tax laws, and using it in the National Directory of New Hires. We may also disclose this information to other countries under a tax treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce federal nontax criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to

the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by Code section 6103.

The time needed to complete this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is: Recordkeeping, 45 min.; Learning about the law or the form, 12 min.; Preparing the form, 58 min. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to: Internal Revenue Service, Tax Products Coordinating Committee, SE:W:CAR:MP:T:T:SP, 1111 Constitution Ave. NW, IR-6406, Washington, DC 20224. **Do not** send Form W-4 to this address. Instead, give it to your employer.

Letters to the Editor**WWII Memories Aboard the U.S.S. Aquarius (AKA-16)****By CDR I. C. McLean, USCG, Ret**

This is a personal diary of events recorded by me while aboard the USS *Aquarius*, a CG manned attack transport, while enroute to and during our initial combat landing on two enemy held islands in the Pacific atoll named Kwajalein. Our assault objective being the two islands of Roi and Namur that contained an air strip and 10,000 Japanese troops and located at the northern end of the atoll. It is the year 1944.

29 January

Enroute to Kwajalein atoll. Night clear with a beautiful moon as our huge task force of ships sailed westward across the relatively quiet waters of the Pacific. While standing on the lower wing of the ship's bridge, I listened to the sound of familiar melodies being played by crew members on a guitar and banjo. The mood of all seems quiet and pensive, including the U.S. Marine assault troops aboard.

30 January

Ship's showers turned on. Sure is great to get a real bath again in fresh water. Had steak for dinner—maybe they're trying to tell us this may be the last good meal we'll have for a while—or ever! This is because I am one of the twelve amphibious landing craft officers aboard who take charge of the boats when transporting the assault troops to the beach.

31 January

0620, thunder of gunfire can be heard some distance to port but no land or our major battle units are in sight. Our invasion objective now only about 15 miles away. The transport group of which we are a part is now laying to as the bombardment of the target areas continues.

1 February

The order for "away all boats" was piped at 0700 and we were lowered into the water alongside the ship. The assault Marines with full packs and carbine rifles then descended the cargo nets into our boats. I am in LCVP-20 as a Wave Commander with my coxswain, Snowden Taylor. Went alongside the transport USS *DuPage* and took aboard additional Marine troops. Leading my boat group now designated as Reserve Wave #1, passed through the entrance of the atoll into the large lagoon. Heavy naval bombardment continues with fires and explosions visible all over the two small islands of Roi and Namur. Received the "go ahead" order from the boat control officer and used my boat flag to signal my boat wave to head for the beach at full speed. Marines in my boat appeared calm and determined with one heard to declare in an attitude of defiance "—and we'll take no prisoners." Landed on the beach of Namur about 1430. Explosion some 50 yards to starboard sent debris and shrapnel falling all around. Dropped the ramp for the Marines who rushed forward to the beach to join the others already dug in ahead of us. Bullets whining overhead. Raised the ramp and commenced backing off the beach as smoke and explosions seemed to be everywhere. Maneuvered rapidly away from the beach to make way for next wave of boats. In making our exit, it was necessary to avoid several bloated bodies of Marines who had been unable to reach the cover of the beach in the initial assault. Beach area heavy with the odor of burned and dead flesh. Thick acrid smoke was everywhere. It was a scene of death and destruction where men had traveled thousands of miles from home to have their life's ended. Returned to ship. At 2200 called to Captains cabin and given special assignment to take one of our LCM boats to the beach with a full load of ammunition as the Marines were in urgent need of resupply. Our ship some eight miles from beach #1 on Namur. Had to feel our way by magnetic compass through darkness to control vessel located about two miles from beach which cleared us immediately for the landing. It was now 0145, 2 February.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

2 February

On approach to beach our boat struck a coral head about 20 yards offshore. Unable to move ahead or astern. Star shells bursting overhead exposing our grounded position to shore batteries. Aware of extreme danger of shell hitting boat with ammunition aboard. Took safety with crew behind steel shield in stern area. Finally, about 0215 on a rising tide and keeping ourselves protected, we backed slowly off the reef. On reaching the control boat received instructions not to attempt another landing and were alerted to enemy small craft in the area. Began return to ship in heavy rain. Visibility near zero. Being unsure of ship location and weather conditions decided to lay alongside an LST at 0430 and await daylight. Weather finally cleared at 0630 and proceeded to *Aquarius* arriving at 0730. Made personal report to our Executive Officer of mission results and beach conditions.

Invasion Aftermath

The Roi and Namur islands were declared secured after the third day of fighting. Made several support trips to the beach bringing in supplies and removing battle worn Marines to our ships offshore. On one trip I noticed a lone Japanese man hunched down on the beach. He was naked and eating a chocolate bar. Later I was to learn that of the 10,000 Japanese on the islands he was the sole survivor. Among the American Marines killed during the action was one Major Denig who was a tank commander and was billeted in our officer country with us on *Aquarius*. He was the son of a Marine general and a real fine guy. It was told that during the fighting on the island his tank became disabled and apparently in a moment of panic, one of his crew opened the tank hatch to get out. A Japanese nearby jumped up on the tank and dropped a hand grenade inside killing the entire crew. We were shocked at his loss. Following the termination of all hostilities on the beach, *Aquarius* was released with several other ships in the transport group and proceeded to Guadalcanal to prepare for our next combat mission.

Note:

At this writing, I was a young, newly married Coast Guard Ensign trained in amphibious landings at the Camp LeJeune Marine base in N.C. Kwajalein was our initial test under combat conditions and prepared us for seven more landings on enemy held islands that included Emirau in the Admiralty Islands, Guam in the Marianas, Pelleliu in the Palau Islands, and three separate landings in the Philippine Islands: Leyte, the Lingayen Gulf and one in Zamboli Province before our final landings on Okinawa in April of 1945. *Aquarius* was to receive eight battle stars for our participation in the Pacific operations of WWII.

Former St. Pete CO Crosses the Bar

LCDR James Q. Alligood, USCG, Ret., a former Commanding Officer of the U. S. Coast Guard station in St. Petersburg, FL following WWII and owner of Alligood Marine, died Sunday October 10, 2004 at 99 years old.

LCDR Alligood joined the Coast Guard in 1924. He served three years in the Pacific during WWII aboard the *American Seaman*, the *Serpents* in Bougainville and the *Mintaka* at Guadalcanal and Okinawa. The *Serpents* was sunk at Guadalcanal. He was coach of the U. S. Coast Guard Academy rifle team in New London, CT and was named 'Distinguished' in rifle in 1931, in pistol in 1935 and won the 'President's Hundred' eight times. He was a welterweight boxer for the U. S. Coast Guard national boxing team and won 46 out of 52 matches.

After retiring from the Coast Guard in 1948, LCDR Alligood served as First Officer in the U. S. Merchant Marine until 1968. He opened Alligood Marine in Marathon, FL in 1969 and moved his store to Salt Creek in 1975 where he continued working until 1994 when he finally retired at 89 years old.

He was a lifetime member of the Florida Sheriff's Boy's Ranch and of the Masonic Lodge. He is survived by a daughter, Arlene M. Alligood of Washington, DC and St. Petersburg and a niece, Mary Audrey Hornsby of Palmetto.— *Arlene Alligood*



“With the traditions of the past, together we face the challenges of the future”

What is the CGEA?

Some of you may be wondering what the CGEA is. The CGEA is an organization formed under the CPOA and our purpose is to assist our fellow shipmates, command and community. The following, identifies some of our many missions:

- ◆ -Be prepared to support members and dependants in need
- ◆ -Assist the CPOA in their endeavors
- ◆ -Through responsible leadership, promote professional advancement
- ◆ -Encourage involvement in personal growth
- ◆ -Support your command policies and functions
- ◆ -Promote and sponsor social programs
- ◆ -Be active in community affairs and aid those in need
- ◆ -Remain positive, focused and have fun along the way

Your participation is wanted. The CGEA has great opportunities for fellow enlisted members to associate and learn from one another. YOU can be part of this organization. All you need... is to say YES! And try to take a little of your time and participate in any of the many activities a Branch is involved in. Volunteer to help in a community service project, help with a fund raising event or just attend a monthly meeting once in awhile.

So now you are probably wondering, “How do I know if I can be a member?” All you need to do is be an E-6 or below. That’s right we are an organization that let’s all enlisted members E-6 and below join our ranks. This includes active duty, reserves, retired or if you’ve received an honorable discharge from the USCG. So if you are interested in joining check out this web site www.uscgcpoa.org & click the To Join line. Any questions, please call Tom Scaramastro at (703) 941-0395 or YN1 April Jones at (757) 413-7477.

Editors Notes:

Retired Coast Guardsman Writes Book

Oregon lawyer and CWO4 William R. Benedetto, USCG, Ret., announces the national publication of his first book, *SAILING INTO THE ABYSS: A True Story of Extreme Heroism on the High Seas* by Kensington Publishing Corporation. The book tracks the merchant ship *Badger State* sailing from Seattle in 1969 to carry bombs to Vietnam, a voyage that crossed over into the history books.

The ship quickly encountered violent storms and 2,000 pound bombs broke out of their pallets. An explosion followed and the crew abandoned ship only to have their lifeboat capsized by a blockbuster bomb hurtling out of the mother ship. Albatrosses then attacked the men in the water. Fourteen men (out of forty) survived.

Vice Admiral Howard B. Thorsen, USCG, Ret., who wrote the foreword, described the book as “amongst the elite sagas of man against the sea...a spellbinding tale of a doomed ship.” Rear Admiral Edward Nelson, Jr., USCG, Ret., said the book “captivates the reader from the outset as with a suspenseful novel...in bringing to light this tale of men against the sea, the author has honored them and the sailors of our merchant ships.” The book is available at bookstores and websites; further information at www.williambenedetto.com

CAPT DOROTHY STRATTON'S 106TH BIRTHDAY

You read that right! The first Director of the SPARs (Coast Guard Women's Reserve) will celebrate her 106th birthday on March 24, 2005! To ensure privacy, please send birthday greetings to: CAPT Dorothy Stratton, c/o CAPT Jeanne Gleason, 5405-C Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20015-2705. You may also send her an e-birthday greeting (type "Happy Birthday" in Subject Line) to: edoak@comdt.uscg.mil

FYI, her 100th birthday cover story (March 1999) is still on line at: www.uscg.mil/reservist

<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/reserve/magazine/mag1999/mar1999/frontcov.jpg> (cover)

<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/reserve/magazine/mag1999/mar1999/dor100.htm> (story)

TRICARE NEWS

HOW TRICARE CHANGES WHEN A MILITARY SPONSOR DIES OR RETIRES

When a military member retires from active service and begins drawing retirement pay, one chapter in the member's life ends and another begins. If the member has a family, their individual lives change as well, including their TRICARE cost shares. When an active duty sponsor dies, family members remain eligible for TRICARE benefits at the active duty dependent rates for a three-year period and during this time they are referred to as "transitional survivors." At the end of the three-year transition, TRICARE eligibility continues for survivors, but at the retiree dependent rates.

Retired Service Member And Dependents

Enrollment in TRICARE Prime	Retired service members and their dependents can choose from – TRICARE Prime, Extra or Standard based on availability in their location. When the service member transitions from active duty to retirement, they must re-enroll in TRICARE Prime by the 20th of the month of their last month off Active Duty, to be effective the first day of the next month as a Retiree.
TRICARE Prime	Enrollment fees apply-\$230 for individuals, \$460 for families. Co-payments (\$12) required for outpatient visits to network providers. Inpatient care-\$11 per day, \$25 minimum. Inpatient mental health-\$40 per day.
Prime Remote (TPR)	Not eligible
TRICARE Extra	Inpatient care-\$250 per day or 25% of hospitals negotiated charges, whatever is less, plus 20% of allowable charge for separately billed professional services. Outpatient care-20% of the negotiated cost. Annual outpatient deductible-\$150.00 for individuals, \$300 for families.
TRICARE Standard*	Inpatient care-\$512** per day or 25% of hospitals billed charges, whichever is less, plus 25% of allowable charge for separately billed professional charges. Outpatient care-25% of allowable charges. Civilian inpatient mental health-lesser of \$169* per day or 25% of allowable fees plus 25% of allowable charge for separately billed professional services. Annual outpatient deductible-\$150 for individuals, \$300 for families.
Catastrophic Cap*	\$3,000 per fiscal year.
Eligible for Medicare (age, disability or end stage renal disease (ESRD))	Retired service members and their dependents MUST enroll in Medicare Part B to remain eligible for TRICARE.

* The catastrophic cap is the annual upper payment limit. It applies only to the allowable charges for covered services.

** Rates are current for FY 2005; rates change every fiscal year.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Enrollment Fees/Allotments:

Retired beneficiaries having to pay Prime enrollment fees can visit their regional contractor's Web site or call them for enrollment and fee payment option information. Retirees can pay these fees through monthly allotment only from their Service retirement pay. This retirement pay allotment may be deducted from one of the following pay agencies:

- ◆ Defense Financial Accounting System (DFAS)
- ◆ U.S. Coast Guard
- ◆ U.S. Public Health Service

To start an allotment, a beneficiary must fill out an Enrollment Fee Allotment Authorization Letter and send it to the Regional contractor (North, South, or West) along with an initial quarterly payment (beneficiaries will not need to send a quarterly payment when transferring from one region to another once the allotment process has already been set up). After the contractor receives the allotment authorization letter and initial quarterly payment, the contractor forwards a payment request to the designated pay agency. The pay agency in turn sets up a monthly payment to the regional contractor on the beneficiary's behalf. The Enrollment Fee Allotment Authorization Letter is used to start, stop, or change monthly allotment payments from the retiree's pay account.

Use of Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs):

Retirees and their families who do not enroll in TRICARE Prime may continue to use MTFs as capacity exists-if a particular facility can accommodate them. A priority system has been established for access to health care in an MTF. Briefly, the priorities are as follows:

1. Active duty service members
2. Active duty family members who are enrolled in TRICARE Prime
3. Retirees, their family members and survivors enrolled in TRICARE Prime
4. Family members of active duty service members who are **NOT** enrolled in TRICARE Prime (for the purpose of determining access priority, survivors of military sponsors who died on active duty who are **NOT** enrolled in TRICARE Prime are in this priority group)
5. All other eligible persons, including retirees and their families who are **NOT** enrolled in TRICARE Prime

TRICARE Plus is an MTF primary care enrollment program offered at selected MTFs. All beneficiaries eligible for care in MTFs (except those enrolled in TRICARE Prime, a civilian HMO) may enroll in TRICARE Plus at an MTF if enrollment capacity exists.

Becoming Medicare-eligible:

Medicare eligibility usually begins on the first day of the month in which the beneficiary turns 65. If the 65th birthday falls on the first day of the month, Medicare Part A eligibility begins on the first day of the preceding month. If the Medicare-eligible beneficiary purchases Medicare Part B, he or she will remain eligible for TRICARE Extra and Standard, but not Prime. TRICARE acts as a second payer to Medicare for services covered by both Medicare and TRICARE. When a retired sponsor reaches age 65 and becomes eligible for TFL, his or her spouse maintains regular TRICARE eligibility until he or she (spouse) becomes 65 years old.

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

Persons under age 65 who become entitled to Medicare Part A because of a disability or End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), and who are enrolled in Medicare Part B, maintain their eligibility for TRICARE Prime, Extra or Standard. If enrolled in Prime, the enrollment fee is waived for that individual. When they reach age 65, they will no longer be eligible for TRICARE Prime; they remain eligible for TRICARE Extra and Standard and become eligible for TFL. By law, TRICARE pays after Medicare for these eligible persons. Beneficiaries who become eligible for Medicare due to a disability or ESRD should report that eligibility to the nearest military personnel office, on or after the date of eligibility.

For more information, beneficiaries may contact a local health benefits advisor, beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator or TRICARE service center or they may visit the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil.

(Source: www.tricare.osd.mil/factsheet)

News Releases
February 1, 2005
No. 05-05

Lost Your TRICARE Eligibility? Did You Purchase Medicare Part B?

Most TRICARE beneficiaries who are entitled to Medicare Part A must purchase Medicare Part B to retain eligibility for their TRICARE benefits. Active Duty family members are the one exception. They are not required to purchase Medicare Part B until the active duty service member/sponsor retires.

The general enrollment period for Medicare Part B is January 1 to March 31 each year, with the enrollment effective on July 1 of that year. There is a lifetime 10 percent penalty surcharge for each year enrollment is delayed after initial eligibility.

However, the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 provides a Special Enrollment Period (SEP)-initially ending on December 31, 2004, but currently extended by the Social Security Administration (SSA) into 2005 for TRICARE beneficiaries to purchase Medicare Part B in order to retain eligibility for TRICARE benefits. It also authorizes a refund for penalty surcharges paid in 2004. Any TRICARE beneficiary may still contact the SSA to be enrolled in Medicare Part B immediately and without penalty for late enrollment, and resume their TRICARE eligibility. Once enrolled in Medicare Part B, TRICARE coverage will start the same day as Medicare Part B coverage.

Beneficiaries who have questions regarding enrollment in Medicare Part B or enrollment premium surcharges they paid in 2004 should call the SSA at 1-800-772-1213 or visit their local Social Security office. TRICARE beneficiaries who paid late Medicare enrollment premium surcharges in 2004 may be entitled to reimbursement. Additional information is available on the SSA Web site at <http://www.ssa.gov/legislation/>, the Medicare Web site at http://www.medicare.gov/MedicareReform/Tricare_factsheet.pdf and the TRICARE Web site at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/>.

PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLE (POV) DECAL UPDATE

There were some conflicts with the POV decal regulations in regard to state and local laws. The POV decals will be affixed to the top center of the windshield vice the lower driver's side of the windshield, **unless**, this is prohibited by any state or local laws. Please check with the department of motor vehicles in your state and comply with their regulations regarding placement of the POV decal. We apologize for any confusion this has caused-Ed.



NEWS RELEASE

Military Officers Association of America

201 N. Washington St. • Alexandria, VA 22314-2539
703-549-2311 • www.moaa.org

CONTACT:

Col. Marvin J. Harris USAF (Ret)
1-800-234-6622 Ext. 546/545
703-838-0546
Ms. Nancy Carr
703-838-0545
Email – pr@moaa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 3, 2005

RYBACKI ELECTED TO MOAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alexandria, Va.... Rear Adm. Richard I. Rybacki, USCG-Ret., of Falmouth, Maine, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), the nation's largest veterans organization for active duty and retired military officers.

Rybacki was elected on October 16, 2004, at MOAA's Convention in Nashville, Tenn., and will serve for six years on the 36-member Board. MOAA is headquartered in Alexandria, Va., and has nearly 372,000 members.

A 1956 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy, Rybacki earned master's degrees in science from the University of Michigan and in business administration from New York University. He saw sea duty in cutters home ported in Alaska, California, and Massachusetts and held a variety of engineering and technical billets. He was associate director for Ocean Science and Technology at the Coast Guard Research and Development Center, and commanded a Coast Guard group in Maine. After service as the deputy chief of personnel and as comptroller of the Coast Guard, he commanded the 1st Coast Guard District from 1983 to 1986.

He is the president and chief executive officer of MaineSail Inc., which promotes the state of Maine. He has served as president of the Southern Maine Chapter of MOAA and lives in Falmouth, Maine.

-END-

NOAA RECEIVES NEW FISHERIES SURVEY VESSEL Advanced Capabilities Provide Unique Fisheries Research Platform



Jan 6, 2005— [NOAA](#) took delivery yesterday of the first of a series of fisheries survey vessels from VT Halter Marine Inc., a subsidiary of Vision Technologies Systems Inc., in Pascagoula, Miss. This is NOAA's first newly constructed fisheries survey vessel in more than 25 years. The ship is named for the late Alaskan fishing industry leader [Oscar Dyson](#), whose numerous private and public contributions improved the industry for many Alaskans who make their living at sea.

"*Oscar Dyson* will have a huge impact in managing our nation's valuable marine resources so that we can maintain a robust fishing industry and sustain healthy fish populations," said retired Navy Vice Admiral [Conrad C. Lautenbacher Jr.](#), undersecretary

of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "The ship's unique attributes set it apart from its predecessors and put NOAA on the world stage of fisheries research. Because of its advanced sensing capabilities, it is the newest link in the developing Global Earth Observing System of Systems."

Oscar Dyson is the first of four planned 208-foot fisheries survey ships to be delivered by VT Halter Marine, with the second ship, *Henry B. Bigelow*, currently under construction. This series of ships will greatly expand the capabilities of the existing NOAA fleet by meeting specific data collection requirements of [NOAA Fisheries](#), as well as providing a cutting-edge, low acoustic signature. *Oscar Dyson* and its sister ships will have the ability to perform hydro-acoustic surveys of fish. They will also be able to conduct bottom and mid-water trawls while running physical and biological-oceanographic sampling during a single deployment—a combined capability unavailable in the private sector.

"Delivery of this new ship is an exciting milestone for NOAA and NOAA Fisheries scientists, who will now have access to a world-class platform," said [Bill Hogarth](#), assistant administrator for NOAA Fisheries. "This state-of-the-art, acoustically quiet vessel will give NOAA scientists access to advanced technologies to better understand the state of the nation's fisheries. The fishing industry is a large portion of the nation's economy, and the work we do ensures the sustainable use of our ocean resources. That means providing jobs, safe and healthy seafood for consumers, and quality recreational opportunities for the American public."

"The advanced capabilities of *Oscar Dyson* will enable NOAA to conduct its fisheries research and assessment mission in Alaska with much greater accuracy and cost efficiency," said Rear Admiral Samuel P. De Bow Jr., director of the [NOAA Commissioned Corps](#) and [NOAA Marine and Aviation Operations](#), which operates and manages the NOAA fleet. "Delivery of the ship is a significant step in the modernization of NOAA's research and survey fleet."

Oscar Dyson will depart Pascagoula in late January or early February, with a crossing through the Panama Canal scheduled in February. A several-week stopover is planned in the Pacific Northwest for post-delivery shakedown cruises and outfitting. The ship will then sail for its homeport of Kodiak, Alaska, in the spring to begin operations. Its primary mission will be to monitor the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska fisheries, particularly Alaskan pollock, the nation's largest single fishery and the fourth largest in value. Current plans call for *Oscar Dyson* to be commissioned in Kodiak during the late spring or early summer.

NOAA is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and providing environmental stewardship of the nation's coastal and marine resources. NOAA is part of the [U.S. Department of Commerce](#).

Source: NOAA News Release

REUNIONS AND NOTICES

Announcing the 2005 Reunion for the



COAST GUARD CUTTER
HAMILTON
WHEC-715

San Diego, California
July 7,8,9,10

A "Once in a Lifetime Event"

Join us for a welcoming reception Thursday evening, a cookout on the flight deck, a farewell Champagne Brunch Sunday morning, stories, laughs, memories and much more...

Ticket Prices

Includes reception, flight deck event
Sunday Brunch & Reunion Book (crew only)

BEFORE MAY 1

\$60.00/crew member
\$50.00/guest

AFTER MAY 1

\$65.00/crew member
\$55.00/guest



Hotel & Reunion Center

Holiday Inn-San Diego Bayside

4875 North Harbor Drive
San Diego, California 92106
800-650-6660

www.holinnbayside.com

\$129.00/night
single/double occupancy

Book Hotel Reservations directly through the Holiday Inn

Be sure to mention the Hamilton Reunion or Event Code:

Please complete attached Reunion Registration and mail with check:

USCGC Hamilton Reunion Committee
5697 Jennifer Dr. E.
Lockport, New York 14094

REUNIONS AND NOTICES

COAST GUARD CUTTER
HAMILTON WHEC-715

REUNION REGISTRATION

Name _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name of Spouse/Guest _____

Name(s) as you would like them to appear on badges(s):

Arrival Date/Time _____

What year(s) did you serve on the Hamilton? _____

of Crew members _____ @ \$60.00 ea = \$ _____ (before May 1)
(includes reunion book)

_____ @ \$65.00 ea = \$ _____ (after May 1)

of Guests _____ @ \$50.00 ea = \$ _____ (before May 1)

_____ @ \$55.00 ea = \$ _____ (after May 1)

TOTAL \$ _____

Please return completed registration by May 1st with check make payable to:

USCGC Hamilton Reunion Committee

5697 Jennifer Dr. E.

Lockport, New York 14094

REUNIONS AND NOTICES

RETIREES INTERESTED IN KEEPING UP WITH COAST GUARD NEWS

SEATTLE –Retirees living in the Pacific Northwest, who want to stay informed about Coast Guard news, may sign up to receive Coast Guard news releases. The sign up process is easy and can be done from your home computer. Go to www.d13publicaffairs.com, on the home page will you see Communicate with USCG. Click on that link, next click on join news release list. Then simply fill out the information required and you will start receiving our news releases.

TELEPHONE TECHNICIANS (TT/EMT) REUNION

When: 9-11 September 2005

Where: Pat and Marty Nilson's home
309 Lawrence Lane
Colonial Beach, VA

Phone: (804) 224-0545

All TT/EMT's, enlisted and officers, and others associated, are invited to the **reunion**. For additional information contact Marty Nilson at (703) 971-9131, Bo Stapleton at (757) 340-3732, Ray Snow at (540) 729-1045, or Sam Merritt at (757) 336-5721.

Personnel Locator: If you are searching for an 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 Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591**

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

USCGC NORTHWIND (WAGB-282) REUNION

When: 14-16 October 2005

Where: Shell Island Resort
2700 N. Lumina Ave.
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480

Phone: (800) 689-6765

Contact: CAPT Ken Morris, USCG, Ret
640 Bayshore Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28411

Phone: (910) 686-7905

E-mail: icecap282@earthlink.net

Please contact CAPT Morris if interested in attending the reunion. Oceanfront suites are \$79.00 per night for this event.

Send your reunion or other notices to:

Evening Colors
Commanding Officer (P & D)
U.S. Coast Guard Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

E-mail: PSC-RASNewsletter@hric.uscg.mil

Phone: (toll free, U.S. only) 1-800-772-8724 or
(785) 339-2236

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 CGPC (ADM-3)
United States Coast Guard
4200 Wilson Blvd, Suite 1100
Arlington, VA 22203-1804

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

(Continued on page 16)

*(Continued from page 15)***REUNIONS AND NOTICES****MILITARY RETIREE, SPOUSE, WIDOW/WIDOWER SEMINAR AND INFORMATION FAIR**

When: Saturday 4 June 2005
 Where: U S Naval Hospital
 Beaufort, SC
 Phone: (843) 228-7351 or (843) 228-6222

The Tri-Command Retired Activities Office (RAO), will conduct its annual "all service branch" Military Retiree, (National Guard, Reservist, all inclusive) Spouse and Widow/Widower Seminar/Information Fair. The day of information will begin 9:00 a.m. and end at approximately 12:00 p.m. For more information and reservations, please contact the above listed phone numbers by Tuesday, 31 May 2005.

THE WISCONSIN LANDING SHIP TANK ASSOCIATION (LST) REUNION

When: 14-16 August 2005
 Where: Days Inn City Centre
 Green Bay, WI
 Contact: Robert G. Reeners, President,
 Wisconsin LST Association
 4313 Hillcrest Drive
 Oneida, WI 54155-9110
 Phone: (920) 494-4440

The Wisconsin Landing Ship Tank Assn. (LST) consisting of Navy and Coast Guard veterans of WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, and other more recent conflicts, will be holding their 19th annual reunion. All LST'ers in the mid-west are invited to attend and join in the festivities with tours to Lambeau Field, National Railroad Museum, Oneida Casino, and followed by the annual banquet.

A recent undertaking of the Association was the design and development of an "Honor Roll" plaque, which was dedicated at last years reunion. Hope to see you there.

COAST GUARD CW OPERATORS ASSOCIATION 7TH ANNUAL REUNION

When: 28 September-1 October 2005
 Where: Biloxi Beach Resort & Fox's RV Park
 Biloxi, MS
 Contact: David Johnson ZUT 213
 E-mail: zut213@earthlink.net

See Comm-One Newsletter and www.comm-one.org

THE OWENSBORO UNITS REUNION

When: 23 April 2005
 Where: Oakridge Park Campgrounds
 Rockport, IN
 Contacts: Bill Symon
 Phone: (812) 649-2721 Cell: (812) 686-2082
 Les Allen
 Cell phone: (502) 552-0687
 Don Kuster
 Cell phone: (812) 327-4749
 Gene Radin
 Phone: (859) 885-1236 Cell: (859) 552-7606

The Owensboro Units reunion will be on Saturday the 23rd of April starting about 1 PM central time. The location is about 1/2 mile west of Rockport, IN. From I-64 or 164 go east toward Rockport on Highway 66. Turn left or north on Silverdale Road. Silverdale is next to Willis Used Car lot. Contact any of the above members with any questions.

USCG 255 SAILORS REUNION IV

When: 15-18 May 2005
 Where: Plaza Hotel/Casino
 Las Vegas, NV
 Contact: Reunion Committee
 PO Box 33523
 Juneau, AK 99803
 Phone: (907) 789-2579
 Fax: (907) 789-2780
 E-mail: doak17@gci.net

The reunion is for all thirteen 255 foot Coast Guard class cutters. Please contact the Reunion Committee for further information.

PARACHUTE RIGGERS REUNION

When: 20-24 October 2005
 Where: Kissimmee, FL
 Contact: Ray Weismann
 Phone: (407) 281-4888
 E-mail: riggeray@juno.com

All Coast Guard, Navy and Marine Corps members, active, retired and reserve, interested in this reunion please contact Ray at the above e-mail address or phone number.

(Continued on page 17)

*(Continued from page 16)***REUNIONS AND NOTICES****U.S. COAST GUARD NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STEWARDS AND STEWARDMATES, INC. REUNION**

When: 4-7 August 2005

Where: Clarion Hotel & Conference Center
Atlantic City, NJ

Contact: BMCM Robert E. Hammond
USCG, Retired
97 Curtis Avenue
Piscataway, NJ 08854

Phone: (732) 752-2512

**USCGC CAMPBELL ASSOCIATION W-32 & W-909
20TH ANNUAL REUNION**

When: 15-19 May 2005

Where: Savannah Riverfront Marriott
Savannah, GA

Contact: Gordon Bell, President
723 Spring Lane
Lansdale, PA 19446

Phone: (215) 393-6195

E-mail: CaptBell@comcast.net

Or

Jim Kelly, Secretary/Treasurer
40 Lisa Lane
Uncasville, CT 06382

Phone: (860) 848-1160

E-mail: jkelly3@earthlink.net

See web site www.campbellw32w909.org for details and reservation.

GUARDSMEN OF YESTERYEAR BREAKFAST

On September the 10th 2005, Coast Guard Station Chincoteague will host a breakfast for anyone that has served or is currently serving in the U.S. Coast Guard. Coffee will be served at 0700 and the breakfast will start at 0800. This event will be held at the Chincoteague High School Gymnasium located at 4586 Main Street in Chincoteague, VA. Ticket price is \$5.00 and can be purchased by contacting BMC Jerry Tarr at (757) 336-2874 or e-mail Jtarr@stachincoteague.uscg.mil. If you are coming from out of town you can call or e-mail to reserve your tickets. Please get your tickets early so we can ensure that there is enough food for everyone. Come out and see shipmates of the past, enjoy good food and possibly win a door prize. We will have a guest speaker as well as representatives from TRICARE and Admin to answer any questions you might have. If you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to contact Chief Tarr.

"Calling ALL Retired Chief Warrant Officers"

Do you miss the camaraderie of speaking Coastie? Do you yearn to have the "chats" you once had with other Coasties when you were on active duty? You are in luck!

The Washington, DC Chapter of Chief Warrant and Chief Warrant Officers Association are seeking new members to bolster our CWO/CWOA community nationwide. For more information on how to become a member of an outstanding and valuable asset of the CG community and more, please visit our chapter website at: www.dccwoa.org. You can also call our national chapter at:(202) 493-1281 or write us at:

Washington DC Chapter
200 V Street SW
c/o James Creek Marina
Washington, DC 20024

For those retirees outside the greater Washington, DC area, you can visit the National website at:
<http://www.cwoauscg.org/>

**COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS
ASSOCIATION 20TH REUNION/CONVENTION**

Come join us for this great celebration!

When: 20-24 October 2005

Where: Holiday Inn Busch Gardens
2701 E. Fowler Avenue
Tampa, FL 33612

Contact: E. P. "Ed" Burke
17728 Striley Drive
Ashton, MD 20861-9763

Phone: (301) 924-3727

E-mail: [Ed_Burke](mailto:Ed_Burke@coastguardcombatvets.com)

Or e-mail: www.coastguardcombatvets.com for information regarding registration forms, itinerary and general information.

NORTH TEXAS CG ASSOCIATION BAR-B-Q

When: 30 April 2005 @ noon

Where: Pappas Bar-B-Q
2231 W. NW Highway @ Lombardy
Dallas, TX

Contact: LCDR Judith Kramer
Phone: (972) 291-1843
E-mail: jakramer@swbell.com

(Continued on page 18)

(Continued from page 17)

REUNIONS AND NOTICES**2005 PTERODACTYLS' ROOST IN SAVANNAH, GA**

This year's Pterodactyl Roost is going to be held in Savannah, GA on 6-9 November 2005. Headquarters Hotel is the downtown Hyatt located on the Savannah River in the city's famous Historic District. If desired, early arrivals can plan on showing up on Sunday 6 November for the full slate of activities commencing Monday 7 November. In addition to the usual schedule of events, preliminary planned activities will offer guided tours of the Military Forts, Downtown Historic District, Gallery Hop, Antique Shop Walk, Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum, Hilton Head Outlet Mall shopping, Historic Downtown Beaufort, SC, and a river cruise. The "Low Country Lifesavers" of the Air Station Savannah look forward to welcoming you to the history, charm and hospitality of the Deep South. For more information, contact LTJG Ryan Allen at (912) 652-4646 or rjallen@AirStaSavannah.uscg.mil or Art Wagner at (912) 898-8939 or awagner50@comcast.net.

NORTH COAST NEW YORK COAST GUARD ASSN

When: 23-25 September 2005
 Where: Sackets Harbor, NY
 Contact: North Coast New York Coast Guard Association
 4712 Glenwood Drive
 Mantua, OH 44255
 Phone: (330) 274-2927

U.S. Coast Guard: Seeking any Coastie who served aboard USCGC's *Cherry*, *Maple*, *Ojibwa*, *White Lupine*, *Buckhorn*, *Arundel*, *Point Steele*, *Wire* and CG's 83359, 65024-D (*Chockberry*), 55030, 45305, 49414, 45308, or 49404 while home ported in upper New York, Burlington, VT or Saugerties, NY. Any year, regular, reserve, auxiliary or civilian Coast Guard.

CGC EASTWIND (WAGB-279) REUNION

When: 10-12 June 2005
 Where: Portland, ME
 Contacts: Lee Grant
 Phone: (603) 447-6040
 E-mail: junelee.1@juno.com
 Or
 Al Brier
 Phone: (508) 945-3729

NORTH COAST NEW YORK COAST GUARD ASSN

When: 23-24 September 2005
 Where: Sackets Harbor, NY
 Contact: North Coast New York Coast Guard Association
 4712 Glenwood Drive
 Mantua, OH 44255
 Phone: (330) 274-2927

U.S. Coast Guard: Seeking any Coastie who served at Erie, PA Lifeboat Station, Buffalo Base, Fort Niagara LBS, Rochester LBS, Sodus Pt. (AUX OP), Oswego LBS, Galloo Island LBS, Sackets Harbor (AUX OP), Cape Vincent Light Attendant Station, CG Station Alex. Bay, MSD Massena, Burlington Base, VT, ATN Saugerties, Reserve Unit (PSU Buffalo/Syracuse, Loran Station Seneca). Also any Lighthouse, small unit or CGC in the above area. Any year, regular, reserve, auxiliary and civilian.

1966 SQUADRON ONE DIVISION-13 CAT-LO VIETNAM REUNION

When: September 2005?
 Where: Reno or Las Vegas, NV
 Contact: Jerry Sampont
 Phone: (360) 457-6671
 E-mail: division131966@yahoo.com
 Or
 Mike Mattie
 Phone: (425) 672-7521

A reunion is being planned for anyone who was assigned to Squadron One Division-13 Cat-Lo Vietnam during 1966. We are still in the planning stages and would like to see how many are interested. A reunion was held for the 1966 crew of the Point White WPB 82308 in August 2003 and was such a success, we would like to have one for the entire Division-13. If interested please contact Jerry or Mike at the above phone numbers or email address. **This reunion notice was rerun because of an error in Jerry Sampont's phone number in the January issue of Evening Colors and to add Mike Mattie's phone number—Ed.**

(Continued on page 19)

*(Continued from page 18)***REUNIONS AND NOTICES****MILITARY RETIREES**

All Branches of the Armed forces/Uniformed services
You are Invited to
THE EIGHTH ANNUAL
NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND MILITARY
RETIREE ACTIVITY DAY

SPONSORED BY

BRUNSWICK NAVAL AIR STATION IN COOPERATION WITH: HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE.
THE PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD, FORT DRUM, AND THE NATIONAL GUARD AND ARMY
RETIREE COUNCILS FROM MAINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, AND VERMONT.

HERE'S WHAT'S AVAILABLE

LEGAL ASSISTANCE, HEALTH CARE INFORMATION,
SURVIVOR BENEFITS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES,
COMMISSARIES, EXCHANGES,
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
VETERANS CEMETERIES, VETERANS HOMES,
DEERS/ID CARD RENEWALS,
AND MUCH MORE.

COME AND JOIN US**SATURDAY AUGUST 13, 2005**

**AT THE BRUNSWICK NAVAL, AIR STATION,
BUILDING 151, BRUNSWICK, MAINE**

Note: All activities will be indoors.

0800-0900 REGISTRATION
0900-0945 OPENING CEREMONY
0945-1400 STATIONS AND DISPLAYS OPEN

DIRECTIONS: FROM THE NORTH - Take 95 South to 295. Follow 295 South to EXIT 31. Then follow 196 over the river bridge to 1 north. Exit at Cook's Corner. Right at the 1st light then left into the base at the 2nd light.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE SOUTH - Follow 95 North, to Exit 52 in Maine. Then take 295 north, to Exit 31. Then right onto 196. Follow 196 as in the above

For more information contact LCDR Paul Loveless, USN-RET, at (207) 921-2609, Mon-Fri. 9-12pm or
E-mail: nasbfsc-rao@navy.mil



USCG Retirements

Name	Rank	Date of Retirement	Years of Service
ACHENS, GEORGE	FSC	20041201	24
ADAMS, CHARLES	PS1	20050115	32
AFFSPRUNG, BRUCE	BM2	20041201	20
AKINS, JOHN	FN	20041124	02
ALLEN, EARL	BM3	20041223	36
ALLUMS, FREDERICK	BMC	20050117	33
ANDERSON, ROBERT	EM1	20050114	41
ANDERSON, SCOTT	YN2	20041222	12
AUSTIN, STUART	AMT1	20040701	28
AYALA, MICHAEL	YN1	20050120	17
BAEHRLE, PHILIP	PS2	20041129	25
BAKER, ERIC	MK1	20050101	20
BAKER, RICHARD	PS1	20050122	31
BALL, DAVID	MKC	20041201	22
BANKS, DONNA	YN1	20050201	20
BARR, BRYAN	YN1	20041201	23
BARRETT, RICKY	BMC	20050201	30
BARTA, STEVEN	CAPT	20030329	36
BARTLETT, HOLLY	YN1	20050101	20
BASS, KENNETH	PO2	20041116	39
BAUMANN, SUSAN	SKCS	20041201	20
BAUMGARTNER, JIMMI	LT	20041201	27
BEITEY, DENNIS	BMCM	20041129	39
BENNETT, CRAIG	CDR	20050201	22
BESECKER, JERRY	BM2	20050201	20
BEST, JOSEPH	BM1	20041124	08
BILES, JOHN	OS1	20041201	20
BLACK, JOHN	HSC	20041201	23
BLATCHE, JOHN	HSC	20041201	26
BOHLMAN, MICHAEL	CAPT	20041221	38
BONACHEA, DAVID	MED3	20041201	25
BONNEY, RICHARD	ENG3	20041109	37
BOWMAR, JAMES	MSTCS	20041201	20
BOYLE, STEVEN	AMT1	20041201	20
BRAMMER, GARY	YN1	20041201	20
BRISTOL, RAMON	SK3	20041124	20
BROOKS, JESSICA	MSTC	20041126	30
BROWDER, HORACE	OSC	20041201	21
BROWN, JOHN	ETC	20041201	21
BROWN, THOMAS	BM2	20041223	23
BRUCKENTHAL, NATHAN	DC3	20040425	05
BUBLITZ, GERHARDT	BMC	20050101	35
BUCKLEY, HERBERT	YNCS	20041120	30
BYRNE, JAMES	MK1	20041222	13
CALL, JACK	CDR	20041226	37
CAMPBELL, GREGORY	ELC2	20041201	22
CAMPBELL, SCOTT	PA1	20041101	21
CANDLER, THOMAS	MAT4	20041201	26
CARPENTER, BRIAN	PSC	20041229	20
CARPENTER, JEFFREY	MKCS	20050201	24
CASHEN, KELLY	OSC	20041124	17
CATOZZI, RICHARD	MKC	20041201	20
CHAPMAN, RONALD	BMC	20041022	39
CHRISTIAN, ROGER	PSCM	20050124	39
CLARK, GARY	OSCM	20041201	25
CLARK, TOMMY	PAC	20041213	39
COFFIN, ROBERT	AETC	20041201	21
COLEMAN, THOMAS	BOSN4	20041201	30
COMPASSO, ALTON	MK2	20041206	30
COUTURE, RICHARD	AMTC	20041201	21
CRAIG, ERNEST	BM1	20050120	07
CRATTY, ROBERT	EMCM	20041201	24
CROMARTIE, MICHAEL	YNC	20041201	28

Name	Rank	Date of Retirement	Years of Service
CRUM, CHARLES	MKC	20041201	24
CURRY, WINFRED	MKC	20041101	21
DALE, SHAWN	MKC	20041201	20
DALESSANDRO, JAMES	LCDR	20041113	35
DAMMANN, THOMAS	MK1	20040501	23
DANIELS, DALE	MKCS	20041201	27
DAVIES, LAWRENCE	MK2	20041124	26
DAVIS, CHARLES	MKC	20041225	34
DAVIS, ELLEN	BM1	20041201	20
DEAL, KEVIN	LT	20050201	21
DEGROW, LYNN	CAPT	20041216	37
DELEO, CAROLYN	CDR	20050201	24
DELIO, CHRISTOPHER	EMC	20041101	22
DEMARCO, FREDERICK	BOSN3	20050112	38
DESIDERIO, CHERYL	YN1	20041201	22
DICKINSON, RICHARD	SKC	20050120	38
DIMARIA, CHARLES	FSC	20050101	20
DOUGLAS, NATALIE	OS3	20041118	03
DOUGLAS, STEPHEN	BMC	20041201	20
EARLEY, JAMES	YNC	20041201	24
EATON, STEVE	LCDR	20050127	36
EBERHARDT, DONALD	OSC	20050121	38
ECKEL, TINA	YN1	20041201	24
ELLERBEE, CRYSTAL	BM3	20041029	04
EVERS, DAVID	ET1	20041212	24
FACKLER, TIMOTHY	MKC	20041201	20
FALENSKI, ANDREW	AMTCS	20050201	27
FARRELL, JULIE	LT	20050101	21
FIRKINS, WILLIAM	OS1	20041201	20
FOUNTAIN, MARILYN	YNC	20041201	26
FOWLER, JACKIE	FS1	20041128	40
GARCIA, CARLOS	HS1	20041201	22
GARNER, TIMOTHY	DC1	20041201	22
GARNER, WILLIAM	OSC	20050201	27
GASPERETTI, WILLIAM	ELC4	20050201	29
GATLING, MAGDALENE	MST1	20050118	30
GENTILE, JOHN	CAPT	20050201	28
GHOLSON, KRISTOPHER	LT	20041214	09
GIBSON, JOHNNY	PS1	20040325	20
GILES, WILLIAM	BMCM	20041201	28
GILMORE, GREGORY	GM1	20041201	20
GIRARD, MARC	AETC	20041201	20
GOMEZ, RAUL	EMCS	20041101	20
GONZALES, ERNEST	WEPS4	20050201	29
GOULD, ROBERT	FS3	20050124	36
GOWLER, CARL	MK1	20050127	36
GRAEB, JONATHAN	ELC4	20050101	30
GRANT, GERALD	BM1	20050201	20
GREEN, WAYNE	CDR	20050124	35
GRIFFIE, LARRY	MKCS	20041201	25
HAMILTON, BERNARD	PSC	20041218	34
HANLON, SUSAN	YNC	20041217	31
HANSON, DENNIS	FSCM	20041118	37
HARRIS, MELVA	YN1	20041225	36
HARRISON, MICHAEL	YN1	20050101	20
HARSH, STACEY	YN2	20050101	20
HARVEY, LYNN	YNCM	20041201	29
HAYES, CURTIS	AETC	20041201	26
HEATH, DOUGLAS	BOSN4	20050201	23
HELM, ERIC	LCDR	20050201	21
HENKE, DOUGLAS	CDR	20041101	20

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HENSHAW, CLARENCE	SK1	20041201	25	MERRILL, RICHARD	PSC	20050120	36
HERLONG, TROE	EMC	20041201	22	MERRILL, MICHAEL	FSC	20041201	21
HERNANDEZ, VICENTE	EM1	20050201	25	METHOT, ANTHONY	MKCS	20041201	24
HICKS, PAUL	MK3	20041221	06	MICHALSKI, TERRY	ENG4	20050101	24
HIGMAN, DANIEL	LCDR	20041201	20	MILICIA, ANTHONY	ENG2	20041201	21
HINSON, JIMMIE	TCC	20050101	21	MILLER, ALLEN	LT	20041219	28
HOHL, STEPHEN	DCC	20041201	22	MILLER, DANIEL	BM2	20041206	03
HORANZY, JOHN	AET1	20041201	23	MINTUN, ROBERT	AMT1	20041201	20
HORTON, ANNETTE	SK1	20041126	19	MOGUSH, THOMAS	ET1	20041201	23
HOSKINS, JAMES	PO1	20041126	39	MOLLINET, JESSICA	SN	20041220	02
HUDSON, MARLIN	HS2	20050101	20	MONGAR, ERIC	GM1	20050201	20
HUELSENBECK, EDWARD	DCC	20050201	21	MORERE, MICKI	SKC	20050201	22
HUEY, PERRY	LCDR	20000801	20	MORGAN, JAMES	OSCM	20050201	26
HURLBUT, JAMES	BM2	20041217	23	MORLEY, TIMOTHY	BM2	20041124	15
INSKEEP, PAUL	BMCS	20050201	31	MORTON, CHARLES	BMC	20041221	35
IRWIN, DANIEL	MK1	20050101	23	MOSHER, PAUL	PSC	20041225	38
JAMES, CURTIS	EM1	20041117	39	MUELLER, MARK	IT1	20041113	09
JAMES, WILLIAM	MKCS	20041228	32	MUNSON, STEVEN	CDR	20050101	22
JANISZEWSKI, KENNETH	BM1	20041124	23	MURRAY, JOHN	ASTCM	20041201	24
JARQUIN, CHRISTIAN	MK3	20041124	02	MUSKALLA, MICHAEL	LCDR	20050201	29
JEAN, WILLIAM	MK1	20041122	34	NAVECKY, FRANK	ET1	20050101	39
JEFFRIES, ROBERT	ENG2	20041201	21	NIEDBALA, STEPHEN	AVI4	20041229	42
JENKINS, TURNER	LCDR	20041107	38	NOBLE, JAMES	BM2	20041201	25
JENNINGS, LEARIE	AMTCS	20041201	28	NYSTUL, GARY	CDR	20041125	35
JILLET, JOHN	BMC	20041104	30	OSTER, ROBERT	HSC	20041201	20
JOHNSON, ARTHUR	PS2	20041113	38	OTOOLE, SAUNDRA	YNCM	20041201	27
JOHNSON, BRETT	OSC	20041201	20	OVASKA, JEFFREY	LCDR	20041201	20
JOHNSON, BRYAN	SN	20041222	03	PACKLICK, EDWARD	MKC	20050201	20
JOHNSON, PHILLIP	LCDR	20041108	39	PAGE, CATHY	YN1	20050101	24
JONES, JIMMIE	FSCS	20041201	30	PAINE, SCOTT	MK1	20041201	21
JONES, WILLIAM	PSCS	20041129	37	PASSARELLA, DALE	ENG4	20050201	27
JORGENSEN, JAYLOY	ETC	20050201	20	PATRICK, ROBERT	PO1	20041113	37
KANTZ, GEORGE	CDR	20050124	30	PECKHAM, KENNETH	AMT1	20050121	22
KARONIS, JEFFREY	CAPT	20050101	27	PENNEY, JENNIFER	LTJG	20041201	07
KAY, MARSON	MKC	20041201	24	PHELPS, BRENT	FSCM	20041201	24
KELEHER, DAVID	BMCS	20041201	23	PHILBIN, JOHN	CDR	20041201	21
KELLEY, LEO	LCDR	20050108	40	PHILLIPS, ROBERT	BM2	20050120	27
KILGORE, WILLIAM	MKCM	20041201	26	PLATT, ROBERT	FSC	20050201	24
KING, STANLEY	AMTCS	20041201	30	PODESTA, MARK	SK1	20050201	23
KIRSTEN, ROGER	MKCM	20041201	29	POUND, STANLEY	MK3	20041230	01
KNIGHT, JOSEPH	PS1	20041221	31	PRICE, PETER	SKC	20050101	23
KOEPP, ROD	OS1	20041101	20	PROVENZANO, DAVID	ENG4	20050201	27
KRAMER, JUDITH	LCDR	20050117	32	PYCHA, JAMES	LCDR	20041231	38
KREBS, SETH	HS2	20041013	31	RAMACCIOTTI, CHRISTOPHER	FSC	20041201	20
KUNZ, GARY	LCDR	20050201	20	RAYCOB, TIMOTHY	LT	20050201	23
LAKE, STEVEN	LT	20050101	28	RICHARD, FREDERICK	ENG4	20041201	29
LALONDE, STEPHEN	LT	20050201	20	RING, JEFFREY	SK2	20041215	22
LAMBERT, JENNIFER	SK1	20041124	13	RIORDAN, MOLLY	CDR	20050101	20
LANGE, TERRY	BMCM	20041201	30	RIVERA, LAWRENCE	PS3	20041117	39
LANZA, ALEXANDER	MK3	20041117	02	ROBERTSON, BRIAN	AET1	20050201	20
LAPOINTE, MATTHEW	MK2	20050120	03	RODGERS, VANESSA	AMT1	20041201	20
LAURATO, LAWRENCE	LT	20050201	25	ROLDAN, MIGUEL	FSCS	20041201	25
LEE, JAMES	LT	20050101	30	RONE, JAMES	ENG2	20050101	21
LEESON, MICHAEL	CDR	20041130	41	ROOT, MARK	OS1	20041230	15
LEWIS, KEVIN	EM1	20050201	20	ROSS, JOSEPH	DC1	20041230	35
LICARI, DAVID	MK1	20041201	22	RUIZ, MARY	MK1	20050201	20
LIEBEL, NICHOLAS	OSCS	20041207	41	RUTZ, JACK	CAPT	20050101	26
LOYA, SERVANDO	EM1	20041201	22	SAMPLE, JOHN	ET1	20041228	36
LYNN, LARRY	PS1	20041216	34	SCHAEFER, VINCENT	BMCS	20041201	23
MALONEY, CHARLES	MSTCM	20050201	28	SCHMIDT, RICHARD	F&S4	20050201	27
MARSH, KENNETH	GM2	20041201	20	SCHUG, CHAD	BM3	20050119	03
MARSHALL, DAVID	MKC	20050108	37	SCOTT, DONNA	ETC	20050201	22
MARTINEZ, ROBERTO	ET1	20041201	21	SEPP, PAUL	F&S3	20050101	21
MARYOTT, KAYSE	BM2	20041201	20	SERAFINI, HENRY	MK1	20041230	30
MATTA, ENRIQUE	EMC	20041230	20	SHEFFEY, TYRONE	PS1	20041221	33
MAXSON, ROBERT	CAPT	20050101	26	SHOOK, MARK	AMTC	20041201	20
MCCOY, ESTELLA	OS1	20041201	21	SHORES, SARAH	CDR	20050201	21
MCDURMON, JOSEPH	ENG2	20050101	20	SHUMAKER, JOSEPH	PS1	20041116	11
MCLAUGHLIN, DAMIEN	FS3	20041124	05	SIMBERLUND, ELIZABETH	IT2	20041222	05
MCLAUGHLIN, THOMAS	ENG4	20041231	37	SMITH, RICHARD	AMTCS	20041201	23
MCLELLAN, ROBERT	AMTC	20050201	21	SOELTNER, THOMAS	BMC	20041201	20

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STALEY, BERRY	YNC	20041201	22
STALEY, VINCENT	BM2	20041211	35
STARK, JAMES	CAPT	20050201	28
STAUFFER, ROBERT	YN1	20041205	37
STEWART, GEORGE	ENG3	20050201	21
STOLZ, SCOTT	LCDR	20050101	20
SULLIVAN, THOMAS	PSCS	20050201	38
SUPCHAK, JOHN	ET1	20050201	20
SWEARS, WILLIAM	LCDR	20041201	22
TANNER, GREGORY	BMC	20050201	20
TAYLOR, FRANK	ET1	20041201	20
THOMPSON, ELWYN	MK2	20041201	20
TICE, CLIFFORD	EMCM	20041201	22
TIDWELL, ROBERT	GM1	20041126	39
TUTEN, EVERETT	MK1	20041230	32
UMBERGER, DAVID	BOSN4	20041201	22
VALENTINE, JOHN	LCDR	20050201	22
VANARSDALE, CHRISTOPHER	FSC	20041201	20
VILLEGAS, SANDRA	YNCM	20041212	25
VINYARD, DONALD	SKCS	20041102	42
WAGNER, WALTER	MST1	20050106	25
WALSH, ALAN	FSCM	20041201	28
WAMACK, BRIAN	AMT1	20041201	20
WANSER, ROBERT	MK2	20050101	32
WARNER, JOHN	MKCS	20041201	30
WARREN, LARRY	MST1	20050125	26
WATTERS, MICHAEL	BM1	20050120	10
WAYLAND, THOMAS	MK1	20041228	38
WEBB, SHARLOTTE	YN3	20041222	04
WEIDLER, CRYSTAL	YN3	20041223	06
WEIDMANN, MARK	BM2	20050201	20
WELCH, JOHN	BM3	20050109	36
WELCH, THOMAS	BM1	20041210	40
WENTZEL, THOMAS	FS1	20041201	20
WERTZ, WAYNE	BM1	20050109	37
WESTBROOK, DAVID	BM1	20041201	20
WHALEN, WAYNE	MK2	20041216	36
WHITEHURST, KENNETH	BMC	20050103	39
WILDER, JAMES	GMC	20041201	28
WILDER, JOHN	CAPT	20041201	28
WILLIAMS, ROBERT	BMC	20041201	22
WILLIAMS, TIMOTHY	PERS4	20050201	27
WINTERS, PETER	BM1	20041201	20
WRIGHT, ROBERT	PS1	20041108	23
YOUNG, RANDALL	BM1	20050201	20
ZIMMERMAN, MICHAEL	MKCS	20041201	26



WILDER, JOHN	CAPT	20041201	28
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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

In the News: News Releases

Department of Veterans Affairs

New Law Allows Higher Limits In VA Home Loan Program—January 13, 2005

WASHINGTON – Legislation recently signed by President Bush makes home ownership more affordable for many veterans.

Changes under the law mean veterans will be able to get no-down payment loans of up to \$359,700. The previous ceiling was \$240,000.

“Now, more than ever, veterans will be able to make their dreams of home ownership a reality,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi.

VA-guaranteed home loans are made by banks and mortgage companies to veterans, service members and reservists. With VA guaranteeing part of the loan, veterans can receive a good interest rate without having to make a down payment.

The changes took effect Dec. 10 when President Bush signed into law the Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 2004. The law also allows for loan limits to keep pace with rising home values.

The new law allows VA to guarantee one-year adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs) and it extends, through 2008, VA's "hybrid ARM program," which allows veterans to lock in a favorable interest rate for at least three years.

More information about VA home loan benefits is available on the Web at <http://www.homeloans.va.gov>

CORRECTION

In our January-March 2005 issue, page 16, we printed the incorrect rank for PERS4 William Davis, USCGR, Ret. We listed his rank as PERS3. We regret this error.

FRA and Coast Guard Recruiting Command Honor Outstanding Recruiters

ALEXANDRIA, VA – FRA National Executive Secretary Joe Barnes will join Rear Admiral Stephen Rochon, Director of Personnel for the Coast Guard, in presenting four recruiting achievement awards today at a ceremony in Arlington, Va.

"FRA has a longstanding tradition of recognizing excellence among Sea Service personnel and this event is a continuation of that tradition," said Barnes. "I'm proud and honored to present FRA's National President's Award on behalf of George R. Kaye, to these outstanding recruiters and we are equally proud to represent the concerns of these fine men and women in our work on Capitol Hill."

The Coast Guard strengthened its initiatives to recruit more minorities and women during the past year and success is easily noted in the 2004 statistics:

- **1,360 minority recruits (35.7% of the total), the highest percentage of minority recruits in the history of the Coast Guard.**
- **649 women (17% of the total) were recruited, the second highest percentage of all time.**
- ◆ **Over 900 Reserve Enlisted were recruited for the second year in a row. (The first time the 900 mark was met for two consecutive years since 1989-1990).**

The FRA awards were presented to: Recruiting Office Columbus, OH *Recruiting Office of the Year*

GM1 Marielsie DePedro, Recruiting Office Hampton Roads, VA *Active Duty Recruiter of the Year*

ETC William Slauenwhite, Recruiting Office Boston, MA *Officer Recruiter of the Year*

YNCS Steven Sennott of Coast Guard Recruiting Command, Washington, DC *Reserve Recruiter of the Year.*

A commendation medal will also be awarded to: Senior Chief (E-8) Electronics Technician Jim Labarre

As Sector Five (Great Lakes Area) Recruiting Region Supervisor, he manages the nine Coast Guard recruiting offices in the Great Lakes area, including Recruiting Office Columbus, which received the recruiting office of the year award.

"The professionalism, dedication, and commitment displayed by our nation's Coast Guard personnel should be honored at every opportunity," said Barnes.

In addition to recognizing superior performance, FRA also works to improve the quality of life for Coast Guard personnel. Major FRA-led initiatives in 2004 include securing Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay for Coast Guard personnel who perform maritime interdiction operations. FRA also supported the recently completed Coast Guard Authorization Bill (H.R. 2443), which includes language that allows the Commandant of the Coast Guard to make his personal recommendations, with prior approval, before Congress. In the past, the Commandant was not allowed to express personal opinion during congressional hearings.

In 2001 Barnes and FRA's Legislative Counsel Mack McKinney were made honorary members of the Coast Guard, and in 2003, both were given the Coast Guard's Meritorious Public Service Award, the highest award given to a civilian. These awards were in recognition of dedication and years of FRA service on behalf of the Coast Guard.

FRA, founded in 1924, is the oldest and largest professional military association representing Sea Service personnel. The federally chartered FRA is the premier watchdog organization for safeguarding and enhancing military pay, health care and benefits by representing the concerns of its members before Congress and appropriate federal agencies.

For additional information, contact: Eileen Murphy, 1-800-372-1924 or eileen@fra.org. Photographs available upon request.

Source: FRA Press Release 18 Feb 2005



LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	RANK	DATE	CITY	STATE
AGUINIGA	JESUS	PS1	20050102	CORPUS CHRISTI	TX
ALLGOOD	JESSE	GMCS	20050119	SATELLITE BEACH	FL
ALLISON	CLARENCE	BMLC	20041122	WEST CHATHAM	MA
AMBURN	ROBERT	BMC	20041209	TEXAS CITY	TX
ARBIOLA	MACARIO	SS1	20050207	PHILLIPPINES	RP
BAILEY	JAMES	MMCS	20050103	THEODORE	AL
BALLARD	FRANK	BM1	20041205	HAMPTON	FL
BALLARD	FREDDIE	ENC	20041124	LAMESA	CA
BARNARD	NICHOLAS	MKC	20050118	EDWARDSBURG	MI
BATT	EUGENE	CDR	20041116	BROOKSVILLE	FL
BAUMAN	RICHARD	RADM	20050215	BALTIMORE	MD
BEST	COLON	ADC	20041210	INVERNESS	FL
BOCHENEK	ARTHUR	MK1	20041213	CLEVES	OH
BRAUNSTEIN	JASON	RMC	20050104	KINGWOOD	TX
BROOKS	JOHN	EM1	20041206	WEST ALLIS	WI
BROWN	DANNY	CDR	20050122	LUMBERTON	MS
BRUCKENTHAL	NATHAN	DC3	20040424	DANI BEACH	FL
BRUNK	MARK	ENG2	20041204	SACRAMENTO	CA
BRYAN	ERNEST	BMCS	20041125	MESA	AZ
BUTLER	GLYNN	BMC	20041225	GRANDVILLE	MI
CAREY	PRESTON	PSC	20050111	FRANKFORD	DE
CARLSEN	ROBERT	FS1	20041022	NEW HYDE PARK	NY
CASE	JOHN	HMC	20041222	PALATINE	IL
CHERRY	JOHN	LCDR	20050212	WILLIAMSBURG	VA
CHRISTENSEN AP	VERN	ADCS	20041205	POULSBO	WA
CLEMONS	PAUL	BTC	20050117	LIVEOAK	FL
CLETO	MELCHOR	SS2	20050110	PASSAIC	NJ
CLUBB	WILLIAM	AVI4	20041229	LYNCHBURG	VA
COLOMB	VICTOR	CDR	20041231	LACOMBE	LA
COTE	THEODORE	QMC	20050112	ST ALBANS	VT
CURTZ	ROBERT	ENG4	20041212	WALNUT CREEK	CA
DANIELS	JOHN	MAT3	20050212	STATEN ISLAND	NY
DAVENPORT	FLOYD	SKC	20050201	PLYMOUTH	NC
DAVIS	WILLIAM	ENC	20050201	BEAUFORT	NC
DEBOE	JOHN	MAT4	20041202	PINELLAS PARK	FL
DEHOS	RAYNOR	MKC	20040903	WEST ISLIP	NY
DERBY	WILFRID	CAPT	20041113	WARNER	NH
DONNER	MAX	ENC	20050129	COMMERCE TWP	MI
DOTSON	WILLIAM	CDR	20040204	SPRING HILL	FL
DOWD	ALAN	CHMACH2	20041222	FRIDAY HARBOR	WA
DOWNING	RICHARD	BMC	20041127	GERMANTOWN	TN
DUKES	JOHN	TTC	20041124	CHINCOTEAGUE	VA
DULAY	MAURO	SD1	20050111	JUPITER	FL
EDER	ROBERT	YNC	20041210	HAZEL PARK	MI
ELBON	JENNINGS	QMC	20041115	PORTLAND	OR
ELLIS	ROBERT	QMC	20050201	WELLINGTON	NV

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LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	RANK	DATE	CITY	STATE
<i>(Continued from page 24)</i>					
ELMORE	ROBERT	YN1	20050206	FAIRBANKS	AK
ELTRINGHAM	DOUGLAS	MKC	20050121	FAIRFIELD	CA
EMERY	BURDETT	CDR	20041126	PORTLAND	OR
ENGEL	LEONARD	ENG4	20050119	WILMINGTON	NC
FLYNN	JOHN	CHMACH4	20050205	WILSONVILLE	OR
FOCKLER	PAUL	ATCS	20041221	SAN JOSE	CA
FRENCH	HAROLD	CDR	20050106	CARLSBORG	WA
GABRIEL	CHESTER	YN1	20050112	PITTSFIELD	MA
GAMBARDELLA	VINCENT	PS1	20041210	LAKEWOOD	NJ
GAY	ROY	ENC	20050108	WOODWARD	OK
GEARY	KEVIN	GM1	20041224	MARBLE FALLS	TX
GILLESPIE	BRADFORD	MKC	20041208	MILWAUKEE	OR
GIRDLER	GEORGE	CAPT	20050126	AVON PARK	FL
GOINS	TRUMAN	CDR	20041119	MCLEAN	VA
GOODWILL	JAMES	MKC	20041123	KIMBOLTON	OH
GREENE	WILLIAM	CWO3	20050116	SEQUIM	WA
GREGG	GARY	PSCM	20041116	OTTO	NC
GREVE	ROBERT	LCDR	20050107	VACAVILLE	CA
GRIFFITHS	CHARLES	ENG4	20050103	HOUSTON	TX
GRIMES	ELLIS	LCDR	20041224	LAKELAND	FL
GROTHE	KARL	MMC	20050116	DUNEDIN	FL
GROVES	JAMES	HMC	20050121	SIOUX CITY	IA
HANNO	PETER	HMC	20041112	HILLSBORO	NH
HASSELL	CLAYTON	BMC	20041226	ROANOKE	IL
HEIKEN	ALBERT	CDR	20041119	SANTA ROSA	CA
HILL	JOHN	AEC	20050207	SUNRISE	FL
HILTBRUNNER	JACK	BM1	20050109	MIDDLEBURG	FL
HITCHCOCK	RICHARD	GMC	20041225	LANGLEY PARK	MD
HORTON	ANNETTE	SK1	20041126	MARINETTE	WI
HUDGENS	JOHN	CAPT	20050207	SAN DIEGO	CA
JACKSON	ROBERT	BM1	20050112	CHARLESTON	OR
JAMES	ERNEST	CDR	20050210	HURON	OH
JOHNSON	JAMES	LTJG	20050107	MINDEN	NV
JONES	ALBERT	CDR	20050102	ANACORTES	WA
KEIHL	DALTON	SSCM	20050116	MEEKER	OK
KELLEY	THOMAS	CAPT	20050107	SAN ANTONIO	TX
KELSEY	HOWARD	BMCS	20041227	VICKSBURG	MS
KENNEDY	NED	SS1	20050101	CLAXTON	GA
KISSLING	CHARLES	MK1	20050131	SHIPPENSBURG	PA
KNIGHT	JOSEPH	PS1	20041221	JACKSONVILLE	FL
KRAUS	MURRAY	QMC	20050117	VALLEJO	CA
KUNKEL	HARRELL	BM1	20050205	BEAUMONT	TX
LAVENDER	ROBERT	LCDR	20050122	ROHNERT PARK	CA
LAYON	DANIEL	ET1	20041210	WILMINGTON	MA
LISTER	MICHAEL	MK1	20041231	SEATTLE	WA
LONG	JAMES	BM1	20041130	DEMOPOLIS	AL
MALAUSSENA	ROBERT	CHMACH2	20050130	VIRGINIA BEACH	VA
MANEY	MELVIN	MK1	20050131	ALAMEDA	CA
MARTIN	EDWIN	MMC	20041205	HENDERSON	NV
MARTIN	GEORGE	LCDR	20050209	COMMERCE	TX
MATHIS	DONALD	SS1	20050108	PACOLET MILLS	SC
MCCRACKEN	DEANA	PERS4	20041121	SPOKANE	WA

(Continued on page 26)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	RANK	DATE	CITY	STATE
<i>(Continued from page 25)</i>					
MCLENDON	LARRY	CAPT	20041122	TUPELO	MS
MEIER	DICKIE	BMC	20050127	SPRINGDALE	AR
MERCIER	ANDRE	ENCM	20041130	ORMOND BEACH	FL
MILEY	NORMAN	CAPT	20050119	ADAMS TOWN	MD
MILLER	STANLEY	ETCS	20050118	JUNEAU	AK
MITCHELL	DONALD	SD1	20041204	SAN DIEGO	CA
MOLDRZYK	EUGENIUSZ	YN1	20041121	BALTIMORE	MD
MORTENSEN	GORDON	COMM4	20050111	QUARTZSITE	AZ
MOSSMAN	CHARLES	SK1	20041228	GLENDALE	AZ
MUELLER	MARK	IT1	20041113	SUQUAMISH	WA
MUZZY	JAMES	CAPT	20050122	SEQUIM	WA
NEAL	ULYSSES	CHMACH2	20041227	CASSVILLE	MO
NIELSEN	ROBERT	CDR	20041123	GAINESVILLE	FL
OLSEN	THOMAS	RMC	20041203	EUGENE	OR
OMAN	CHARLES	PRC	20041201	MAHTOMEDI	MN
PALO	CARL	BMCM	20040828	PENSACOLA	FL
PARKS	EVERETT	MK1	20041115	ONLEY	VA
PARSONS	THOMAS	SK2	20050214	ELIZABETH CITY	NC
PASSOW	JACK	PSCS	20050207	MILWAUKEE	WI
PECINICH	WILLIAM	IVC	20041228	WESTMINISTER	CO
PEREZ	LOUIS	SKC	20041219	RENO	NV
HELPS	JOHN	ENC	20050123	VINE GROVE	KY
PIERCE	WALTER	AT1	20031025	CHARLESTON	SC
PIUNTI	GERARD	ATC	20041209	MASHPEE	MA
PUTHUFF	WILLIAM	QMCM	20050101	ENID	OK
REA	WILLIAM	VADM	20041211	CORAL GABLES	FL
REYNOLDS	RICHARD	HM2	20041202	MACON	GA
RICE	ROBERT	ENC	20050102	PORT ANGELES	WA
RIHA	JOHN	PSC	20041128	GLEN HEAD	NY
RIVERA	LAWRENCE	PS3	20041117	CALABASAS	CA
ROBBINS	JAMES	MMC	20041231	GORHAM	ME
ROBBINS	WAYNE	AMC	20041202	ZEPHYRILLS	FL
ROUTH	BOBBIE	MMC	20041205	BELTON	MO
ROWLAND	ERNEST	CAPT	20041126	MESA	AZ
SALMON	HARVEY	BMC	20050108	SANDSTON	VA
SCHAFFRAN	WALTER	CDR	20050207	SILVERDALE	WA
SEBASTIAN	JAMES	BOSN4	20041210	MOBILE	AL
SHACKELFORD	RICHARD	LTJG	20041105	VISALIA	CA
SHELL	ALLAN	LCDR	20050205	CRAWFORD	NE
SIMERLY	JAMES	BMC	20050107	PLACERVILLE	CA
SMITH	PAT	CWO4	20050125	GAINESVILLE	GA
SMITH	ROBERT	BMCM	20050127	MODESTO	CA
SODE	WILLIAM	CDR	20041208	BELLEVUE	WA
SPITALERI	ROBERT	ADC	20050107	PINELLAS PARK	FL
SPRINGER	DORIS	CAPT	20040731	CHESAPEAKE	VA
STENGEL	JOHN	CAPT	20041205	LOUISVILLE	KY
SZALANSKI	EDWARD	QMCM	20041123	NORTHFIELD	NH
TISDALE	RALPH	YNC	20041129	YUKON	OK
TROUTON	GRANT	LCDR	20050212	SPRING HILL	FL
TRUESDELL	EDDIE	SKC	20041223	FALLS CHURCH	VA
TUCKER	DONALD	EN1	20041225	TAMPA	FL
TURNER	CHARLES	CDR	20040126	BELLVUE	CO

(Continued on page 27)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	RANK	DATE	CITY	STATE
<i>(Continued from page 26)</i>					
TUTTLE	BRYAN	BMC	20050209	ST PETERSBURG	FL
UTLEY	JAMES	MK1	20041115	BACLIFF	TX
WHITEHEAD	JAUDON	CDR	20041220	TUPELO	MS
WILCOX	ALFRED	LCDR	20041203	WILLIAMSBURG	VA
WILLIAMS	JOHN	CHBOSN3	20050112	EL DORADO	AR
WINN	JAMES	LCDR	20050118	PORT ANGELES	WA
WISE	CHARLES	BMC	20041126	FRESNO	CA
YOKA	BRUNO	RMCS	20041220	CINCINNATI	OH



Dependent TAPS

Name of Dependent	Relationship	Date of Death	Location
Lucille H. Withrow	Wife of YNC Lawrence A. Withrow, USCG, Ret	04 Jun 04	Nassawadox, VA
Dorothy E. Waterman	Wife of YNC Richard H. Waterman, USCG, Ret	24 Sep 04	Ford, WA
Shenel R. Koch	Daughter of CWO4 Keith Koch, USCG, Ret	29 Jul 04	West Melbourne, FL
Harriet O. Smith	Wife of CAPT Del Smith, USCG, Ret	30 Dec 04	Daphne, AL
Jewell D. Lovan	Wife of LT Elmer Lovan, USCG, Ret	06 Jan 05	Jefferson City, MO
Marsha R. Ryan	Wife of BM1 John F. Ryan, USCG, Ret	08 Feb 02	LaGrange Park, IL
Melissa L. Lewis	Daughter of CWO4 Jerry W. Lewis, USCG, Ret	14 Dec 04	Anchorage, AK
Edna E. Padgett	Wife of EM1 James H. Padgett, USCG, Ret	06 Feb 04	Holly Ridge, NC
Alice P. Johnson	Mother of OSC Carlos Johnson, USCG, Ret	15 Nov 04	Port Hueneme, CA
Naomi Palmer	Wife of CDR Jim Palmer, USCGR, Ret	13 Dec 04	Dallas, TX
Deanna Sedgley	Wife of YNC Daniel F. Sedgley, USCG, Ret	30 Dec 04	Auburn, CA
Gabrielle A. Seyins	Wife of CAPT Alfred Seyins, USCG, Ret	01 Feb 05	Bradenton, FL
Helen R. Black	Wife of YNCS Evereste A. Black, USCG, Ret	10 Feb 05	Seattle, WA
Teresa M. Lucas	Wife of BMCM Franklin C. Lucas, USCG, Ret	05 Jan 05	Stewart, OH
Anna M. McDonald	Mother of QMC David H. McDonald, USCG, Ret	03 Jan 05	Detroit, MI

If you have lost a loved one and would like their name printed in Dependent TAPs, please contact PSC-RAS@hrsic.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 Evening Colors Editor. Or you can send your request in writing and mail to: Commanding Officer (RAS), Personnel Service Center, 444 SE Quincy Street, Topeka, KS 66683-3591. You may also fax your request to (785) 339-3770.

WHEN THE TIME COMES, WILL YOUR SURVIVOR KNOW?

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

1. Department of Veterans Affairs Entitlements
2. Dependency Indemnity Compensation
3. Social Security
4. ID Cards
5. Burial Flags

After a retiree dies the survivor is faced with applying for many benefits, with little knowledge of the often very confusing processes. All this happens while they are trying to deal with overwhelming grief. To help answer the many questions during that stressful time we have simplified our *Survivor Information Booklet*. By taking the time now to review this booklet, gather the supporting documents that are required and filing them in a location from which they can be readily retrieved, you can help to ease the stress that is experienced during this time. To further assist your survivors, we have initiated an Express Annuity Start system to simplify the processing and expedite payment of benefits. To take advantage of this new system, fill out the Form PSC-1884, (found in booklet or on our website at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/forms/psc1884.pdf>) sign, date and return to us.

NOTE: For those requesting by mail, booklets are printed on-demand at this time. After submitting your request please be patient and they will be mailed as soon as available. Although, the booklet and the online version were updated in January 2004, mainly to reflect correct phone numbers and to add Web Links, most information in previous editions is correct.

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

You may order by providing the below information to us either by mail, fax, or e-mail, please provide all information.

Name and Grade: (for Officers) or Name and	
SSN: (last 2 digits only, if ordering by e-mail)	
Street Address or P.O Box #:	
Apt or Unit #	
City	
State/Country	
Zip/Postal Code	

Mail to: COMMANDING OFFICER (RAS)
USCG PSC, ATTN: SURVIVOR PKT
444 SE QUINCY
TOPEKA, KS 66683-3591

Fax to: 785-339-3770

E-Mail: psc-ras@hrsic.uscg.mil (Be sure to include all the information requested above with the exception of the full SSN. Only send the last two digits of your SSN when corresponding with us by electronic mail)

Personnel Service 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 home mailing address (for Retired/Annuitant Statement, newsletter, 1099R)
- ◆ 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 PSC-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 and allotment (use Form *CG PSC-7221 Retired Allotment Authorization Form)
- ◆ Report a change to your Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) coverage

You must make the requests listed above in **writing**. You may **fax** your request to (785) 339-3770 or mail to:

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

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

1 800 PSC-USCG/1 800 772-8724

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

Income Tax Withholding Changes

If you need to:

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

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

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

()Note: forms available from our website
<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/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 Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy St
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

E-mail articles, dependent taps entries, reunion notices, etc., to **PSC-RASNewsletter@hrsic.uscg.mil** or call us at the numbers listed below (phone menu option #4). The deadline for the next issue is May 9, 2005.

E-mail: PSC-RAS@hrsic.uscg.mil

Website: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/ras.htm>

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.osd.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.osd.mil/pharmacy/tmop.cfm
Retiree Dental Plan	1 888 838-8737	http://www.trdp.org
TRICARE Overseas	1 888 777-8343	http://www.tricare.osd.mil/overseas/
TRICARE United States	phone numbers available on web site	http://tricare.osd.mil
TRICARE For Life	1 866 773-0404 or 1 888 363-5433	http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tfl/default.cfm
Senior Pharmacy Program	1 877 363-6337	http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/seniorpharmacy.cfm
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 5000 Millville, NJ 08332-9928	Fax # for other than deaths and accelerated benefits 1 800 236-6142 Overseas phone (973) 548-5699	Death and accelerated benefits claims only: Phone: 1 800 419-1473 Fax: 1 877 832-4943 or e-mail: osgil.claims@prudential.com General Correspondence: Office of Service members' Group Life Insurance 290 West Mt. Pleasant Ave. Livingston, NJ 07039
Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents	1 800 827-1000	http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.htm 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) 339-3550	http://www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/ses.htm Commanding Officer (SES) USCG Personnel Service Center 444 SE Quincy St Topeka, KS 66683-3591
Contact PSC (SES) for information on Severance Pay, Separation Pay, Disability Severance Pay, LES's, IRS Form W-2.		

(Continued on page 31)

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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/hq/psc/tvl.htm Send final travel claim to: Commanding Officer (TVL) USCG Personnel Service Center 444 SE Quincy St. Topeka, KS 66683-3591
Service Records	(314) 801-0800	http://www.archives.gov/research_room/vetrecs/ Write to: National Personnel Records Center 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132-5100
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.		
Social Security	1 800 772-1213	http://www.ssa.gov
WWII U. S. Merchant Marine Awards and Decorations	1 800 996-2723 Overseas (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

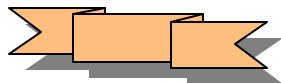
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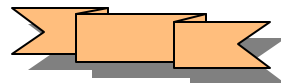
Commanding Officer (RAS)
USCG Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591
E-mail: psc-ras@hrsic.uscg.mil
Phone: 1-800-772-8724 or (785) 339-3415

We have discontinued sending e-mail notifications to people who have signed up for the online newsletter. The process of capturing, recording, maintaining privacy and keeping e-mail addresses up-to-date had become problematic.

The newsletter is published four times a year in January, April, July, and October. Please check the online newsletter page at the beginning of these months for the latest issue.



NAUTICAL TERMS, PHRASES & TRIVIA



Knows the Ropes—In the very early days, this phrase was written on a seaman's discharge to indicate that he was still a novice. All he knew about being a sailor was just the names and uses of the principal ropes (lines). Today, this same phrase means the opposite.. that the person fully knows and understands the operation (usually of the organization).

Source: www.Sailor'sChoice.com

US DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
COMMANDING OFFICER (RAS)
COAST GUARD PERSONNEL SERVICE CENTER
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