

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVE

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2024

Reservist

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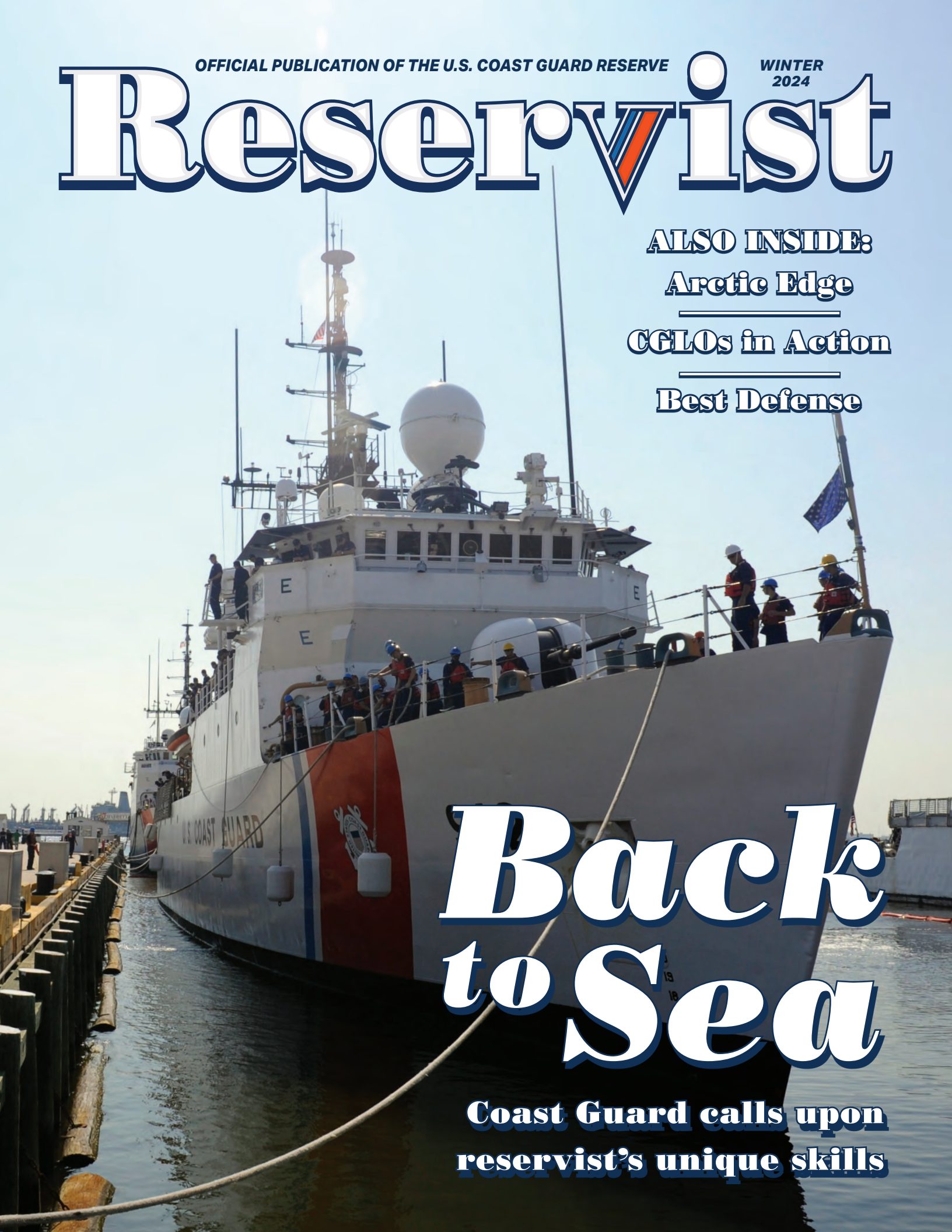
Arctic Edge

CGLOs in Action

Best Defense

Back to Sea

Coast Guard calls upon
reservist's unique skills





From the Editor

I'm back at the helm!

As you're probably already aware, the Magazine has been given a refresh. It's still the same great content, with a new aesthetic. Our creative director, Chris Rose, has been hard at work to streamline and modernize the appearance of our magazine. The last major change happened back in 2006, and he felt it was the perfect opportunity for a change. Do you like the new look? Let us know what you think!

Ms. Devlin is on military leave serving the office of decedent affairs. One of the benefits of being a reservist is the opportunity to take orders to not only assist the Coast Guard, but to also expand your experience within the Service—earning more retirement points along the way.

As reservists, we play the long game. That's partially due to our unwavering commitment to the Reserve, but also, we do a lot of future planning to ensure we're coordinating our service obligations with our civilian career expectations, all the while ensuring we're supporting our families. It's definitely a lesson in time management and work-life balance.

While it's tough drilling and being away from home—missing out on family moments or being away from our civilian jobs—reservists are enjoying their service. When I drill, I look forward to catching up with everyone and hearing what they have going on in both their civilian and Coast Guard lives.

Those soundings with my crew are important (I've missed them since being on ADOS). Not only does it catch me up on who's having babies, who's graduating college, who just finished all their requirements to take the next servicewide, but it also completes the picture on what needs to be done for the crew—receiving clarification on parental leave policy, educating members on tuition assistance and GI Bill requirements, or ensuring personnel know where to look up in direct access to determine their servicewide eligibility.

Being a new civilian with the federal service, I'm learning—much like that new non-rate or third class petty officer—the onslaught of information and new acronyms can be overwhelming. In spite of my best efforts, I don't know everything. I'm relying on my peers and supervisors to help me along the way.

It's definitely grounded me in the realization that it's okay to ask for help. Those conversations we have with our crew help us share what we know, gauge what we don't, and strive to learn together.

Happy reading.



Chief Petty Officer Heather Scheer accompanied her mother, who served as a Coast Guard reservist in the seventies and eighties, to the Coast Guard Headquarters' special observance on 50 years of women's service in the regular Coast Guard.

Reservist

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FRONT COVER: The 270-foot Coast Guard Cutter Legare returns home to Portsmouth Virginia.
Photo By Petty Officer 3rd Class David A. Weydert



From the Bridge

Rear Admiral Jo-Ann F. Burdian, Assistant Commandant for Response Policy

Hello from Coast Guard Headquarters! When I was asked to contribute this issue's From the Bridge, I jumped at the chance. I am excited to send you an important message—**Thank you!**

It is difficult to make the choice to wear the cloth of our nation, perhaps even more so when it's not your only professional pursuit, and it's a choice that gets more difficult in the long term. I had the privilege to spend two years as a drilling reservist at Sector St. Petersburg, Florida. I saw firsthand how our Reserve crews fully integrate in Coast Guard units every single day—enhancing our missions, our culture, and our ability to address complex geostrategic challenges in joint operations around the globe.

As the Assistant Commandant for Response Policy (CG-5R), I have the honor of working alongside a talented crew who develops strategy and policy for eight of the eleven Coast Guard missions. I want to focus on a single mission—Maritime Law Enforcement (MLE)—in this issue.

In the summer and fall of 2022, we observed multiple maritime law enforcement operations—by Coast Guard operators and by partners—in which deadly force was required. In all cases, there was no doubt deadly force was applied in accordance with training and policy, and consistent with the scenario each officer faced. But these situations brought forward more difficult questions: has the risk environment for Coast Guard LE operations changed, and, if so, what must we do to meet the increased threat? Thus, we began a Law Enforcement Threat Environment (LETE) Mission Analysis Report (MAR). The effort included direct engagement with thousands of Coast Guard members serving in all nine districts—Master Chief Patterson, the Maritime Enforcement Specialist Rating Force Master Chief, and I traveled to units in four districts and met hundreds of generous leaders—to listen and to learn. I am deeply grateful for the feedback we got during the sessions; as it directly influenced the MAR.

The LETÉ MAR confirmed what you already know: the threat environment has changed. Likewise, our organization, training, policy and equipment must continue to change to best support operators and to reinforce a culture of safety in Maritime LE. The MAR yielded actionable recommendations across policy; tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP); equipment; and use of force reporting including items I could act on immediately:

- *We authorized alternate LE clothing for our LE crews.*
- *We mandated the wear of individual first aid kits for every member conducting LE operations.*
- *We authorized the use of weapon-mounted lights to improve officer safety in low/no-light situations.*
- *In direct support of our Reserve workforce, we provided a mechanism to apply non-Coast Guard law enforcement training toward a Boarding Officer qualification.*

We aren't finished. The Commandant directed, and I chartered, a one-year sprint to continue the work of the MAR. Current and previous MLE professionals from around the Coast Guard are meeting with us every other week to develop and implement LE initiatives to enhance officer safety, proficiency and deepen the culture of safety across our LE workforce.

We need your continued support to make meaningful progress throughout this sprint—and beyond. Please keep talking with your colleagues and crews about what is going on in your operating environment. To our senior enlisted leaders, please lift this conversation into your Chief's Mess. What you do every day is inherently dangerous and we need to normalize talking about it to show our shipmates the care and concern they deserve. I also encourage you to submit ideas and input through our CG_Ideas@Work! Campaign. (Law Enforcement Policy, Equipment, and Tactics).

Check out the complete LETÉ Mission Analysis Report (MAR); announced by ALCOAST 345/23; with a video to the workforce; and a recent MyCG article. I hope you have seen these, but if not, I encourage you to seek them out.

Thanks so much for the work you do every day to serve our Nation and our Coast Guard. I am grateful to serve alongside you.



Semper Paratus.



Master Chief Petty Officer Tim Beard Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard Reserve

In 2005, I didn't realize it, but I'd just met some friends I was going to know my whole life. That was the year I went through the Coast Guard's Chief Petty Officer Academy (CPOACAD). When I attended, I was a new chief and a seasoned police officer, and I was used to doing things on my own.

I was proud to be a chief—the chiefs are a critical part of advancing the Coast Guard's mission set; they encounter many challenges, and they shoulder heavy responsibility.

But they don't do it alone.

And that's what I started to learn at CPOACAD. The school's mission is to transition new chiefs from the technical experts they are to the organizational leaders of the world's best Coast Guard.

In the past, Chiefs' Academy was seen as something needed to advance to master chief. But our leaders are realizing the importance of attending early on in order to obtain the tools for success: professionalism, teamwork, leadership, and communication, among others.

But as any chief who's been through it will tell you, there's also a networking piece that happens organically—the list of friends and experts you can call on when you hit a snag, whether it's with policy, personnel or proficiency. The peer mentorship and team-building lays the groundwork, forging together new links in the backbone of the Service.

For this reason, ensuring attendance at CPOACAD has been one of my goals during my tenure. As part of the commandant's intent, and in alignment with the Reserve Component Action Plan, we're focused on getting our leaders the training they need, right from the start.

The first move was clearing the backlog of students that piled up due to the pandemic. I'm happy to report that the Leadership Development Center added another CPOACAD class for reservists this year—a huge win.

We've also added CPOACAD as a position-based competency to all E7, E8 and E9 billets. In the past, people had gone years without getting to the Chiefs' Academy due to conflicting qualification priorities or lack of funding.

Now, don't get me wrong—attendance doesn't have to be in the first year; I realize our reservists have lives outside the Service, but they should be able to attend in the first three years of being a chief. That gives our new chiefs almost a dozen opportunities to get to class. We're also now able to use Other Training Duty money to be able to maintain unit qualifications AND go to CPOA. Win-win.

This is important; these are our first-level strategic leaders, and they affect so many of our junior personnel and new officers.

When I attended CPOACAD Class 19, I made a lot of friends that I have to this day—Bill Princiotta, Rashaun Morris, and Janine Tshantz-Hahn, all gold badge master chiefs, were in that same class—and they were friends I could call on when I hit a wall on a problem. By the end of class, my fellow chiefs and I became more confident in our knowledge and leadership, and we all had a surer understanding of the Coast Guard.

Our leaders are beginning to prioritize CPOACAD—in fact, I see attendance at the Chiefs' Academy as having career implications down the road for advancement panels as we bring the senior chief advancement panel online a year or two from now.

“Ask the chief” isn't just a motto; it's a fact of life at every ship, sector, air station and training center. When you become a chief, people look up to you for the answers and advice on how to get the job done and done right the first time—regardless of how junior you may be.

In a small, powerful Service, we need each of those links to be in top form, and that starts at the CPOACAD.





Arctic Edge 2023

**Story by Lt. Tony Emanuele,
Coast Guard Reserve Unit, United States Northern Command**

It was 30 degrees, lightly raining with a 15-knot wind. In any other place in the world, it would have been less than desirable conditions to fly in. Here in Dutch Harbor, Alaska, the Coast Guard Air Station Kodiak MH-60T Jayhawk aircrew was right at home. The mission: pick up a team of West Coast-based U.S. Naval Special Warfare operators to conduct cross training and interoperability training for Exercise Arctic Edge 2023.

Arctic Edge is a defense exercise for U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) to demonstrate and practice the U.S. Military's ability to rapidly deploy and operate in the Arctic. Joint military exercises in the region allow USNORTHCOM and its components to demonstrate operational capabilities critical for integrated deterrence and layered defense.

The melting of sea ice has opened new opportunities for shipping, resource exploration and tourism in the Arctic—raising concerns on safety, security and environmental protection. Due to these changing environmental conditions and the expansion of the Arctic's maritime activity, the Coast Guard has been increasing its focus on the region.



Naval Special Warfare operators board an Air Station Kodiak, Alaska MH-60T Jayhawk helicopter to be transported to the CGC *Bertholf* to tour the cutter and receive a capabilities brief from the crew as part cross training and interoperability training for Exercise Arctic Edge 2023.

Col. Matthew Tucker, Commander of Special Operations Command North (SOCNORTH), expressed his gratitude and appreciation of the Coast Guard during the training. “Realistic, iterative exercises like Arctic Edge 23 increase operational capability across the joint special operations community to better prepare the force for competition and conflict in the high North.” Tucker added, “This Arctic-focused exercise provides us an opportunity to hone current capabilities and test the next generation of systems necessary to secure the homeland.”

Multiple SOCNORTH scenarios included using Coast Guard assets and personnel in the vicinity of Dutch Harbor and Valdez as well as the integration of Coast Guard members within the Joint Special Operations Center—providing a direct line of communication to the Naval Special Warfare operators.

On the day of mission execution, the Air Station Kodiak crew landed their helicopter onboard Coast Guard Cutter *Bertholf*, providing the opportunity for the Navy Special Warfare to engage with the cutter’s crew. “We were very happy to host the Naval Special Warfare unit onboard *Bertholf* for a professional exchange to explore how we could best integrate together and leverage our unique capabilities,” said Capt. Tim Brown, *Bertholf*’s commanding officer.

Back in Dutch Harbor, I worked with my SOCNORTH counterparts to conduct communications checks using

different radio and satellite platforms with our team onboard the helicopter and cutter. Rarely does a Coast Guard reservist have the opportunity to be assigned to a unit in Colorado and conduct training in Alaska while working with a Naval Special Warfare unit! Fortunately, as a prior Deployable Specialized Forces member, I have had several opportunities to work with the Navy and Marine Corps special operations forces.

Planning for Exercise Arctic Edge 2024 is already underway with the Coast Guard having increased roles and responsibilities in multiple locations. Participating in large-scale exercises in the Arctic aids in achieving the Coast Guard’s strategic vision for the region to ensure safe, secure and environmentally responsible maritime activity.

As a member of Coast Guard Reserve Unit NORTHCOM, I have the unique opportunity to integrate with our DOD counterparts serving in the Joint Training and Exercises Directorate (J7). Our Directorate is charged with the planning and execution of large-scale homeland defense exercises. J7 falls under North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and USNORTHCOM, with NORAD being the only bi-national command in the world—sharing the duty with its Canadian counterparts. CGRU NORTHCOM is staffed with eight officers and three enlisted members, and is based out of Colorado Springs, Colorado. ≈



On November 17, 2023, Port Security Unit (PSU) 308 hosted joint Exercise Magnolia Shield in Gulfport, Mississippi. Participating units included PSU 307, Mississippi Air National Guard, Coast Guard Maritime Safety Security Team New Orleans (MSST NOLA), Coast Guard Station Gulfport, Aviation Training Center Mobile, CG-711, Coast Guard Pacific Area's Deployable Specialized Forces, Port of Gulfport, Performance Drone Works (PDW) and L3 Harris Communications. The purpose of Magnolia Shield was to demonstrate the effectiveness of a combined force in a security zone within a congested shipping port. PSU 308 and MSST NOLA conducted continuous tactical training evolutions over a 12-hour period taking turns as an opposing force.

During each training evolution, communications were relayed to a tactical operation center which housed not only an entire command and control (C2) suite, but also housed PDW's live feeds from its C-100 unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV). This improved the overall C2 situational awareness and demonstrated the effectiveness of joint intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities.

Magnolia Shield showcased Coast Guard assets to a Joint Force Commander, onboarded emerging UAV technologies, and maintained personnel competencies. In all, seven members received Tactical Action Officer training with 124 sign-offs towards the competency. Additionally, 40 members of the PSU Waterside Security Division received over one thousand sign-offs towards tactical boat crew, tactical coxswain, and other competency assignments. Personnel were also able to work towards Incident Command System division, group, and supervisor competencies. Large-scale joint exercises provide the perfect opportunity for our members to maximize training towards position based competencies. ≈





CGCYBERCOM reservists participate in a Capture the Flag exercise at the C5IT Alexandria Drill Facility organized by Lt. Joshua Moss and his team at Coast Guard Cyber Command Reserve Division.



Photos courtesy Lt. Joshua Moss

Capture the Flag

Story by Lt. Joshua Moss,
USCG Cyber Command Reserve Division

The Reserve Cyber Effects Team setup and ran a Capture the Flag (CTF) exercise for the Coast Guard Cyber Command (CGCYBERCOM) Reserve Division during our October All-Hands event. CTFs are a computer security training event where participants practice their hands-on hacking skills. It's a cyber shooting range to practice their digital marksmanship.

Technical experts from the CGCYBERCOM Reserve Division practiced reconnaissance and scanning to discover vulnerabilities on a target server. They then researched and used exploits against the vulnerabilities to gain access to the server. For those who wanted more of a challenge, there was a "hard mode" to the CTF that put their advanced container and cloud hacking skills to the test.

This event simulated the offensive cybersecurity work that the reservists of CGCYBERCOM augments the Coast Guard with regularly. Offensive cybersecurity, also known as "ethical hacking", is the process of analyzing and attacking a network or system as an adversary would to discover holes and improve defenses. The members of Effects Branch have extensive backgrounds as professional hackers in their civilian lives, and bring the latest and greatest tools, techniques, and procedures from industry to their Coast Guard work. ≈



Lt. Lydia Renfrow and Lt. Zada McClendon meeting President Biden while standing USCG LNO watch in the National Response Coordination Center during Hurricane Idalia.

Photo courtesy Lt. Lydia Renfrow

USCG Liaison Officers in Action

**Story by Lt. Cmdr. Sarah Scheaffer and
Lt. Cmdr. Ian Dundas**

Coast Guard liaison officers play a crucial role in facilitating coordination and communication between the Coast Guard and various governmental agencies, organizations and foreign counterparts. Along with their responsibility to build and sustain professional relationships and promote cooperation amongst stakeholders, liaison officers possess a deep understanding of the Service's operations, policies and procedures. They ensure the smooth flow of information and foster collaboration to address maritime security, search and rescue operations, maritime law enforcement and other critical missions.

The Coast Guard has four roles that each bear a similar name but vary in job description:

Liaison Officer (LOFR): *Incident Command System (ICS) Command Staff reporting directly to Incident Commander/Unified Command (IC/UC).*

CG Liaison Officer (LNO): *A permanent liaison to headquarters-type units like FEMA, the National Response Command Center, or the Department of Defense.*

Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer (EPLO): *These liaison officers support partner agencies in support of the national response framework, particularly at the FEMA regional office level. They are a direct conduit of information to Coast Guard District and Area Commanders.*



Lt. Zada McClendon, Lt. Lydia Renfrow, and Lt. Cmdr. Andrea Prosser meet DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas in the National Response Coordination Center during Hurricane Idalia.

Photo courtesy Lt. Lydia Renfrow

Agency Representative (AREP): *A Coast Guard member deployed away from a Coast Guard unit or Coast Guard-led incident command post that provides agency representation and coordination with other federal, state, local, tribal agencies, non-governmental organizations and maritime community stakeholders. Some AREPs may be delegated authority by their operational commanders.*

Serving as a Coast Guard liaison officer, you have the opportunity to represent the Service's interests among various stakeholders. The flow of information to operational

and incident commanders to make effective decisions is critical. Liaison officers have deployed to hurricanes, national contingencies, border operations, and coordinated various emergency resources to those in need. They contribute to enhancing the Nation's maritime capabilities and protecting its interests. These are high-visibility positions where you are often the only Coast Guardsmen in the room working on solutions to complex problems for senior officials. Could this be your next opportunity? ≈



In May, Coast Guard Headquarters hosted the 2023 National Coast Guard Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer All Hands with representatives from many Coast Guard Districts and FEMA regions. Attendees had an opportunity to complete liaison qualifications, preparing them to deploy to the next national contingency. (Left to Right): Cmdr. Jeffrey Lamont, Lt. Cmdr. Josiah Toepfer, Capt. Eric Bernstein, Capt. Tiffany Davidson, Capt. Neal Kite, Lt. Cmdr. Paul Raska, retired Capt. William Marhoffer, and Cmdr. Casey Johnson.



Capt. Christopher Anderson, Fifth District Senior Reserve Officer, and Master Chief Michael Rosati, Fifth District Command Master Chief, sit with reservists of Sector Maryland-NCR.

Photos courtesy Coast Guard Sector Maryland-National Capital Region



Enhancing military readiness at Sector Maryland-NCR

Story by Petty Officer 3rd Class Kimberly Reaves

Military readiness involves a state of constant preparedness across all branches of the armed forces. For Coast Guard members, readiness includes frequent training, equipment maintenance and personnel preparedness to provide a rapidly deployable and effective workforce. Maintaining these standards is especially important for reservists as they are repeatedly called upon as force-multipliers in support of Coast Guard contingencies.

In November 2023, Coast Guard Sector Maryland-National Capital Region (NCR) hosted a readiness all-hands to bolster overall deployability and resilience.

Team Sector Maryland-NCR, including Sector and small boat station staff, were able to complete physical health assessments (PHAs), dental exams, triennial civil rights training, and safeTALK (suicide intervention skills coursework)—while also participating in morale events.

While ensuring that our reservists are physically fit is important operationally, mental and emotional readiness is also paramount to the welfare of each individual who serves our country. Cmdr. Jonathan Bernhardt, Sector Maryland-NCR's senior reserve officer (SRO), emphasized the

importance of focusing on both medical and mental health readiness as something other Reserve leaders should model.

“Beyond medical readiness, how can we better equip our reservists to balance family, civilian careers, Coast Guard Reserve duty, and other demands on their time? By ensuring we incorporate morale events and programs like safeTALK into our programming, we’re sending a message that we’re all in this together and here to help one another,” said Bernhardt.

Capt. Christopher Anderson, the Coast Guard’s Fifth District SRO and Master Chief Michael Rosati, the Fifth District command master chief, also demonstrated their commitment to sector personnel by actively engaging in weekend training and visiting with reservists at Station Annapolis and Station Curtis Bay. Both commended our reservists for their valuable insights to enhance the Reserve experience and their dedication to being “Semper Paratus.”

As Coast Guard leadership reflects on the adaptability, capability, and versatility of our reservists, the readiness of the Reserve is not only a state of preparedness; it is a testament to the resilience of these women and men who willingly balance civilian lives with Service to our country.



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Back to Sea

Coast Guard calls upon
reservist's unique skills

ST GUARD

Story by
Chief Warrant Officer Anastasia Devlin,
Personnel Service Center

Photo courtesy Lt. Lydia Renfrow

In the dynamic world of maritime security, the Coast Guard is continuously adapting to emerging mission challenges. It's our reservists that often support those challenges across both active duty- and reserve-centric priorities, because so many of them come with hidden talents.

Over the past few years, Lt. Cmdr. Ryan Kowalske has been the executive officer (XO) of Port Security Unit 309 in Port Clinton, Ohio. As part of the rapid-response expeditionary unit, he supports the PSU's mission of national defense by running drills, planning and executing active duty exercises, and developing the future leaders of the Reserve.

But Kowalske also maintains a set of blue operational dress uniforms, his deck watch officer letter, and a firm connection with the cutter community—spending four tours underway before joining the Reserve in 2013. It's not a requirement, but for Kowalske, a permanent cutterman, the love of being underway is worth the extra effort.

When the call came last October for an opportunity to

support the Coast Guard's Parental Leave Program on a cutter, Kowalske learned about it through his former commanding officer (CO), Cmdr. Brooke Millard, who, 15 years earlier, had been the CO of the Coast Guard Cutter *Grand Isle* while Kowalske was the XO. Millard, the current CO of the Coast Guard Cutter *Bear*, mentioned that personnel shifts were being made in order to afford her XO the chance to spend time with his new baby.

However, Coast Guard Cutter *Legare*, a 270-foot medium endurance cutter, was leaving in a few days' time for a Caribbean patrol, becoming the priority spot to fill.

Legare's commanding officer, Cmdr. Jeremy Greenwood, talked to Millard about a personnel swap.

"She told me when they were at D1 about the innovative things he'd done, things well above his pay grade, so I knew that this was a guy I didn't want to pass up. I talked to him on the phone, and within an hour, he was pulling CGBI reports and info off Direct Access, gathering data for the patrol and thinking of ways to improve our readiness."

Still, Kowalske had to scramble.

Within two days of the call, he verified his short-term critical-fill orders with Coast Guard Atlantic Area, swapped his green Type-III uniform for his ODUs, packed his car, and drove to the *Legare's* homeport in Portsmouth, Virginia.

This assignment was unusual but not unheard of. There haven't been underway billets for reservists in almost two decades, but the opportunity for reservists to get underway on Coast Guard cutters in support of the Parental Leave Program has become increasingly more common.

In the distant past, there had been Reserve billets aboard cutters, but the supporting structures and evolution of the Reserve Component made way for more standardized shore-side assignments for reservists.

Greenwood was still a little cautious; Kowalske came with a strong performance track record, but it had been ten years since he was at sea.

"I knew the PSU program was challenging, and with running a unit that size, he'd come with the requisite XO skills, but for a major cutter like this, I really needed someone who would read the warning signs, the weather, crew fatigue, someone who would give me that operational gut check on the bridge," said Greenwood.

"It's the XO's job to *but, sir* the captain; they're the only ones who can really push back, and I was initially worried he'd been out of the game too long to do that."

When Kowalske crossed the bridge onto *Legare*—trading one XO assignment for another—he was glad to look at the assignment through not just the lens of his command experience, but also with 10 years' worth of



Lt. Cmdr. Ryan Kowalske (left) quickly recertified Underway Deck Watch Officer on the *Legare*.

Photo courtesy Lt. Lydia Renfrow



Lt. Cmdr. Kowalske (right) mentored junior members of the crew aboard the *Legare*

technology industry knowledge and management experience from the private sector.

The crew pulled the ship away from the pier with Kowalske on the bridge, and headed to the Caribbean Sea, beginning a 75-day patrol in support of Operation Vigilant Sentry. Ongoing since 2004, OVS is a joint operation with federal, state, and local partners that exists to protect the safety of life at sea, and to deter and discourage a maritime mass migration.

Thankfully, Kowalske's eight years at sea made the transition easier.

"I realized I didn't have to worry—I was shocked by how operationally engaged he was. He worked with our operations officer to gut check our plans; he immediately requalified as Underway Deck Watch Officer and stood watch with the other officers, learning their styles and developing their skills as cuttermen."

The crew of *Legare* spent much of their time on the

eastern edge of the Florida Straits, off the coast of the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Kowalske easily slipped back into the role of an active-duty XO. Calling on his time from the PSU and his civilian career, Kowalske said his main goal was shifting power to the crew in the middle ranks, encouraging them to take the initiative, even if it risked making mistakes.

"I learned a lot of these things from the PSU world," said Kowalske. "Yes, our chiefs mess is doing a lot of the mentoring, but the E6s and the E5s are running those day-to-day operations. Far too often, we're not empowering them to own those operations. They're the ones who have that corporate knowledge in our Service—I'm not an expert in all things Coast Guard, I'm just here to make sure the CO's intent is achieved safely. Our E5s and E6s are where our strength as a Service is. We did this at the PSU, and it was easy to bring that philosophy over to the cutter world."

Lt. Cmdr. Kowalske (right), points something out to a junior officer from the bridge wing aboard *Legare*.



Photo courtesy Lt. Lydia Renfrow

Greenwood said Kowalske's empowerment of the leading petty officers in the departments was a great contribution to the crew.

During the patrol, *Legare* steamed over 12,000 nautical miles, interdicted one go-fast vessel off the coast of Cap-Haïtien, Haiti, and intercepted 20 migrants making a very dangerous journey.

"The day we intercepted a migrant vessel that refused to heave-to when ordered by the boarding team, he really stepped up for what became a highly intricate surface use-of-force case involving live disabling fire," said Greenwood. "That's the time when the captain has a million things to manage, including briefing up to the appropriate chains of command and ensuring all of the policy requirements are met, so the XO has to step-up and remain hyper focused on the safety of the ship and the operation itself."

"Ryan was like a kid in a candy store," he said. "He immediately went to the bridge and took over coaching the conning officer, put us right in line with the other vessel, got the small boats launched, issued warnings. Turns out, he's an impeccable ship driver and operationally savvy. He hasn't lost a beat."

Throughout the patrol, Kowalske watched the non-rates skillfully lower the small boats in heavy seas, encouraged

the junior officers to try their hand at bringing the *Legare* alongside the pier for mooring evolutions, and gave the maritime enforcement specialists the responsibility of making the plan for embarking migrants. He said the crew appreciated the opportunity to take charge without dreading occasional mistakes.

With issues from technology challenges to personnel policies, Greenwood and Kowalske worked with the crew to trust their own expertise.

"So often the first classes picked up a challenge, ran with it, and presented a solution," said Kowalske. "That's what we want to get to—they're already doing the work, so if we enable them to do some of the decision making, that's a win-win."

Greenwood said that Kowalske's use of technology was a highlight of the trip, especially in one instance.

"The one thing that will outlive him is the major overhaul he did to the in-port watch rotation—it's absolutely the worst part of being a cutterman, in-port overnight duty!" said Greenwood. "On *Legare*, we've rarely been better than a one in five rotation for our most junior people, but [Kowalske] revamped the entire process. He looked at the Atlantic Area's in-port policies, double checked the manuals, identified some cross-qualifications

that needed to happen, and had the crew pick which days they wanted to stand watch. He calculated the best duty schedule using these ridiculously complicated software systems to make sure it was fair, transparent, and generous, and he finally got it down to a one in nine rotation. The crew is never going to forget him for that, that's huge."

Through mentorship in the wardroom and sharing personal stories, Kowalske took time to demonstrate how work-life balance is an important attribute of any successful officer, admitting it's not always easy to be in the military. Greenwood said the crew grew to love their temporary XO, even though he took some ribbing from the crew about not being the typical reservist or XO. Kowalske laughed and took it in stride, especially when their aviation crew asked about the port security insignia on his uniform.

Reservists are a rare sight in both of these communities.

The Coast Guard's cutter fleet is where many men and women do their first four years in the Service without ever seeing, experiencing or knowing what the Reserve is. For most people he met on the *Legare*, it was their first time encountering a reservist; so Kowalske hosted an information night on the Reserve, and more than half the crew attended to learn more.

With Kowalske slated to pin on his new rank of commander this summer, he realizes this may be his last time underway as part of a ship's crew, but he said the time was unforgettable.

"I had a blast [being back underway]," he said of cutter life. "You're figuring it out there by yourself, solving complex problems in austere locations. I missed those times."

In what's definitely an innovative approach to personnel management, the XO's assignment highlights the Coast Guard's commitment to tapping into the diverse skill sets within its ranks and also reflects the ongoing efforts to integrate reservists seamlessly into active-duty roles.

As the Coast Guard continues to adapt and face emerging mission challenges, reservists will play an increasingly vital role in ensuring the safety and security of our waters.

Is there a future for reservists to go underway again? The versatility of the Reserve component has only begun to be uncovered. ≈



Lt. Cmdr. Kowalske (right), a career cutterman, mentored junior officers on navigation and ship driving during his time on the *Legare*.

Photo courtesy Lt. Lydia Renfrow



Shipmate Spotlight

Petty Officer 2nd Class Van Alstyne and a then Petty Officer 3rd Class Williams were partners in their civilian police department and stationed together at PSU 305.

Photo courtesy Petty Officer 2nd Class TJ Van Alstyne

The Best Defense:

Two reservists test their mettle through the sport of boxing

Story by Chief Warrant Officer Anastasia Devlin

In the military, and in the Coast Guard Reserve in particular, the reason for training is so that, when units are in the middle of operations and something unexpected happens, the training they've practiced kicks in, and the response becomes automatic.

For two Coast Guard reservists, this applies to another area: boxing.

Reserve members Chief Warrant Officer Anthony Birds and Petty Officer 2nd Class TJ Van Alstyne have a lot in common. They're athletic with law enforcement backgrounds; they've both gravitated toward careers as educators; they're serving in the Coast Guard Reserve at deployable port security units; and they both love the absolute challenge and thrill of being in the ring against an opponent.

At 25 years of military service and more than a decade in the boxing ring, Birds is a touch more seasoned. His easy going nature and calm demeanor are contagious, and it's easy to see how he'd fare under pressure.

But he didn't gravitate toward the competitive side of

boxing—as an instructor at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Charleston, South Carolina, he only started boxing as a way to keep himself agile and sharp. Frederick Gray, another instructor and former boxer, began training Birds on the basics: stance, footwork, reactions, heavy bag, speed bag.

After a number of years, Birds was getting faster and better, to the point that Gray told him, “You should probably compete.”

“I didn't feel ready,” said Birds, but Gray convinced him otherwise. They decided to give it a shot in one of the local competitions in 2015. He remembered that when he first set foot in the ring, he was nervous.

“Training and actually being in there with someone trying to knock your block off are two totally separate things,” Birds said with a laugh.

“That first round, I was trying to work out my strategy, even though we'd worked on it for weeks,” he said. “It's like a big chess match where you're watching the other person. You're trying to figure out what moves they're making and counter it. Your brain is going a thousand miles an hour trying to decipher all these movements.

Then BAM! I got hit with a big left hook, and I thought, ‘Okay, that one hurt—this is real now.’”

As he prepped with Gray for the second round, the coach reminded him to slow down his breathing and go back to the basics: footwork, defense, use the jab, look for the openings for other shots. Birds used breathing techniques to slow his heart rate down, and he focused on the basics, following the coded guidance Gray fed him from the corner.

He went back to the basics of his training.

“Once I got in the ring and settled down, I started to see the openings,” said Bird. He trusted his training to guide his defense and began to concentrate on his offensive moves.

The rest of the fight felt like a blur to him, but when he had finished three rounds, the referee pulled Birds’ wrist to the air, signaling he’d won.

He’s been in a number of fights since then, but that first match signified something important. For Birds, training is crucial, whether it’s part of his work as a law enforcement instructor, his role as the engineering division officer at Port Security Unit 309, or getting ready for his next fight.

As of press time, Birds was scheduled to compete in the 5th Annual Las Vegas Masters Boxing Championships, and training will be a make or break factor among all of the competitors.

Van Alstyne would agree, but equally important may be the right attitude toward that training.

A born athlete, TJ Van Alstyne had been training with her uncle for the past few years as a boxer, a hobby that would both challenge her and keep her in shape for her work as a police officer with the Norfolk Police Department.

She loved the physical fitness, camaraderie, and working around the community.

Her first law enforcement partner at NPD, Todd Williams, said “I remember meeting her when I was still in the [police] academy, and she told me, ‘Stay tough! I’m looking forward to seeing you out there on the street,’” said Williams. He said Van Alstyne’s good mood and positive energy were her hallmark, as well as her love of a new challenge.

Partners Van Alstyne and Williams responded to police cases during the day and, in their free time, talked about joining the military as a way to continue challenging themselves. They researched which branch would fit them best.

When they decided on the Coast Guard, Williams left for training in January 2020, and



Chief Warrant Officer Anthony Birds emerges victorious after a recent bout.

Photo courtesy Chief Warrant Officer Anthony Birds



Chief Warrant Officer Anthony Birds in the ring during a recent bout. Inset: Official portrait of Chief Warrant Officer Anthony Birds

Van Alstyne followed a few months later. She remembered a tough time during boot camp where she was considering leaving, partly because of the stress, and partly because she was worried about her family back home being without her. She called Williams for his advice. Her LE partner was now a second class machinery technician at PSU 305's waterside division. This time it was Williams who reassured Van Alstyne; he told her it was worth it to stay, and that he'd look out for her family while she was away.

Within a few weeks, she finished training strong and joined PSU 305's shoreside division as a maritime enforcement specialist. As part of her training plan, she noted that one of her goals was to become a boxer within the next few years. During the week, Van Alstyne worked as a police officer, gravitating toward community relations, mentoring and problem solving with other leaders in the community. She kept up her daily workouts, and three evenings per week, she boxed with her uncle, Ras Blessings, known as Coach Big Lion.

"She's a major pillar of this community through her community service and working with the youth," he said, noting that boxing wasn't just about competing, but also about TJ building a legacy and a history. "She's a big advocate for women and the local

community. She's an overall humanitarian."

Williams said that Van Alstyne has the presence that captures people's attention. "I like working with her because when she speaks, people listen. It's like talking to a company commander [at boot camp]. You get dialed in; you listen to what she has to say," he said.

When her unit deployed to support maritime operations as part of Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, she spent time in the boxing gym training for the Olympic trials, under her uncle's remote direction and guidance. In between her time qualifying and standing duty, she was able to concentrate on training, spending time on the basics: footwork, punches, jabs, uppercuts, roadwork, conditioning.

"We always stick with the basics because basics are what can get it done," said Big Lion, noting that Van Alstyne's strength is her defense. "It becomes automatic. You don't have to do anything extraordinary to win in the ring—it's about sticking to the basics."

As she trained in Guantanamo Bay, she couldn't help collecting others along the way.

"She pretty much started up her own boxing group down there [in Cuba] with different branches," said Williams.

“Being way from home and able to focus on my [boxing] training really fueled me. It was nice to be able to build my career and also be around a lot of elite-minded individuals. When everyone around me is great, it’s hard not to be great,” said the 5-foot-3 boxer.

The dynamo has the kind of personality that is constantly—relentlessly—moving forward, and her positivity invites others to advance alongside her. She’s come back from sports injuries, switched her career focus to the field of education, and continued to motivate others in all her communities, even at the PSU. Much of the time, she’s the driving force for shipmates finding compromise, for her students who need motivation or calm, or for ensuring the quieter voices in the room get heard.

It’s a striking contrast to the starkness of the ring when two opponents are facing off; when she’s boxing, Van Alstyne may look like she’s alone, but she’s an example of what it looks like to have a team of people behind you in your corner; they give back that energy that Van Alstyne gives out so freely.

She’s early in her boxing journey compared to Birds, but already competing. (Her people-focused nature stays with her in the ring; according to her uncle, she’s known for checking on her opponents.) Last June, Van Alstyne attended the Olympic trials in Pueblo, Colorado. She didn’t qualify; she said she was sad but, ultimately, undeterred.

“People had put me in a position to get there, helping me pave the way. I felt like I’d let down my community,” she said. “But you have to embrace those moments, because those are destiny moments.”

“We had our eyes on the Olympics but my thing is this: her journey is not about a win or a loss, it’s about the experience,” said Coach Big Lion. “She’s in tune with the experience, and she’s a tough cookie. She’s on the road to greatness.”

She and her uncle are back to training, this time for her pro debut in a career as a professional boxer.

Birds and Van Alstyne have both chosen a challenge that requires both the right training and the right attitude. Focusing on the basics, the training—whether it be for your civilian or military career—can turn the tide in any battle.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Van Alstyne continues to train to maintain top physical fitness for not only her success in boxing, but also her position as a maritime enforcement specialist.

Photo courtesy Petty Officer 2nd Class TJ Van Alstyne



Coast Guard Port Security Unit 311 and U.S. Air Force Reserve Command personnel unload a transportable port security boat from a U.S. Air Force Reserve Command C-17 cargo plane.

Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Anderson

On the move

Restructuring the Port Security Units will aid in growing the Coast Guard Reserve.

**Story by Cmdr. Erin Bennett,
Office of Specialized Capabilities**

The Coast Guard plans to adjust the staffing levels at Port Security Units (PSU) to put more billets where there are people to fill them. Coast Guard leadership will leverage dense population centers to increase the end strength of the Reserve force.

The three-phase plan is already in motion:

- **Phase 1 is happening now:** Transfer unfilled billets from PSUs to other PSUs where those billets can be filled.
- **Phase 2 is in the planning stage:** Stand up a Shoreside Security Detachment in or near New York City.
- **Phase 3 is a few years out:** Establish a PSU in or near New York City.

The Why –

Previously, the Coast Guard structured PSUs as identical force packages. All eight PSUs had the same personnel allowance lists (PAL) and equipment. Because of the differences in populations where PSUs are located, we have unequal PAL fill rates and varying levels of capabilities. To continue growing the Reserve Component, we need to break the one-size-fits-all model of PSUs and maximize large population centers. We will build on the Reserve's FlexPAL and continue to put billets where they can be filled.

New York City, as a large metropolitan area, can be a part of the solution. We need to put a PSU in the New York City area to tap into the large population with a known desire to serve. Creating a PSU will take some time, though, so phases one and two will get the ball rolling.

The plan -

Phase 1 (near-term): The Coast Guard Reserve is moving long-term empty PSU billets to the recruiting hotbeds of central Florida (PSU 307) and Southern California (PSU 311). Four PSUs (308, 309, 312 and 313) have several billets that we have not been able to fill for a while. These vacant billets will be moved to PSUs in locations with a greater likelihood of being filled. The four PSUs losing their long-term vacant billets will maintain the capability to train their assigned personnel.

Much like the FlexPAL concept, Phase 1 moves billets closer to where reservists live to support geographic stability and enable reservists to drill within a reasonable commuting distance. The Office of Specialized Capabilities (CG-721) completed the initial billet reprogramming in November. Reserve Personnel Management and Coast Guard Recruiting Command are now working to fill the billets moved to central Florida and Southern California.

Phase 2 (mid-term): The Coast Guard will stand up a Shoreside Security Detachment in the New York City area. Despite having the greatest concentration of reservists in the nation, the New York City area has limited assignment and recruiting opportunities. Creating a Shoreside Security Detachment there increases opportunities for existing members and new recruits. The Office of Specialized Capabilities (CG-721) is now working to identify a suitable location.

Phase 3 (long-term): We will establish a PSU in the New York City area. This will build on the Shoreside Security Detachment and increase the training capacity in this reserve hotbed.

What this means to you -

Current members at the four PSUs whose PALs have been reduced will not notice much change due to the majority of transferred billets being vacant. Further, these units will retain a FlexPAL training capacity to accommodate reservists in the area. Members at enhanced PSUs can expect to welcome additional shipmates.

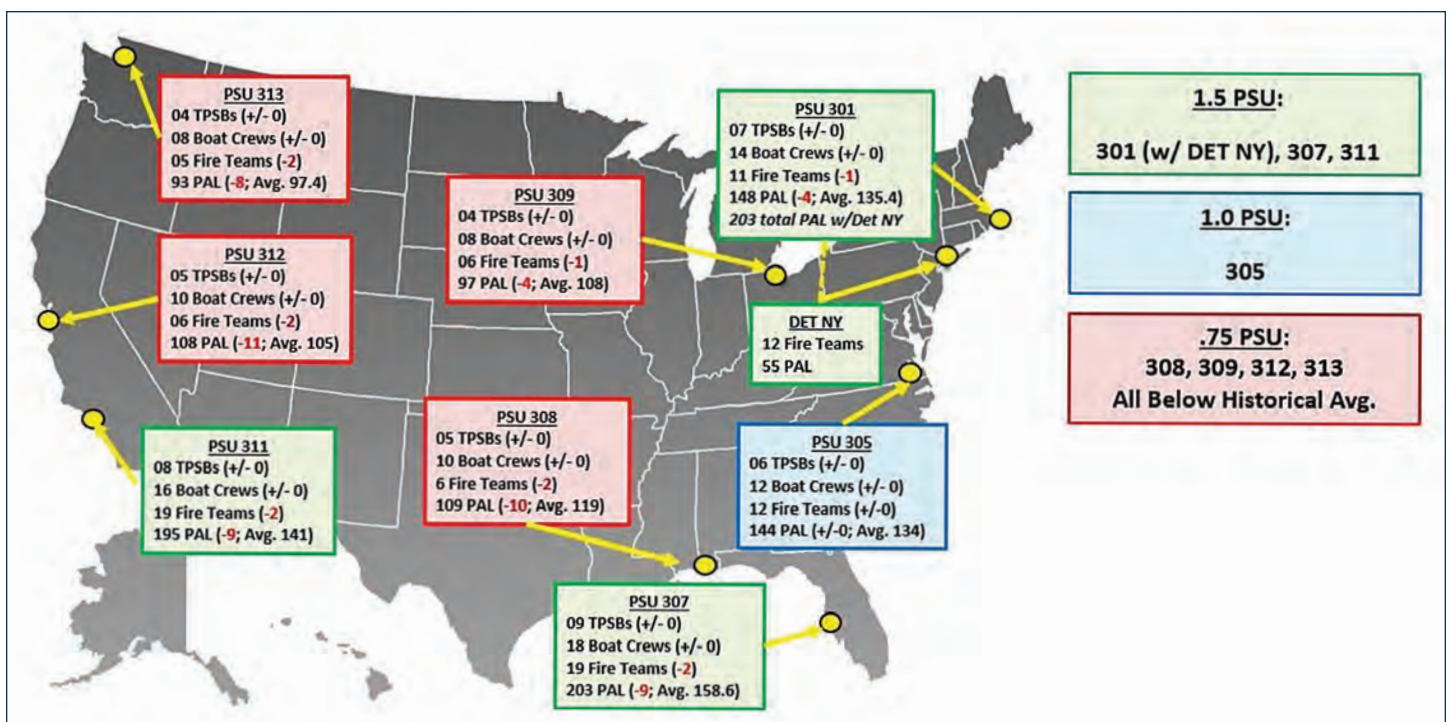
End vision -

We will have all PSUs with their PALs adjusted to a level appropriate for the local population and filled with Coast Guard Reserve Component members. Each of the PSUs will have effective training capacities and readiness standards respective of their new PAL.

We will have:

- **Three large PSUs: Central Florida, Southern California and New York City area.**
- **Five PSUs PALs will be adjusted below their historic fill rate for sustainability. Billets and capabilities may be adjusted over time as populations and recruiting conditions change.**

While the number of billets and amount of equipment will vary between individual units, the total number of PSU billets and aggregate capabilities remain the same. Smaller PSUs will rely on augmentation from enhanced PSUs for operations that require the full complement of PSU capabilities. This provides opportunities for reservists from around the country to participate in large-scale international joint and combined exercises.≈



Update Those Records!

Story by Lt. Charles Conley, Reserve Personnel Management

Nobody should care more about your military record than you! When a member is a candidate before a board or panel, the scrutiny lies within their official Coast Guard Military Human Resource Record. The importance of keeping a record current has been instilled in officers from the genesis of their commissioning. Historically, enlisted members have not had the same training. However, more and more boards and panels are opening for enlisted members, and unfortunately, the records are lacking the majority of their accomplishments.

The Reserve Master Chief Advancement Panel, Command Senior Enlisted Panel, Senior Education and Fellowship Panel, and Chief Warrant Officer Designation are just a few examples of panels that we see enlisted members as candidates. Therefore, it is imperative that enlisted members start to take ownership of their record to ensure they are competitive during a board or panel.

An official military record is a snapshot of a member's career and is the most important tool that board/panel members view when scoring candidates. When evaluating enlisted candidates, board/panel members have access to the candidate's record in iPERMS, their employee summary sheet (ESS), Reserve point statement and their enlisted evaluations.

iPERMS has been a great addition as a tool to manage records within the Coast Guard. A member can log in any time to manage their record and validate its accuracy.

When checking on documents within your iPERMS record, there are items that are particularly useful for boards and panels. For the enlisted workforce, awards and qualification letters are seemingly the most important. For those of us who have been in for quite a few years, the best way to ensure your record is complete is to compare it side by side with your ESS. Make sure your awards and qualifications received from all units are in iPERMS.

If your award is listed on your ESS, it needs to be in iPERMS because the content within the award makes an impact on your evaluation within the board or panel.

Another important document to have in a record is a CG-4082. This is a one-page document used to track items that are not typically

found within a formal record. The CG-4082 is an optional form, but it is an important addition to a member's military record.

It is strongly recommended to use the CG-4082 to document all your significant education, training, and qualifications. There should be an emphasis on items that are not captured on a member's ESS—most commonly are college courses completed while working towards a degree.

Training that is relevant to the Coast Guard is also acceptable on a CG-4082. Be cautious on listing information on the form that references civilian employment—unless there is a direct nexus to the Coast Guard. A candidate cannot be judged on civilian accomplishments when being considered for Service-based boards or panels.

One of the most common phrases from board members is, “Where is their updated 4082?” Having an up-to-date form speaks volumes to board members; it tells them that you care about your record and are placing yourself to be as competitive as possible.

Another often under-used tool is career counseling that Reserve Personnel Management offers throughout the year. Members have done a great job contacting RPM-2 for assignment counseling, but did you know that RPM-1 offers counseling to review records to help the member look as competitive as possible?

Reach out to RPM-1 Boards and Panel Section via email: HQS-SMB-CGPSC-RPM-BoardsPanels@uscg.mil ≈



Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Gary Bena



Retiree Sitrep



Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Ronald Hodges

After 20 years of service, Cmdr. Matthew Cunningham (second from left) retired from the Coast Guard Reserve during a ceremony held at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, Virginia, in May. His shipmates from Joint Staff South, Lt. Col. Susana Marcella, retired commander Sam Alvord, and Cmdr. Brian Dudley, presented him with his shadow box and plaque.

RET-1

(Retired With Pay)

May 2023

LCDR Monica Villegas

July 2023

BM1 Dame Wison
ET1 David Styer

August 2023

CDR Lisa Patricelli

October 2023

CAPT Curtis Shaw
CDR Mark Maser
CDR David Milne
LCDR Cameron Land
ENG4 Pamela Arts-Smith
MSSD3 Alan Bral
ENG2 James Dec

CWO Clayton McBeth
BMCM Mark Vargo
BMCS Lee Hayman
SKCS Kenneth Dupont
SKCS Grace Taylor
BMC Jose Galvan
MKC Jeff Menze
MKC Steven Zsitvay
MSTC James Allendorph
YNC Aaron Hiller
EM1 Byron Taylor
IT1 Errol Zappola
DC3 Miles Donaldson
DC3 Scott Robinson

November 2023

CDR Serena Dietrich
CDR Eric Smallwood
LCDR Reuben Gonzales
BOSN2 Stephen Harnby
IVCM Dale Hickman

PACM Susan Blake
MKCS Robert Goldenberg
IVC James Nanos
GMC Jonathan Tedford
MEC Jose Baltar
MKC James Buck
PAC Janine Wilson
IT1 Stoney Strother
SK1 Jeffrey Combs
YN1 Kathleen Christian
MK2 Cesar Perez

December 2023

CAPT James Johnson
CDR Robert Gillan
CDR Monica Lombardi
LCDR William Ioven
LCDR Michael Lavemchik
MSSR2 Carol Smith
PACM Francis Jennings
ETCS Lawrence Balick

BMC Joseph Danaher
IVC David Pileggi
MSTC Joanne Oliva
OSC Andrew Herman
BM1 John Walsh
MK1 Kevin Palmer
MST1 James Collins
BM2 David Allyn
BM2 Frank Mason

January 2024

CAPT Margaret Blomme
CAPT Davis Teska
MSSD4 David Beasley
BMC Stewart Peters
MSTC Clint Frederickson
MSTC Glenn Vincent
YN1 Ameth Dix
MK2 Mike Sampson
MK2 Roger Watson
BM3 Gerard Gilroy

RET-2

(Retired Awaiting Pay)

April 2023

GM2 Joshua Walker

July 2023

BM1 Kevin Snyder

September 2023

SK2 Sonja Aiken

October 2023

CAPT Kirsten Trego
CDR Christy Curry
CDR Christopher Waugh
LCDR Gregory Fernley
ENG4 Clayton McBeth

ISCM Joe Melton
IVCM Dale Hickman
IVCS Scott Ulsenheimer
BMC Christopher Kingsley
BMC Michael Tredo
BMC Ashley Wolf
MEC Chad Goetzman
MKC Mark Littlepage
MKC William Pearson
MKC Donald Wiggins
MSTC James Benton
MSTC Michael Brennan
MSTC Allen Garneau
MSTC Julia-Ann Kaiser
MSTC Christopher Olson
YNC Stephen Cox
BM1 Michael Massey
MK1 David Fencer

MK1 Brendan O'Connell
MK1 James Warren
OS1 Vanessa Naso
YN1 Patricia Richards
BM2 Michael Doupe

November 2023

CAPT Kimberly Guedry
BMC Eric Baker
BMC Walter Vitou
IVC Joshua Baker
MKC Robert Gamez
PAC Sara Romero
SKC Michael Parrish
ET1 Peter Schmoll
ME1 Walter Griffin
ME1 Nathan Rau
MK1 James Kendall

MK1 Mark Meyer
MST1 Laurie Stempien

December 2023

LCDR Paul Mack
BMC Thomas Hager
EMC Victor Pavone
MSTC Jennifer McGraw
DC1 Roscoe Sorensen
ME1 Adam Krein
ME1 Andrew Makins
DC2 Eric Thompson
IV2 Thomas Forester

Compiled by
YNC Joseph R. McConagle,
USCGR (ret.)



Capt. Bobby C. Wilks

Distinguished aviator, mentor, and minority trailblazer

Story by Beth L. Crumley,
Assistant Historian United States Coast Guard

In the summer of 1963, Lt. Bobby Wilks was flying a HU-16E on a regular patrol near Cay Sal Banks.

Temporarily attached to Air Station Miami, the mission was to search for Soviet Bloc ships headed toward Cuba. Aboard the USS *Mills*, a crisis was emerging. A crewmember was seriously ill and required evacuation by air.

Wilks was rerouted to rendezvous with the naval destroyer. Upon arrival, winds were between 15 and 20 knots. Swells seemed acceptable for landing—except a closer look showed that two wave systems crossed creating five-to ten-foot troughs. Wilks, however, noticed that the wake of the *Mills* calmed the waters.

With flaps down 40 degrees, Wilks made his approach. It was rough, but he landed safely in the wake with no damage to the aircraft. Once the sailor was transferred, Wilks attempted to use the ship's wake for takeoff. He was forced to abort his first attempt. He radioed *Mills* that he would try again. He told his co-pilot they would start with flaps at zero—a non-standard procedure. When he called for flaps, they would be set to 30 degrees and no more. The unconventional approach succeeded. The HU-16E rose in a shower of spray. It was nothing short of brilliant and still remembered today. Because of his skill, a life was saved. But who was this young pilot?

As America struggled with issues of racial inequality and segregation, African American Bobby C. Wilks was breaking



Lt. Bobby Wilks standing in front of a helicopter at Naval Air Station Ellson Field in August 1959. INSET: Official Service photo of Captain Wilks, commander of Coast Guard Air Station Brooklyn.

Photos courtesy Coast Guard Historian

barriers and blazing a trail for minorities.

Born May 12, 1931 in St. Louis, Missouri, Wilks graduated from Sumner High School in 1947. After completing an associate degree from Stowe Teacher's College, he was accepted into the U.S. Naval Academy. Although he attended the Academy for a time, Wilks returned to Stowe to complete his Bachelor of Arts degree in education. In 1954, Wilks completed his master's degree, earned his teaching certificate and began working in the St. Louis Public School system.

Answering the call to serve, Wilks joined the Coast Guard Reserve and attended Officer Candidate School at the Coast Guard Academy in 1955. As a newly commissioned ensign, Wilks received orders to flight school in Pensacola,

Florida. Designated Coast Guard Aviator No. 735 on March 22, 1957, Wilks became the first minority aviator in the Coast Guard.

Coast Guard pilot and aviation historian, John "Bear" Moseley, attended flight school with Wilks. He said that Wilks never spoke about his pioneering role in Coast Guard aviation, adding, "I do not know, of course, what was in his mind, but outwardly our goals were the same-to get our wings and be part of the best damn rescue service in the world." After promoting to lieutenant junior grade, Wilks received another set of orders to helicopter training where he earned the additional designation of Coast Guard Helicopter Pilot No. 343 on September 16, 1959.



Photos courtesy Coast Guard Historian

Photo of Cmdr. Wilks, who served as aviator and Operations Officer at Air Station Barber's Point, Hawaii.

Six weeks later, Wilks was co-pilot in the rescue of Marine Corps Capt. Ray Lowe. The district commander received a letter from Lt. Col. Eldon Railsback of the Marine Air Reserve Detachment, stating, "I wish to extend our warmest thanks to the United States Coast Guard and specifically to Lt. Cmdr. J.E. Nesmith, Lt. B.C. Wilks, and Chief Petty Officer J.A. Accano for their efforts in rescuing him [Lowe] under adverse conditions... The Coast Guard aptly demonstrated that their motto, 'Semper Paratus,' has more than poetic significance."

On July 15, 1960, Wilks was transferred from the Reserve to the regular Coast Guard. He was subsequently assigned to Coast Guard Air Detachment Sangley Point in the Philippines, piloting aircraft on search and rescue missions as well as logistics and resupply missions to Coast Guard LORAN stations.

In 1961, Wilks was assigned to Coast Guard Headquarters for a unique opportunity—speaking with civic leaders and high school officials in an effort to recruit minorities into the Coast Guard Academy. Over a period of seven months, Wilks traveled extensively, speaking about the opportunities presented by attending the Academy. "The Coast Guard Academy... is similar to the other government Academies... but with this important difference—candidates are selected

from a nationwide competitive examination—no political appointments are required, no geographical quotas are prescribed... All it really costs a cadet is the time and energy to devote to his studies there."

In 1965, Lt. Wilks was assigned to Coast Guard Air Station Naples, Italy as the executive officer. Four months later, he was promoted to lieutenant commander, the first recognized African American to surpass the rank of lieutenant. He was considered an excellent aviator, holding the respect and trust of the crew.

Quite obviously, over the course of the first 13 years of his career, Wilks was credited for his abilities in the cockpit and as a leader. Said aviator Dallas Schmidt, "He was one hell of a stick and rudder pilot."

With the exception of his evaluations while working to recruit African Americans into the Coast Guard Academy, his race was never mentioned.

That changed in August 1968 when Wilks was assigned to Air Station Salem, Massachusetts. For the first time in his career, his supervisors questioned his abilities, and indicated that issues were caused by the color of his skin. An Officer Evaluation Report (OER) said, "*Mr. Wilks is the only negro Coast Guard aviator. Consequently, he is frequently utilized as a showpiece by CG Headquarters...*"

His next fitness report proved no better. His OER for the period of Feb. 1, 1969 through July 31, 1969 described Wilks as, “*solid, but undistinguished.*” This, very clearly, is different from his past performance evaluations.

Despite these unfavorable reports, Wilks continued to excel and, on the night of October 8, 1969, launched a search and rescue mission to assist a disoriented student pilot flying from Providence, Rhode Island, to Taunton, Massachusetts. Wilks located the lost aircraft over the Atlantic with fuel running low and guided the student pilot to land safely on shore. On February 19, 1970, Wilks was awarded the Federal Aviation Association’s “We Protect with Pride” plaque for the rescue.

Interestingly, Wilks third and final fitness report at Salem was drastically different than the first two, describing him as, “*a very fine flight safety officer. His written reports have continued to be very excellent and his obvious sincerity [sic] in the program further enhance his performance. It is always a pleasure to see someone develop to a level that is commensurate with his potential, and in this officer, I have seen just that. All in all, an excellent officer, one of the best of his rank presently attached.*”

Several years later, Wilks spoke about these unfavorable reports with a young Petty Officer 2nd Class Vincent W. Patton, who later became the first African American Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard. “Capt. Wilks mentioned how, at times, he was referred to by his color during his evaluations. It wasn’t meant to be positive, at least that’s how he put it to me.” Patton added that Wilks told him how “he had to deal with a CO, and XO that weren’t very happy with his somewhat ‘celebrity status’ as being the senior most African American officer at the time. However, Wilks brushed off the comments/complaints, and saw it as an opportunity to helping others.”

In 1970, Wilks reported to Air Station Barber’s Point, Hawaii, to serve as aviator and chief of operations. On the night of December 9, 1971, the master of a Soviet vessel, located some 116 miles east of Hilo, Hawaii, suffered a heart attack. In gale force conditions, Wilks launched his HH-52A for a medical evacuation. He departed Barber’s Point, encountering strong and steady headwinds enroute to Hilo for refueling. His attempt to rendezvous with the ship was aborted when the Soviet vessel could not be located.

While returning to Hilo, Wilks was made aware that the ship was actually 40 miles beyond the operating range of the aircraft. Despite the dangerous weather conditions, a second attempt was made. The vessel was located, pitching 30 to 40 feet vertically, and rolling heavily. Battling heavy salt spray and a language barrier, Wilks persevered, successfully hoisting the stricken mariner. He was later awarded the Air Medal for the mission. Wilks was also twice recognized with

the Sikorsky Winged “S” Award, awarded for noteworthy rescues with a helicopter.

From 1975 through 1977, Cmdr. Wilks served as the executive officer of Base Governor’s Island, New York. He once confided to a friend that he felt his assignment to the island was part of an effort to curb racial tensions on the island. That is supported in a report written by Capt. C.J. Glass, who said that he “*had the benefit of his [Wilks] views on racial issues on Governor’s Island and in the Coast Guard in general.*” Glass believed that while Wilks would be an excellent choice for an air station commander, he felt that his unique experiences would be of great value in other capacities and recommended that he had excellent potential as a group commander.

In August 1975, Wilks assumed the role of Chief, Search and Rescue Branch, Coast Guard District Three. Glass later wrote that Wilks was “*presently the senior minority black member of the Coast Guard. In this capacity, I think the Coast Guard could not hope for a better model of success.... He has justifiable pride in his accomplishments and a firm conviction that success comes to those who work for it.*”

Master Chief Patton recalled meeting Wilks for the first



An official Coast Guard photograph of Lt. Bobby Wilks early in his Coast Guard aviation career.



Bobby C. Wilks stands in front of a rescue helicopter that he flew while serving as a Coast Guard rescue pilot.



time. “I had the honor of first meeting him in ‘76, just before I went on recruiting duty in Chicago. He was a commander at the time. It was interesting to note that he was the senior ranking African American officer at that time. He was an average size man, but to me, he was bigger than life itself. I was in awe of him, as not only he was the first senior ranking African American officer at that time, but also an aviator...I hung on to every word he said to me, as we talked about goals and vision. He shared with me the challenges, which he was quick to call them opportunities, that he took full advantage of that mapped out his successful Coast Guard career at that time.”

In September 1977, while serving in Coast Guard District Fourteen, Wilks was promoted to the rank of captain. Two years later, Wilks took command of Coast Guard Air Station, Brooklyn, becoming the first minority officer to command an air station. He subsequently earned the Coast Guard Commendation Medal for outstanding service.

Wilks’ final assignment during his Coast Guard career was a liaison officer to the Federal Aviation Administration. There, he was a member of the team that developed the Rotorcraft Master Plan, a document used by the FAA to integrate the helicopter into the National Airspace System.

His final OER states, “*Captain Wilks is an absolutely outstanding officer.*”

In 1986, Captain Bobby Wilks retired from the Service after a career that spanned 31 years. Over the course of that career, he accumulated over 6,000 hours of flight time and was qualified to fly 20 different aircraft. More importantly, Wilks smashed racial barriers and, through his leadership and example, led the Coast Guard to greater diversity. He mentored future leaders like Master Chief Patton and Admirals Errol Brown and Manson Brown.

Capt. Wilks passed away in 2009, at the age of 78. When his wife, Aida, called his longtime friend, retired commander Dallas Schmidt, to deliver the sad news, she added that the last words spoken by Wilks were of his friend. Schmidt asked, “The beers I owed him?” “No,” replied Mrs. Wilks, “Dallas let me fly under the Brooklyn Bridge.”

Despite his remarkable career, it was a poignant memory of flying with a friend that formed his final words.

Capt. Bobby Wilks was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery with friends, those he mentored and served with, and Coast Guard leadership in attendance. Today, his legacy continues to inspire those who choose to serve and continue the long blue line. ≈



A photo of Lt. j.g. Bobby Wilks posing in front of an HU-16E “Albatross” fixed-wing amphibian aircraft in March 1959.



The Reserve boatcrew assisting at Station Marathon, BMCS Joseph Pizzigno, BMC Christopher Sweet, BM1 Christopher Vincent, and EM1 Ross Hughes



Reservists Assisting at Station Marathon

Story by Chief Petty Officer Bradley Rey

We currently have a group of reservists operating out of Station Marathon while assigned to the Operation Vigilant Sentry Incident Management Team. The IMT operates as part of Homeland Security Taskforce-Southeast, a multi-agency force composed of federal, state, and local law enforcement entities. The OVS IMT at Station Marathon was activated in response to the biggest surge in irregular maritime migration across the U.S. southeast border in decades. The Coast Guard's primary mission as part of the inter-agency effort is to save lives, while supporting the enforcement of U.S. maritime law and policy. HSTF-SE crews work to deter and prevent entry of irregular migrant ventures into the U.S., by removing migrants from unsafe, unseaworthy vessels, and repatriating them to their country of origin or departure, regardless of their nationality. Reservists have been essential to the mission, filling positions on the front lines such as response boat medium coxswains, engineers, boarding officers, boarding team members. ≈



Medals & Awards

Meritorious Service Medal

LCDR Lauren Linville

Joint Service Achievement Medal

CDR Jennifer Osetek

CG Commendation Medal w/O

BM2 Thomas Gargiulo
CDR Emir Holmes
CDR Jennifer Luik
ITCS Scott Weatherholt
LCDR Kimberly Maginn
LTJG Robert Fiorenza
MEC Dwight Arrowood
MST3 Jesse Dillon
MSTC Joseph Cronin

CG Commendation Medal

BM2 Thomas Gargiulo
BMCS John Lawton
CAPT Ann Mcspadden
CDR Brian Dudley
CDR Kevin Crews
CDR Lucy Courtney
EMC Jeremy Olson
ENG2 Joshua Dalton
IS1 Cole Vryens
ITC Luke Walton
LCDR Kevin Kuhn
LCDR Michael Barker
ME1 Joseph Dellamura
MKCM Eric Engles
PERS3 Jeremy Bloom
SK3 Raistlin Waterhouse
YNC Lisa Aviles
YNC Robert Webb

CG Achievement Medal w/O

AET3 Connor Denmark
AMT2 Jaime Delacruz
BM1 Colin Stoddard
BM1 Falcon Piner
BM1 Kristopher Young
BM1 Samuel Smith
BM1 William Zulueta
BM2 Brandon Hunt
BM2 Kyler Trouten
BM2 Matthew McMahon
BM2 Peter Arico
BM2 Thomas Morrissey
BMC Gregory Sadowski
BMC Joshua Jekielek
BMC Michael Gavola
BMCS Steven Grant
BOSN2 John Brooks
CDR Kent Catlin
DC2 Jared Linden
DC2 Kenneth Marrero
ENG2 Jolene Scarlett
ENS Eric Basek
ENS Joseph Borger
ETC Nickoles Hill
GMC Joshua Dower
GMC Nicholas Sturges
INV3 Jonathan Oakes
IT1 Gerald Hall
IV2 Joseph Whiteman
LCDR Clark Maxwell
LCDR Gino Barletta
LCDR Ryan Kowalske
LCDR Shawn Faulkner
LT Douglas Ford
LT Luke Charette
LT Robert Vannice
ME1 David Kelley
ME1 Henry Plante
ME1 Kyle Gorham
ME1 Robert Ward
ME1 Stephen Kamb

ME2 Adam Madore
ME2 Stephen Heckly
ME2 Theodore Gravel
MEC David Krikorian
MEC Megan Boelens
MEC Patrick Schoch
MECS Andrew Lieberwirth
MK1 Chase Amerson
MK2 Christopher Mevicker
MK2 Fernando Avilestorres
MK2 Grant Putala
MKC Anthony Schwister
MST1 Amanda Boone
MST1 Thomas Houston
MST2 Joshua Sagona
MST2 Nicholas Phillips
MST3 Chelsea Payne
MSTC Melanie Quintana
SK3 Taylor Prouse
YN1 Ecaterina Antonov
YN2 Alyssa Hann
YN3 Cherry Sagun
YNC Scott Edwards

CG Achievement Medal

BM1 Lowell Belany
BMC Blake Tindall
CDR Mitchell Otey
CDR Travis Thul
DCC John Elwoodx
GM1 Natalie Dings
HS1 Alexandria Chretien
HS1 Neil McCarthy
HS2 Allen Vandenbrink
HS2 Andrew Pelchar
HS2 Cayley Miller
HSCS Nathaniel Puchala
IS2 Anaid Ralatnazario
IT2 Samuel Bryant
ITC Jesse Luke
LCDR Ariana Mohnke
LCDR Karol Garrison
LT Adam Radpour
LT George Nakoa
LT James Crone
LT Nathan Wilson
LT Neena Santiago
LT Stacy Urreola
LTJG Elizabeth Vanrensselaer
LTJG John Ridgeway
LTJG Miles Rico
LTJG Richard Best
ME2 Rachel Longfellow
MEC John Gogul
MEC John Pfahler
MK1 John Rhodenhizer
MK2 Elizabeth Jones
MK2 Nathan Severance
MK3 Gary Spotswood
MKC Matthew Harding
MSSR2 Daniel Schultz
MST1 Thomas Houston
MST1 Wesley Maddock
MST2 Linnhe Svensson
MSTC David Mastro
OS1 Christina Smith
OS1 Rebecca Sadriyev
OS1 Sean Macbride
OSCM Georgina Smith
PA1 Michael Himes
PA2 Laticia Sims
YN1 Amy White
YN1 Karl Spiesman
YN2 Oshane Ebanks
YN3 Cherry Sagun
YNC Ramon Hernandez
YNCS Stacy Reid

CG COMDT Letter of Commendation

AET3 Connor Denmark
BM1 Andrew Kanagy
BM1 Brock Torre
BM1 Christiana Conover
BM1 James Mcdonough
BM1 Kirsten Smith
BM1 Michael Jones
BM1 Tyler Luthy
BM2 David Estrada
BM2 Dylan Duffy
BM2 Eddie Toledo
BM2 Ethan King
BM2 Rashard Stephens
BM2 Ryan Chandler
BM2 Stephen Allwine
BM3 Daniel Ortiz
BM3 Jordon Rosell
BM3 Ronald Lee
BM3 Stephanie Filgueiras
BM3 Steven Scharf
BMC Alexander Rau
BMC Clint Davis
BMC Dane Gilli
BMC James Lane
BMC Johan Ulloa
BMC Joshua Jekielek
BMC Kane Sprague
BMC Michael Austin
BMCM Duncan Campbell
BMCS Bryan Mastrangelo
BMCS Glen Sefcik
CDR Todd Remusat
CS2 Jonathan Brown
EM3 Jacob Bouknight
ENS Cornell Richards
ENS Eric Basek
ENS Nicholas Anastasia
GM1 Quintes Brooks
GM2 Christopher Scott
HS3 Monica Roman
IS1 Shawn Bittner
IS2 Javier Alvarezkuan
IT2 Raphael Ferraz
IT3 Michael Warner
IV2 Johnronald Seumanutafa
LCDR Catherine Paris
LCDR Jason Wolner
LCDR Michael Carney
LT Anthony Emanuele
LT Matthew Bowling
LT Matthew Clomera
LT William Briscoe
LTJG George Fuste
LTJG Michael Barth
LTJG William Bryan
ME1 Christopher Vervooren
ME1 Eric Farley
ME1 Gregory Royal
ME1 Ian Lundell
ME1 Neil Leahy
ME1 Stanley Andriski
ME2 Adam Madore
ME2 Bairon Gomez
ME2 Brian Gardiner
ME2 Collin Oconnor
ME2 Dalton Burton
ME2 Derick Riveraroman
ME2 Dich Coles
ME2 Edward Resh
ME2 Hunter Wick
ME2 Madison Hess
ME2 Mark Hamilton
ME2 Michael Nass
ME2 Priscilla Almaraz
ME2 Victor Sternberg
MEC Cesar Umali
MEC Michael Rivera
MEC Robert Enever

MEC Ryan Holmquist
MEC Valerie Hofer
MECS Christopher Schwerin
MECS Jonathan Simmons
MK1 Keith Barrios
MK1 Kyle Leroux
MK1 Michael Dalager
MK1 Travis Doolittle
MK2 Holden Green
MK2 Jordan Randall
MK2 Jordan Wooten
MK2 Randy Dollar
MK2 Todd Williams
MK2 Triston Link
MK3 Andrew McCloskey
MK3 Elvis Perez
MK3 Jeremiah Stewart
MKC Rebecca Domeier
MKC Richard Dodge
MKC Vincent Petracc
MLES2 John Shaw
MSSR2 Chad Boyd
MST1 Lori Trammell
MST1 Lucas Loe
MST2 Kai Seixas
MST3 Paetyn Parman
MSTC Brian Mangum
MSTC Jessye Buswell
MSTC Nicholas Carr
MSTC Stephanie Daley
PA2 Katharine Lipe
PAC Elizabeth Bordonel
PAC Lisa Ferdinando
SK1 Hector Serrano
SK2 Jin Maldonado
SK2 Kristine Jenkinsvega
SK3 Makenzy Hudock
SN Furkan Akyuz
SN Jared Kimbrough
SN Louis Hanni
SN Matthew Chybinski
YN1 Aaron Walsh
YN1 Karl Spiesman
YN1 Khara Tolson
YN2 Laysha Johnson
YN2 Sheila Labrecque
YN2 Victoria Schnicke
YN2 William Nicholas
YN3 Sarah Dykes
YNC Jessica Tomsic
YNC Joseph Hutsell

CG Meritorious Unit Comm Ribbon

BMC Justin Angel
BMC Matthew Cole
CDR Eric Marfull
CMS2 Adam Brendgard
CMS2 Ian Johnson
CS1 Blake Baldwin
CS1 Jason Schroeder
CS2 Devin Leybahr
CS2 Victoria Conner
DC1 Bennett Olsson
DC1 Conor Schwilke
DC2 Jaquob Henry
DC3 Blake Blankenship
EM2 Andrei Negrila
EM3 Austin Meyer
ENG2 Anthony Birds
ENS Christopher Cappelletti
ET1 James Peacock
ET2 Marinelly Rodriguezvillanueva
ET2 Mckenzie Huff
ET3 Jared Albright
ETC Michael Andersen
GM1 Anthony Bianco
HS1 Marten Zagunis
HS2 Gregory Likhachev
HS3 Mason Nakamura

HS3 Syazwani Sowinski
HSC Beth Mcomber
IT1 Brian Aebi
IT2 Amanda Lassiter
IT2 Samuel Bryant
ITC Vincent Castaldi
LT Andrew Heesacker
LT David Lieberman
LT Katrina Dreier
LTJG Rafael Allen
MAT2 Korrena Fuentes
ME1 David Bellville
ME1 Justin Anderson
ME1 Mohammad Aziz
MK1 Ashley Rich
MK1 Brandon Hoke
MK1 Manuel Mercado
MK1 Reid Stollberg
MK1 Virgilio Garcia
MK2 Brevik Hansen
MK2 Erik Rhyne
MK2 Jack Harris
MK2 Justin Lee
MK2 Megan Platsis
MK2 Richard Armas
MK2 Scherie Gonzalezdeleon
MK2 Tedd Meinersmann
MK2 Trevor Atkinson
MK3 Jason Batt
MK3 Lukas Moore
MKC Adam Chittick
MKC Brenton Glassgen
MKC Nicholas Markle
MKC Noah Vogeli
MKC Robert Artac
PERS2 Nita Whitman
SK1 Ryan Brooks
SK2 David Rolniak
SN Emilio Acosta
YN1 Logan Allison
YN1 Rachel Devries
YN2 Amie Bliss
YN2 Richmond Amponsah
YN3 Jonathan Berriosoto
YNC Catherine Schmidt

CG Meritorious Unit Comm w/O

BM1 Jason Brown
BM1 Jonathan Porter
BM1 Samuel Smith
BM2 Eric Davis
BM2 Jedediah Defee
BM2 Matthew McMahon
BM2 Ryan Chandler
BM3 Ashley Hester
BMC Christopher Zonsius
CS2 Jonathan Brown
EM2 Blaine Tucker
EM2 Thomas Penney
EM3 Kalyin Borah
GM1 Quintes Brooks
IS2 Joseph Dehmer
LCDR Alissa
LT Scott Boyd
LTJG Alberto Claudio
LTJG Natalie Arroyo
LTJG Rafael Allen
ME1 Alexander Correa
ME1 Jonathan Cruzsepulveda
ME1 Martin Crew
ME1 William Bollenback
ME1 Zachary Butterfield
ME2 Ethan Cates
ME2 Garrett Coltham
MEC Michael Burch
MECM Bradley Clair
MK2 Joshua Lloyd
MKC Buford Burke
MKC Matthew Ashton

MKC Stephon Bryanjames
OS2 Ryan Carden
SK2 Kyrah Cyganiewicz
SN Catherine Boose
YN1 Ashley Choiniere

**CG Meritorious Team
Comm w/O**

BM1 Amanda Scott
BM1 Brendan Whelan
BM1 Brett Adams
BM1 Charles Hartman
BM1 Daniel Sarzynski
BM1 James Reeves
BM1 Jorge Gomez
BM1 Kyle John
BM1 Walter Jesuncosky
BM2 Austin Perkins
BM2 Brendan Charles
BM2 Carl Taurisano
BM2 Christopher Overland
BM2 Eddie Toledo
BM2 Jedediah Defee
BM2 Jessica Rodriguez
BM2 Kyle Harty
BM2 Nathan Gingerich
BM2 Paul Stryker
BM2 Steven Thompson
BM2 Thomas Morrissey
BM2 Townsend Godfrey
BM3 Brian Osmer
BM3 Casey Colleran
BM3 Daniela Pacheco
BM3 Noah Navarro
BM3 Rachel Brookover
BM3 Vrock Hartwig
BMC Brian Golden
BMC Ignacio Sanchez
BMC Jason Zito
BMC Jordan Gere
BMC Justin Angel
BMC Kristopher Bales
BMC Matthew Pelzl
BMC Roberto Grano
BMCS Christopher Bentley
CAPT Becky Jones
CS2 Larry Gillam
EM2 Tijeah Parris
IS2 Christopher Hebert
IS2 Preston Dodson
LCDR Benjamin Gross
LCDR Michael Carney
LT Barrett Moorhouse
LT Daniel Chelemer
LT David Viray
LT Jake Mcallister
LT Mackenzie Hannon
LT Matthew Bowling
LT Matthew Clomera
LT Nicole Donnellon
LTJG Hector Fajardo
LTJG Kyron Nuckols
LTJG Phillip Garcia
ME1 Bradley Essary
ME1 Brian Wolf
ME1 Daniel Kaltenbach
ME1 Erik Mireles
ME1 Gregory Lepre
ME1 Jacob Clark
ME1 John Flores
ME1 Nathan Cook
ME1 Raymond Singleton
ME1 Tyler Heinz
ME1 Yaacov Beilin
ME2 Brandon Miramontes
ME2 Christopher Boatwright
ME2 Daniel Jefferson
ME2 Derick Riveraroman
ME2 Donald Rathje
ME2 Hector Chaidez
ME2 Justin Kowalczyk
ME2 Kenneth Fisher

ME2 Michael Nass
ME2 Michael Solomon
ME2 Miguel Kanemotourias
ME2 Peter Tiemann
ME3 Clark Brown
MEC Fernando Olvera
MEC Michael Haber
MECS John Oh
MECS Nicholas Hilarczyk
MK1 Cameron Fielder
MK1 Taurean Cooper
MK2 Arturo Hernandez
MK2 Javier Henao
MK2 Joshua Say
MK2 Savannah Ashburn
MK2 William Carlton
MK3 Jason Batt
MKC Henry Park
MKC John Ebert
MKC Stephon Bryanjames
MKC Vincent Petracco
MST1 Derek Richburg
MST1 Thomas Marcoux
MST2 Bruce Worcester
MST2 David Wagner
MST2 Scott Pohlars
MST2 Teresa Barrios
MST2 William Chen
MSTC Jessye Buswell
PA3 Jamie Emery
SN Anthony Wright
SN Matthew Chybinski
SN Nathan Koch
YN1 Jessica Shingleton
YN1 Mirralle Bennett

**CG Meritorious Team
Comm Ribbon**

BM1 Alfredo Quizhpi
BM2 Brady Lombard
BM3 Gavin Cottrell
BMC Justin Angel
BMCS Daniel Stoner
BOSN2 John Brooks
CAPT Becky Jones
CAPT Tiffany Davidson
CDR Brian Dudley
CDR Danielle Dash
CDR Edmund Parvin
CDR Ronald Epperson
CS1 Jacki Foss
CS1 James Mclean
CS2 Samuel Broyles
CSC Jason Selph
CSC William Doetzer
DC1 James Lovelace
DC2 Brian Burke
DC2 Jared Linden
DC2 Nicholas Cromie
DC3 Aidan Gilbride
EM1 James Dunlap
EM1 Jamie Hudson
EM1 Jere Chavez
EM1 Sharif Mccall
EM2 Shawn Reed
ENG2 Jolene Scarlett
ET1 Elijah Rodriguez
GM2 Christina Gatej
GM3 Joshua Rockowitz
GMC Nicholas Sturges
GMCS Jason Bal
IS1 Kirby Groves
IT2 Amos Sudduth
IT2 Travis Loomis
IV2 Eduard Ochoa
IVCS Ernesto Torres
LCDR Jonathan Lee
LCDR Michael Storino
LCDR Noelle Kitenko
LCDR Paul Gracey
LCDR Sara Conrad
LT Angelica Brooks

LT Bradford Honeycutt
LT Douglas Ford
LT James White
LT Jenny Lowd
LT Mackenzie Hannon
LT Matthew Clomera
LT Nicolas Herbert
LT Ryan Burns
LT Ryan Thomas
LT Sara Cole
LTJG Bryan Cvangros
LTJG Christopher Richards
LTJG Lauren Altman
LTJG Nathan Joyce
LTJG Shane Haupt
ME1 Jeremy Bousman
ME1 Justin Anderson
ME1 Keith Teehan
ME1 Mohammad Aziz
ME1 Nicholas Trelawney
ME1 Timothy Serdar
ME2 John Nelson
ME2 Raymond Gilbert
ME3 Eric Hunt
MEC Arturo Hernandez
MEC Brian Peters
MEC Dwight Arrowood
MEC Megan Boelens
MEC Ryan Holmquist
MEC Timothy Hannan
MECS Nicholas Hilarczyk
MECS Timothy Lieb
MK1 Cameron Fielder
MK2 Richard Armas
MK2 Spencer Mayfield
MK2 Trevor Atkinson
MSSR2 Chad Boyd
MST1 Braedon Burleson
MST1 Christopher Parker
MST1 Kendra Roe
MST1 Matthew Hensley
MST1 Yevgeniy Kislov
MST2 Dustin Phabmixay
MST2 George Huss
MST2 Heather Walker
MST2 Ilene Doyle
MST2 Jacob Malkowski
MST2 Jared Eavey
MST2 Julian Pedraza
MST2 Michael Liebl
MST2 Thomas Simon
MST2 Tyler Maddox
MST3 Kayden Washer
MST3 K. Kornegaygober
MSTC Benjamin Colbert
MSTC Joseph Wilson
MSTCM Alexander Jansen
OS2 Lance Sobel
PERS3 Jeremy Bloom
POCM Richard Adams
RDML Franklin Schaefer
SK1 Eric Brock
SKC Jessica Valdes
YN1 Jason Myers
YN2 Jack Grahl
YN2 Jermiarion Sykes
YN2 S. Maldonadotorres
YN3 Sarah Dykes
YN3 Tataannie King

CG Good Conduct Medal

BM1 Matthew Medlin
BM1 Rachael Greene
BM2 Brandon Hunt
BM3 Jonathan Beebe
BM3 Kevin Ashley
BMC Brent Williams
CMS1 Samson Keiserarent
DC2 Alexa Fontanamoroni
EM1 Robin Cabilao
ET2 Andrew Wyzard
ET2 Leland Mushrall

GM2 Hayden Robinson
GM2 Robert Clark
HS2 Andrew Pelchar
IS2 David Penafiel
IS2 Zamil Schweigert
ME1 Davier Johnson
ME1 George David
ME1 John Cullen
ME1 Michael Epperly
ME2 Andrew Sachs
ME2 Jesse Coulter
ME3 Erik Hawthorne
MEC Jason Hooker
MECS Gregory Zieminski
MK1 Aaron Baker
MK1 Edward Schwager
MK1 Weston Alley
MK2 Jeremy Hunt
MK2 Jordan Wooten
MK2 Lindsey Larsen
MK2 Luis Medinaduran
MK2 Nathan Severance
MK3 Cody Holt
MKC Jeffrey Valas
MST2 Rbenjamin Sanker
OSC Stephen Botelho
SK1 Aaron Ellis
SK1 Eric Brock
SK1 Katherine Hogg
SK2 Alex Grenier
SK2 Loida Cruz
SK3 Andrew Miller
SKC Justin Masserini
YN2 Landon Smith
YNCM Leon Troy
YNCS David Ringle
ISC Zackery Niece
LCDR Matthew Monahan
LT Brant Nugent

**CG Reserve Good Conduct
Medal**

BM1 Andrew Kanagy
BM1 Andrew Kanagy
BM1 Anthony Reynolds
BM1 Emily Staton
BM1 Jake Rorabeck
BM1 Jakob Blass
BM1 Jesse Adams
BM1 Joseph Anthony
BM1 Julian Garcia
BM1 Kenji Hatch
BM1 Kyle Rahn
BM1 Nicholas Borg
BM1 Ryan Adkins
BM2 Anthony Hardesty
BM2 Daniel Antonison
BM2 Nicholas Hardesty
BM2 Rowland Marsh
BM3 Dalton Locklear
BM3 John Whitfield
BM3 Liam Gannon
BM3 Matthew Barabas
BM3 Vrock Hartwig
BMC Anthony Sesa
BMC Ignacio Sanchez
BMC James Bradley
BMC James Merten
BMC Justin Rohrbacher
BMC Matthew Stonequist
BMC Michael Austin
BMC Ryan Saporito
BMC Wesley Koran
BMC William Pless
CS1 Kevin Bernier
CSC Bradley Hackett
CSCS Caleb Haynes
DC1 Anthony Misericordia
DC1 Christopher Blount
DC1 Colin Thurston
DC1 Theodore King
DCC John Elwood

EMC Kyle Nevin
EMCS Chance Rupe
ET1 Lewis Therrien
ET2 Preston Remy
ET3 Andrew McGowan
ETC Meghan Garrison
GM2 Carly Manning
GM2 Sean Allen
HS1 Brett Monson
HS1 Kyle McGann
HS3 Vincent Artero
IS1 Bret Perchaluk
IS2 Dominique Nortonen
IT2 Joseph Ferguson
IV1 Jeffrey Beshore
IV1 Patrick Crowley
IVC Thomas Swanson
IVCM Anthony Lewandowski
ME1 Anthony Lepre
ME1 David Valdez
ME1 James Blume
ME1 Jeffrey Gagnon
ME2 Daniel Rinell
ME2 Humberto Arias
ME2 Jacob Higginbotham
ME2 Josef Singer
ME2 Jude Ascura
ME2 Justin Bossard
ME2 Peter Kalpas
ME2 Victor Arreola
ME3 Brodrick Jones
MEC Odney Belfort
MEC Ricky Justus
MEC Timothy Robertson
MECS Dustin Johnson
MK1 Craig Ross
MK1 Derek Faver
MK1 Ivan Aceves
MK1 Jason Armstrong
MK1 Nathaniel Parsons
MK1 Noah Jackman
MK1 Zachary Kelley
MK2 Jeremy Stalnaker
MK2 Marcus Weigle
MK2 Samuel Buskirk
MK3 G. Dominiccigarcia
MK3 Matthew Achey
MKC Buford Burke
MKC Peter Kastritsios
MST1 Christopher Elcassabgui
MST1 Katherine Andreozzi
MST1 Kirstin Thompson
MST1 Melissa Sprout
MST1 Mitchell Countryman
MST1 Samantha Smith
MST1 Wayne Kung
MST1 William Poulos
MST2 Bradley Fischer
MST2 Eric Bishton
MST2 George Huss
MST2 Holly Hugunin
MST2 Jose Gutierrez
MST2 Shao Ngsothmayd
MST2 Zachary Shain
MST3 Francisco Moreno
MST3 Meghan Perkins
MSTC Joseph Cronin
OS2 Rachel Brusich
OSC Matthew Holt
POCM Richard Adams
SK1 Adam James
SKC Steven Heimes
YN1 Khara Tolson
YN1 Kinjal Mistry
YN1 Ronald Renderos
YN1 Twila Chun
YN2 John Alvarado
YN2 Maranda Kindt
YN2 Terrance Thornburg
YNC Edward Weindel
YNCM Leon Troy

**CG Special Ops Service
Ribbon**

BM1 Brandon Lum
BM1 Caio Guidovegner
BM1 Christopher Scanzano
BM1 Christopher Vincent
BM1 Diego Parera
BM1 Jacob Heringer
BM1 Jennifer Barrington
BM1 Jorge Gomez
BM1 Kody Cundy
BM1 Lowell Belany
BM1 Mark Daly
BM1 Michael Provo
BM1 Nickolas Wilkinson
BM1 Rachael Greene
BM1 Robert Capiro
BM1 Scott Logan
BM1 Shane Hosler
BM1 Steven Pinney
BM1 Thomas Battaglia
BM1 Tyler Luthy
BM1 William Zulueta
BM2 Alan Jageman
BM2 Andres Alzategomez
BM2 Anthony Reina
BM2 Benjamin Gantman
BM2 Donald Roberts
BM2 Gordon Walker
BM2 Jakob Bradley
BM2 Kyle Smith
BM2 Martin Vazquezbriones
BM2 Meghan Petersen
BM2 Sean Holmes
BM2 Shane Holden
BM2 Thomas Morrissey
BM2 Vickie Kwong
BM3 Adam Lucero
BM3 Angela Robertson
BM3 Ashley Hester
BM3 Dean Schultz
BM3 Dennis Simmons
BM3 John Raffa
BM3 John Sullivan
BM3 Julio Jean
BM3 Kalei Iskades
BM3 Marisa Hansen
BM3 Michael Epifano
BM3 Michael Panos
BM3 Nicholas Martinez
BM3 Ronald Lee
BM3 Samuel Watson
BM3 Stephanie Becerra
BM3 Steven Hochman
BM3 Zedadiah Redd
BMC Adam Ferguson
BMC Adam Kraft
BMC Anthony Vu
BMC Christopher Jones
BMC Clay Davis
BMC Gabriel Gil
BMC Ignacio Sanchez
BMC Joaquin Mercado
BMC Jonathan Shine
BMC Joseph Butleriii
BMC Kristopher Bales
BMC Matthew Born
BMC Matthew Duran
BMC Richard Vidal
BMC Ryan Halla
BMCM Duncan Campbell
BMCM Michael Rosati
BMCM Nicholas Bernice
CAPT Becky Jones
CAPT Joanna Higel
CAPT Karl Hansen
CAPT Regina Adams
CAPT Ronzelle Green
CDR Benjamin Lehrfeld
CDR Edmund Parvin
CDR Elisabeth Dorrian
CDR Ernest Brown

CDR Greg Loveless
CDR Jeffery Yoder
CDR Julie Padgett
CDR Michael Bowman
CDR Michael Dixon
CDR Pablo Prado
CSI Anthony Kraus
DC2 Christian Gonzales
DC2 Eric Madrid
DCC Tomas Kaselionis
EM1 Ross Hughes
EM3 Timothy Lester
EMC Shawn Knight
ET1 Gregory Vasquez
ET2 Andrew Wyzard
ET3 David Quenville
GM1 Vincent Tang
GM3 Henry Robbins
HS1 Alexandria Chretien
HS1 Cole Olvera
HS1 Neil Mccarthy
HS1 Rodica Voinovan
HS1 Shelby Zaborowski
HS2 Allen Vandenbrink
HS2 Ian Munger
HS2 Johnathan Alter
HS3 Andrew Stempki
IS2 Anaid Ralatnazario
IS2 Andrew Murdoch
IS2 Elijah Norris
IS2 Javier Alvarezkuan
ISC Katlin Standiford
ISS2 Carol Corley
ITCS Sean Gauslin
IV1 Ernest Brown
IV1 Javier Diaz
IV1 John Keeley
IV1 Matthew Haley
IV1 Robert Howe
IVC Thomas Swanson
LCDR Eileen Tomasiak
LCDR James Perdue
LCDR Jeffrey Miller
LCDR Julio Tupacyupanqui
LCDR Keifer Wells
LCDR Logan Huffman
LCDR Mary Morgan
LCDR Pamela Tirado
LCDR Robert Hiatt
LCDR Sarah Scheaffer
LCDR Stonie Carlson
LT Adam Radpour
LT Adam Schmid
LT Anthony Konecni
LT Brandon Towle
LT Brant Nugent
LT Dylan Cook
LT Eda Wu
LT Eric Roberts
LT Jacob Joseph

LT James Lee
LT Joshua Mankowski
LT Kayla Aird
LT Mackenzie Hannon
LT Nell Turley
LT Omar Duketinson
LT Shaina Moore
LT Todd Pagel
LTJG Alberto Claudio
LTJG Arthur Noeldechen
LTJG Bryan Ochoadiaz
LTJG Cyril Ozhuthual
LTJG Daniel Garcia
LTJG Jean Jeanlouis
LTJG Jordan Steverman
LTJG Justin Hattersley
LTJG Katherine Oconnor
LTJG Michael Barth
LTJG Miles Rico
LTJG Nathanael Kruse
LTJG Peter Kupfer
LTJG Philip Kiley
LTJG Robert Canham
LTJG Shane Haupt
LTJG Tate Smith
LTJG William Bryan
LTJG Yaphet Morales
MAT2 Ramon Bernal
ME1 Aaron Fore
ME1 Christopher Johnson
ME1 Daniel Kaltenbach
ME1 David Valdez
ME1 Eduardo Rodriguez
ME1 Glenn Springston
ME1 Gregory Grogan
ME1 Jacob Clark
ME1 James Blume
ME1 John Flores
ME1 Joshua Boedecker
ME1 Oleg Lazakovich
ME1 Raymond Singleton
ME1 Robert Hess
ME1 Ryan Rawding
ME1 Sean Wilson
ME1 Stephanie Holland
ME1 Stephen Kamb
ME1 Stevan Salinas
ME1 Vernon Smith
ME2 Andrek Godoy
ME2 Bairon Gomez
ME2 Benjamin Derrick
ME2 Brian Gardiner
ME2 Cameron Rice
ME2 Christopher Boatwright
ME2 Christopher Sanchez
ME2 Cole Chapoton
ME2 Colin Itzko
ME2 Dalton Schmittle
ME2 Dan Cooke
ME2 Darren Jensen

ME2 David Kelly
ME2 Devyn Trinhnguyen
ME2 Edward Resh
ME2 Elisha Mueller
ME2 Gasha Alder
ME2 Grainne Maunsell
ME2 Hector Chaidez
ME2 James Sokol
ME2 Jeremy Smith
ME2 Jesse Coulter
ME2 Joel Telvigarcia
ME2 Joseph Laspina
ME2 Kenneth Fisher
ME2 Lawrence Battiste
ME2 Lino Ramirez
ME2 Lorenzo Medina
ME2 Marc Landicho
ME2 Michael Nass
ME2 Michael Solomon
ME2 Michelle Tunez
ME2 Nicholas Coyle
ME2 Peter Kalpas
ME2 Raymond Gilbert
ME2 Ryan Walton
ME2 Trevor Zelenock
ME2 Zachary Wallis
ME3 Adam Sanmiguel
ME3 Angelo Cabrales
ME3 Bryon Peters
ME3 Ellis Williams
ME3 Jacob Post
ME3 Philip Merideth
ME3 Rylan Matyshock
ME3 Victoria Reneau
MEC Allen Karch
MEC Andrew Resk
MEC Brian Peters
MEC Chivas Gauthreaux
MEC Dwight Arrowood
MEC John Gogul
MEC Joseph Curley
MEC Matthew Boudreau
MEC Michael Henckler
MEC Michael Nishikawa
MEC Michael Palmer
MEC Michael Roberts
MEC Richard Lacy
MEC Richard Ottway
MEC Robert Evener
MEC Roy Waters
MEC Ryan Holmquist
MEC Thomas Force
MEC Timothy Hannan
MECS Gregory Zieminski
MECS Jacob Smith
MK1 Bakari Kafele
MK1 Blake Demarchis
MK1 Darrell Pearce
MK1 Eric Platania
MK1 Francisco Gonzalez

MK1 James Hazen
MK1 James Lang
MK1 John Jernigan
MK1 Justin Farris
MK1 Michael Flynn
MK1 Nicholas Ladner
MK1 Noah Jackman
MK1 Ryan Jessup
MK1 Ryan Keegan
MK1 Troyton Loggins
MK2 Alayn Hernandez
MK2 Alicia Boles
MK2 Arturo Hernandez
MK2 Bayoan Perezcruz
MK2 Benjamin Esposito
MK2 Cameron Beal
MK2 Cheryl Machleder
MK2 Curtis Tamplet
MK2 Dante Dilallo
MK2 David Estes
MK2 Dylan Long
MK2 Jacob Sousley
MK2 Kaden Eklund
MK2 Michael James
MK2 Parker Brown
MK2 Robert Hubbard
MK2 Robert Post
MK2 Stephen Britt
MK2 Tadas Racevicius
MK2 Tresmon James
MK2 Triston Link
MK3 Elvis Perez
MK3 Hunter Ramirez
MK3 Jeremiah Stewart
MK3 Kally Laguerre
MK3 Patrick Harty
MK3 William Fortenberry
MKC Angela Korenko
MKC Jason Vallier
MKC Joe Harrington
MKC Peter Mcmanus
MKC Victor Leon
MKCS Johndavid Ridad
MLES2 John Shaw
MSSR2 James Lee
MST1 Thomas Houston
MST1 William Poulos
MST2 Brendan Crotty
MST2 Cody Johnson
MST2 Cooper Horn
MST2 Gregory Jackson
MST2 Jonathan Summers
MST2 Joshua Sagona
MST2 Justin Upshaw
MST3 Christian Nunez
MST3 Elizabeth Montoro
MST3 Francisco Moreno
MSTC Amanda Grams
MSTC Jason Pronovost
MSTC Jeffrey Carpenetti

MSTC Martin Montalvo
MSTCM Joanne Cloud
OS1 Laurie Fletcher
OS1 Rebecca Sadriyev
OS2 Christopher Cabral
OS2 Michael Rainy
OS2 Paul Altieri
OS2 Robert Garrett
OS2 Tyler Davis
OS2 Zachary Scott
OSC Christopher Butzko
OSC C. Mahoneymanasco
OSS4 Brian Robey
PA1 Michael Himes
PA2 Katharine Lipe
PA2 Laticia Sims
PAC Dustin Williams
PAC Elizabeth Bordelon
POCS William Hilt
SK1 Lindsey McIn
SK1 Michael Maggio
SK2 Camille Lau
SK2 Juan Caporoure
YN1 Angela Vinson
YN1 Karl Spiesman
YN1 Leonardo Martinez
YN1 Misty Jacobs
YN2 Jeffrey Rosado
YN2 Kari Kirkpatrick
YN3 Alexander Barthlett
YN3 Cherry Sagun

Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/ Mobilization Device

CDR Kevin Crews
CDR Lucy Courtney
EM1 Daniel Thompson
INV3 Jonathan Oakes
LCDR David Barrett
LTJG Sherilyn Leefreda
MKC John Moure
MST2 Eric Pitts
SK1 Hector Serrano
SK2 Kristine Jenkinsvega
YN2 Alyssa Hann

Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/Hourglass

BMC James Merten
BMC Matthew Pelzl
DC1 Theodore King
EM1 Robert Hunt
LTJG Daniel Dirocco
LTJG Matthew Mastas
LTJG Michael Marshall
ME1 Oleg Lazakovich
ME1 Ryan Rawding
ME1 Travis Ferrantino

MEC Brian Peters
MKC Michael Slack
MST2 Jacob Malkowski

Armed Forces Service Medal

AET2 Christopher Johnson
AMT3 Brandi Flinn
AST2 Grant Roberts
CS2 Geoffrey Goudeau
LT Kyle Johnson
SK3 Andrew Miller

CG Overseas Service Ribbon

YN1 Jessica Shingleton

Mil. Outstanding

Volunteer Service Medal

ME1 Madelin Centurion
MECS William Adams
SK1 Robert Ash
SN Mariana Burch
YN1 Karl Spiesman
ENS Jason Springvloed
YN1 Jessica Melear

CG Rifle Expert Medal

BM3 David Vela
EM2 Lukas Breen
IV1 Tracy Steen
ME3 Edward Rougerio
ME3 Justin Rosario
MK2 Jason Butcher

CG Pistol Expert Medal

BM1 Brandon Lum
BM1 Kyle Moran
BM1 Tyler Wilson
BM2 Noah Misiak
BMC Jeremy Sergey
BMC Nicholas Nida
ME2 Alexander Salisbury
ME2 Christian Harvey
ME3 Michael Rushok
MK1 Luke Mccabe
MK1 Philip Stolp
MST2 Liam Mccaffrey



Insignia

Prevention Ops Ashore Insignia

LCDR Krysta Zangle
LT Elizabeth Murphy
LTJG Gregory Murray
LTJG Loanna Torrance
MST1 Adam Rice
MSTCS Blaine Meservenibley

Response Ops Ashore Insignia

BM1 Aaron Makowiecki
BM1 Brendan Reilly
BM1 Justin Richards
BM1 Keith Singleton
BMC Benjamin Chesslo
CDR Kristopher Nolan

DCC Tomas Kaselionis

LCDR Benjamin Gross
ME1 Christopher Johnson
ME1 Kyle Bishop
MEC Greg Blakley
MECM Scott Reed
MECS Brian Cash
MK1 Nathaniel Parsons
MKC Joe Harrington
MKC Michael Slack
MLES3 John Spada
MSSE4 Jake Elks
MST1 Hooramack Sobhany
MST3 Jesse Dillon
MSTC Jennifer Gramata

Port Security Insignia

LT Adam Jaffe
LT Kyle Kutzke
ME2 Devyn Trinhnguyen
ME2 Stephen Pence
ME3 James Donnellan

Intelligence Pro Insignia

ISC Zackery Niece
LCDR Matthew Monahan
LT Brant Nugent

Coxswain Insignia

BM1 Aaron Makowiecki
BM1 Jan Ardner
BM1 Jephtha Tanksley
BM1 Keith Singleton
BM1 Kody Cundy
BM1 Levi Caldwell
BM1 Travis Marks
BMC Andrew Arnold
BMC Benjamin Chesslo
BMC Jennifer Stubblefield
BMC Samuel Papp

Boat Forces Operations Insignia

BM1 Aaron Makowiecki
BM1 Brendan Reilly
BM2 Alan Jagaman
BMC Benjamin Chesslo
LT Luis Calimano
ME1 Nicholas Lusk
ME2 Brendan Cross
MK1 Nathaniel Parsons
MK2 Bennett Falvo



Petty Officer 1st Class Suzanne LaFrancois was meritoriously advanced by Rear Adm. John Mauger on December 12, at Sector Northern New England. LaFrancois's lifelong commitment to learning has propelled innovation within her division.



OS1 Kenneth Lann was awarded Good Conduct Medal at the Coast Guard Cyber Reserve all hands held October 27 at the C5JT Alexandria Drill Facility presented Lt. Banazzio and Master Chief Petty Officer Wieland.



The Coast Guard Auxiliary unit at Station Chicago hosted a Chili Cook-off during the unit's scheduled Reserve drill weekend.

A Final Salute

Paul Edward Johnson, 75, of Duluth, Minnesota, passed away on June 26, 2023.

Johnson dedicated 38 years of his life to serving in the U.S. Coast Guard, both active duty and Reserve, as a boatswain mate and retired as a Chief Petty Officer. Johnson's military career was a significant part of his life, and he took great pride in wearing the uniform, our flag, and his service to our country. ≈



Jim Westman, 88, of Kelseyville, California passed away on November 25, 2023. Westman is survived by his beloved wife of 67 years, Arlene, their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Westman proudly served his country in the Navy and Coast Guard Reserve as a quartermaster. His military service exemplified his dedication and commitment to his country. ≈



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Mail:

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U.S. Coast Guard
Personnel Service Center
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Washington, DC 20593-7200

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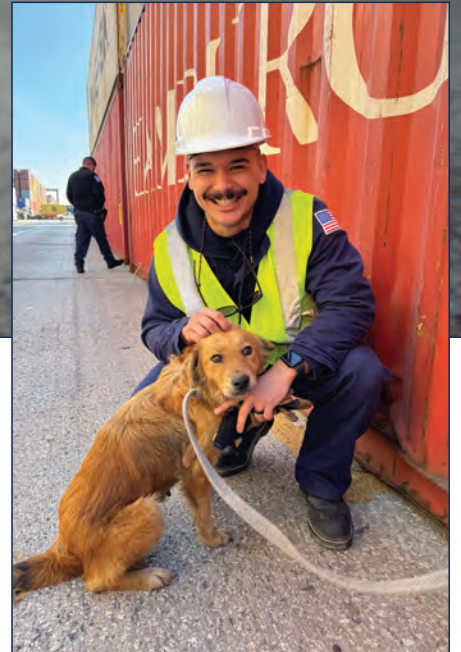
Parting Shots



Photos courtesy Sector Houston-Galveston



Petty Officer 3rd Class Bryan Wainscott, Petty Officer 1st Class Lucas Loe, Petty Officer 2nd Class Ryan McMahon, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Jose Reyes, all marine science technicians at Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston, pose with a dog they nicknamed Connie the Container Dog. The four marine inspectors discovered the dog trapped in a shipping container at the Bayport Container Terminal. They heard her barking during a routine inspection.



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