RESERVIST

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HURRICANE HUNTER

ONE RESERVIST IS HELPING DEVELOP THE SCIENCE BEHIND STORMS THAT'S SAVING LIVES

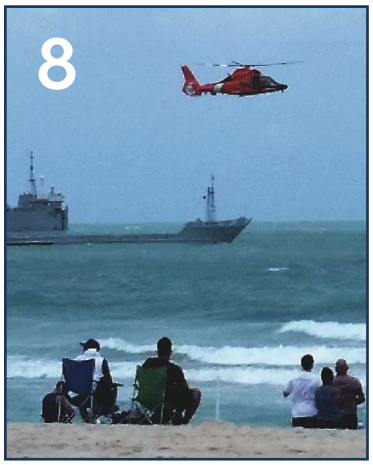
Volume LXV ≋ Issue 4 • 2018

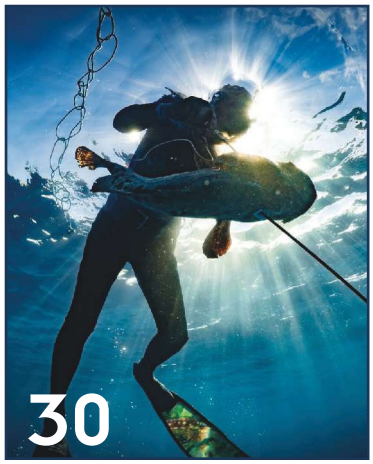
ALWAYS WEAR A LIFE JACKET.

BRING A RADIO.

CHECK THE WEATHER.

BE SAFE.
BE SEEN.





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A photo taken of Hurricane Florence from the International Space Station as it makes landfall in North Carolina.

Photo Courtesy of NASA

A member of Sector Upper Mississippi River walks among the debris in Mexico Beach, Fla., Oct. 13.

Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Hunter Medley

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thereservist@uscg.mil

MAGAZINE

A. M. Devlin
Editor

Chris S. Rose
Creative Director

COMMAND

Adm. Karl L. Schultz
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard

Rear Adm. Matthew W. Sibley
Acting Director of Reserve

Capt. William F. Csisar
Chief, Office of Reserve Affairs

Cmdr. Alexander C. Foos
Chief, Reserve Information Division

Petty Officer 1st Class Emaia Rise
Reserve Webmaster

CONTACT INFORMATION

thereservist@uscg.mil

FB - @uscoastguardreserve
Twitter - @uscgreseve
#uscgr

Commandant (CG-1313)
Attn: Editor, Reservist
2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., SE (Stop-7907)
Washington, DC 20593-7907

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FROM THE EDITOR

Sometimes my job is like a wedding photographer; taking pictures when everything is polished and beautiful is easy. Same with writing about the Reserve; the people are so good and so talented, the stories write themselves.

This issue has lots of great people: the gold medal winners of the Micro Games, Todd Genereux and Mary Gillan, have such passion for their sports. They train in their spare time for these Olympic-style sporting events while working full-time... and also finding time to serve their country.

And there's hurricane hunter Steve Jayne—not your average MKC. Who knew we had an MIT scientist working quietly behind the scenes developing technology to predict hurricane intensity AND placing it in the path of a hurricane? The data from Chief Jayne's instruments feeds the National Weather Service, which, in turn, feeds the news reports you listen to. He's like a double lifesaver.

Three more young Reserve professionals were highlighted in a Buzzfeed article about female leadership. Brittny Thompson, Chrissie Edwards and Melissa Sprout, it was an honor to write about each of you. You blend in so seamlessly that it took insider knowledge to realize you were reservists. Each of you is an asset to your command.

Finally, great stuff from our Deckplate columnist this issue, Master Chief Ed Lewis. Back in 2013, CMC Lewis wrote an article about how the Coast Guard was missing the boat on the potential found among its members, because if you only look at someone's rank and military qualifications, you miss all the talent and experience they possess as civilians. Lewis is working to change that through a credentialing program that lets you bring your civilian credentials to the military, and when you leave the service, the same program will translate your Coast Guard credentials for use on the civilian side. Good stuff.

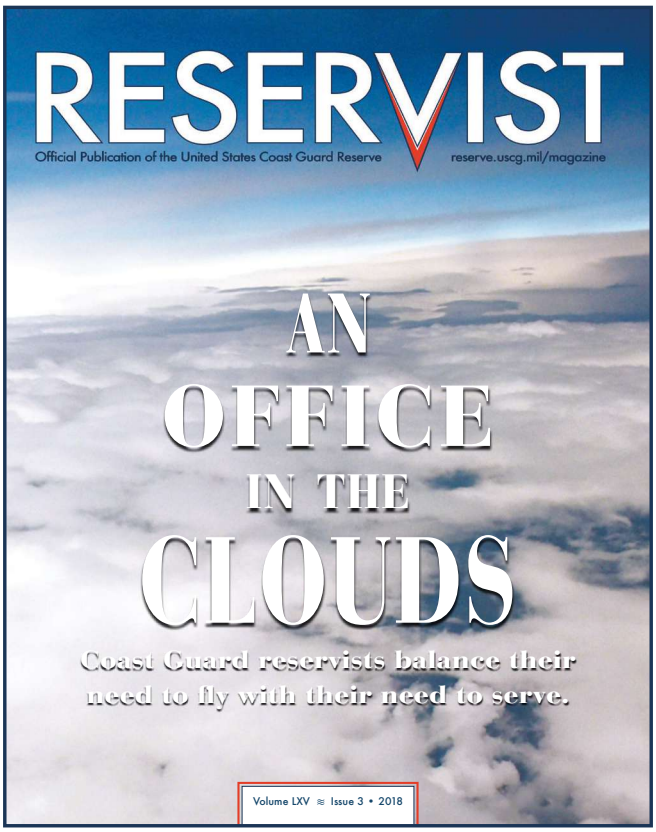
One last thing… Our magazine has been something people look forward to for the last two decades because of one man. While the editor has changed a few times, our art director, Chris Rose, has been the mainstay of the magazine. A former Coast Guardsman himself, Chris is a treasure trove of history and service knowledge. In addition to laying out all the photos and text for every copy of the magazine in the last 20 years, he's also created many of the logos Coast Guard organizations and units recognize and use today.

Congratulations on 20 years at the magazine, Chris. On behalf of Ed, Isaac, Jeff and myself, this magazine wouldn't be what it is without you.

Anastasia Devlin

Editor-in-Chief

FROM OUR READERS



Left-handed salute

I noted an error and an item of interest in the Reservist, Volume LXV, Issue 2, 2018. On page 9, the photo at the top of the page shows the admiral being piped ashore. The bos'n on the right is saluting with his left hand. This is correct since his right hand is holding the bos'n pipe. Are all our readers aware of this? And on page 10, the second line of the headline says "aximise eadiness." I believe "maximize readiness" is what is intended. Your proofreader missed this one.

I waited until issue 3 to see if anyone else would see these items and comment about them, and if they wrote to you, was it something that you would comment about?

Sincerely,

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Richard L. Cartwright
USCGR, retired

I was also a little surprised as well when no one mentioned it. It caught my eye as odd, but I knew that anyone in the MCPOCGR's ceremony wouldn't dare salute with the other hand unless he was absolutely sure it was in regs! Sure enough, there ARE occasions when a left-handed salute is authorized—one of them being while playing the bosun pipe. It's also appropriate if the right hand is injured (or encumbered, depending on the source).

Thanks for the sharp eye, sir; we do occasionally miss a typo or two. I'll let my proofreader know she needs to bring her A game next time!

Lt. Cmdr. John Murphy, a retired Coast Guard reservist, stands in front of his Florida Marine Patrol sea-plane.

Reserve pilots

I enjoyed the article in the last Reservist, "An Office in the Clouds." I went to OCS in 1979 with the hope of getting into Coast Guard aviation, but my imperfect vision vanished that quest. Since I was already a commercial rated civilian pilot, I was able to still work in aviation in my off-duty time as a flight instructor at the local airport. When my active duty obligation ended, I was fortunate to secure a job as a law enforcement pilot with the Florida Marine Patrol in 1982. I continued my Coast Guard career as a reservist with most of my duty time at Reserve Unit MSO Tampa. I retired from the Reserve in 1999 and from the state of Florida in 2012. I look back on both of my careers with pride and consider myself lucky to have served with so many great people in both professions.

Lt. Cmdr. John Murphy
USCGR, retired

I was wondering if you would be doing another round of civilian pilots in a future magazine. We have a BM1, Joseph Toomey, at PSU 301 who is a pilot for Delta. Before joining 301, he was at PSU 307. While a BM3 at 307, his full-time job was training Coast Guard pilots at Air Station Clearwater as a contractor.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Colby Heywood
PSU 301

Thanks for the notes! When I started writing that story, pilots came out of the woodwork—everyone seemed to know a reservist who had a pilot's license. Now, I focused on three for the sake of brevity, but I could have gone on. One guy I heard about worked for Amazon, others were hobbyists, but most worked for airlines, like Petty Officer Toomey. (Training pilots as a BM3, whoa. It's amazing what a person is capable of when no one cares what rank he is, huh?)

Being a pilot is hard enough, but to tack on a completely separate military career (with boat hours and qualifications to maintain)? That's the embodiment of commitment to service. The people of the Coast Guard Reserve are rare and extremely talented, but they hate talking about themselves, which may be why we never hear about how many pilots we have among us.

Belated thank you

After reading "Putting People First" about Rear Adm. Francis "Stash" Pelkowski, I texted Lt. Laura Gilbert congratulating her since Laura and I served together at Baltimore MSU shortly before she accepted ADOS orders in 2016. I've never written a letter to The Reservist but decided too upon learning of the passing of Senator John McCain. The crew of Baltimore MSU presented me at my 2016 retirement a shadow box with all my dad's medals and insignia from his time serving two tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot. My dad championed the return of POWs and MIAs as commander of the VFW in Tillson, N.Y., once home. I can remember while in second grade watching my Dad's presentations at the VFW leading efforts that they never be forgotten. I also watched the MSU crew re-fold my Dad's burial flag in a solemn manner before being placed in the shadow box Chief Petty Officer MacNamee assembled. That was a very turbulent time in America's history, and I learned from his example to always give your very best for those your responsible for and to never leave anyone behind. I know his efforts contributed to securing the release of heroes like Senator John McCain and Senator Jeremiah Denton. I'm honored Rear Adm. Michael Haycock attended my retirement, that Capt. Douglas Schofield was my guest speaker, and that Cmdr. Jamie Brackett and Lt. Cmdr. Luke Spurrier along with ALD leadership and MSU crew organized such a spectacular day for my family to enjoy – you all definitely "PUT PEOPLE FIRST." Thanks!

LCDR Bill Stets
USCGR, retired

UP FRONT

Petty Officer 2nd Class Mike Dalager, a reservist assigned to Sector San Diego, sings the national anthem at Game 5 of the Major League Baseball World Series at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles between the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Boston Red Sox. This is the second time that Dalager has performed at the World Series, as last year he performed "God Bless America" at the 2017 event.

Photo by Bryan Davis

THE VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Rear Adm. Matthew W. Sibley

Acting Director, Coast Guard Reserve

While the summer may have started slow, business has definitely picked up! In fact, when I originally started this column, I intended to discuss my impressions after the Reserve Component Leadership Conference (RCLC). The gathering of reserve and active duty senior leaders to discuss current and future priorities for the Reserve was to be the first such conference in many years. It would have been a huge step forward in reaffirming our ability to remain Ready, Relevant and Responsive—our Commandant's watch words. Then Hurricane Florence, Hurricane Olivia and Typhoon Mangkhut happened. As valuable as the RCLC would have been, the time was right to postpone the conference and make sure the full focus of the Reserve was on supporting our nation.

Responsiveness. It truly is the hallmark of the Coast Guard Reserve. Some might say it is our stock-in-trade. At our core, we are a response-oriented organization full of highly skilled people who are able to take on any number of potential contingencies. In fact, September has produced a number of memorable storms requiring a substantial Coast Guard Reserve presence including Hurricane Hugo in 1989, Hurricane Iniki in 1992 and Hurricanes Maria and Irma just last year.

Readiness. These storms remind us that we must remain ready to meet unforeseen threats on the horizon. As Lt. Gen. Rex McMillan, former commanding general of Marine Forces Reserve, once said, "Always consider your next drill as the last one before you are activated and deployed." Interestingly, over 1,100 reservists across the nation drilled the weekend before Hurricane Florence made landfall on the east coast. If you were one of these drilling reservists, did you do everything you could in that last drill ahead of a potential activation only days later?

Relevance. Of course, you can't predict the future. As we reflect back over the past 20 years, it is clear that the relevance, agility, and flexibility of our Reserve are three of our most valuable traits. Nobody could have predicted the mission needs stemming from the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, nor could anyone have predicted the needs related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. In reality, given the many political uncertainties around the world, any combination of contingencies is possible.

As no plan stands on its own, it's important to recognize our people that create and operationalize these plans. I was honored to do just that at the Reserve Officers Association's National Convention in Omaha, Neb., where I helped recognize two outstanding reservists. Lt. Jeffrey Miller, the 2017 Reserve Outstanding Junior Officer, and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Pamela Arts-Smith, the 2017 Reserve Outstanding Chief Warrant Officer; these two truly represent the best of our Reserve.

While assigned to the Legal Service Command, Lt. Miller was instrumental in the production of training guidance covering 17 distinct legal specialties included in the Contingency Missions Lawyer competency. His expert knowledge and hard work will pay dividends to the Coast Guard for years to come as active and reserve lawyers build the skills necessary to respond to any national emergency.

Chief Warrant Officer Arts-Smith joined Port Security Unit 305 in the midst of the unit's preparations to deploy to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. She rapidly leveraged her prior experience in deployment preparations to increase the readiness of the engineering division for deployment. Further, she volunteered to serve as the deployed engineering officer, which required her to assume responsibilities in the maintenance and weapons divisions. Although she had little prior experience in ordinance administration, she served flawlessly during the deployment.

The Reserve continues to build upon its legacy of operational excellence and selfless service. The end of the year is a good time to reflect on our accomplishments, but we don't look to our wake just to see where we've been … we look back to ensure we are moving towards our goals. As I look forward, it is clear to me that we are continuing in the right direction.

Semper Paratus.

"At our core, we are a response-oriented organization full of highly skilled people who are able to take on any number of potential contingencies."

DECKPLATE SOUNDINGS

When MCPO-CGR George Williamson asked me if I was interested in submitting an article to the Reservist, I replied with an emphatic yes. My interaction with reservists dates back to 1991, well before integration.

While we often think back on our careers and days of old with nostalgia, we need to keep the fog of time from skewing our view of the present. Integration is a verb, not a noun, and integrating is synonymous with mixing, combining and assimilating. Verbs are actions and require effort. In this case, effort (action) is required by the reservist, the unit's active duty members and the command cadre. Unlike today, the command structures in place before integration inhibited a Reserve member's assimilation outside a few communities.

The effort you apply to your duties as a reservist contribute directly to our ability to remain Ready, Responsive and Relevant. Over my career I've met many strong Reserve leaders and a few immediately come to mind: Master Chief Rich Hines (ret.) and Senior Chief Julie Duncan from the Chief Petty Officer Academy, Chief Ed Poppe on Guam, Chief Wes Mundy and Chief Derek Foglesong from Hawai'i, and Senior Chief Stephen Davis who assisted me as the machinery technician (MK) rating force master chief at Headquarters. The common thread is deliberate integration. These leaders understood the mission of their unit, excelled at their trade, and shaped the outlook of their active duty counterparts by getting involved. The success of our units and my success in the Coast Guard is directly attributable to relationships with leaders in the Reserve Component.

I believe reservists are extraordinary people and we have a great opportunity to shape the future together. Modernization continues to shape the Coast Guard, and as our contingency framework matures, we will identify new integration opportunities. In order to take full advantage of the situation, I believe interaction between the reserve, active and civilian workforces needs to expand. The Coast Guard's training system, cutter community and aviation community are nearly void of Reserve integration. Although exposure to reservists is limited in some communities, you have a chance to establish relationships with our organization's future leaders through touch points like associations, working groups, and leadership and diversity advisory councils.

While important, we cannot rely on personal relationships alone to market the value of the Reserve. The most important thing you can do is qualify in your assigned duties, monitor your personnel record, and prepare yourself for future assignments. Maintaining your readiness has an immediate impact on the organization. Regardless of paygrade, you as a leader should also consider how to improve or introduce opportunities for integration. We've got some talented reservists as part of the Coast Guard's bench strength. Let's harness those abilities to support missions, which leads to more agile Responsiveness.

A few years ago, I wrote an article in Reservist magazine on how, as an organization, we don't recognize, track and use the full capacity of our workforce. As an exercise, I'd have people list rate/rank, units, evals, training, and quals on a note card. Then on the flipside, they'd list everything else they brought to the table (civilian job skills, volunteer experience, board positions, advanced education, languages). Leaders are normally aware of many of the "back of the card" items in their teams, but, organizationally, we don't take the same view. The skills and experience on the back of the card hold far more relevance during complex contingency operations.

The potential to tap into civilian occupation experience, credentials and volunteer experience is coming to fruition via the Coast Guard's Credentialing Program. In the coming future our workforce will have the opportunity to list their industry and government recognized certifications, licensing and certificates in their electronic records. The Credentialing Program, which is one of the Commandant's early action items, will also enable or expand the attainment of external credentials through existing Coast Guard training.

This capability will greatly improve our understanding of the Reserve Force and individual reservists, enable expanded opportunities for integration, and enable our workforce to access professional credentials. Combined with organizational competencies and qualifications, the Coast Guard will have improved access to a member's capability which will make the Reserve Force more Relevant to all future operations. Preparing for contingencies and executing our missions is an everlasting endeavor requiring effort. Your leadership and support are appreciated. The future is bright, and I look forward to meeting you during my travels.

Semper Paratus.

Master Chief Petty Officer Edward F. Lewis,

Command Master Chief, Deputy Commandant for Mission Support

"I believe reservists are extraordinary people, and we have a great opportunity to shape the future together."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Nicholas Boyd from Station Channel Islands and Petty Officers 3rd Class David Vela and Dax Chacon from Station Los Angeles/Long Beach create a search pattern during coxswain training.

Photo courtesy of Chief Petty Officer A.J. Tole

Station LA/LB reservists embrace commandant's guiding principles

Story by Senior Chief Petty Officer Nicholas Bernice, Headquarters

On the southern tip of Los Angeles Harbor's Terminal Island, after driving through a two-mile sea of stacked containers and straight through the center of a federal correctional institution's fence-lined campus, you will find Coast Guard Base Los Angeles/Long Beach (LA/LB). From the base, you will find scenic views of San Pedro, Los Angeles Harbor and the busy channel that borders the west side of Terminal Island. Among the Coast Guard units, you will find Station LA/LB. In July, I had an opportunity to spend a few days with the station's 25 reservists during their two weeks of active duty training (ADT).

Petty Officer 2nd Class Venus Hulst, a boatswain's mate at Station LA/LB, described the station's crew as extraordinarily accommodating and welcoming. This was certainly true of my experience while at the station. Upon arrival, I was immediately greeted by Chief Petty Officer Andrea Tole, Station LA/LB's senior enlisted reserve advisor (SERA). During our conversations over the next few days, Tole praised the station's command and active duty crew for their ongoing support of their reserve program, a fact that became more and more evident over the time I spent there. The climate at the station truly supports the idea of duty to people. Petty Officer 3rd Class Tedd Sutton, a boatswain's mate at Station LA/LB, agreed.

"The station has been very helpful with family issues," said Sutton. "They're also great about assisting with developing individual and common goals, then helping everyone achieve them."

Be ready

Achieving success in caring for the members, both for their families as well as helping them attain personal certification goals, helps the station be ready for whatever comes their way. Certification and proficiency readiness is the primary goal of any Coast Guard boat forces job. Many of the reservists at LA/LB hold some level of certification that contributes to the overall productivity of the station. More specifically, of the 25 reservists at LA/LB, there are 12 boatcrew members, two coxswains, four boarding officers and three boarding team members.

During the two-week ADT period, both a boarding officer and a boarding team member received their oral boards, a panel of qualified personnel who tests the knowledge of the person seeking the qualification, and became certified. Other members were able to maintain their law enforcement qualifications by completing currency tasks with the help of their active duty counterparts.

Be relevant

Using certifications to perform missions allows Station LA/LB to remain mindful of Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Karl Schultz's second guiding principal: be relevant. During their ADT, the station's reservists completed 36 hours underway (10 of which were at night), 29 boardings (including 11 warnings, two violations and one voyage termination), one search and rescue case and executed a multi-agency security zone for Independence Day fireworks at the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California. In concert with boats from the Los Angeles and Long Beach police and fire departments, they created and held the security zone perimeter before, during and after the fireworks display. It required communication among the agencies' assets and a clear understanding of expectations for the mission.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Nicholas Boyd from Station Channel Islands tosses a heaving line to a member of the Maritime Safety and Security Team 91103 from Los Angeles Long Beach.

Photo courtesy of Chief Petty Officer A.J. Tole.

Be responsive

Knowing how to execute Coast Guard missions successfully helps us be responsive. On July 3, while underway on a training mission, a reserve boat crew spotted a sailboat nearing the rocks of the sea wall. As the sailboat began to slam against the rocks, the crew used their training to save the sailboat from any further damage, and they rescued the 81-year-old boat owner from potential injury.

The collaboration among the active and reserve components at Station LA/LB has fueled a completely integrated and mission-oriented approach to training and operations. In support of the high quality training, Station LA/LB had six members who were each awarded six days of additional training periods (ATPs). Over the final weeks of summer, Station LA/LB paired with Station Channel Islands to conduct a local, six-day coxswain training course, targeting the few remaining skills or tasks needed to qualify more reserve coxswains.

Station LA/LB seems to have struck the right harmony that balances caring for individuals and their families, supporting high quality training and understanding the importance of hands-on execution of Coast Guard missions. The station's crew remains ready, relevant and responsive and takes pride in demonstrating these principles.

Summerstock reservists rescue dad and son

Story and photo by Chief Petty Officer Jarrod Sadulski, Station Marblehead

The afternoon of Aug. 21, an integrated crew of Summerstock and active duty members from Coast Guard Station Washington Island in Sturgeon Bay, Wis., were underway training on their 45-foot Response Boat-Medium (RB-M), the CG45672. Less than an hour into training, they received notification from Coast Guard Station Sturgeon Bay that a man with his four-year-old son were out in their canoe just off the east side of Washington Island near Hog Island, and they were having a difficult time getting back in. The local fire department was unable to launch their own boats due to the heavy conditions. The crew of the CG45672 got to the location and quickly spotted the 12-foot canoe with its passengers, Philip Schoeny and his son Jasper, approximately a mile and a half offshore (and being pushed out further), in danger of taking on water. With a few quick maneuvers and some on-the-spot planning, they swiftly got both passengers and their canoe aboard the rescue vessel with no injuries. They brought them back to the station, where family members were anxiously waiting for them.

Seaman Tania Hernandez, Petty Officer 2nd Class Danny DiRocco, Petty Officer 3rd Class Michelle Smith, Petty Officer 3rd Class Grant Putala, were all part of the crew that rescued Jasper and Philip Schoeny (center) from a rapidly deteriorating situation.

U.S. Coast Guard Photo

PSU 311 takes role as MARSECDET for GTMO

Story by Lt. Cmdr. Kyle Stone, PSU 311

Through professionalism and teamwork, Port Security Unit 311 out of San Pedro, Calif., assumed the mission as the 33rd Maritime Security Detachment under Joint Task Force Guantanamo in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Using waterside and shoreside personnel and assets in this critical anti-terrorism force protection mission, MARSECDET provides 24/7 seaward facing security for JTF-GTMO. The operational mission is strongly supported by engineering, weapons, communication and logistics personnel deployed both in GTMO and in garrison. Frequent, daily interactions with members of all branches of the armed services gives everyone a unique perspective on the critical roles each service fulfills in the mission.

The commanding officer of PSU 311, Cmdr. Laila Grassley, said, "I couldn't be more proud of the men and women of PSU 311 and the pride and professionalism with which they execute their duties each and every day. It's imperative that we work seamlessly with our Army, Navy, and Marine Corps counterparts for execution of our various force protection duties. The teamwork displayed by all the services is truly impressive and makes for a seamless defense."

While PSU members miss their families and loved ones back home, the new friendships, camaraderie and bonds are unique and will extend well beyond the relatively short but memorable deployment.

A Port Security Unit 311 tactical boat crew stops for a photo as they ready a 32-foot transportable port security unit boat for a vessel escort off the coast of Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, July 26. From left, Petty Officer 3rd Class Rob Balandran, Petty Officer 1st Class Kurt Taylor, Petty Officer 2nd Class William Chestnut, Petty Officer 1st Class Jonathan Shine, Front row: Petty Officers 3rd Class Krisanto Paragas, and Richard Martinez.

Photos by Petty Officer 1st Class Emaia Rise

A PSU tactical boat crew maneuvers underway on a 32-foot foot transportable port security unit boat off the coast of Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, July 23.

The show must go on: 2018 Miami Air and Sea Show

Story and photo by Lt. Cmdr. Regina Adams

Subtropical Storm Alberto's massive size brought high winds and rain Memorial Day weekend, but that didn't stop the 2018 Miami Beach Air and Sea Show from taking place. Lt. Cmdr. Regina Adams planned maritime safety for the show, held May 25-27, and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Darrick Waller acted as operations section chief for the weekend. The two reservists stood the watch at the event command center, at center stage with the air boss, FAA, Miami Beach Fire Rescue and Miami Beach Police Department. They coordinated with 16 partner agencies within the "Waterborne Response Team," ensuring operation within safety parameters and effective maritime safety during the influence of Alberto. Even through spots of torrential rain, several military jets, to include a B-2 stealth bomber, F-35 fighter, and helicopters from multiple agencies (including the Coast Guard), performed for Miami Beach residents and visitors. The two-mile safety zone was implemented for the safety of performers and boaters. With rain and wind speeds of up to 40 miles per hour, the radio equipment (with antenna), hand-held radios and cell phones were placed in plastic bags, which worked well and added little interference to communications, given the circumstances. Incident action plans (IAPs) were laminated; pen-and-ink changes worked well on laminated paper since ballpoint pen ink didn't run. Other agencies followed suit, adapting swiftly to the weather conditions. Subtropical Storm Alberto might have tried to put a damper on the atmosphere, but smiles shined bright as jets roared and demonstrators dropped from the air.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Darrick Waller radios the Coast Guard Cutter *Cochito*, while the air boss and FAA conduct operations with air assets under a makeshift tarp to protect radio equipment.

Annapolis reservists respond to vessel collision

Story and photos courtesy of Petty Officer 1st Class DeMarchis

An all-reserve boat crew responded to a search and rescue case in the Chesapeake Bay Aug. 17 while on their two weeks of active duty training. The incident involved a collision between the 35-foot sailboat Levitation and a 37-foot charter fishing vessel Hunter. The crew, which included Petty Officers 1st Class Chris Maney and Blake DeMarchis, Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeff Beshore and Petty Officers 3rd Class Adam Kough and Nick Peterson took seven people off the charter boat; all of whom experienced minor injuries.

The Hunter rests atop the Leviathan after the collision in the Chesapeake Bay Aug. 17

Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeff Beshore and Petty Officer 1st Class Blake DeMarchis from Station Annapolis, Md. embark a passenger from the fishing boat involved in an accident Aug. 17.

Port Security Unit 308 hosted its first CCTI training to accommodate Reserve and active duty members by scheduling activities and training during weekends. Pictured are Chief Petty Officers Andrew Surmiak, Joseph Jones, Michael Roberts and Kelly Pool, Senior Chief Petty Officer William Stoffle, Chief Petty Officer Dorothy Bradley, Lt. Dominic Traina, Lt. Cyrus Donato, Chief Petty Officer Jolene Scarlett and Lt. Waymando Brown

PSU 308 hosts "team" Coast Guard CCTI

Story and photo by Senior Chief Petty Officer Susan Blake, Eighth District Public Affairs

Last summer, I visited Port Security Unit 308 during their drill weekend. Spearheaded by Master Chief Petty Officer James Wood, the unit was conducting a weekend Chiefs Call to Initiation for ten reservists and one active duty member. The CCTI is a rite-of-passage process whereby new chiefs learn how to network and participate in the chiefs mess effectively.

"It's a huge lift on a Reserve member to take off during the week," said Wood, who, at the time, was PSU 308's command master chief. "Some people are not co-located with our unit, so it's difficult for them to drive to a function to participate, especially when it's during the week."

According to Wood, knowing the difficulty for reservists participating in CCTI, he and his fellow chiefs wanted to develop the training to be more conducive to their participation; reservists would not be forced to impact their civilian career or sacrifice the total experience of CCTI.

"The MCPOCG [master chief petty officer of the Coast Guard] has standing orders, and one of them is the CCTI process," said Wood. "CCTI across the Coast Guard tends to be about eight weeks, but we extended ours to 12 to ensure we had enough time to work through the entire process."

The prospective chiefs were given specific dates well ahead of time to coordinate their schedules in order to attend each CCTI event on non-drill weekends, minimizing the impacts to their jobs across the district.

"This makes it possible for people to realistically work with their employers or supervisors during the process," said Wood. "One of our PCPOs [prospective chief petty officer] is a police officer, and sometimes he works nights."

While it was the goal of Wood and his fellow chiefs to get more participation from the reserve PCPOs, the active duty component was encouraged to participate in the process through the New Orleans Chiefs Mess, which was instrumental in developing and supporting PSU 308's CCTI.

To initiate the development of this form of the CCTI process, the chiefs had to approach a geographic gold badge and the Eighth District chief of the mess for permission to restructure the CCTI process to achieve their goal of increased participation.

The PSU chiefs mess also reached out to both the Sector Mobile and New Orleans consolidated messes to let them know what they were doing and why.

"We were very forceful in saying this was a PSU 308 CCTI, and we didn't want it tagged as a Reserve CCTI," Wood said.

Wood remembered the challenges of participating in CCTI. When he went through the process in Baton Rouge, La., in 2007, he recalled working all night as a firefighter and then catching a ride at seven in the morning with a good friend, Master Chief Petty Officer Matt Valenti, who's now the command master chief at Sector New Orleans.

"CCTI is a bit of an enigma. We're 11 years from when I went through it, and every MCPOCG has their own iteration they want to put on it," said Wood. "I truly think there's a lot of things we are doing today in the CCTI process that I wish that we did when I went through it."

Whether PSU 308 does another CCTI is yet to be determined, but Wood, who recently became the Eighth District reserve command master chief, hopes they continue the tradition.

Coastal Cleanup for Sector San Francisco IMTR

Sector San Francisco's Incident Management Team-Reserve (IMTR), took part in the 33rd annual International Coastal Cleanup Day, an annual event sponsored by Ocean Conservancy and held Sept. 15. Members removed refuse from the Sector SF Waterfront and Clipper Cove on Treasure Island. All told, they collected approximately 15 bags of trash in addition to several large items that had washed ashore. The team included Petty Officer 2nd Class Brooklyn Saylor, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Bettina Diaz, Petty Officer 1st Class Ken Shih, Senior Chief Petty Officer Anthony Knight and Lt. j.g. Josh Amoruso.

Photo courtesy of Lt. j.g. Josh Amoruso.

Coast Guard reservists join CA State Military Reserve for ICS course

Story and photo by Lt. Cmdr. Kristen Boyle, Pacific Area

In August, Pacific Area welcomed over 25 students to Coast Guard Island in Alameda for FEMA's L956, All Hazards Liaison Officer Course.

"The 2017 hurricane season revealed a critical need for qualified liaison officers and emergency preparedness liaison officers," said Capt. Frank Schaefer, Pacific Area's EPLO coordinator. "However, the demand signal for qualified personnel exceeded the availability of reserve quotas for ICS-402."

Schaefer and Master Sgt. William Matthews, from the California State Military Reserve, served as the course instructors.

Reservists from as far as Guam joined members from CSMR's Maritime Support Command to learn the ins and outs of serving as a liaison officer under the Incident Command Structure. The L956 course provided a critical training opportunity for reservists pursuing further ICS qualifications, as it satisfies the course requirement of ICS-402 for both the liaison officer and emergency preparedness liaison officers PQS.

"Leveraging [this course] and hosting the training at a Coast Guard facility will create significant growth potential in liaison officers and emergency preparedness liaison officers," said Shaefer.

However, the ball is back in the member's court now. The personnel who attended the training will return to their home units and follow through with the completion of their PQS. Schaefer said this will result in a 20% increase in qualified personnel. While in the midst of another hurricane season, with members having deployed for response efforts in the wake of Hurricane Olivia, Typhoon Manghut and Hurricane Florence, this training opportunity highlights the efforts so critical and appreciated in ensuring a qualified Reserve force, ready and available for mobilization.

Students from Federal Emergency Management Agency L956 Liaison Course gather for a class photo with instructors Capt. Frank Schaefer and Master Sgt. William Matthews. The class was held last August at Base Alameda, Calif.

Yeomen become boatcrew, diversify background

Story and photos submitted by Chief Petty Officer Patrick Davis, Station Mayport

As reservists, we all know that, unless deployed, we're going to drill one weekend a month. The question is: what are you going to be doing on that weekend? Some drills will be full of excitement, some will be full of adventure and some will be filled with doing paperwork. But every now and then, we all need an exercise that's a little more stimulating and inspirational. Two reservists from Sector Jacksonville found a way to make that happen.

Petty Officer 1st Class Angie Vinson and Petty Officer 2nd Class Robin Rodenbaugh, two yeomen from Sector Jacksonville, were authorized to drill at Station Mayport. With a unit of 30 reservists drilling two weekends a month, the amount of admin for the senior enlisted reserve advisor (SERA) can become a bit demanding.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Robin Rodenbaugh tends the tow line during a towing evolution.

However, the addition of Vinson and Rodenbaugh to our unit has been very welcome to both reserve and active duty personnel. These two motivated individuals were enthusiastic about being given a chance to share the joy and excitement our unit experiences when getting underway and conducting the Coast Guard's mission. So when they asked if they could attempt to attain the boat crewmember certification, the answer was a resounding, "yes."

Since both members were prior operations specialists (OS), they were familiar with some of the acronyms and vessel-related jargon. Seeing the progress they were making, while maintaining their administrative duties, we saw the need to facilitate their training. What more could we do to speed up this process towards certification? The answer was simple: find a way to get them to Reserve Boat Crew Member School. With that in mind, we looked for school openings and ways to get them an additional two weeks of active duty. Both requests were granted.

Once at school, the petty officers were eager to meet the challenges before them. "We've never had yeomen, Navy or civilians come through this course before," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Travis Dates, the class advisor. "This time we had them all at once."

As the days of class went on, the students' knowledge, skills and confidence grew.

"It was quite evident that both members were eager to fulfill roles not typically held by YN's so that they could contribute to their unit's mission when deployed," said Chief Petty Officer Jeremy Gourde, the school's training chief.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Robin Rodenbaugh and Petty Officer 1st Class Angie Vinson, yeomen from Sector Jacksonville, pause during Reserve Boat Crewmember School.

After graduation, they returned to Station Mayport, and we heard the comments ranging from, "That was awesome," to "We learned so much," to "That was the best school I've been to in the Coast Guard." That final statement resonated most with me. Two reservists in a rating not traditionally known for being boat crew members, thought that this was the best school they've ever been to in the Coast Guard. It speaks volumes about the instructors and the curriculum provided.

As we gear up to complete the PQS for certifying as a boatcrew member for these two yeomen, I think of what opportunities lie ahead for them in their Coast Guard future. They'll have the opportunity to earn the Boat Forces Insignia—not something that you often see attained by a reserve yeoman! Experience like this gives them an even better background for being a great SERA at a small boat station.

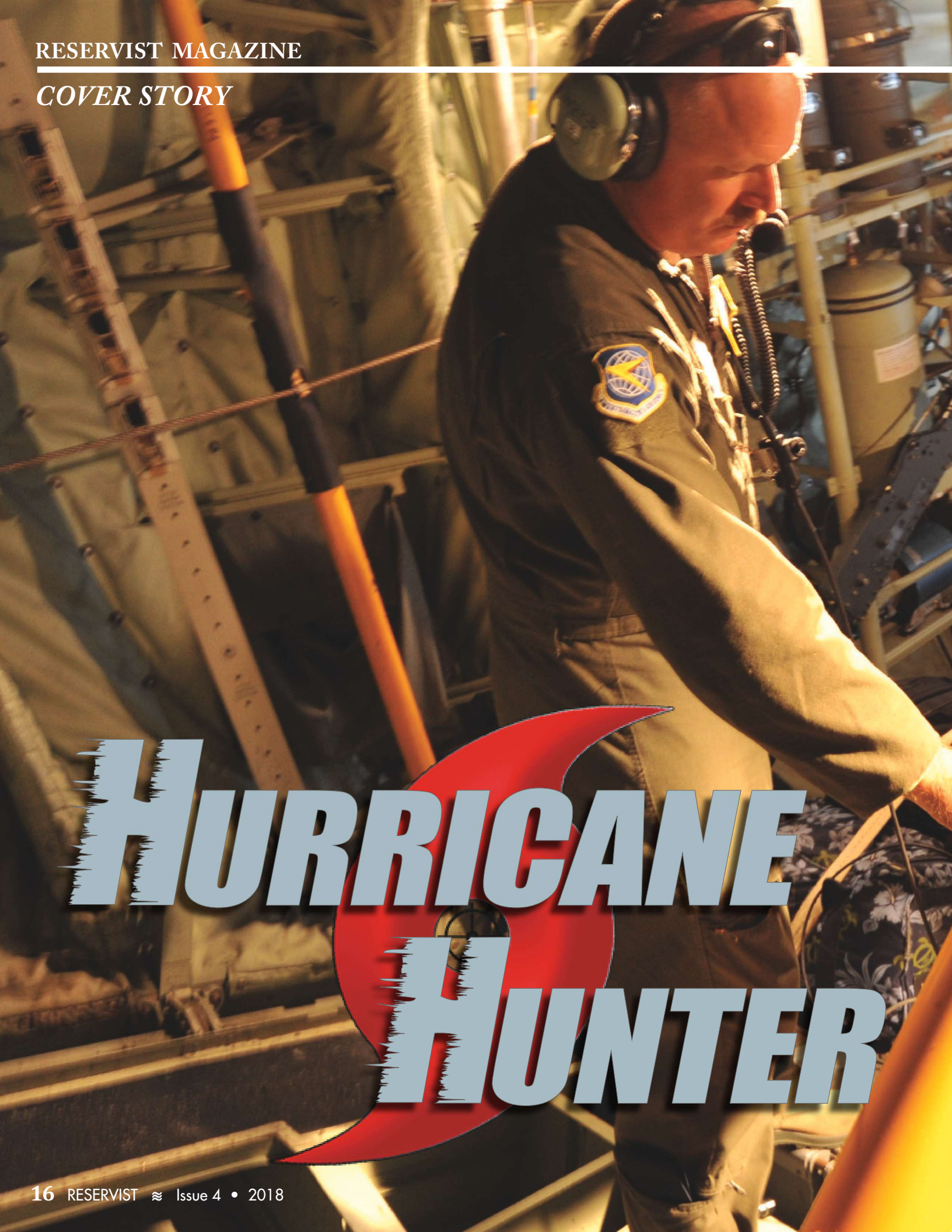
As the commandant said, we need to be a Ready, Relevant and Responsive Coast Guard. At Station Mayport, we're working hard to meet those expectations.

Spend your summer on the Great Lakes.

Join Operation Summerstock.

Since 1972, reservists have converged on small boat stations located in towns and villages on the Great Lakes to fill various billets to ensure maritime safety and security on the Lakes. If you can perform short-term ADOS from June to August 2019, District Nine is looking for enlisted reservists to fill boat crew positions at various stations throughout the Great Lakes. To volunteer or for more details, call CDR Scott Toves, (216) 902-6096 or LT Erik Olmstead, (216) 902-6388.

COVER STORY



HURRICANE HUNTER

U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Steve Jayne, a reservist who works as a senior scientist with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, deploys an Air-Launched Autonomous Micro-Observer profiling float, commonly referred to as an ALAMO, during a tropical storm over the Gulf of Mexico. Jayne's research determines how the relationship between the ocean temperature and a hurricane affects storm track and intensity.

U.S. Air Force photo by Lt. Col. Marnee A.C. Losurdo

CHIEF STEVE JAYNE IS SMART. VERY SMART. SO WHY DOES HE CHOOSE TO FLY INTO HURRICANES?

Story by Anastasia Devlin

Chief Petty Officer Steve Jayne, an engineer with Port Security Unit 301 in Boston, spent a few tense days working on a military base in support of Hurricane Florence, but not as a reservist—as a civilian.

Jayne is a doctor of oceanography—and a hurricane hunter.

He's been with the Coast Guard since 2002. After finishing his doctorate at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Jayne was working at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution when a friend of his told him she was interested in the Auxiliary.

"I needed a hobby anyway," said Jayne, who discovered he loved being underway, especially on the old 41-foot utility boat, the four-decade workhorse of the Coast Guard. Coincidentally, it's how he ended up joining the Reserve—Jayne was already a qualified 41 engineer at Station Woods Hole, so it wasn't a big step for him to jump from the Auxiliary to the Reserve in 2007.

At the time, Jayne was a senior scientist at the Institution, working on hurricane prediction equipment. He often works with Capt. Elizabeth Sanabia, a professor of oceanography at the Naval Academy. Every summer, Sanabia and Jayne work with a few chosen midshipmen to gather oceanic and atmospheric data to predict storm intensity.

"We could reliably predict the tracks of a hurricane," said Jayne, "but not the strength it would be when it hit land."

In 2012, when Hurricane Sandy struck late in the hurricane season, Congress approved funding for more hurricane research, and Jayne began developing new equipment to measure the temperature of the surface water, and that of the water several levels beneath the surface.

The magic number is 80 degrees (or about 26 degrees Celsius), because once the water temperature falls below 80

degrees, hurricanes magically disappear. When the ocean gets warm, hurricanes form, using the warm water as their energy.

For Steve Jayne, knowing how much warm water gets sucked up into the hurricane can help determine how much fuel the hurricane has on board, and that determines the strength at landfall.

Jayne developed three-foot long "floats" that contain systems for measuring the water temperature. The technical name for a float is ALAMO, Air-Launched Autonomous Micro-Observer. The ALAMOs sink to 300 meters, then rise slowly every two hours, measuring temperature in the layers of water. The floats also contain a communication device, and when they get back to the surface, they send the data back to Jayne. He, in turn, feeds that information to the National Weather Service. But to get the most accurate information, Jayne needed to get the devices directly in the path of the storm. Using ships was out of the question, because as Jayne puts it bluntly, "hurricanes tend to sink ships."

Enter the Air Force.

The 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, a reserve Air Force unit out of Biloxi, Miss., has 10 converted WC-130J cargo planes that are solely used to fly into hurricanes. Jayne joined the "Hurricane Hunters" in 2012 just after Sandy, and remembered a conversation with the aircraft commander as they prepared to fly into a storm. Despite his close ties to the unit, Jayne said the head of the Hurricane Hunters told him, "Sorry, you can't fly with us. Only military members are allowed aboard for this kind of mission."

Jayne laughed as he remembered playing the ace up his sleeve.

"I said, 'Actually, I'm a Coast Guard reservist,' and they said, 'Yeah? Then grab your bag, let's go!'"

"The integration with him as a crewmember has been seamless," said Lt. Col. Kaitlyn Woods, the chief meteorologist for the Hurricane Hunters. "We all have our own roles on the airplane. He didn't have any experience in aviation prior to coming to the unit, but he jumped right in, ready to go."

Since then, Jayne's flown into more than 50 hurricanes, all in the name of science. Last year, he flew into Hurricane Irma, his first Category 5, and the longest-lasting Cat 5 ever recorded.

It's pretty rare for any of the Hunters to get worried about flying into a hurricane. They seem to live for these occasions.

"Maybe once a season, I'll get nervous," said Woods. "These airplanes are reinforced to take lightning strikes. I've been on bumpier civilian flights."

In order for Jayne to deploy his 20-pound ALAMO floats 36 hours ahead of the predicted path of a hurricane, each one had to be able to fit through the plane's five-inch diameter launch tube. Undeterred, Jayne had reworked the measuring and communication equipment to fit.

Woods said the midshipmen who fly with the Hurricane Hunters also have a second kind of float, the Airborne eXpendable BathyThermographs (AXBTs), which gather other data on temperature.

Last September, during the lead up to Category 4 Hurricane Florence, Jayne, Woods and the Hurricane Hunters loaded all their gear onto C-130s that flew to Savannah, Ga. From there, they flew toward the storm, right into the 36-mile-wide center, and then they traced the story's path back to the east coast, deploying ten ALAMOs along the way.

"We have a one hundred percent humanitarian mission," said Woods. "My job is to collect atmospheric profile data in the cyclone itself, and his job is to collect a profile of the water column directly below the hurricane. The more data we collect, the more it'll significantly improve intensity models."

The two scientists processed their data aboard the aircraft and fed forecasters' models along the eastern seaboard, helping to update the public every few hours.

Helping others get prepared is Jayne's mission. Giving people more accurate information means saving more lives.

"The biggest thing we can give people is lead time," said Jayne. "With more lead time, you can be better prepared so people know when they need to evacuate." ≋

Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Steve Jayne, a senior scientist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and Navy Capt. Elizabeth Sanabia, a professor of oceanography at the U.S. Naval Academy, continue to research ocean conditions and create and adapt technology to predict the path and intensity of hurricanes. Their work, including the use of floats like those shown here, is critical to the accuracy of hurricane forecasting.

FEATURE STORY

BuzzFeed

Reserve enlisted leaders featured in recruiting campaign

Story by Anastasia Devlin

Over the summer, the Coast Guard Recruiting Command partnered with Buzzfeed on a photo essay that highlighted 10 women in the Coast Guard. The article, "10 Pieces of Advice from Badass Women of the Coast Guard," featured three reservists: Petty Officer 3rd Class Brittny Thompson, Petty Officer 2nd Class Chrissie Edwards and Petty Officer 1st Class Melissa Sprout.

Apart from Thompson's Type III uniform, the women blend in with their active duty shipmates. Chief Petty Officer Nick Ameen and his team at CGRC's marketing division worked to identify operational and support ratings, active and reserve members and, among the reservists, members of the blue guard (sectors and stations) and green guard (port security units and coastal riverine squadrons).

"I wanted to get as much of a broad-spectrum representation as possible," said Ameen. "My main job is like a producer; I scour the service, looking for the right people to place into our advertisements. That's the benefit of being a PA [public affairs specialist]. You develop a network."

Many people remember the late-night television and radio commercials of the mid-1990s and 2000s, but as technology changed, so did CGRC's approach to finding the Coast Guard's newest recruits.

"The principles of recruiting don't change, but the platforms do," said Ameen. "Every single job in the Coast Guard is open to everyone, and we're getting that message to the people via the platforms they're already on. We're on Instagram doing Instagram stories. We have the chat program—if potential applicants have a question, they can instantly talk with a recruiter. It's a full-time social effort."

Thompson, Edwards and Sprout gave great leadership advice in each of their quotes, and based on their contributions to the Coast Guard's missions, it's no surprise that they were chosen to represent the best of the service.

Melissa Sprout

MST1, Sector Incident Management Division, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Like so many of her shipmates, Melissa Sprout was at work when she got a call from a friend who was in the Coast Guard.

She'd just graduated from college and was working in her hometown of St. Petersburg, doing environmental contract work, literally saving endangered sea turtles and safely rehoming them.

It wasn't enough work to keep her employed full time, though, and she was excited when her friend told her to check out the Coast Guard; he'd heard they had a similar career path. "He said, 'You should go MST [marine science technician], you're already doing the same kind of work."

Sure enough, Sprout found she loved it—both the Coast Guard and her work as an MST.

"I was still doing work for the environment, helping protect the environment, but in pollution response."

Among her coworkers, she became notorious for pushing her shipmates to further their education, inspiring them to sign up for college classes and helping them navigate the Coast Guard's tuition assistance system.

"It really inspired me when I could inspire people to sign up," said Sprout.

After tours in busy Louisiana and environmentally-friendly California, she and her husband decided to start a family. Sprout couldn't quite leave the service.

"I didn't want to get out-out, so I just kind of switched over to the Reserve," she said, "I really like the camaraderie of the Coast Guard; it's like a family, everyone's really close."

Sprout came back to St. Petersburg to take a billet at the Coast Guard sector there as part of the reserve incident management division, where she serves as a pollution responder and lead petty officer for the weekends when she and her team augment the active duty IMD.

Chief Petty Officer Chad Boyd, reserve chief for the IMD shop said Sprout is a "bright light" to the shop.

"She has a busy civilian job and a young family—she's an active and engaged person, all the time, and she brings that level of

"You are truly in control of your future in the Coast Guard. *If you work hard to learn your job, you will be successful, and you will advance through the ranks. The more you put into your career, the more you will get out. Stay motivated!"*

— Melissa Sprout

engagement to our team," said Boyd. "Like when she received her FOSCR [federal on scene coordinator representative] qualification, that's tough for a reservist; you have to spend lots of time outside the weekend studying and come in occasionally during the week to earn that qualification."

Four years and two daughters later, Sprout is headed in a different direction. In her quote for the Buzzfeed article, she said, "You are truly in control of your future." Now she's helping other young people with their futures—much younger people.

"I finish my masters in counseling in May," she said, noting that she'll be focused on elementary school counseling. She interns two days a week at her local elementary school, and the other three, she spends time with her daughters and teaches kids' yoga on the beach.

Boyd summed up Sprout's level of dedication, both to the Coast Guard and as a civilian.

"She goes above and beyond to be the expert in her field."

Brittny Thompson

ME3, Port Security Unit 311, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

Brittny Thompson has come a long way. PSU 311's jack-of-all-trades petty officer was recently featured in the Buzzfeed article "10 Pieces of Advice from Badass Women of the Coast Guard." In her quote, she said, "…never give up… always put forth the effort to make it to the next level. We are stronger than we think, and we can accomplish anything we put our minds to. Always use positive influences to fuel your passion to become a better person, and always surround yourself with like-minded people who want to be successful."

Thompson's words came from a storied past. A decade ago, she wasn't on the best side of the law. In fact, while in high school, Thompson found herself hanging out with the wrong crowd and doing things she wasn't proud of.

She laughed, thinking back to her rowdy days. "When I was sitting in the back of a police car, I'm looking at the police officer in front, thinking, 'I want to be doing his job.'"

She remembered one officer, an older man who shook his head and told her she'd never be able to get a good job continuing as she was. Thompson was determined to prove him wrong. After high school, she enrolled in college, and chose criminal justice as her major.

She started to realize she had a passion for law enforcement.

Two weeks after completing her bachelors in 2011, Thompson enlisted in the Coast Guard, and sought to become a maritime enforcement specialist (ME). She was disappointed to find out that she'd be on the ME A-school list for four years. But she was a hard worker, always seeking additional responsibilities. While working at the damage control (DC) shop at her first active duty unit in Sector Port Angles, Wash., the crew started to recognize Thompson's spirit and initiative.

"I think my master chief knew I was bored at the sector, but he allowed me to do a lateral move to the station," said Thompson. "I struck BM [boatswain mate] there; I was one of the last people to make it through the striker program."

Thompson left active duty in 2015 and became a federal

corrections officer. At night, she worked on her graduate degree, earning a master's in forensics.

But as a new member of the Reserve, she said her new unit, PSU 311, was a game changer for her. She went through Basic PSU school, a training course for all new PSU members.

"I got really good at the weapons," said Thompson, who's been deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, since early spring.

Her command recognized Thompson's skills and attention to detail, and they asked her to become a PQS administrator for the unit's weapons program. She's even been to engineering school. She maintains all the unit's law enforcement gear, though she added, "I didn't realize how much work goes into it, especially

"One piece of advice I would give myself if I could go back in time before joining the Coast Guard would be to never give up and to always put forth the effort to make it to the next level. ***We are stronger than we think, and we can accomplish anything we put our minds to.*** *Always use positive influences to fuel your passion to become a better person, and always surround yourself with like-minded people who want to be successful."*

— Brittny Thompson

before an RFO [ready-for-operations evaluation]."

"I do more things here as a reservist than I ever did on active duty," said Thompson. "I'm more hands on here."

The Long Beach native said she was thrilled to be chosen for the Buzzfeed article last summer, and she was surprised to see how far reaching the news of her appearance was. High school friends contacted her and tagged her in social media posts, and old shipmates reached out to congratulate her. Her quote meant a lot to her because of her background, and she said, "I thought it would be a great exposure for the PSU."

Thompson's dedicated to her unit.

"PSU is a reserve unit, made up of reservists. We only have like six active duty members there, and that's it. There's a lot of opportunities, a lot of funding. In the blue guard, as a small boat station reservist, all my gear would be hand-me-down, but at the PSU, there's opportunities and they support us. We have to be ready, at all times, to deploy within 96 hours."

Thompson is torn, because she was just hired by Customs and Border Protection, and she's considering an assignment in Honolulu, yet another facet to her career of law enforcement experience.

However, that might mean leaving her PSU, which is based in California. Thompson said she would miss the "green guard."

"You know, I'm a very active person, I want to be a boarding team member, boarding officer, and I'm willing to work on my own time to make that happen. I want to be at a station that has those same opportunities for reservists."

She might keep the door open to further deployments, volunteering with the Coast Guard's other PSUs as they rotate through Guantanamo Bay on nine-month security duty.

"I just like deploying," said Thompson. "I joined the Coast Guard with the intention of being hands on."

Chrissie Edwards

CS2, CGRC In-service Transfer Team, Washington, D.C.

Some of Chrissie Edwards' earliest memories are of cooking.

"I remember my mom making homemade tortillas when I was two or three years old. I can never make them as good as she did," said Edwards, eyes smiling behind her black-framed glasses. "You never let go of that homemade tortilla, you know? But I think that's the secret to it—that it was made by her. It's the way it made me feel when I watched her make it. That's the secret ingredient."

Still, she didn't foresee her path as a cook in the Coast Guard. She attended two semesters of college, and drifted toward either being a police officer or joining the military. When a family friend joined the Coast Guard, she called a recruiter and started asking questions.

Seven months later and fresh out of boot camp, Edwards reported to a buoy tender, the Coast Guard Cutter *Fir*. Her days were spent dragging chains and scraping buoys; it's a known fact that black hull sailors work hard. But they also eat well, and Edwards admired the little group of cooks aboard *Fir*.

"They always worked together to create something great for the crew," said Edwards. "They always had so much pride in what they did."

Eventually, they welcomed Edwards into the galley to start trying her hand at a few dishes, and she added her name to the FS A-school list (as it was known before the rating's name change).

"The Coast Guard has great opportunities for all. As a culinary specialist, I like that I can put a smile on a member's face just by providing them with a high-quality meal that I have put all my creativity and passion in. ***Don't let anything stop you from following your goals and dreams.*** *If this is the path you want to take, then put your best foot forward and let the doors open !"*

— Chrissie Edwards

After school, Edwards accepted orders to another black hull, the Coast Guard Cutter Juniper. She laughed remembering the tricks the galley cooks used, like trying not to get burned putting trays into the oven when the ship took a roll, or putting wet towels under mixing bowls and cutting boards so they wouldn't slide. She said she could never get her lemon bars to come out level, they always had a list to them from being in a floating oven—things the average cook never has to worry about.

"One time, we were in these 25-foot swells, and we're making Swedish meatballs, so we're trying to roll meatballs while making sure the pots don't slide off the stove top," said Edwards.

The best part of working in the galley, said Edwards, was that the cooks would know about anything going on before anyone else.

"We had to know everything, where to offload trash, when we could buy more food… so we would know about anything going on before the whole crew."

Plus that passageway that runs along the galley? Yeah, people like to talk. Loudly.

By this time, Edwards was engaged to be married, and she couldn't get a billet close by her fiancé. She tried to cross over into the Reserve, but she couldn't find a unit within reasonable commuting distance that had a billet open.

Edwards agreed to stay in the IRR while she dug out her educational benefits and started her bachelor's degree at the Art Institute of Washington.

Her husband Mike was working nearby at the Department of Homeland Security's dining facility, and the two purchased their first house together.

When her first semester ended, Edwards didn't take a summer break. She upped her game, enrolling in six classes per quarter semester and taking a part-time job managing a small coffee shop.

"I thought, 'I'm already full speed ahead, why not keep going?'" said Edwards.

Working at a furious pace that allowed her to finish a four-year degree in two and a half, she graduated last March with her bachelor's in culinary management.

Now she had the trifecta of talent, experience and education, and she brought it all back to the Coast Guard last spring when she took an out-of-rate assignment on active duty orders as part of the In-service Transfer Team (ISTT). There, she helps active duty members transfer to the Reserve.

"I just wanted to be part of the Coast Guard team again," said Edwards. "To me, Coast Guard is what I know, what I enjoy."

Though she works in trops during the day, Edwards has a reputation for donning her chef's jacket on occasional evenings when she pitches in with special events around D.C. She passes on her tips and tricks to the other CSs, while simultaneously learning new ones.

The names of delicacies drop gracefully and effortlessly as she speaks—things like, "poke in phyllo dough shells" and "duck liver pâté" and "tapenade on toasted baguette." She's so familiar and comfortable with the fanciest of foods and techniques, but to know Edwards is to appreciate her modesty; she's most proud of a simple princess cake for her stepdaughter's fourth birthday.

It was a surprise to Edwards when she was recently chosen to be featured in the Buzzfeed article. Modest to a fault, she attributed her success to opportunities presented in the service, and she was eager to pass on her knowledge to the next generation of Coast Guard cooks.

"I don't have a pastry degree yet—I'm still one class away from my associate's. But the things I've learned [in college] about pastry, I've been able to teach my husband, who's used it during his receptions, and he's been able to teach other CSs."

So much of being a cook is based on trends and appetites, cultures and creativity.

"Our rating is one of the few where you can say, 'This is what I know works,'" said Chief Petty Officer Dustin Webb, himself a trops-by-day, chef's-coat-by-night type who also works at Headquarters. "It's not mathematically driven; it's an organic thing."

Edwards recently "picked up ice sculpting" (as she puts it) while prepping for the reception for the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard change of watch ceremony. Working with Webb, who at one time had also worked on the commandant's culinary staff, Edwards learned to sculpt a ship's wheel out of ice, carving out the spokes one by one. Days later, on her own, she tested her new skill, engraving tiny Hawaiian flowers in the displays for the commandant's change of command reception, a subtle nod to Adm. Paul Zukunft's retirement plans.

"Right from the beginning, she was eager to learn," said Webb, who was excited to pass on the rare knowledge of ice carving. "She wanted to do new things in the culinary arts, and when someone's willing to learn, that's awesome."

Since the busy summer of receptions due to the change in Coast Guard administrations, Edwards continued to teach and learn. She loves being part of the bench strength for DHS and other national-level special events.

"They just ask me to help, and I say, 'Yes! I'll be there!'" she said with a laugh.

Edwards and her husband continue to share their love of cooking. It doesn't require a special occasion for them to spend an evening together making chocolate truffles with raspberry macaroon filling and whiskey ganache for an event at the commandant's residence.

"We need a bigger kitchen," said Mike, remembering a time when they made poached pears covered in chocolate mousse. "It's just something we like to do."

They talk about opening their own restaurant one day, maybe an Italian bistro in Texas. She's even beginning to teach her stepdaughter how to make a few recipes. ≋

HOW ARE YOU SPENDING YOUR WEEKEND?

As a member of the Coast Guard Reserve, you will be working side by side with full-time Coast Guardsmen. No matter what mission, you'll typically serve two days a month and two weeks a year at a base near your home. Receive training in such diverse fields as computer processing, mechanics, or communications. Want to operate boats and save lives? Qualify as a boat coxswain and lead real lifesaving missions.

Plus, reservists get the benefits of:

- Intensive, highly specialized training in transferable skills.
- Work-life balance—You can advance your civilian career while you serve.
- Competitive pay for serving one weekend a month and two weeks per year.
- Low-cost, quality medical and dental coverage.
- Education assistance through the Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve.
- Retirement plan for your part-time service.

Join now at GoCoastGuard.com

The BM RFMC addresses the Reserve BMs

Great work is being done by boatswain's mates in all reaches of the Coast Guard. I hear about much of the outstanding training going on and, as a result, the successes and achievements that go along with it.

This year was uniquely successful for the Reserve program with over $200,000 invested in additional training periods (ATPs), bolstering the training for many reservists filling Boat Forces billets. This expenditure in time and of money has created an immediate and necessary lift for reserve BMs.

Recently, I heard from Senior Chief Petty Officer Jeff Wildes reporting on how at Station Seattle, "BM3 Maggie Nicol performed her ADT-AT in Yorktown and was given an additional two weeks of ADT-OTD for OJT at the Station. I am proud to say that she has now joined the ranks of certified coxswains! I was on her board that included multiple coxswains, including active duty personnel, we all agreed that it was one of the most professional boards they have served on."

Similarly, I heard from Master Chief Petty Officer Jeff Pelland, officer-in-charge of Station San Diego, "Chief Mejia [the station's reserve training petty officer (RTPO)] put on an outstanding week-long coxswain board prep school that resulted in BM3 Fine passing his initial coxswain board, and MK1 Artac will be ready for his board once he completes his remaining PQS items. They made excellent use of the additional drill week given to them!"

These are just two examples of the many successes we're seeing across the service. Some of the success can be attributed to the vision and employment of the Boat Forces Reserve Management Plan. The plan, initially implemented five years ago, made major changes to the force laydown and the expectations of those assigned to stations. These major changes included: reserve competencies created for each platform type that are on par with active duty competencies, members not being restricted to RB-S platform only, and the currency cycle changed to annual time frame to fit ADT/IDT schedule of reservists.

Other sweeping changes included the restructuring of the number of reserve billets at a unit in order to align with training capacity (defined as six billets per boat crew, maximum of four boat crews per unit). Finally, there were two leadership billets placed at stations with specific job descriptions, a BMC billet added to the RPAL as the RTPO and the senior reserve enlisted advisor (SERA) to focus on administration and readiness.

These changes, at every station in the Coast Guard, have yielded the terrific results they promised years ago. The Reserve force now has 330 certified boat coxswains trained and ready to mobilize.

As the rating force master chief, I am always concerned with the overall strength of the entire BM workforce. Boatswain's mates are 6,000 members-strong, service wide. Out of that number, nearly 1,200 are reservists. BMs make up nearly 24 percent of the entire enlisted Reserve workforce. The strength of our workforce has improved as a result of the excellent work being done in training across the service.

In 2015, the rating strength was listing terribly to the BM3 side: BM3s: 154%, BM2s: 49%, BM1s: 72%. This was a very strange-looking pyramid. Today, we are still short BM2s, but the rating pyramid is greatly improved: BM3s: 93%, BM2s: 51%, BM1s: 91%. This improvement in the rating structure returns stability to the workforce, and it means we have many more qualified coxswains spread through the various pay grades instead of just a few E-6s and E-7s holding certifications.

Two years ago, BM was the first rating to add a reserve force management coordinator. Senior Chief Petty Officer Nick Bernice currently holds the billet and has been very helpful in assisting me with both active and reserve issues specific to our rating. Feel free to reach out to me or Senior Chief Bernice if you feel there is anything that needs to be addressed with regard to being a boatswain's mate.

I would like to thank those of you who choose to become boatswain's mates, demonstrating that BMs chose to do our jobs because we know it is important work. We are the largest Reserve enlisted entity. When we work together as a rating to do great things, we elevate the entire Reserve Program and our amazing Coast Guard. I take great pride in being the Boatswain's Mate RFMC and look forward to our continued work together. Semper Paratus.

— Master Chief Petty Officer Shawn Hoefling
BM Rating Force Master Chief

Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Sarah Welvaert, a boatswain's mate at Station Emerald Isle, N. C., communicates with the station's watchstander while piloting a 45-foot Response Boat-Medium in Bogue Inlet, March 27, 2017. Welvaert performed a wide range of piloting skills and directed her crew while under scrutiny during her coxswain certification check ride. Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Corinne Zilnicki

Profile view of Coast Guard Cutter *Point Cypress* showing 50-caliber machine guns mounted on the fantail and amidships with 81mm mortar/50-caliber combination mounted on the bow.

Courtesy of Gordon M. Gillies

Heriberto Hernandez

and patrol boat operations in the Vietnam War

Story by William H. Thiesen, Ph.D., Historian, Coast Guard Atlantic Area

Fast response cutter (FRC) namesake Heriberto Segovia Hernandez volunteered for duty in Vietnam in 1968. Known as "Eddie" by his friends and shipmates, Hernandez was assigned to the 82-foot Coast Guard Cutter *Point Cypress*, a patrol boat that served along the Cà Mau Peninsula on the southernmost tip of South Vietnam.

The *Point Cypress* deployed regularly to interdict arms smuggling, support troop movements, provide fire support against enemy positions and gather intelligence. To gather intelligence, *Point Cypress* sent its smallboat, a 14-foot fiberglass motorboat, on reconnaissance missions up Vietnam's shallow inland waterways. Eddie served regularly on these hazardous missions, and, when in port, he visited other patrol boats to get advice and discuss best practices with more experienced veterans. During smallboat operations, Eddie rode point in the bow, holding the M60 machine gun with bandoliers of extra M60 rounds draped over his chest. A well-worn flak vest and a World War II vintage helmet provided his only protection from automatic weapons fire or rocket propelled grenades.

On Oct. 5, 1968, Eddie participated in a reconnaissance mission on the Cà Mau Peninsula in which his force came under heavy enemy fire, but *Point Cypress* and another WPB managed to destroy enemy river barriers, fortified structures, bunkers and armed sampans before withdrawing. On Nov. 9, he deployed in the smallboat on a gunfire damage assessment mission near Hòn Đá Bạc Island, on the west side of the Cà Mau Peninsula, to assess a fire support mission just completed by a U.S. patrol vessel. During this mission, Hernandez's smallboat located and destroyed four enemy sampans.

After the Navy launched Operation SEALORDS (Southeast Asia, Lake, Ocean, River and Delta Strategy) in late 1968, Hernandez frequently volunteered for reconnaissance missions into rivers and canals in enemy territory—many of them never before penetrated by friendly forces. These missions helped to determine whether the waterways could be navigated by U.S. patrol craft, such as Coast Guard patrol boats or the Navy's newly-introduced, shallow-draft Swift Boats and PBRs (patrol boat, river).

In early December, *Point Cypress* conducted daily smallboat operations and gunfire support missions, destroying three enemy bunkers and damaging three more. On Dec. 4, the cutter rendezvoused with a Royal Thai Navy gunboat to embark Cmdr. Charles Blaha, deputy commander for Coast Guard operations in Vietnam. He and the cutter's commanding officer, Lt. j.g. Jonathan Collom, planned to deploy Blaha and the smallboat the next day to determine the depth of the Rach Nang River for Navy Swift Boat operations and to see whether the Rach Tac Buo River intersected the Rach Nang somewhere upstream. *Point Cypress*'s executive officer, Lt. j.g. Gordon Gillies, would serve as coxswain, and Hernandez volunteered to ride point in the bow.

Heriberto Segovia "Eddie" Hernandez in his black and white service portrait, prior to his tour in Vietnam. (Courtesy of the Hernandez family)

According to reports, Hernandez embarked the smallboat with the two officers Dec. 5 at about 2:30 p.m. Eddie brought the M60, while the others brought M16s and an M79 grenade launcher with spare rounds. The smallboat proceeded first to the mouth of the Rach Nang River, then over to the mouth of the nearby Rach Tac Buo. The crew probed the shores for a connecting tributary with the Rach Nang.

There was no navigable connection with the Rach Nang, so Gillies steered the boat back to the mouth of the river. The smallboat crew then radioed *Point Cypress* for further instructions. They received orders to proceed cautiously up the Rach Nang to find the location of "hooches" (American slang for village huts), bunkers and fortified positions for future fire support missions. In addition, the smallboat received orders to destroy the nearest hooches using the M79 grenade launcher and highly flammable night illumination rounds. The smallboat closed to within 30 yards of the structures on shore.

As the crew approached the hooches, they noticed an armed Viet Cong guerilla entering a shoreside bunker. Blaha fired a volley at the fortification with his M16 and the Viet Cong returned fire. As soon as he heard the gunfire, Gillies gunned the engine and the vessel motored away from shore, but it was too late to dodge the hostile fire. With only their flak vests to protect them against the enemy rounds, each man suffered severe bullet wounds. Hernandez was hit near the chest and slumped into the bow, while the officers received gunshot wounds to the head, back, shoulders, arms and legs.

Blaha radioed *Point Cypress* that they had been shot up and were motoring toward the mouth of the Rach Nang. As they proceeded, their vessel received more incoming fire from shore. Blaha did his best to suppress it with bursts from his M16, but the enemy fire held no tracer rounds, so he failed to pinpoint the enemy positions within the foliage on shore. As they approached the rendezvous point with *Point Cypress*, Blaha and Gillies grew faint from blood loss and Hernandez remained slumped in the bow, alive but groaning in pain from his wounds.

On the *Point Cypress*, Collom sounded general quarters and sped toward the rendezvous point at the mouth of the river. Once on scene, the crew of the 82-footer embarked the smallboat and wounded men. Next, Collom radioed a request for a medevac from the Navy's floating support base on board the anchored landing ship, USS Washoe County. During the half-hour transit, *Point Cypress*'s crew did their best to stabilize the wounded in preparation for the helicopter medevac to a local field hospital. When Eddie was brought on board *Point Cypress*, he was still conscious, but the bullet that struck him passed through his upper torso causing heavy internal bleeding. His wounds proved too grave to treat with the limited medical supplies on board *Point Cypress* and he passed away just as the vessel approached the Washoe County to take on mooring lines.

Eddie's body was flown back to Travis Air Force Base and then returned with a Coast Guard escort to his family in San Antonio. On Dec. 14, 1968, he was interred at San Fernando Cemetery with full military honors. Hernandez posthumously received the Purple Heart Medal and Bronze Star Medal with a "V" device for valor. His Bronze Star citation read, "Fireman Hernandez's professional skill, courage under enemy fire, and devotion to duty reflected great credit upon himself, and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

In 2015, the Coast Guard named one of the new FRCs in his honor. The Coast Guard Cutter *Heriberto Hernandez* is homeported in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Hernandez was a member of the long blue line and the first Hispanic-American cutter namesake recognized for Coast Guard combat service. ≋

A smallboat mission with four crew, including Hernandez in the bow. Weapons included small arms and M16s with only battle helmets and flak vests providing crew protection. Courtesy of Gordon M. Gillies

Station Apra Harbor reservists take gold in Micro Games

Two exceptional reservists from Sector Guam captured medals at the Micronesian Games held in Yap State, in the Federated States of Micronesia in mid-July. They didn't just medal, though, they took center stage.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Mary Gillan, a reserve maritime enforcement specialist (ME) at Station Apra Harbor, represented Guam as a member of the women's volleyball team, and Chief Petty Officer Todd Genereux, a reserve member of the Station's engineering department, participated in the spear fishing competition.

"This demonstrates the amazing people in the Reserve, including the far reaches of the Pacific," said Master Chief Petty Officer Lucas Pullen, the sector's command master chief.

The Micro Games, as they're known, are held every four years, rotating through the countries, commonwealths, and territories in Micronesia (an area west of Hawaii and north of Australia). The participants also take part in the Pacific Games, another quadrennial event, similar to the Olympics. The athletes from these beautiful islands participate in more than a dozen "summer sport" fields, such as softball, fishing, triathlon, swimming, wrestling and volleyball.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Mary Gillan (second from left in back row, #3) stands with the women's volleyball team after winning the gold medal in the 2018 Micro Games, the team's fourth gold medal in a row.

Photo courtesy of Mary Gillan

Mary Gillan, Guam National Women's Volleyball Team, Gold Medal

Mary Gillan, born and raised on Guam, is from a family that's always excelled at sports. Her mother Terri had been a member of the Guam National Team in the 1970s, and she continued in the sport, coaching all three of her girls, including Mary.

"I started learning about volleyball since as far back as I can remember," said Gillan, who tried other sports like rugby and soccer, but focused on volleyball competitively since elementary school. "Volleyball always meant more to me since it had deep roots in my family."

After leaving Guam to attend Chaminade University (and play volleyball at the collegiate level) in Honolulu, Gillan came home to participate in the 2014 Micro Games with her sister Emma, as captain. Gillan overcame old injuries to participate,

and she and her team took the gold medal, the third time in a row for Guam.

After the games, Gillan began her law enforcement career, first as an officer with the Guam Police Department, and later, as a probation officer. She enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve last year, right around the same time she began trying out for the 2018 Micro Games. Last spring, a stint at ME A-school temporarily took her away from a rigorous training schedule, which was split between the court and CrossFit sessions. Gillan was excited to be back defending Guam's gold medal, this time as the co-captain of the team.

She led and mentored the team, and on game days, stayed aggressive on offense. In the last game in the series, Gillan served the last four points securing the gold medal for Guam for a fourth time.

Surprising no one, she was named the game's most valuable player.

Chief Petty Officer Todd Genereux, right, and his teammates hold up their gold medals in spear fishing from the 2018 Micro Games.

Photo courtesy of Chase Weir, Liquid Soul Industries

Todd Genereux, Spear fishing, Gold Medal

Anywhere else in the world, a fisherman would be delighted to pull in four or five huge fish after a few hours' worth of fishing, but not Chief Genereux – the 2018 Micro Games spear fishing competition (max weight in six hours) would be fierce and memorable.

Raised on Guam since he was three, Genereux experiences life through the lens of water. He started free diving as soon as he could swim and started spear fishing at 13. By 16, he owned his first boat, and he began trolling and bottom fishing. Later, as a boatman for the South Pacific Games, Genereux was blown away by the spear fishermen's techniques and how they netted huge amounts of heavy, tropical fish.

"It's the most selective type of fishing; you choose exactly what fish you want," said Genereux, "but when I say 'choose,' I mean 'attempt to catch [fish]—on a single breath of air—in their environment, where you're not the top of the food chain.'"

This style of fishing yields almost no waste, and some competitions have built in "bag limits" on species and locations to ensure environmental stewardship and prevent overfishing.

After the South Pacific Games, Genereux joined the Coast Guard and reported to Station Apra Harbor. Now, after almost 15 years at the station (with about seven years of it on full-time active duty orders during personnel shortages), he's a qualified coxswain, engineer and boarding officer. There's not much the chief doesn't have a hand in at the station.

"When I first started here, we had two 25[-foot boat]s, and our boat bay was a canopy," he said, laughing as he remembered that any time the wind went over 25 knots, they had to take down the canopy. As the station developed, Genereux helped build the structures that made it feel like home for the crew. "We worked on the kitchen, installed the washers and dryers and built fences. We had a great team of guys; now it's as good as any station back on the mainland."

When his last set of active duty orders ended, the chief had more flexible work hours in several part-time ventures: as a boat captain, a real estate agent and the owner of a rental car company. He spoke with a Hawaiian accent, evocative of island life, when he joked, "They're all jobs where I don't have to be there."

Genereux's flexible schedule allowed him to spend much of his free time training for the Micro Games, researching equipment, improving his physical fitness and educating himself on fishing styles.

"Every country has its own rules; there are size limits, catch limits and endangered species," said Genereux. "You have to be able to catch all types of fish, not just the ones you're used to catching at home. The best training is to actually fish. When I get free time after work and the water's calm, we all jump on my boat and head out."

On a typical day of free diving and spear fishing, he'll do close to 200 dives, each one around two minutes long. "The more you do it, the less you have to hold your breath," he said with a laugh, though he wears a dive computer to remind himself of his body's need for oxygen. "You can't let your adrenaline take over."

Despite stormy weather July 16, Team Guam left the dock on their support boat, loaded up with cases of diving and fishing equipment. It was the second day of the Games, and things were off to a rainy start. Despite rough seas, Genereux and his teammate got to work, each individually attempting to secure the heaviest weight in fish within the six-hour time limit.

The spear fishermen came up with their shiny, water-slicked catch, pulling massive, dog-sized tropical fish over the gunnels, each one in vivid, beautiful color: bright orange, olive drab and speckled turquoise.

In coverage of the event, Genereux was reported to be "machine-like": out of seven, two-man teams, Genereux netted the heaviest, gold-winning catch: 177.5 pounds, blowing past the silver medalist by more than 30 pounds. Team Guam shared their catch with the boatmen, area scouts, members of Guam's teams and the dockworkers who help at the competition measuring each man's catch. Though the day was about the sport, every fish would end up as dinner. Genereux's already looking forward to the 2022 Games.

"I believe most of my success comes from being in and around the ocean my whole life," said Genereux. "It's where I go to work, play and relax, and I never stop learning something new from it." ≋

Twin petty officers form charity foundation supporting public servants; help supply teachers

Last year, twin brothers Sean and Christopher Pascoe noticed the country's continual loss: loss of homes, loss of lives, and a lack of support for its public servants. Along with a collective of law enforcement officers, nurses, educators and others with a passion for public service, the Pascoe brothers sought to rework the narrative of the American public servant. With the intention to serve the individuals that have selflessly assisted their communities and country, the group formed the Heroes of America Foundation last fall.

With the founders' multiplicity of skills, the organization sought to provide support and assistance for public servants who are faced with their own personal challenges. A month into this mission, Hurricane Harvey was expected to hit the Southern coast with an aggressive force. Anticipating Houston's need for support, HOAF, in partnership with Las Vegas schools, organized a local donation bank. Shortly after, the Pascoe brothers and co-founder Justin Williams traveled to Houston to deliver the donations to devastated schools and educators. Upon returning home, HOAF members responded to other environmental disasters and tragedies, including the October 1 mass shooting in their home city.

As of 2018, the Foundation is continuing to grow and has launched ongoing projects to serve dedicated public servants, including educators and active military members. For educators, HOAF has created "Heroes Helping Hands," a program designed to reimburse teachers for school supplies and relieve the acquired financial burden of being a teacher. Additionally, the Foundation has launched "Holidays Overseas," which will provide deployed soldiers with a memorable holiday season. As deployed military members themselves, the Pascoe brothers recognize the negative emotional response to missing important holidays. Therefore, they wish to provide decorations, presents, entertainment, and other seasonal festivities for active military members to enjoy while separated from their loved ones. With such programs, the Heroes of America Foundation is expected to gain widespread support and foresees continued growth with the mission to serve. ≋

Heroes of America Foundation leaders Petty Officers 2nd Class Chris Pascoe, Joe Scholss and Sean Pascoe were deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, with their unit, Port Security 311.

Building roofs for churches on the other side of the world

Before Chief Petty Officer Phillip Zonn was a police officer, and before he was a Coast Guard reservist, he had another career: for more than 10 years, he worked as a construction superintendent. There, he learned to do small home remodeling projects from woodworking to plumbing to installation.

This valuable set of skills gave him the ability to help others less fortunate, so when the congregation of Weems Creek Baptist Church was forming a team of men to build roofs for several churches in Tanzania last summer, Zonn, a member of Sector Baltimore's Vessel Boarding Security Team, was among them.

He bought his own ticket to the other side of the world—a 22-hour flight, plus another full day of van and bus rides through the hot Tanzanian countryside. Zonn and the team were met by a crew of half a dozen local men to build four roofs.

As the superintendent of the crew of more than a dozen men doing construction in a third-world country, Zonn had his work cut out for him. Money was scarce in the towns, and power wasn't always available. He and his team built the trusses for the roofs by hand, dealing with crooked, warped wood and a dearth of supplies. Luckily, because he'd done a similar trip to Ghana last year, he remembered not to take anything for granted.

"We used to bring our power saws, but most of the villages we're building for don't have generators," said Zonn. "Some of them have been saving for like five years just to build the roof."

Despite the problems, Zonn said he admired everyone's positive attitudes. Even with the hindrance of a language barrier, the crew of Americans and Tanzanians stayed focused, and progress came quickly as they added the tin roofs.

"We don't even speak the language, but it's like, 'You believe in God, we believe in God, awesome, let's put this roof on this church and we'll call it a day,'" said Zonn. "At the end of the day, it all works out."

Chief Petty Officer Phillip Zonn spent a month in Tanzania putting on roofs for local churches. Zonn's group also brought donations of eyeglasses and toys to families there.

Zonn said a highlight of the trip for the American crew was visiting the schools and handing out soccer balls to the children, and he tried to put it into perspective.

"As a cop, I'm usually seeing people on their worst day, because they made a bad decision or they committed a crime or whatever, but to see these kids there, playing with a ball of trash tied up with a string… we gave them a few soccer balls, and the kids were so happy. Americans, we complain about everything, but these guys, they're excited to be alive, have fresh water, make good food. These kids, it's like their whole world gets changed because someone dropped off a soccer ball."

Zonn and the crew finished two of the four roofs before their four-week trip came to a close, and he was happy to get home to the smiles of his own two children. ≋

PSU veteran honored at JINSA awards ceremony

Lt. Emily Brockway was among six members of the military who received JINSA's Grateful Nation Award Oct. 13, 2018, along with Maj. Cade A. Reedy, Master Sgt. Daniel P. McKnight, Lt. Cmdr. Jacob Romelhardt, Master Sgt. Michael L. Settles, and Staff Sgt. Jason T. Pacheco.

Photo courtesy of JINSA

On Aug. 31, 2018, Lt. Emily H. Brockway, currently assigned to Coast Guard Headquarters, was selected for recognition at the Jewish Institute for National Security of America's 16th Annual Grateful Nation Awards Ceremony. The ceremony was held in Washington Oct. 10.

Brockway displayed exceptional service and volunteer efforts while deployed for 11 months in 2016 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Freedom Sentinel. As the sole Coast Guard member assigned to U.S. Navy Coastal Riverine Squadron EIGHT's 70-person detachment, Brockway served as the Antiterrorism Officer and Operations Officer, Commander Task Group (CTG) 68.6, to Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. She developed and coordinated force protection packages for high-value assets (HVA), totaling more than 34,000 hours of seaward security for critical maritime infrastructure in the Port of Djibouti. ≋

TRICARE Reserve Select and Retired Reserve 2019

Submitted by Lt. Macy Peck, Pacific Area, PAC-13

TRICARE Reserve Select

TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) is a premium-based plan, available worldwide for qualified Selected Reserve members and their families. Members in the Selected Reserve and their families may participate if the sponsor is not on active duty orders, not covered under the Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP) or not eligible or enrolled in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) program.

Type of Coverage	2017 TRS Monthly Rate	2018 TRS Monthly Rate	2019 TRS Monthly Rate	Change 2018 & 2019
TRS Member-Only	$ 47.82	$ 46.09	$ 42.83	-7.6%
TRS Member & Family	$ 217.51	$ 221.38	$ 218.01	-1.5%

NOTE: *Under "NEW" DoD policy effective January 1, 2018, TRS members who are disenrolled for failing to pay their premiums will NO LONGER have the option of seeking "NEW" TRS enrollment if the reinstatement request is received by the regional contractor more than 90 days from the last paid-though-date. In addition, to be considered for reinstatement, members must ensure their request includes premium payments from the last paid-through-date through the current month plus the amount for the following two months (to include administrative fees) and include information to establish recurring electronic premium payments. Failure to meet the requirements will result in no reinstated coverage, and the member will be locked out of the new coverage for 12 months.*

TRICARE Retired Reserve

TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR) is afforded to those who are members of the retired Reserve and eligible family members who are qualified for non-regular retirement under 10 U.S.C. Chapter 1223, under the age of 60, and not eligible for FEHB. TRR is also available to survivors of retired Reserve members if one of the following criteria are met: the sponsor was covered by TRICARE Retired Reserve when the sponsor died; immediate family members of the deceased sponsor (spouses cannot have remarried); TRR coverage would begin before the date the deceased sponsor would have turned 60 years old; and survivor coverage is not affected by FEHB eligibility.

Type of Coverage	2016 TRR Monthly Rate	2017 TRR Monthly Rate	2018 TRR Monthly Rate	Change 2017 & 2018
TRR Member-Only	$ 388.79	$ 402.81	$ 431.35	+6.6%
TRR Member & Family	$ 957.44	$ 1,013.36	$ 1,038.31	+2.5%

Need help with the DMDC Reserve Component Purchased TRICARE Application? Call the DMDC Support Center at 1-800-477-8227.

BONUS • Items •

ALCOAST 283/18 *terminated the use of flat-rate per diem when a member is on a TDY at one location for more than 30 days.*

ALCGRSV 047/18 *announced the cancellation of the 2019 Reserve High Year Tenure (R-HYT) Panel, due to current workforce needs. The Office of Reserve Affairs (CG-131) and the Reserve Personnel Management Division (CG PSC-RPM) will continue to evaluate Reserve Component needs.*

ALCOAST 263/18 *outlined the GI Bill transfer of education benefits (TEB). After July 12, 2019, members with more than 16 years of military service will no longer be allowed TEB to eligible dependents. Review all changes to Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 1341.13 at the PSC PSD portal site.*

Captain retires after three decades of service

On May 19, Capt. Martha J. LaGuardia celebrated her retirement from the Coast Guard after 29 years of service to the country, with more than a third of it spent on active duty. She was presented with the Meritorious Service Medal by her Coast Guard Academy classmate and Ninth District Commander, Rear Adm. Joanna Nunan.

LaGuardia spent much of her active duty in law enforcement, including two sea tours, but transitioned to the career field of public affairs around the same time she transitioned to the Reserve. As a public affairs officer, LaGuardia handled cases like the Kennedy plane crash, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and the response to Hurricane Sandy.

LaGuardia, known as Martha Kotite-LaGuardia in her civilian career, is the author of several books, including some written about the Coast Guard. She continues her work as an author and speaker. ≋

Captain Martha LaGuardia, stands with her family at her retirement ceremony, May 19. LaGuardia retires after 29 years of service in the Coast Guard and Reserve.

Photo courtesy of Capt. Martha LaGuardia

First CG member inducted into Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame

Cmdr. Michael Hart was inducted into the Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame as one of 30 members being honored for 2018. Hart's service as a Coast Guardsman and as a Marine was recognized in a ceremony held Sept. 7, in Lexington, Ky. Rear Adm. Scott McKinley and Rear Adm. Stephen Day, who served in Port Security Unit 309 with Hart, both attended the ceremony.

"It's a great honor to be the first Coast Guardsman to be inducted into the Hall of Fame," said Hart, who retired in 2009 as the commanding officer of PSU 308.

After serving two years with the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War, Hart went on to serve another 23 years in the Coast Guard Reserve, including additional time overseas with PSUs. In his civilian career, he served with the Louisville Division of Police, retiring in 2000 after almost 30 years in law enforcement.

Hart is now active in the Marine Corps League, contributing to veterans' service projects and pistol competitions. ≋

Cmdr. Michael Hart poses with Rear Adm. Scott McKinley, Senior Reserve Officer for DCO, at the 2018 Kentucky Veteran's Hall of Fame, Sept. 7.

Photo courtesy of Rear Adm. Scott McKinley

Young woman runs away, joins Coast Guard

Story and photos courtesy of Christine Rodenbaugh, The St. Augustine Record

Editor's note: *This is an abridged version of the original article, which can be found at staugustine.com.*

At the age of 21, Marian Stenger (Barnett) ran away from home to join the Coast Guard. She celebrated her 97th birthday July 17 and hasn't lost that spark for adventure. At a small gathering of friends at her daughter, Kathleen's, Anastasia Island home, Marian recalled some recent adventures including skydiving, zip lining and a motorcycle ride to raise funds for cancer research.

"My granddaughter called and wants me to go skydiving again. But I'm not telling anybody," she said with a grin.

Against her parents' wishes, and without their knowledge, Stenger joined the Coast Guard while they were on vacation for a few months in Florida. She said always liked the uniform.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Marian Stenger is pictured in her uniform in 1943.

To keep the secret, she would write a letter to her parents in an envelope addressed to their Florida vacation address, then place that in an envelope addressed to her brother. He, in turn, would mail her letter from Cincinnati. He forwarded mail from their parents to Stenger at basic training in Bronx, New York, or to Stillwater, Oklahoma, where she completed training to become a Yeoman.

During WWII, the Ponce de Leon Hotel, now Flagler College, was used as a Coast Guard training center. Stenger was among the first SPARs to be stationed in St. Augustine. She lived in one of the former guest rooms with four other SPARs sleeping in bunk beds. She had the top bunk unless she was out late and reached her three-drink limit. Then she would tell her roommate, "Putzie, get up top. I've had too much to drink."

At that time, the bus station was located across the street from the Ponce de Leon Hotel. Stenger's parents were returning to Ohio from Miami by bus, as they normally traveled, and her father pointed out a girl across the street who looked just like their Marian. And it was.

A few weeks later, Stenger went home to Ohio on leave. She walked up to the house in her uniform, unsure how she would be received. It turned out her parents were proud of her choice to serve in wartime, and sent her on errands, in uniform, so that everyone in town could see her.

There were 60 SPARs in St. Augustine and about 6,000 men.

Stenger recalled the old Dr. Pepper advertising slogan, "Drink a bite to eat at 10, 2, and 4." She and her friends adapted the slogan to dating.

"I would make dates with everybody — 10, 2 and 4 — and take the best of the lot," she said. "And my [future] husband [Freddie] was not one of them."

Freddie's buddies teased that he had not gone out with Marian yet.

He replied, "I have plans for her after the war."

Stenger, with her fiery personality, rejected the notion wholeheartedly.

"Nobody makes plans for me."

In May of 1945, the training station in St. Augustine was closed. She had the choice to transfer to Miami, San Francisco or New York. She wrote SAN FRANCISCO in all capital letters, and the other two options very small in small letters. She got her first choice.

Freddie had shipped out with the Navy, and his ship returned to the states in San Francisco.

After his discharge, they were married and, eventually, moved back to St. Augustine. She lives in Saint Johns with her son, Jack, and regularly visits her daughter, Kathleen, at her home just over the Bridge of Lions on Anastasia Island. Another son, Mark, lives in Clearwater.

Stenger is still sharp and can tell a great story. [She] stays active volunteering and participating in Council on Aging activities. She shows no sign of slowing down and still enjoys living in St. Augustine.

"I ran away and joined the Coast Guard," she said. "It was the happiest time of my life." ≋

St. Augustine, Fla. Mayor Nancy Shaver, presents a Navy League of the United States membership certificate to Marian Stenger.

Retirement List

RET-1 (With Pay)

MARCH 2018
OSCM Carrie Winningham

JULY 2018
CAPT Peter Sammis
CAPT Alan Tubbs
CAPT Frederick Wasco
CDR Baird Ritter
CDR Steven Veit
CDR Timothy Wise
LCDR Robert Cannon
LCDR Russell Lynn
LCDR Michael Wroblewski
LT Thomas Hughes
LT Pattie Urquhart
BMCM James Cunningham
SKCM Sandra Fletcher
BMCS Stephen McDonald
SKC Christopher Crowley
BM1 Michael Smith
MK1 Glenn Anderson
SK1 Angelo Hayes
YN1 Jonathan Brooks
BM2 Kevin Battle
BM2 John McIeer
BM2 William Pisha

AUGUST 2018
RADM Francis Pelkowski
CAPT Timothy Crowley
CDR Gregory Zurakowski
LCDR Jeffrey O'Connell
PERS3 Faith Matuschek
MKCM Maurice Major
OSCM Mark LeMay
MECS Scott Pettis
YNCS Kathleen Opezio
BMC William Ritchie
ISC Charles Binder
MSTC Mark Manthei
EM1 Jeffrey DeCastillia
OSC Harry Wong
MK1 John Rother
PS1 Brett Copher

SEPTEMBER 2018
CAPT Richard Neiman
CAPT David Riley
CDR Mark Jackson
MLES4 Darrel Kandil
OSS4 James Wilson
CWO Harold Willaford
MKCM Joseph Benning
MSTCM Gary Dennis
OSCM Richard Sines
IVC Mark Moss
MEC Robert Chedsey
MKC Ely Cabedo
MKC Robert Navratil
MKC Arthur Smith
BM1 Danny Green
MK1 William Yaden
DC2 James Petrini
HS2 Keane Zimmerman
YN2 Jeannie Whiteley

RET-2 (Without Pay)

JUNE 2018
CDR Alma K. Certa
CDR Robert Waldman
BM2 Daniel R. Daoust

JULY 2018
RADM Francis Pelkowski
CAPT Elizabeth A. Campbell
CAPT Douglas J. Dawson
CAPT Martha J. LaGuardia
CAPT Thomas O. Martin
CAPT Carol M. McAllister
CAPT William K. Noftsker
CAPT Patricia J. Quinn
CAPT James P. Robinson
CAPT Matthew B. Stuck
CAPT Wilbur A. Velarde
CDR Scott R. Benson
CDR Michael A. Bolz
CDR James E. Elliott
CDR Steven M. Fischer
CDR James Garzon
CDR Paul D. Lehmann
CDR Aaron C. Lubrano
CDR Richard E. More
CDR Thomas J. Morgan
CDR David H. Nguyen
CDR Wayne M. Nomi
CDR Nelson Y. Rivera
CDR John P. Roos
CDR Mark T. Wilcox
LCDR James F. Etherton
LCDR Kerry D. Lyons
LCDR Katiuska Pabon-Beauchamp
LT Matthew S. Adams
LT Kristofer K. Goland
MECS James N. Duerer
MECS Samuel D. Manry
BMC James J. Gallelli
BMC Robert K. Mandel
MEC Douglas A. Birnbaum
MKC Edward A. Bender
BM1 Michael A. Cunningham II
BM1 Joseph B. Margherone
MK2 John C. Brycki
IV3 Magda Fernandez
MK3 Craig D. Portnova
MST Christopher M. Brincat

SEPTEMBER 2018
CDR Orlando T. Munoz
CDR Sergio VillaVerde
LCDR Joshua R. Curtis
LCDR Richard W. Sanders II
CWO Alan G. Bral
CWO James W. Kappes
BMC Richard C. Kilpatrick II
EMC Ryan S. Leiphart
MKC Ernest T. Williamson
MSTC Shannon M. Ackerman
MSTC Clint R. Frederickson
MSTC Christopher S. Ollice
GM1 Marco A. Acevedo
ME1 William S. Harvey
MK1 Christopher D. Swanda
PA1 Zachary A. Crawford
YN1 Anne E. Sahadi
DC2 Adolph Salas
ET2 Robert O. Stapleton

— Compiled by YNC Joseph McGonagle, USCGR (ret.)

Bulletin Board

SGLI enrollment goes digital

As of Oct. 1, the Coast Guard joined the Department of Defense in managing members' Service members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) coverage online using SOES: the SGLI Online Enrollment System. The Coast Guard loaded current SGLI information into SOES before the October launch, and all active duty and reserve current members must electronically validate their information by March 31, 2019.

Now members can make changes to their SGLI coverage/ beneficiaries at any time without having to complete a paper form or make a trip to the personnel office. Visit SOES by signing into www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect with a common access card (CAC) and clicking on Life Insurance (SOES - SGLI Online Enrollment System) under the "Benefits" tab. See ALCOAST 334/18 for details.

Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association Reunion

The Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association is hosting its 2019 biennial reunion at the Marriott Hotel, in North Charleston, SC, April 15 – 18 2019. We are inviting all CGCVA eligible Coast Guard members to come join us. For more information see the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association website at: https://www.coastguardcombatvets.org.

Coast Guardsmen meet President during Commandant's change of command

A contingent of reserve and active duty members from Headquarters took time to meet with President Donald Trump after the commandant's change of command ceremony.

Photo courtesy of Lt. Steve Graff.

RADM McKinley gets second star

On July 30, Rear Adm. Scott McKinley was promoted to rear admiral upper half, O-8. The deputy commandant for operations, Vice Adm. Daniel B. Able, presided over an informal ceremony at Headquarters, and he presented McKinley with a set of "salty" two-star shoulder devices. Capt. William Csisar and Capt. Jennifer Grzelak-Ledoux put on the admiral's new shoulder boards. McKinley serves as the DCO senior reserve officer.

Photo courtesy of Capt. Jennifer Travers.

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Use Direct Access
https://portal.direct-access.us
or contact your unit
servicing personnel office.

Individual Ready Reservists:
Contact IRR Personnel Support Unit
Email:
ARL-PF-CGPSC-rpm-3-Query
@uscg.mil

Mail:
Commander (rpm-3)
U.S. Coast Guard
Personnel Service Center
2703 MLK Jr. Ave SE Stop 7200
Washington, DC 20593-7200

Retired Reservists:
Use Direct Access
http://www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/ras/
Email Personnel Service Center at
ppc-dg-ras@uscg.mil
or call 1-800-772-8724

TO TELL US YOUR STORY:

thereservist
@uscg.mil

PSU 301 member meets with congressman

Lt. Cmdr. Jesse Webster, force readiness officer for Port Security Unit 301 out of Boston, met with Homeland Security Committee member and congressman, Rep. Bill Keating, July 20 as part of the Reserve Component National Security Course.

RCNSC is a two-week seminar offered to senior reserve officers/non-commissioned officers, allied officers and select interagency civilians and industry fellows working in national security.

Held at the National Defense University in Washington, the course provides seminars from senior government officials and includes national security decision and policy-making activities. Webster gave the congressman an overview of Coast Guard activities at Joint Base Cape Cod, the value of the reserve program, the global impact of PSUs and the value of the service to both Massachusetts and the nation.

Photo courtesy of Lt. Cmdr. Jesse Webster

UPS boss awarded Patriot Award after employee's lengthy mobilization

Ms. Gretchen Huntley of United Parcel Service Inc. (UPS) was awarded Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Patriot Award for unconditional support of Ensign Ben Haley's 156-day mobilization during the company's busiest time of year. Pictured are: Ensign Ben Haley, Ms. Gretchen Huntley, Brig. Gen. Brian M. Simpler, and James Dicks, ESGR State Chair for Florida.

Photo courtesy of Ensign Ben Haley

"People cell" stands up to deploy members to Hurricane Florence response

More than a dozen yeomen from all over the U.S. reported to Portsmouth, Va., to staff the Atlantic Area/Fifth District "people cell" for more than two weeks in support of the response to Hurricane Florence last September. The hurricane struck the east coast Sept. 14, and the people cell deployed contingency support to the affected areas, sourcing and generating over 250 "orders ready" messages for the processing of members.

Pictured are many of the active and reserve support staff from the people cell: First row: Petty Officer 2nd Class Robert Feick, Chief Petty Officer Jeremy Bruner (AD), Chief Petty Officer Gretchen Robertson, Petty Officer 1st Class Erlinda Charest, Chief Petty Officer Kathryn Layman (AD), Petty Officer 3rd Class Carlice Brooks (AD). Second row: Petty Officer 3rd Class Devin Richey (AD), Petty Officer 1st Class Samantha Delange (AD), Chief Petty Officer Annemarie Skinner (AD), Petty Officer 3rd Class Coryn Rosinsky (AD), Petty Officer 2nd Class Robert Sigmon (AD), Petty Officer 3rd Class Nicholas Diamond. Third row: Petty Officer 2nd Class Ramon Ortiz, Petty Officer 3rd Class Deirdre Dolan, Petty Officer 3rd Class Michael Akey, YN3 William Nicholas, Petty Officer 1st Class Casey Crown.

Picture courtesy of Petty Officer 1st Class Erlinda Charest.

MCPOCGR reenlists PACAREA gold badge in Oregon

On Aug. 4, Coast Guard Day, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard Reserve George Williamson (Far left) re-enlisted Pacific Area Command Master Chief Tim Beard. The ceremony was held outside Sector Columbia River in Warrenton, Ore.

Photo courtesy of Chief Petty Officer Sands

Coast Guard Yard hosts promotion ceremony for two new DC chiefs

Master Chief Petty Officer Francis Gorman, Master Chief Petty Officer Andrew Minter and Capt. Matthew Lake were present for the pinning of two newly-minted reserve chief damage controlmen, Chief Petty Officers Michael Kelly and Eric Bowers. The DCCs were promoted Oct. 7 at the Coast Guard Yard. Gorman, the DOL command master chief, Minter, the DC rating force master chief and Lake, the commanding officer of the Yard, congratulated the new DCCs on their advancement. Every reserve billet at the Yard is assigned to a damage controlman, and Chief Petty Officer Laurence Musser said the new chiefs, who are assigned to the Yard Fire House, are performing their duties at a high level.

Photo courtesy of Lt. Cmdr. Omar Barajas

PSU 301 helps out at Massachusetts Special Olympics

Joint Base Cape Cod hosted the Massachusetts Special Olympics, which included more than 100 local athletes and 30 volunteers, Sept. 21, 2018. Members of Coast Guard Port Security Unit 301 assisted with the parade of athletes and eight sport events. PSU members escorted and provided support to the athletes throughout the day, lifting unit morale as PSU 301 continues to train for overseas contingency operations.

Submitted by Lt. Cmdr. Jesse Webster

PSU 301 members who assisted athletes in the Massachusetts Special Olympics held Sept. 21, 2018 included (top row) Chief Petty Officer Christopher French, Lt. Cmdr. Jesse Webster, Petty Officer 1st Class Andrew Orser, and Master Chief Petty Officer Wayne Davis, (middle row) Petty Officers 2nd Class Steven Lanzi, Lindi Karsner and Andrew Whitehead, and (bottom row) Petty Officer 1st Class Ryan Connolly.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Thomas Swanson

Reservist graduates with masters degree from the National Intelligence University

Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats presents Lt. Paul Mack from the National Intelligence University with a diploma after Mack graduated with a masters of science in strategic intelligence, July 20. Mack is a reserve member of the enforcement branch at Sector Hampton Roads, Va.

Photo courtesy of Lt. Paul Mack.

North Carolina CMC retires after 30 years of service

Master Chief Petty Officer Everett Baxter, former reserve command master chief at Sector North Carolina, accepts the flag as part of his retirement/change of watch ceremony. Baxter's retirement ceremony was held shortly after the change of watch, Sept. 9, aboard the battleship North Carolina in Wilmington, N.C. Baxter served the Coast Guard for over 30 years, and many VIPs he'd met over his career were in attendance to wish the master chief fair winds and following seas.

Photo courtesy of Lt. Jess Tull.

Captain retires after 20 years of service

Capt. Wilbur A. Velarde and his family celebrated his retirement after 20 years combined active and reserve service Aug.13 at the Coast Guard Academy. Velarde most recently served as the First District senior reserve officer, and at his ceremony, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

Photo courtesy of Capt. Wilbur Velarde.

Hurricane Maria responder recognized

In August, Petty Officer 2nd Class Amy D'Arecca was recognized for her exceptional work while in support of the Coast Guard's response to Hurricane Maria in 2017. As a leader of the Vessel Owner Outreach Group, D'Arecca organized a public engagement program, administered detailed case files, prepared thousands of records for legal archive, served as a field responder, and assisted boat owners ensuring the safe return of their vessels. Pictured are Cmdr. Natalie Murphy, D'Arecca and Lt. Jay Perdue.

Photo courtesy of Petty Officer 1st Class Loren Johnson.

AWARDS

Don't see your award? Need to recognize a shipmate, or the members of your unit? Email us (no citation necessary!) at thereservist@uscg.mil.

Meritorious Service Medal
CAPT Martha LaGuardia
CAPT Wilbur Velarde

Coast Guard Commendation Medal
MKCS Christopher Pierce
MST2 Amy D'Arecca

Coast Guard Achievement Medal
LT Daren Devlin
MK2 Taurean Cooper
MK2 Chase Russell
LCDR Regina Adams
MKC Harold Roebuck
BMC Theresa Joyce

Commandant's Letter of Commendation
LT Mario Monreal
MST2 Kelly Homschek
MSTC Mike Moreno

TAPS

Capt. Crook Stewart, Jr., USCGR, 86, of Panama City, Fla., passed away Aug. 23 in his childhood home in Parker, Fla. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Gwyneth, as well as his children, Crook (Vicki), Leigh (Kevin), Kelley (Tracy), and Robert (Danielle) and stepchildren Steve (Ara) and Kimberly. Capt. and Mrs. Stewart also had many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

After graduating Bay High in 1950, Capt. Stewart attended the Coast Guard Academy and graduated with an engineering degree in 1954. After serving several years on active duty, he transitioned to the Reserve, remaining in the service for a total of 27 years.

As a civilian, Stewart initially became a small business owner (Two Crooks Inc.), but after graduating with a master's in engineering from Florida State University, he served as an expert in minesweeping and mine countermeasures gear at the Navy lab in Panama City. During his years at the lab, he worked on special missions in Vietnam, Cambodia, Israel, Egypt, the United Kingdom and at NATO in Brussels, Belgium.

Stewart went on to serve as scientific assistant to the head of the Navy's Mine Warfare Branch at the Pentagon.

Capt. Stewart enjoyed spending time with family and friends, piloting small aircraft and traveling the world. He was a dancer with the Orlando Beach Boppers and Panama City Bop and Shag clubs; he often attended dancing reunions with the Beach Bums at Panama City Beach and Society of Stranders in North Myrtle Beach, S.C.

His family and friends will miss his blue eyes, sweet smile, kindness and sense of humor. He will stay in many hearts and memories.

PARTING SHOTS

Crewmembers aboard a 33-foot Special Purpose Craft – Law Enforcement boat from Coast Guard Maritime Security Response Team transport personnel during a mass casualty drill conducted on the East River outside the United Nations Building, Sept. 21, 2018. The Coast Guard, along with multiple agencies, supported maritime safety and security during the country's largest national special security event (NSSE).

Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Hunter Medley

Coast Guard Air Station Sitka members march in an Alaska Day Festival parade in downtown Sitka, Alaska, Oct. 18. Alaska Day marks when the formal transfer of the Territory of Alaska went from Russia to the United States.

Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Alex Duarte

Coast Guard Shallow-Water Response Team 3 crew members and members of the North Carolina National Guard rescue a dog and it's owners from high flood waters caused by Hurricane Florence in Old Dock, North Carolina, Sept. 18. The Coast Guard is conducting search and rescue operations in support of state and local emergency operation centers.

Photo by Chief Petty Officer Stephen Kelly

Petty Officer 1st Class David Edelson (left) instructs Petty Officer 2nd Class Ed Traver (right) on ice rescue techniques while Petty Officer 3rd Class Shannon Eubanks watches Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2018, about 715 miles north of Barrow, Alaska, in the Arctic. Ice training is required to qualify as a member of the ship's ice rescue team, which protects crew members and scientists conducting work in the Arctic.

Photo by Senior Chief Petty Officer NyxoLyno Cangemi

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