





# GOING ON PARENTAL LEAVE?

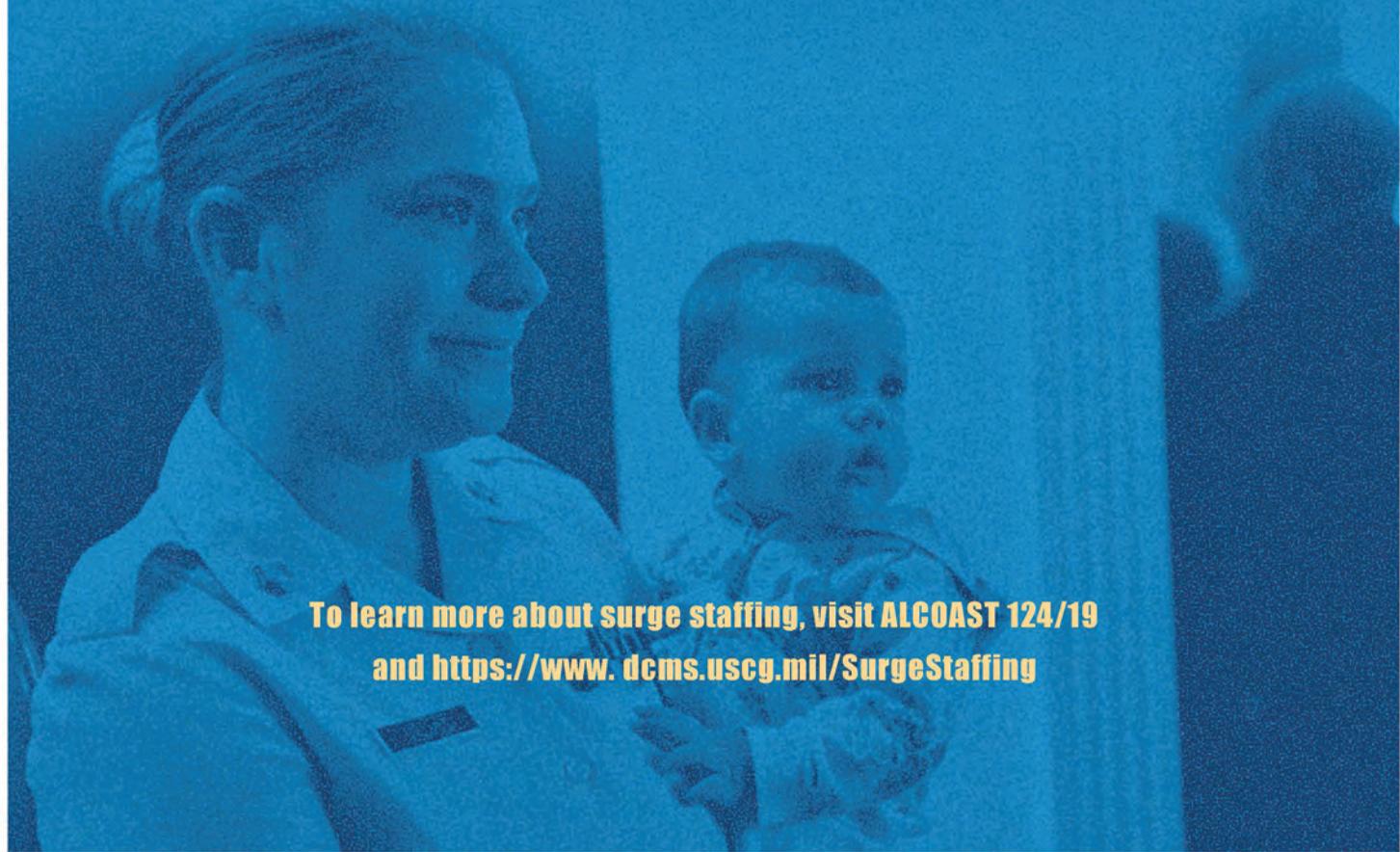


**Focus on your family.  
We've got the watch.**

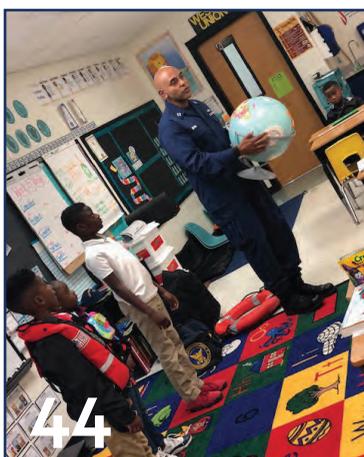
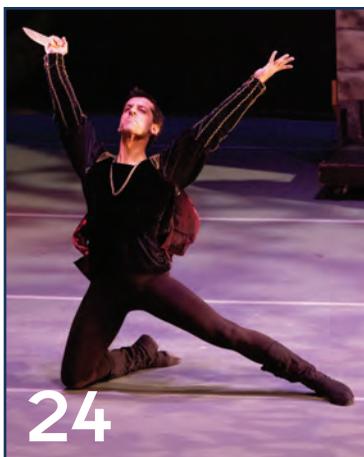
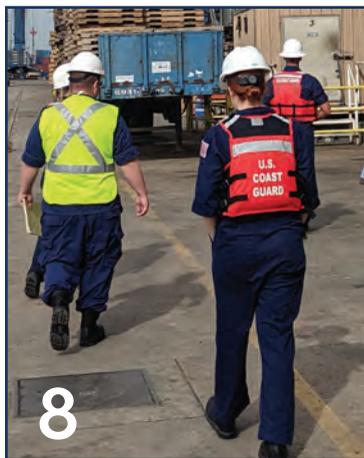


**A new pilot program can supply your backfill  
so your unit doesn't need to find funding.**

**To learn more about surge staffing, visit ALCOAST 124/19  
and <https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/SurgeStaffing>**



# IN THIS ISSUE



From the Editor 2

From our Readers 2

Up Front 4

The View from the Bridge 6

Deckplate Soundings 7

Around the Reserve 8

Cover Story 20

Shipmates in Focus 24

The More You Know 28

Retiree SITREP 36

A Light on Yesteryear 42

Bulletin Board 44

Taps 50

Boat Forces Update 51

Parting Shots 52

## On the Covers

Front: Illustration by Chris S. Rose

Back: Coast Guard photo



## RESERVIST

Celebrating Our 67th Year!

Volume LXVII ≈ Issue 1 • 2020

[reserve.uscg.mil/magazine](http://reserve.uscg.mil/magazine)

[thereservist@uscg.mil](mailto:thereservist@uscg.mil)

### MAGAZINE

Anastasia M. Devlin  
Editor

Chris S. Rose  
Creative Director

### COMMAND

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

**Rear Adm. Todd C. Wiemers**  
Assistant Commandant for Reserve

**Capt. Alexander C. Foos**  
Chief, Office of Reserve Policy and  
Requirements Integration

**Cmdr. Thomas V. Gwilliam**  
Chief, Component Policy and  
Strategic Communications Division

### CONTACT INFORMATION

[thereservist@uscg.mil](mailto:thereservist@uscg.mil)

Commandant (CG-R55)  
Attn: Editor, Reservist  
2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.,  
SE (Stop-7721)  
Washington, DC 20593-7721

<http://reserve.uscg.mil>  
FB: @uscoastguardreserve  
Twitter: @uscgrreserve  
#uscgr

*RESERVIST (COMDTPUB 1001.29) is published by the Assistant Commandant for Reserve, U.S. Coast Guard. It is intended for information only and is not authority for official action. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of Homeland Security or Coast Guard. The editor reserves the right to select and edit all materials for publication. We continue to strive for perfection, yet unattained.*

## FROM THE EDITOR

I heard something interesting the other day.

As I've said before in this column, I really enjoy podcasts. Comedy, leadership, news, two Coast Guard podcasts, and a few tailor-made for a type A person like me. This tidbit came from a productivity podcast called "Hurry Slowly."

In one episode, host Jocelyn Gleib was interviewing an author, Alex Pang, on how rest influences the creative process. He said:

*"Winston Churchill, in a wonderful book called 'Painting as a Pastime' talks about how real relaxation doesn't come from doing nothing at all, if you're a busy person, but rather doing something different. 'An alternative outlook, a change of atmosphere, a diversion of effort is essential,' as he says.*

*There's a fantastic study a few years ago of military reservists that found that military reservists, when they come back from a couple weeks or a month of service, turn out to exhibit the same kinds of psychological benefits that people who's been on vacation exhibit.*

*The fact that they were off doing different kinds of things—even though they were physically strenuous, even though they were wearing a uniform—turned out to be really good for their attitudes and their resilience and their productivity at work."*

Wow. Exactly.

Many of us who are (or were) reservists look(ed) forward to our reserve jobs as a break from the busy-ness (or the tedium) of our normal lives. We attack challenges with a fresh set of eyes, ready to work. But do we ever note how we feel when we go back to our civilian jobs? It feels good to come back refreshed, appreciative, ready to work!

Balancing a dual career might be complicated, but the grit and maturity that come from taking on new leadership opportunities and adapting to new situations has a lot of value. We reservists know that the good attitude, resilience and productivity Pang mentioned are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the benefits of serving your country.

Now, excuse me... it's time to get back to work!

**Anastasia Devlin**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

## FROM OUR READERS



### Rank Error?

On the "In This Issue" page, on the covers at the bottom, the REPOY is listed as Chief Petty Officer Michael Gould. It's wonderful that you are able to give him a promotion!

**Petty Officer 1st Class David Heath, USCGR (ret.)**

*Thanks, ET1, but Gould himself earned that promotion! As a squared-away BM2, he was selected out of the five services in Guantanamo Bay as the Enlisted Professional of the Year, then selected as the REPOY for D11. He was waiting on the list to advance from BM2 to BM1, which happened in April, just before he received his national REPOY award, which took him to chief petty officer.*

*At the REPOY ceremony, Gould said the commandant teased him about having only been a first class petty officer for 24 days. That's got to be a record! This guy is not your average petty officer, though, not by a long shot. He left the Navy as a second-class petty officer and had a break in service of nearly 20 years.*

*But man, BM2 to BMC within a month! If only we were all so lucky! Well-deserved, Chief Gould. BZ.*

### A Coast Guard WWII hero

I enjoyed very much your "A Light on Yesteryear" article regarding "Oregon's forgotten Navy Cross hero of WWII" by C. Douglas Kroll, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Like Lt. j.g. Warren Gill, my father participated in the North Africa, Sicily and Salerno landings of 1942 and 1943. As a child, he told me of transiting the Atlantic in the winter of 1942 on the *U.S.S. Thomas Stone*. His transport was torpedoed off the coast of Algiers and disabled. Unable to make way, his ship was towed and escorted by the Navy destroyers *Velox* and *Wishart* to Algiers where his army engineer unit

landed. Thanks to the actions of the Navy, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines, my father survived World War II and returned to the U.S. to marry my mother and start a family.

**Chief Petty Officer John B. McFadyen, USCGR (ret.)**

*Glad you enjoyed the article, Chief! The World War II articles are a favorite of many of the readership! Thank you for your service, and for that of your father.*

### **BZ, Station New Haven**

It was pleasing to note that Station New Haven is continuing a practice of fully integrating reservists into its operations—something that began more than 45 years ago. About 1970, Reserve Unit New Haven was capably commanded by Lt. Cmdr. Bob Matt, and meetings were held in some WWII buildings just down the street from the brand new Coast Guard station and Group Long Island Sound. Matt was determined to make a home for RU New Haven at the new Station New Haven. Reaching out to the station's commanding officer, he offered to provide qualified reservists to augment the active duty crews on weekends. On RU New Haven's June 1971 drill weekend, a commercial airliner crashed on approach to Tweed New Haven Airport and two boats manned by combined active and reserve crews responded to reports indicating the crash was on or near the beach. The remaining 20 or so reservists piled into cars and drove toward the area of the crash. The plane had struck the top of a house at the beach, crashed into the backyard, broken into three pieces and caught fire. The reservists were asked by police to direct traffic away from the crash and keep roads clear for ambulances, fire trucks and police vehicles. Of 31 people on the plane, only three survived. One passenger was a Navy courier carrying highly classified information to Washington, D.C., and Navy asked the Coast Guard to provide 24-hour, armed security until the briefcase was recovered. An all-reservist security team volunteered to stand the watch—which went on for four days. The response to this tragedy

served to bring the active duty and reserve crews even closer together in a way that proved even more fruitful in the following years. In early 1972, reserve units from two other locations in Connecticut were merged into a single, large unit based at Station New Haven. Lieutenant commanders and above were merged into a large Reserve Group staff co-located at Station New Haven with the active duty Group Long Island Sound command. Although only a lieutenant, I relieved Lt. Cmdr. Matt. The combined RU New Haven strength was about 50 reservists, bringing additional possibilities for augmentation of the active force. In a few short months, RU New Haven had eight fully qualified SAR crews, and reservists took over SAR duty starting at 1600 Friday through Sunday every weekend, completely relieving the active duty crews. When BM2 Fred Brown reached the end of his active duty enlistment, he enlisted as a reservist and continued to lead all of our boat crew qualifications, just as he had done on active duty. Augmentation did not end there—we reached out to the Naval Reserve which had a Field Hospital Unit down the street and struck a deal with them to provide a corpsman as a fourth crewmember on the weekend reserve boat crews. When I made lieutenant commander in 1973 and turned over command to another CO, the reservists were fully engaged in augmenting the active force with an added capability from the Naval Reserve. Bravo Zulu to Station New Haven for continuing this legacy you may not have known began more than 45 years ago!

**Capt. Richard F. Healing, USCGR (ret.)**

### **Mea culpa**

*Thank you to one captain who called me to let me know the retiree list, compiled by Chief Petty Officer Joseph McGonagal, was missing. A big oversight on my part but rectified in this month's list, which appears on page 40—double size this time to account for two lists worth of retirees.*

— Editor

# **Spend your summer on the Great Lakes.**

## **Join Operation Summerstock.**

Since 1972, reservists have converged on small boat stations in towns and villages on the Great Lakes during the busy summer season. If you can perform short-term ADOS from June to August 2020, District Nine is looking for enlisted reservists to fill boat crew positions throughout the Great Lakes. For more details, call Cmdr. Scott Toves, (216) 902-6096 or Lt. Erik Olmstead, (216) 902-6388.







## State of the Coast Guard Address

Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Karl Schultz delivers the 2020 State of the Coast Guard Address Feb. 20, 2020, in Charleston, S.C. During the annual address, Schultz reflected on the organization's successes over the past year, detailed the Fiscal Year 2021 President's Budget Request and outlined the shared vision for the future of the Coast Guard.

Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Ryan Dickinson



Rear Adm.  
Todd Wiemers

Assistant Commandant  
for Reserve

***"We can't be afraid to make changes to support our force; we can't be afraid to revise our strategies to meet our goals. And we certainly don't have to wait."***

**W**elcome to a new decade! There's nothing like a fresh start—a new year, a new focus, a renewed energy.

That being said, I've never made a new year's resolution in my life.

I mean, why would I? Why wait until once a year to make the changes that need to be made? So many times, we see what needs to be done, whether it's a course correction or a sea change, but taking that first step is the most important thing. It's not enough to just have goals—acting on those goals is what separates the wheat from the chaff.

However, flexibility is important here.

It's been said that when it's obvious that the goals cannot be reached, you don't adjust the goals, you adjust the action steps.

We can't be afraid to revise our goals when we encounter obstacles. And we certainly don't wait for another new year to come along to start working on them.

As I told you in my last View, my team and I started work on three major goals: build the force, get the force right, and support the force. Toward that end, we've moved out strongly to provide a more geographically stable organization for our force—a game changer, as anyone knows who's had to drive six hours or even plan flights to get to a duty weekend.

I know we're all used to the active duty model—when you switch jobs, you switch locations. We're used to moving people to billets.

But for reservists, the priority needs to be moving the job to the people. Working with the programs in Headquarters we have begun to define training capacity so that we can break away from this old assignment model and move into a new, people centric model, that is more responsive to the needs of our people. While this paradigm won't work for all positions, especially as you get more senior, it should work for the majority.

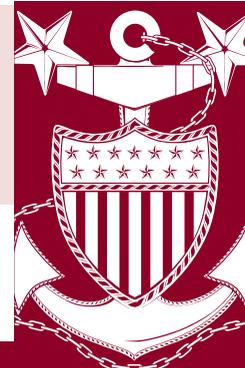
And I have to tell you, this is kind of a hit with a lot of our senior reserve officers and senior reserve enlisted leaders, who recognize how hard the transfers can be, especially among the more junior reservists.

They know how you support your families, while at the same time, serve your country. This model makes sense.

We can't be afraid to make changes to support our force; we can't be afraid to revise our strategies to meet our goals. And we certainly don't have to wait.

*Semper Paratus.*





Recently, my wife Carol and I had the honor of attending Port Security Unit 301's Yellow Ribbon post-deployment event up near Boston. Any time we have the opportunity to interact with our amazing Coast Guard family, we're humbled and inspired, but these Yellow Ribbon events are special, especially the ones right after a long deployment. They're designed to ensure that our service members who've just returned home are well-equipped to reintegrate with their loved ones as seamlessly as possible.

The keynote speaker for this event, Deputy Commandant for Operations Vice Adm. Dan Abel, said, "We are only as strong as our support network at home." These words ring so true, and they serve as the foundation for building a ready team. Our missions are dangerous, and they come with an inherent risk every day. To accomplish our missions, we need our Coast Guard professionals to be ready and focused every time they put on the uniform and head out. For our PSU folks, these Yellow Ribbon events make sure that their families are ready too. Knowing that their families know how to handle long-term deployments allows our Coast Guard workforce to concentrate on the mission. And this message doesn't go just for the "green guard" member who expect to deploy; all reservists need to have a plan in place.

Every family faces its own challenges; these days, life is not easy. For our Coast Guard families, this is made even tougher because military life adds its own unique challenges. Combining normal civilian life with military life is what our Coast Guard Reserve members do every day. As we heard many times at the event last month, stepping into and out of military deployments and a military lifestyle can come with a lot of pitfalls. These challenges can erode the very readiness we seek for our entire workforce if we don't focus on ensuring our members are prepared well in advance, with a good support network around them. We must ensure they have the resources they require—prior, during, and post-deployment—to allow the family as a whole to be ready, not just the member.

In my time as an officer in charge, I learned to appreciate that a ready team requires a wide focus. Ready can mean many things, including operational, physical, financial, legal, and medical; these are the areas where we most often focus.

But one area that is often overlooked is emotional readiness—how ready are the member and the family to cope with the deployment, and the fact that life will go on, even while they're apart? When the team is down by one, and the stress creeps in—the sink starts to leak, the freezer breaks, and one of the kids get sick—is the support network there? And even upon return from a deployment, how emotionally ready are we to blend back in to the well-oiled machine at home? I should be happy my hero is home, so why am I so mad at them for clogging up my machine?

Knowing all of these thoughts and feelings are okay is part of being a ready team. Being able to voice and address these feelings as a family are part of our foundation for readiness.

Sounds so easy right? I know it isn't.

Pride is a common trait that our Coast Guard families share, and it's one that makes us the world's greatest Coast Guard. Pride is also one of our greatest barriers to seeking assistance. There are countless resources available to our Coast Guard families, and it's one of my top priorities to make sure our families are connected with the resources they need. No matter your struggle, you are not alone. The Coast Guard stands as your foundation. We're Always Ready to support each other and ensure we are a ready team.

*Semper Paratus.*

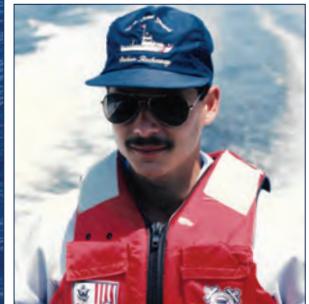
Co-authored by Mrs. Carol C. Jones.



**Master Chief Petty Officer  
Heath Jones**

**Command Master Chief,  
Pacific Area**

***"Pride is a common trait that our Coast Guard families share, and it's one that makes us the world's greatest Coast Guard. Pride is also one of our greatest barriers to seeking assistance."***



## New FRCs to be named for 9/11 heroes, Coast Guard reservists, Danz and Palazzo

Story by Petty Officer 3rd Class John Hightower, PADET New York

Few people are considered heroic enough to have a Coast Guard cutter named in their honor. The Coast Guard held a ceremony Nov. 12 to announce two of its new Sentinel-class fast response cutters (FRC) will be named after two such men who served in the Coast Guard. Petty Officer 2nd Class Vincent Danz, a port security specialist, and Petty Officer 1st Class Jeffrey Palazzo, a machinery technician, served in the New York City Police Department and New York City Fire Department, respectively, and both lost their lives responding on 9/11.

Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Karl Schultz made the announcement in New York City's Battery Park, flanked by New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill and FDNY Chief of Department John Sudnik, that the new cutters will be named in honor of Danz and Palazzo.

Palazzo, who served as a Coast Guard reservist and FDNY firefighter at Rescue 5 in Staten Island, perished while assisting others at the scene of the 9/11 attacks. Danz also served as a Coast Guard reservist, as well as a NYPD officer at the Emergency Services Unit in the Bronx. He was providing aid to victims on 9/11 during the World Trade Center collapse.

"We are humbled and grateful for the opportunity to honor these brave men whose service and sacrifice spanned three great first-responder organizations," said Schultz. "Their broad military and public service to both the nation and city of New York demonstrated their incredible dedication and character. When the call came, they answered. We are certain

that the men and women who serve aboard Coast Guard Cutter Vincent Danz and Coast Guard Cutter Jeffrey Palazzo in the future will proudly carry on their sense of honor, respect, and devotion to duty."

"Firefighter Jeffrey Palazzo bravely served our city and his country, proudly wearing the uniforms of the FDNY and United States Coast Guard," said Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro. "We will never forget his bravery and the sacrifice he made working to rescue those trapped at the World Trade Center. His legacy will live on through the Sentinel-class fast response cutter that will bear his name and rescue New Yorkers from danger for years to come."

"Eighteen years ago, New York City Police Officer Vincent Danz was a portrait of courage amid the devastation of the World Trade Center attacks," said O'Neill. "As we think about Vincent's life, let us always honor—and never forget—his sacrifice for his colleagues, our fellow New Yorkers and our country. Let this Coast Guard vessel forever be a beacon to anyone in distress and a reminder of our collective mission as first responders to always keep one another safe."

The FRC is a key component of the Coast Guard's offshore fleet that is capable of deploying independently to conduct missions that include port, waterways and coastal security; fishery patrols; search and rescue; and national defense. They are replacing the 1980s-era Island-Class 110-foot patrol boats. ≈



## Anderson selected as Witherspoon leadership awardee

Every year, one active and one reserve officer are recognized for leadership that exemplifies the Coast Guard's core values and for their roles in mentoring personnel toward their highest potential. Cmdr. Ben Anderson's selfless devotion to others resulted in his selection of this year's reserve winner of the Capt. John G. Witherspoon Inspirational Leadership Award.

Anderson, a 2002 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy, spent much of his active duty career underway, but he transferred to the Reserve in 2011 when he returned home to take the reins of his family's business. A third-generation naval architect, Anderson is now the president of an architecture firm started more than 60 years ago by his grandfather.

After fleeing up from his position as a weekend team leader in the Sector Puget Sound prevention department, Anderson took on responsibility for all 45 reservists in the department.

Mr. John Dwyer, a Coast Guard captain who retired in 2005, had known Anderson for a number of years in his capacity as the sector's officer-in-charge of marine inspections.

"He's one of those people who makes tough things look easy," said Dwyer, who recommended Anderson for the Witherspoon Award. "On the reserve side, you're working nights and weekends, trying to balance family and work, and it becomes a real challenge. But he works in a positive way, with a sense of humor and the sense of commitment that says, 'We're going to get this solved correctly.'"

Early in his assignment to Sector Puget Sound, Anderson recognized drive and capacity within his people to do more, and asked for the support of the command to take on more responsibility. The rates of qualification rose as the command gave Anderson and the reservists more leeway. The reservists eventually began completing 25 percent of the Sector's foreign vessel and waterfront facility examination workloads—one of the highest rates nationally. Under his leadership, the sector also

had the highest number of qualifications, the highest readiness metrics (95 percent), and the greatest extent of Reserve mission performance for all major sectors.

Anderson developed a reputation as a calm, empowering leader, one who is always ready to back his people, listen or inspire as needed.

"The reality is that they're all good people," said Anderson. "I was fortunate to have people who want to be there and do a good job, and they just needed a little guidance. This award is a reflection of the team, people who were excited and motivated to be out at the facilities and the ships, people who are motivated to contribute and go back to their families proud of the work they've done."

He recently took an assignment as the senior reserve officer at Coast Guard Base Seattle where his contributions and leadership continue to exemplify the service's core values. ≈

**Editor's Note:** The commandant, Adm. Karl L. Schultz, was a past recipient of the award when he was a lieutenant commander. He wrote about the award's namesake, who passed away in 1994: "Witherspoon was a sailor, a mentor and a pioneer. He was also a leader, an honorable man, someone who commanded respect." Witherspoon came to the Coast Guard in 1963 after leaving the Army. He became a quartermaster, but was selected for OCS. He graduated with honors in June 1971. He was the first African-American to command a Coast Guard shore unit, but spent many tours at sea as the commanding officer of the Coast Guard Cutters Mallow, Valiant, and Dependable. His legacy of strong and caring leadership lives on through this award and, as recently announced in October 2019, through another namesake: the Sentinel-class fast response cutter, FRC 58, the future Coast Guard Cutter John G. Witherspoon.

# PSU 313 reservist receives "Stop the Bleed" Award

Michelle Foster is a Coast Guard reservist and an emergency department nurse at Providence Regional Medical Center Everett, Wash. Both roles turned out to be lucky for two motorcycle riders badly hurt in a crash with an SUV.

On July 27, Foster had just finished two weeks of reserve duty, so she wasn't at work at the hospital. She and Joe Dumm were driving in Lake Stevens at about 5:30 p.m. when they came upon an accident scene at the intersection of Highway 9 and 20th Street SE.

Another man was trying to help the victim who had lost part of his leg. Foster knew to take a leather belt off the man on the ground, and put it tightly around his upper thigh to stop his bleeding.

It wasn't until they heard the injured

man yell, "I love you, babe," that they realized a second person was hurt. A female victim who had suffered trauma was being helped by another woman. With dog leashes and a stick, a tourniquet was made to stanch the woman's bleeding.

Medics arrived, and both people needed immediate blood transfusions at Providence hospital. They survived, thanks to the skills and quick action of Foster and Dumm.

Both have military training, and Foster had recently taken a Stop the Bleed course—which she recommends for everyone. ≈

**Editor's note:** This article was originally published in the Everett Daily Herald by Julie Muhlstein, originally titled *Courage and self-sacrifice: Local Red Cross honors heroes.*



Michelle Foster (left), and Joe Dumm.

Photo American Red Cross

## Coast Guard reservist receives Silver Star from Governor of Guam

A 15-year old boy fell 100 feet from the Jonestown overlook into the water Oct. 8, 2019, and the Guam Fire Department was quick to respond to the person in distress in Tamuning. Aboard the Guam Fire rescue boat was Darren G. Apiag II. He serves the community in two capacities—as a firefighter for Guam Fire and a Coast Guard reserve petty officer assigned to Station Apra Harbor.

"A super typhoon had just passed, and we knew that we still had a high surf advisory in effect for Guam," said Apiag. "We could see from where the fire station is to the area where the call came from that some white caps were slamming into the cliff area. We had some concerns if it was safe to get into the water or conduct a dive."

Once the rescue crew arrived on the scene, they were relieved to see the boy still treading water in the distance.

"We couldn't get the boat close enough to do shipboard pick up due to the sea state and the proximity to the reef," said Apiag.

He was given the go-ahead to enter the choppy waters and begin the water rescue by the rescue boat officer. "I came right up to the kid and asked him to remain calm and [told him] that I was here to help him. I swam back to the boat shortly after," said Apiag. "The boy's first words after I got to him were, 'thank you.'"

After the crew pulled the teen and Apiag back onto the boat, the rescue unit took them to Hagatna Marina where an ambulance was waiting.

Apiag grew up in the village of Inarjan, Guam. He has been a firefighter with Guam Fire Department since 2013 and he joined the Coast Guard Reserve in 2016.

"His professional presence is evident in his continued success not only as a Coast Guardsman but as a member of the Guam Fire Department," said Capt. Christopher Chase, commander, Coast Guard Sector Guam.



Darren G. Apiag (left), a firefighter for Guam Fire Department and Coast Guard reservist, received the Silver Star award from the Governor of Guam, the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Oct. 10, 2019.

Apiag was presented the Silver Star by the Governor of Guam, the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Oct. 10. The recognition took place at the Honorable Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex.

The award, authored by Guerrero, recognized Apiag for valorously distinguishing himself by displaying courage and bravery in the performance of his duties as a firefighter and surface swimmer. He placed himself at risk in a life-threatening situation, going above the call of duty.

"His dedication to duty has led him to save the life of a teenager of the community. This demonstrates the caliber of personnel that both Coast Guard Sector Guam and the Guam Fire Department have to offer," said Chase. ≈

— Story and photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class James Conner

# Rugged tablets make boat maintenance easy

You don't have to have been aboard too many ships to know that paper in the engine room is a bad idea. Drips, dirt, heat and grease are inevitable.

It's a big problem for Coast Guard engineers who are required to complete hundreds, even thousands, of maintenance procedure cards, or MPCs, as part of maintenance on ships and boats—it could be more or less, depending on the size of the vessel. Each MPC can be up to 20 pages long.

Typically, engineers print the MPCs for the day, bring them to the worksite to reference, as well as any paper manuals needed, handwrite the results on the card, and then reverse the process once they get back to a computer, inputting the data into the electronic copy.

The whole process is not far off from our grandfathers' way of doing ship maintenance in World War II.

Lt. Steve Reynolds, the asset management section chief from the Surface Forces Logistics Center's patrol boat product line, said the project of bringing technology to engineering had been in the works for several years, encountering security concerns.

Reynolds and his team helped reconfigure the device using the Coast Guard's operating system to reduce security concerns, and in 2018, after SFLC presented the concept at the Coast Guard's Innovation Expo "Idea Frenzy," they won the approval to test it in a wider market beginning in January 2020.

"It works like a laptop on a ship," said Reynolds. "You can download the MPCs or tech pubs you need, unplug it from the ship's network, take that device with you down to the engine room and do the maintenance. Then you bring it back and plug it back in and upload all the maintenance updates."

Tablets? In engine rooms? At first glance, it sounds like it might have more problems than paper, but SFLC anticipated field concerns.

"These are military-grade, water-resistant tablets that can withstand being dropped," said

Reynolds. "We expect them to take a little bit of a beating, we want to be able to hand it to the MK3 or the fireman around the oil, soot and grease in an engine room."

But they're not just for engine rooms. They're also being tested at electronics support detachments and weapons augmentation teams. The ability to reference the correct information from the manual, on the go, without having to print a forest and carry it around, is beneficial to more technicians than just engineers.

"People want this, the deckplate wants this," he said, noting that the tablet is a necessary tool for doing maintenance correctly. "It not only makes their job easier, but also makes them more effective at their job."

This concept is especially relevant with the Coast Guard's new fast response cutters, which have a limited number of crewmembers. Putting the tablets at large maintenance assist teams, which maintain the FRCs, is going to be a game-changer.

"One patrol boat will do about 2,000 MPCs per year, and across the fleet, that's a lot of man hours. On these optimally-manned cutters, every man hour counts," said Reynolds. "You want to use them as effectively as possible."

The new TISCOM-approved tablet (programmed to mirror the standard Coast Guard computer, the Workstation III, and subject to all the same cyber security standards) may have broken the mold. Currently, there's 30 "ruggedized" Panasonic Tuffbook tablets spread across a diverse set of units around the Cape May, N.J., area.

Along with testing, the pilot program will be working out the funding support and program ownership.

"As one of our chiefs who tested the device said, 'The best thing you can do is keep wrenches in the engine room,'" said Reynolds. "No one wants to be sitting at the computer doing admin work all day." ≈

— Story by Anastasia Devlin



Photos courtesy of Lt. Steve Reynolds

# CGRU USNORTHCOM on the vanguard of homeland defense

Story by Lt. Andrew Fiddes

With most Coast Guard reservists assigned to units in proximity to an ocean, inland waterway, Great Lake, or the Gulf of Mexico, one group finds themselves assigned to a critical unit at the base of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado Springs, Colo. There, at Peterson Air Force Base, Coast Guard Reserve Unit U.S. Northern Command (CGRU USNORTHCOM) provides vital support for the defense of the U.S. and its interests.

As one of six geographic combatant commands, U.S. Northern Command, co-located with the North American Aerospace Defense Command, is tasked with homeland defense, civil support, and theater security cooperation missions across a broad area of responsibility which includes air, land, and sea approaches encompassing the continental United States, Alaska, Canada, Mexico and the surrounding waters extending out 500 nautical miles. The unit, comprising 12 officers and three enlisted members, supports these core missions as well as a wide variety of training and exercises across the subordinate USNORTHCOM commands.

“Our unit is relatively young, but the work we do across this combatant command is significant, and important to the security of the United States,” said Capt. Ronald J. Catudal, commanding officer of CGRU USNORTHCOM. “By directly supporting U.S. Northern Command operations, our members are there for disaster relief operations, nationally significant events, or to respond to an attack on the homeland.”

Within the Defense Support for Civil Authorities mission, USNORTHCOM typically operates joint task forces which report to the commander, Air Force Gen. Terrence O’Shaughnessy.

The work involves the support of national special security events (NSSE), such as the state funeral for President George H.W. Bush in 2018, the upcoming 2020 Republican and Democratic National Conventions, and man-made or natural disaster response operations. It includes multiple training exercises to practice responses to assigned homeland defense missions.

In 2019, one such homeland defense mission was Exercise *Vibrant Response* involving USNORTHCOM and the Michigan and Indiana National Guard.

“Our unit members were deployed to the Michigan National Guard Joint Force Headquarters with a Department of Defense joint enabling capacity to respond to a simulated domestic nuclear detonation. This is the team which helps state and local governments with federal support when local authorities and the National Guard become overwhelmed and helps coordinate the injection of Federal assets from across the nation into a response,” said Cmdr. James Fitzgerald, a unit domestic operations officer.

“We were able to refine and test how support to the local level can be quickly provided, and also appropriately set any federal response in the exercise, which involved thousands of Army and Air Force personnel.”

In October, three unit officers also supported *Vigilant Shield* from U.S. Alaskan Command onboard Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage. Leading the team was Cmdr. Rebecca Albert, another domestic operations officer who noted the importance of supporting of homeland defense operations.



**CGRU USNORTHCOM commanding officer, Capt. Ronald Catudal (left) and Marine Corps Brig. Gen. S.D. Sklenka, Commanding General, 1st Marine Logistics Group and Deputy Commanding General, Joint Forces Land Component Command, board a blackhawk helicopter on Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, Nov. 12. As part of southwest border operations, Catudal provided military support to the Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Customs and Border Protection to secure the southern border of the United States.**

U.S. Army photo by Spc. Brandon Best

**Cmdr. James Fitzgerald, domestic operations officer, served as a Current Operations Officer to Joint Task Force Michigan for Exercise *Vibrant Response* in April 2019. USNORTHCOM's largest annual chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear exercise tested the capabilities of Joint Task Force Civil Support and other Department of Defense units' ability to respond on short notice to a simulated nuclear detonation and the resultant extensive devastation.**

Photo by Michigan National Guard Public Affairs



“Particularly with *Vigilant Shield*, we were able to participate as part of a globally integrated exercise to respond to simulated foreign military kinetic attacks on the homeland in a command and control environment. Working in that joint environment was beneficial, not just for our unit, but for other services and international partners to see the capabilities the Coast Guard can bring to any military response,” Albert said.

CGRU USNORTHCOM’s mission, like that of the combatant command itself, also focuses on responses to natural disasters. With Exercise *Shaken Fury* in the spring of 2019, unit members were spread across the southeastern U.S. to support a stress test of the civilian and military response capabilities to a simulated 7.7 magnitude earthquake scenario along the southwest segment of the New Madrid Seismic Zone near Memphis, Tenn. “Our work was able to identify gaps in resources in areas where an additional robust focus would be required in order to save lives, protect surviving infrastructure, and support a whole of government response to what could be a cataclysmic event,” said Lt. Cmdr. Scott Gondeck, an action officer within the Exercise and Training Directorate.

Real-world responses also factor heavily in the unit’s workload. Following the devastating effects of Hurricane Dorian, Catudal deployed directly to Nassau, Bahamas, to support the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), in their initial response efforts.

“The primary mission was to assist in the coordination of all available resources in direct response to search and rescue

requests fielded at the NEMA Headquarters,” said Cmdr. Christopher Anderson a theater security cooperation action officer in the logistics and engineering directorate. “NEMA operated in a recently adopted Incident Command System construct. During the 2019 calendar year, NEMA and USNORTHCOM partnered in a training tabletop exercise to test the response capabilities of the organization. That partnership paid dividends during this overwhelming real world event.”

This diversity of work for CGRU USNORTHCOM requires each member to be able to drill on an irregular basis. Many members only drill at the unit once a year as they are assigned to exercises, events, and responses across the nation. Monthly conference calls maintain member connectivity and understanding of the overall operational picture. All members are qualified as ICS liaison officers and emergency preparedness liaison officers.

While the structure and nature of an assignment to CGRU USNORTHCOM is quite different, the privilege to serve in such a unique role is not lost on its members.

“In just the last 18 months, our unit has operated in Alaska, Texas, Colorado, Michigan, Florida, Tennessee, Missouri, Puerto Rico, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Florida, the Bahamas, and Washington, D.C.,” said Capt. Michael Vaughn, executive officer of CGRU USNORTHCOM. “The nature of our work all around the country in a joint military environment is what makes duty with this unit exciting. Every month is different and a challenge. We are always on the move.” ≈



**The crew of CGRU USNORTHCOM, from left: From left: Cmdr. James Fitzgerald, Lt. Julie Duncan, Cmdr. Christopher Bruno, Lt. Cmdr. Jarrett Bleacher, Cdr. Rebecca Albert, Cmdr. Christopher Anderson, Capt. Ron Catudal, Lt. Andrew Fiddes, Capt. Michael Vaughn, Lt. Cmdr. Jeffrey Lamont, Chief Petty Officer Tammy Shield-Rice, Lt. Cmdr. Scott Gondeck, Petty Officer 1st Class Joseph Bagwell, and Petty Officer 2nd Class Amanda Houck.**

Photo courtesy Lt. Julie Duncan, CGRU USNORTHCOM



Capt. Ron Catudal inspects a site during Hurricane Dorian response.

Photo courtesy of Ron Catudal

# COCOM Coast Guard reserve units: a strategic interface to combatant commands

Story by Capt. Joanna Hiigel and Capt. Andy Grenier, USCGR (ret.)

The Coast Guard Reserve has always had a role in joint military operations. The inception of the Coast Guard Reserve via the “Auxiliary and Reserve Act of 1941” propelled the Reserve directly into the force buildup that was already in progress for a world war that was escalating in Europe and the Pacific. From those joint wartime operations in the 1940s to today, the Coast Guard Reserve is uniquely positioned and qualified to provide expertise in maritime security, disaster response, and expeditionary warfare to support the missions of the combatant commanders.

There are 11 joint combatant commands, commonly known as COCOMs: four that are organized around functional missions and seven that are organized by geographic regions. There are five Coast Guard reserve units (CGRU) at TRANSCOM, NORTHCOM, SOUTHCOM, INDOPACOM, and Joint Staff South. Each one of these five CGRUs is commanded by a reserve captain. Interestingly, the oldest COCOM, Indo-Pacific Command, which was established in 1947, has the newest CGRU.

Serving at the COCOMs provides an exceptionally unique and rewarding opportunity for members of the Coast Guard Reserve to work closely alongside our Department of Defense counterparts in some strategically

important roles. These assignments, dubbed “purple tours” due to their joint military nature, are far removed from the day-to-day tactical operations of a typical boat station, sector response, or port security unit. They present a fascinating opportunity to contribute to the global joint military effort to ensure peace and security.

## CGRU U.S. TRANSPORTATION COMMAND, ESTABLISHED IN 1994



United States Transportation Command, located at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., was established in 1987 as a functional combatant command. USTRANSCOM conducts globally integrated mobility operations, leads the broader joint deployment and distribution enterprise, and provides enabling capabilities in order to project and sustain the joint force.

USTRANSCOM's top priority is meeting the needs of the DoD warfighting commanders for land, sea, and air lines of communication by coordinating global missions using military and commercial transportation resources. All COCOM and military logistical transportation missions are planned, tracked, and executed through USTRANSCOM.

This COCOM has supported humanitarian missions such as responses to the devastating earthquake in Haiti, flooding in Pakistan, Deepwater Horizon oil spill response in 2010, and Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, and Dorian. Following the 2017 Hurricane Maria devastation and loss of communications power at Coast Guard Sector San Juan, USTRANSCOM coordinated the transportation of the Coast Guard's communications trailer to Puerto Rico.

The Joint Transportation Reserve Unit (JTRU) grew out of the need in 1991 to augment active duty personnel and operations during the deployment of U.S. forces to the Arabian Gulf during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. It became the first joint reserve unit in the DoD.

In June 1994, the Coast Guard element of the JTRU stood up as the first Coast Guard Reserve unit attached to a unified command representing all five services. Thirteen Coast Guard reservists became charter members of the Coast Guard reserve unit, which has grown to 18 today. Capt. Jeff Anderson, a former commanding officer of CGRU USTRANSCOM, said, "My final tour of duty with the Coast Guard Reserve was at USTRANSCOM. Bringing the Coast Guard as well as civilian experiences into the mix of perspectives adds value to USTRANSCOM, and the Coast Guard, in turn, gains a greater appreciation of the reach and impact of our combined services."

CGRU USTRANSCOM reservists serve as Deployment and Distribution Operations Center watchstanders and are

integrated within the joint directorates providing support to intelligence, strategy, capabilities, policy, logistics, operations and training. Coast Guard reservists meet together with reserve and active duty counterparts in the DoD to complete training and exercises to ensure all are mobilization ready to support global missions.

USTRANSCOM uses resources from all DoD services, as well as commercial and interagency resources, to perform its mission. Coast Guard reservists integrate quickly and seamlessly into USTRANSCOM, as the Coast Guard has a long history of joint and interagency cooperation to perform its missions. In 2019, the JTRU commander specifically requested Coast Guard participation in the National Defense Transportation Association conference, where Capt. Joanna Hiigel served as a panel member to discuss building partnerships within the reserve component. USTRANSCOM provides unique opportunities for Coast Guard reservists to participate in joint leadership roles and global operational missions integrating exclusive Coast Guard capabilities within DoD missions.

### CGRU JOINT STAFF SOUTH, ESTABLISHED IN 2000

CGRU Joint Staff South, located in Suffolk, Va., provides Coast Guard mission expertise to support training and development efforts for the joint force and our allied, coalition and other international partners. If this sounds like a great place for Coast Guard reservists to learn and influence global strategy, it is!



The international force laydown of the U.S. Coast Guard.

“We have officers and chiefs serving in key locations,” said the commanding officer of CGRU Joint Staff South, Capt. Geoffrey Deas. “There are always opportunities to support the joint services. We’ve deployed our people around the world for training and exercise support including Sweden, Kazakhstan, and Germany.”

The unit traces its roots back at least as far as 2000 with the establishment of U.S. Joint Forces Command. USJFCOM was primarily focused on the transformation of the military in terms of joint concept development and experimentation, joint training, joint interoperability and integration. The fact that the Coast Guard has been involved in this process is a crucial element in understanding our past, present, and future contribution to the joint force.

Over the years, the unit has employed a wide variety of ratings, including yeomen, port security specialists, information technology specialists, telecommunication specialists and marine science technicians. The remainder of the crew filled billets as maritime intelligence analysts, data technicians for Joint Operational Planning Execution System (JOPES), duty officers in the operations and planning sections, and concept development in the interagency directorate.

### CGRU U.S. NORTHERN COMMAND, ESTABLISHED IN 2002



Coast Guard Reserve Unit U.S. Northern Command stood up in late 2002, and today, more than 14 Coast Guard Reserve members continue to support the mission. If you’re interested in serving at NORTHCOM located at Peterson AFB in Colorado Springs, Colo., be ready to roll up your ODU sleeves and learn as much as you can about Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA). All reserve

members assigned are required to complete courses in DSCA in their first year where they learn the history and purpose of NORAD/NORTHCOM and get one-on-one time with the commanding general and his senior staff, plus briefings from all directorates (Canadian and American).

CGRU Commanding Officer Capt. Ron Catudal said, “NORTHCOM’s focus is primarily defense of the homeland, then DSCA, so our unique skillsets lend themselves well to



Capt. Ron Catudal at the Florida Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for Hurricane Dorian response, with Governor Ron DeSantis.

Photo courtesy of Ron Catudal

both missions, and we tend to fall into roles as the subject matter experts in incident management and ICS during natural disasters.”

Besides providing direct support to annual exercises such as Ardent Sentry, Vigilant Guard, and Vigilant Shield, members of the CGRU have mobilized and deployed in support of hurricane response, Southwest border operations, and other contingencies including Hurricane Dorian. When the storm struck in the Bahamas, CGRU NORTHCOM provided Incident Management Assistance Team support and liaison support to the UN Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and established the emergency operations center in Grand Bahama for the president of the senate and the prime minister.

One of the most interesting roles that Coast Guard reservists assigned to NORAD and NORTHCOM directorates is to achieve unity of effort and attain national security objectives of homeland defense, civil support, and security cooperation in maritime domain. Many reservists at NORTHCOM, augment the Interagency Coordination Directorate (J9), further developing and strengthening trusted partnerships with stakeholders to enhance preparedness and execution of homeland defense, civil support and security cooperation in maritime domain. At NORTHCOM, these members are responsible for liaison, integration and synch of all joint, DoD, state, interagency, and search and rescue planning to ensure full support to NORAD and NORTHCOM.

### CGRU U.S. SOUTHERN COMMAND, ESTABLISHED IN 2004



USSOUTHCOM was originally designated U.S. Caribbean Defense Command in World War II for the defense of the Panama Canal. In 1947, it was redesignated U.S. Caribbean Command and, finally, USSOUTHCOM in 1963 with responsibilities to defend the Panama Canal, contingency planning for Cold War activities, and the administration of foreign military assistance in Central and

South America. Considered for disestablishment in the 1970s, conflicts in Central America in the 1980s revitalized the command. After the Cold War, USSOUTHCOM broadened its missions to include counterdrug operations, expanded the area of responsibility to include the Caribbean and enhanced its capacity for humanitarian operations. In 1997, the command headquarters moved from Panama to Miami.

CGRU USSOUTHCOM was established in May 2004 to provide steady state and surge support, as well as subject matter expertise, to USSOUTHCOM. The unit produces intelligence on key issues and countries, manages current operations, plans international maritime and law enforcement exercises, monitors and assesses foreign resource requests and supports counterdrug operations. CGRU currently has 20 reservists supporting seven directorates with support to reserve affairs, personnel, operations, strategic plans and policy, theater engagement, interagency partnering, staff judge advocate, and the Foreign Disclosure Office.

CGRU USSOUTHCOM reservists support both joint operations and exercises. Past support has included hurricane and earthquake response, working in command centers and emergency operations centers. In March 2019, many reservists supported the Joint Forces Integrated Advance exercise, which included USSOUTHCOM, Homeland Security

The author, Capt. Joanna Hiigel (in group photo, center, in white) commanding officer of Coast Guard Reserve Unit U.S. Transportation Command stands with the other members of her unit Sept. 7, 2019.



Task Force-South East, Joint Interagency Task Force-South and participants from the Seventh Coast Guard District.

### **CGRU U.S. INDO-PACIFIC COMMAND, ESTABLISHED IN 2011**



Rear Adm. Timothy Keating, the US INDOPACOM commander from March 2007 to October 2009, viewed the Coast Guard Reserve's unique maritime security, disaster response, and expeditionary warfare expertise as key enablers to help advance regional security cooperation and respond to crises. The CGRU would provide a cadre of

trained, experienced, and committed maritime professionals for international engagement, planning and exercises, maritime security initiatives, and other regional efforts.

Because this CGRU is the newest, some members who were there at the beginning are still serving in the Coast Guard Reserve, including the current commanding officer, Capt. Jason Lehto.

Another plankowner, Capt. Mark Murakami, said, "It began with a cocktail party discussion between two flag officers and has become a potent tool in the INDOPACOM commander's engagement forces. The Coast Guard perspective often has better access in the region than our DoD colleagues, and that access is consistently leveraged to accomplish regional objectives."

Retired Rear Adm. Mike Seward was the driving force to establishing the CGRU. He said, "We worked diligently to get the billets and the authorization from Coast Guard headquarters and INDOPACOM to establish the unit. Admiral Keating was very interested and supportive of the idea of establishing a Coast Guard reserve unit. He knew how the Coast Guard worked and the value that we could bring to the fight. I knew that it was important for us to provide more joint billet opportunities for reservists in the Pacific Area."

The establishment of CGRU US INDOPACOM, located at Camp H. M. Smith near Honolulu, Hawaii, brought a much-needed addition of joint billet opportunities within a reasonable commute distance for reservists residing on the west coast. It helped to balance things out with the joint COCOM billets on the east coast. The unit currently has 17

billets supporting the joint directorates for operations, planning, and interagency coordination.

Over the years, CGRU US INDOPACOM has supported countless exercises, including three major exercises per year, providing thousands of hours of support. It's a very cutting-edge place for a reservist to work, with the strategic focus on the Indo-Pacific region, which is expected to continue well into the future.

Reservists preparing for a tour of duty at a COCOM CGRU or the Joint Staff South should be as well-rounded as possible, with solid expertise in Coast Guard core missions in order to represent the Coast Guard as an expert in the joint environment. They should continue working toward specialty qualifications and Joint Professional Military Education.

Chief Petty Officer Brad Miller, who served for six years at INDOPACOM said, "You immediately realize what it means to serve in a purple joint command. Like our service, our numbers at the COCOM are small compared to other branches, so when you put on that uniform, you not only represent yourself and your unit, but also the entire Coast Guard, and that's something I take great pride in."

### **FINDING STRENGTH THROUGH DIVERSITY**

As we've shown, all five COCOM reserve units are strategically integrated with DoD to showcase the value the Coast Guard brings to the DoD. Like an exchange program, the members who come off tours of duty at these purple commands come back to the "blue" Coast Guard significantly more experienced in interagency and interservice missions and operations. They gain a global perspective of integrated world events and how they as a Coast Guard reservist fit into that big picture. As any leader will attest, the strength and depth of experience gained from a diverse team yields greater results. Unification of joint services and interagency partnerships combines the efforts and capabilities of our military, enabling the U.S. to safeguard our nation and its allies around the globe. The Coast Guard has a place and a seat at the unified table, and its reservists play a major role in bringing to light the value of Coast Guard capabilities in the global domain. ≈

*Capt. Joanna Hiigel and Capt. Andy Grenier, USCG (ret.) have over 50 years combined serving the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve. Both have commanded Coast Guard reserve units at combatant commands. For more information on serving at a COCOM, contact your detailer or assignment officer.*



Sector Houston-Galveston's five-day facility inspector college included both classroom and field training. Students were able to attend inspections at six facilities in the region.

## Collaboration fuels facilities inspector college

Story and photos by Lt. Jason Rimington

Sector Houston-Galveston's reserve prevention department welcomed 17 students to a five-day reserve-led facility inspector college in June. The college provided critical training for members pursuing facilities inspector qualifications. The development of the college highlights an effective relationship between reservists and active duty members. In partnership with active duty personnel, reservists spent six months developing the course, providing guidance and expertise to ensure each student gained as much practical knowledge as possible.

Reserve and active students came from many different units and some from as far away as St. Paul, Minn. The program included both classroom and field training, which covered the unique aspects of a variety of facilities and their specific operational capabilities and regulatory requirements. Safety and security inspections were conducted at two liquefied natural gas/liquefied petroleum gas facilities and four petrochemical facilities within the region.

The reservists who developed this program ensured the preparation of a qualified reserve force available for mobilization. As a result, students from three sectors, four marine safety units and two marine safety detachments achieved an overall 60 percent increase in PQS task completions with two members completing their PQS packages. One member passed an oral board, receiving his facility inspector designation on the last day. The students expressed gratitude to the instructors and said they felt they gained knowledge and experience in their five days of training.

These types of opportunities are especially essential for reservists who often experience challenges in getting the certifications and skill proficiencies they need because of the lack of specific and required regulated facilities within their region.

The collaboration between the active and reserve components at the Sector and in surrounding units has fueled a completely integrated and mission-oriented approach to training and operations. Reserve members are a critical part of Coast Guard service, and having qualified and experienced reservists ensures that active duty members can continue protecting ports and waterways when the inevitable disaster strikes. Experienced reservists who are properly trained can step in and provide the support needed to maintain a high operational efficiency and tempo despite the expanded workload. The service is stronger when we work together. ≈



Students from operational units across the region achieved an overall 60 percent increase in task completions. These opportunities are essential for reservists seeking qualifications that require access to certain facilities.

# Reservists respond to barge crash in Virginia

Story by Lt. Jonathan Hsieh, photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Julian Pedraza

On a windy November drill weekend, reserve and active duty personnel from Sector Virginia (formerly known as Sector Hampton Roads) and Station Portsmouth responded to an adrift barge off Buckroe Beach in Hampton, Va. An excavator was perched on top of the barge.

Several reservists including Chief Petty Officer James Wilkinson, Petty Officer 2nd Class Julian Pedraza, Petty Officer 3rd Class Joseph Crawford and Petty Officer 3rd Class Marco DiSandro, coordinated with on-scene first responders and maintained continuous communications with the Sector Virginia Command Center while more

first responders and personnel from the city arrived.

While on scene, the adrift barge allided with a fishing pier, causing a total collapse and deeming the incident a major marine casualty. The captain of the port administered a notice of federal interest to the barge's owner. The reserve team augmented the active component of the sector's incident management division until the active duty component staff could follow up on subsequent salvage and investigation efforts. The barge was secured with cables, and no one was hurt in the process. ≈



An adrift barge off Buckroe Beach in Hampton, Va.

# Coast Guard marksman team takes first place during San Francisco Fleet Week

Story by Chief Warrant Officer Danielle Wells and Petty Officer 3rd Class Brandon Giles

The annual San Francisco Marksmanship Match was held during Fleet Week in October as a part of the Fleet Admiral Nimitz Matches. The Coast Guard has participated in the competition dating back to the 1950s, mostly at the individual level.

In 2017, the Coast Guard's team competed against six other teams. Each team would use M1 Garand rifles to shoot targets at 200 yards. The Coast Guard placed third.

In 2018, the focus of the competition shifted from rifles to pistols and the number of teams grew from seven to 12, with the Coast Guard finishing second.

During the 2019 pistol competition, two Coast Guard teams competed against 13 teams made up from different law enforcement services including Navy, Marines, U.S. Marshals, Air Marshals, San Francisco Police, San Francisco County Sheriffs, Alameda County Sheriffs, Richmond Police, San Francisco Fire Department, and the San Francisco Olympic Club.

Each Coast Guard team consisted of members from across various units, including three Sector San Francisco reservist: Cmdr. Kevin Lavery, Chief Petty Officer Patrick Schoch, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Ryan Pann.

Cmdr. David Melton and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Tom Shafhausen from Surface Forces Logistics Center both competed and led the teams of experienced shooters. Teams placed first and eighth while two individually competing members placed second and sixth.

Schafhausen won second place overall with only five points separating the top four spots. He said he was honored to be able to participate in competitions like these that "display just how versatile the Coast Guard is in our missions."

He went on to praise the camaraderie between all competitors as a testament to the joint work done daily around the Bay Area.

"It was a very proud moment when I learned that we had taken first place," said Schafhausen. "I knew that it was going to



The Coast Guard's team placed first in the San Francisco Fleet Week shooting competition. The team included (back row:) Petty Officer 2nd Class Eric Moe, Petty Officer 2nd Class Fred Lamm, Cmdr. Kevin Lavery, Master Chief Petty Officer Shawn Cross, Cmdr. David Melton, Chief Petty Officer Pat Schoch, Chief Petty Officer Jim Omenitsch, (front row:) Lt. Cmdr. Tom Shamrell, Senior Chief Petty Officer Ian Collazo, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Tom Shafhausen, Petty Officer 2nd Class Zach Morand, Petty Officer 1st Class Sheyne Schubert, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Ryan Pann.

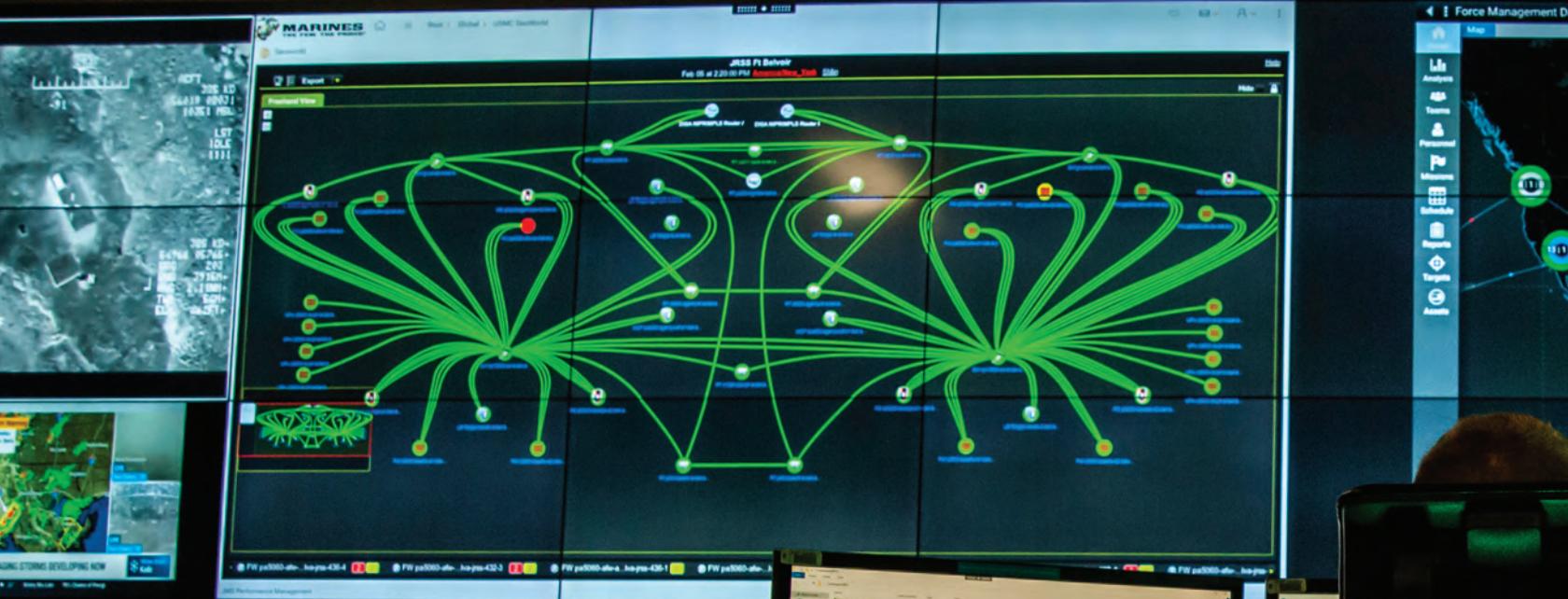
be a close competition as Marine Corps and Navy teams were sending some of their top shooters."

Schafhausen began recruiting for the team in July and organized Saturday practices several weeks prior to the match. What was unexpected, but evidence to their practice and dedication, was the Coast Guard team taking first place with a 31-point lead over second place. This was a very tough competition of well-trained and experienced shooters!

Competitive shooters can begin by finding a local range or national organization and inquire about the type of competitions held in the local area. COMDTINST 3590.1a governs competition shooting and has weapons available for issue to members who meet the outlined requirements. ≈

COVER STORY

WED FEB 05 2020 036  
04:23 JAPAN 09:23 HAWAII 11:23 PACIFIC 14:23 EASTERN 19:23 ZULU 23:53 AFGHAN



3:53  
FBI/DOJ

ment Dashboard IKE Ad nin Dashboard



The **NEW**  
Operational  
Domain

Around the world, the field of cyber is still emerging and being understood.

Story by Anastasia M. Devlin



Less than a decade ago, the Coast Guard realized it needed to grow its cyber capabilities in order to protect not just Coast Guard units, hardware, data, and control and communication systems, but also to protect the greater maritime transportation system. Consequently, Coast Guard Cyber Command, which works in conjunction with U.S. Cyber Command, was established in 2013 with just 50 people. As the program grew, the Coast Guard's Office of Cyber Forces was established in 2017.

At that time, Rear Adm. Kevin Lunday was the commander of CGCYBER, and he knew he had to grow support and understanding of an entirely new mission.

"Cyberspace is an operational domain for the Coast Guard, and we operate within it just like we do at sea, in the air, and on land," said Lunday. "What we do in the physical domains increasingly depends on what happens in cyberspace, so our operations must be tied together and synchronized across all of the operational domains."

Preparing a team for operating in the cyber domain would require the best trained active, reserve and civilian team members. However, given the immediate need for cyber talent to staff the command, plus the length of the required training being more than 40 weeks, the Coast Guard needed to tap the civilian skills of its Reserve Component. Lunday teamed up with the Office of Cyber Forces to test the idea of a Cyber reserve division, staffed by reservists selected specifically for their extensive cyber expertise (both military and civilian).

Making assignments on the basis of something other than someone's Coast Guard competencies and experience was a first for the Coast Guard Reserve force, but it enabled the new CGCYBER reserve division to go from concept to full operating capacity in months, rather than years.

"To paraphrase Eisenhower's D-Day speech, our cyber enemies are well-equipped, well-trained and battle-hardened. Defense for Coast Guard networks is priority number one. Security starts with your ability to defend your own turf," said

Lt. Cmdr. Dan Trimble, the deputy chief of the Cyber Reserve Intelligence Branch. "In the cyber domain, we're building the ship as it sails, so we don't have the luxury of waiting years before someone's fully trained to do the work. Our adversaries aren't going to wait until we have a pipeline of talent."

Cmdr. William Kintz, the senior reserve officer at CGCYBER, said most of the reserve cyber billets would have the ability to conduct their missions remotely via a unique Remote Participation Program the command formalized.

"The nature of our operational environment isn't tied to physical geography," said Kintz. "That specific piece is what makes this such a unique opportunity. You're less likely to sign up for a billet on the other side of the continent if you know you have to fly there every month, so this opens up truly the entire Reserve force to leverage as much of that talent as we can."

Cmdr. Jamie Embry of the Office of Cyber Forces said the Coast Guard put out a message across the entire Coast Guard Reserve requesting reservists with cyber backgrounds, regardless of rank or rating, to apply for billets to build this new capacity.

Over 200 people called to ask about the new jobs, and more than 60 people sent in applications. The level of training was astounding.

"They were blown away," said Embry. "We had some really talented folks apply, and we ended up selecting more people than we had billets for."

Reserve officers and enlisted members from across five ratings stood up the new reserve division.

Trimble said, "We were brought in because we could augment what the active duty was doing. This is common for reservists, but here, we could fill critical gaps in capabilities at the outset. We're differently trained, and having different backgrounds makes the whole stronger."

In October 2018, the reservists converged on Coast Guard Headquarters for their first all-hands weekend and met with their leadership, including the new CGCYBER commander, Rear

Adm. David Dermanelian, who took over for Lunday a few months prior.

“The ultimate goal, for me, was to set the foundation, to set the notion of just how much active duty support we have for this,” said Kintz. “They’re looking for us to shape the future—not just the future of how the Coast Guard operates in cyber, but the future of how reserve forces are leveraged throughout the Coast Guard.”

Today, CGCYBER has grown in size to more than 300 active duty, civilian, and contractor members. Over its inaugural year, the size of CGCYBER’s reserve division has grown by more than 60 percent.

“Close to half of the inbound reservists this past fiscal year were active duty personnel who chose to affiliate with the Reserve upon their release,” said Kintz. “Their decision was driven by the opportunity to continue working with CGCYBER in a reserve capacity. That’s a huge win in talent retention for the Coast Guard.”

CGCYBER reservists focus on one of six specialty areas ranging from intelligence to threat hunting and penetration

testing. They train and prepare to mobilize in response to cyber events within Coast Guard networks or within the Maritime Transportation System, supporting the daily operations of the command in the process. They are ingrained and interwoven seamlessly with their active brothers and sisters.

CGCYBER reservists are already proving to be an invaluable asset, not only in operational capacity, but also talent retention for those leaving active duty service who still have the passion to contribute to the mission.

“Our reservists are deeply integrated with [the active duty at CGCYBER] on a level I haven’t seen during my career,” said Trimble. “We’re having an immediate operational impact in almost every piece of what [CGCYBER] works on—web applications, network defense, threat assessments, watch operations.”

Cyber is one more area where the members of the Reserve are integrated with active duty to conduct the missions of the service. This new cyberspace workforce is growing and adapting to meet the needs of the Coast Guard. ≈

## Domain Awareness: Redefining "coast" in the age of cyber

Story by Ensign Caroline Jenkins

Historically, the Coast Guard’s area of responsibility has encompassed the coastlines of the United States and its territories. However, in recent years, the Coast Guard is increasingly present on a global scale—rather than just American coasts, the Coast Guard can be found on the coasts of numerous other nations across both hemispheres. With the extension of these responsibilities comes a growing role for the Coast Guard in the joint operating environment, evidenced by our service’s participation on the national stage—particularly in the realm of cyber operations. As the world progresses on a political and technological basis, the Coast Guard’s unique authorities combined with its experienced reserve workforce solidifies its essential role in the nation’s joint operating environment of the future.

As the only military service to maintain authorities under both Title 10 and Title 14, the Coast Guard is able to execute unique missions that remain untouchable by the other services in all operational domains, including cyberspace. Under Title 10, the Coast Guard is classified as an armed force and is responsible for maintaining and equipping its units for military operations both at sea and in the cyber domain. However, the Coast Guard simultaneously is granted additional rights under Title 14, giving its members the authority to perform law enforcement actions. This dual-hatted nature permits the Coast Guard to board any vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States on both the high seas or in U.S. waters; perform searches, seizures, and arrests; enforce regulations; implement international security standards and maintain its status as a member of the intelligence community.

Although specific authorities are not yet defined in cyberspace, the flexible and distinct role of the Coast Guard will aid in operations in the joint environment of the future on a national level. Currently, Coast Guard Cyber Command has representatives at both US Cyber Command and the Department of Homeland Security, and it collaborates with

both entities on a daily basis to enact cyber operations. For example, in the past few years, the first joint cyber operation stood up with participation from USCYBERCOM, Maritime Intelligence Fusion Center Pacific, a CG cryptologic unit, and Joint Interagency Task Force South.

The Coast Guard’s ability to augment national cyber efforts stems from its qualified workforce. In particular, the Coast Guard Reserve plays an essential role in bridging the gap between service-focused cyber and national security-focused cyber due to their competency, experience, and large pool of industry based knowledge. Coast Guard reservists have strengthened the cyber capabilities of the government in numerous ways. Reservists have deployed to Afghanistan to execute counter-ISIL operations via cyber means, led intelligence efforts for cyber threats against the US space program, assisted with drafting the USCYBERCOM global campaign plan, and helped to indict networks of hackers. In 2014 and 2015, reservists traveled to Joint Staff South to participate in the first cyber functional support teams, which enacted various USCYBERCOM operational assessments.

CGCYBER is young in comparison to the overall Coast Guard. While some cutters have been floating for over 50 years, information technology is an invention younger than many Coast Guard members themselves. The Coast Guard Reserve brings both a military background and relevant industry knowledge to a service where the rate of change is likely to increase exponentially. Project Evergreen, the Coast Guard’s Strategic Foresight Initiative for 2030, forecasts that “the entire Coast Guard workforce—officer, enlisted, civilian, reserve, and auxiliary—will be defined by technical acumen” in merely 10 years. Whether reservists are writing intelligence standards for interagency engagement or working high profile threats from North Korea, China, Russia, and Latin America, the talent pool harbored in our Reserve workforce will become even more essential. ≈



Petty Officer 1st Class Danny Mitsios balances a triple career as the director of the Montgomery Ballet, the owner of a computer programming business, and a reservist at Sector Jacksonville. He and his partner, Rania Charalambidou, also own a yoga studio.

## Military service enables a hat trick of a career

Story by Anastasia Devlin, *Reservist*

It's not uncommon for reservists to come with hidden talents, but when it comes to skills, Danny Mitsios is a triple threat. With a double professional background and a slew of qualifications, the challenge-seeker continues to add to his portfolio of talent.

The Florida native grew up working in his first-generation-American parents' restaurant and speaking fluent Greek. At five years old, Danny adored his tiny black-tie uniform and engaging the customers, but after several years, his mother worried about him spending too much time working at the restaurant. When he was eight, she sent him next door to spend time at his sister's ballet studio. It didn't take long before they realized he was a natural.

As he entered high school, Mitsios took up running track and cross country, but when dancing and running began taking their toll on his body, he gave up track and chose dancing as his major at college.

"I could see a future in dance," said Mitsios, "so I picked that."

His talent was known throughout the community, but still, his dad worried.

"He said, 'Please, Danny, have a backup plan. What happens if you break your leg? What happens if you don't get an audition? You need something to fall back on to make money,'" said Mitsios, remembering his father's words. "So, he said, 'There's this computer thing...'"

The tech industry was in its infancy, and computer programming was huge. Mitsios decided to pursue both fields, dance and computer information systems, at Jacksonville University. He earned credits both in college and at local dance conservatories, constantly seeking education. During summers away from college, he spent long hours at dance practice getting ready for shows.

To hear him talk, though, it wasn't work. It was pursuit of a passion for something he was truly skilled in. He would eventually graduate with honors, and with two bachelor's degrees.

At the same time, Mitsios began performing professionally. He traveled to performances in major cities all over the country and into Northern Europe. And amazingly enough, Mitsios had one more calling to heed.

"In Greece, all Greek boys join the military, but even [living in America], it was expected that I would join some branch of the military," said Mitsios. "I interviewed all the branches, and the Coast Guard was most nonchalant."

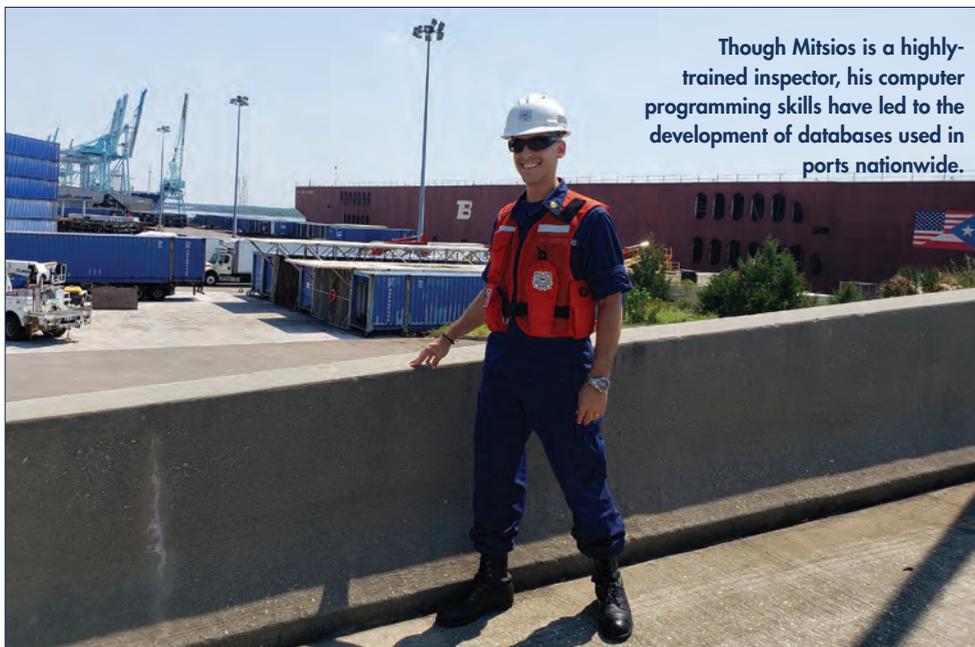
Mitsios felt the most comfortable with the humble nature of the recruiters, and after his freshman year of college, he signed the papers to leave for boot camp without telling his parents. Once out of marine science technician A-school, word got around his new unit, Marine Safety Office Jacksonville, that he had some computer skills.

Doug Campbell retired in 2004 from MSO Jacksonville as the chief of port operations, but returned a few years later. He'd remembered Mitsios from his active duty time when Campbell worked with hundreds of reservists who flooded the sector (which was called Group Mayport at the time) as part of the military outload for the Iraqi War.

"I found out he had his own computer programming company," said Campbell, who returned to Jacksonville as a civilian port security specialist, specializing in post-disaster operations. "He was a unique character. A lot of reservists come from the law enforcement side or serve in some kind of emergency response capacity. Danny was a different breed."

At the time, Campbell had recently returned from working as part of the Haitian earthquake crisis, and he realized he needed a tool to address and prioritize ship entry after a major disaster—determining which ship comes into port first based on a number of factors, like type of cargo, operational restrictions for vessel, status of facility, vessel security risks, and sufficient port labor.

"I took it as far as I could with Excel, then I sat down with him and laid it out. I said, 'Here's where I'm at, here's my vision. How do I get there from here?'" said Campbell. "Danny immediately grasped the concept; he had a good way to do it based on his



Though Mitsios is a highly-trained inspector, his computer programming skills have led to the development of databases used in ports nationwide.

civilian experience. We brought him on active duty and he developed an automated tool."

The program Mitsios developed used exported, uploaded data from other secure Coast Guard databases, then it ran an algorithm that took into consideration the risk factors. It's still used in many large ports like Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, San Francisco and, of course, Jacksonville.

A few years later, Campbell and Mitsios developed another database, a salvage risk assessment tool.

"The responsibility for a sunken vessel was transferring [departments] from Prevention to Response, but the majority of the corporate expertise resided in the Prevention side," said Campbell, "so I wanted to write a salvage response plan and have a tool to help [Response officers] walk through the issue [considering] potential response strategies and risks to personnel."

Campbell storyboarded the idea on an easel—how he wanted the tool to perform and how it would be delivered to the end user. Working from home, Danny took Campbell's ideas and created a second database, the use of which is now written into the sector's policy. The two have continued to improve the database over the last seven years.

"We never could have gotten this done if we'd tried to get an outside computer company to do this, there would have been no money," said Campbell.

Jonathan Smith, another reservist at Sector Jacksonville and a civilian port security specialist in Savannah (at the time), had served with Mitsios and had witnessed his talent solving problems using data management and processing. Given this unique skillset, Mitsios was asked to help fix another problem.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency awards \$100 million in grants to ports nationwide every year, but it relies on the Coast Guard to review, prioritize and recommend which projects to fund. The grants are awarded for projects that help reduce security risks such as lighting, fences, computer systems, personnel access equipment, cameras and all-hazards response boats.

Historically, these grant proposals came to the local Coast Guard at each port for review, but the process of review and prioritization was highly subjective and inconsistent from port to port.

In an effort to develop a consistent, transparent scoring process, Smith came up with a new scoring tool on a spreadsheet,



Mitsios's dance career began at the age of five. He continues today as a principle dancer with the Montgomery Ballet.

but realized the limits of Microsoft Excel and his own skillset. He worked with the district command to bring Mitsios on board to develop a more robust, professional grade database application. Smith said they spent many long hours discussing the problem at a whiteboard, but in the end, Mitsios had created a database that could produce consistent results. Smith knew their project had the potential to be widely used.

Smith and Mitsios's grant scoring database was presented to the district command in Miami, at Headquarters, and a national working group, who loved it and hired a contractor to maintain and keep it updated. The program, named the Port Security Grant Field Input, Review, and Scoring Tool (PSG FIRST) was mandated for use in every American port.

Smith said Mitsios was a valuable asset for the Coast Guard.

"He's a very analytical, logical, organized person," said Smith. "He's good at taking complex data and finding ways to organize and produce deliverables that can be used for making decisions. He's that petty officer who can give you a lot of bang for your buck."

The ability to be available for these types of small active duty stints is closely coordinated with Mitsios and his command. During performance season around Christmas and early summer, Mitsios focuses on rehearsals and shows, and in turn, in the off-season, his drill schedule revolves around being available during the week when active duty guidance and training and opportunities are plentiful. He found support from each command he transferred to, in New York, in Baltimore, and again when he returned to Sector Jacksonville.

As a result, Mitsios is one of the most highly trained marine safety officers, having earned his port state control qualification, container inspector qualification, pollution and harbor safety, as well as the coveted marine safety pin—a standout among reservists because the training is rigorous and weekend operations are rare. He completes many of his drills en masse, sandwiched together, which is referred to as batch drilling.

"Some of my best work and my best knowledge was because of these batch drills," said Mitsios, whose last name and ability to speak Greek fluently have surprised the occasional ship's captain. "I would do port state control boardings, I would do pollution response with the active duty [members], I would do facilities inspections which are normally closed on the weekends. I've been able to maintain and do more because of batch drilling."

Campbell is planning to bring Mitsios on staff again to work on another risk assessment tool for maritime safety and security surrounding commercial space launches in Cape Canaveral, Fla. The opportunities for him to merge his talents with Coast Guard operations seem to be limitless.

But last year, Mitsios became the artistic-executive director of the Montgomery Ballet in Alabama, where he continues to be a principle dancer. His busy three-job schedule is a lot to balance—maintaining his duties as a director and dancer, as a small business owner, and as a Coast Guard reservist requires a lot of coordination. He and his partner Rania (who is also a dancer herself) are also trained yoga instructors who occasionally teach yoga for the crew on drill weekends.

"I chose a wonderful path and a very stressful path at the same time," he said. "It's funny how the three converged. If someone ever told me that being a dancer and a computer geek wouldn't help each other, I'd have to disagree with them. This has been a blessing."

A major factor that enabled his success was the ability to enroll in the military's health insurance benefit.

"I really credit the Coast Guard with my whole dance career. The military enables me to be an artist; I don't have to sacrifice my art because I need a job with benefits. I thought dance was just going to pay the bills to get me through college, but I thank my lucky stars, because if it wasn't for the Coast Guard, I don't know if I'd be dancing right now." ≈

## Teacher and student, now O-6s, give side-by-side graduation speeches

Capt. Tim Decker, the senior reserve officer for the Ninth Coast Guard District, has been teaching high school in his civilian career for 30 years. With 2,500 students at his school at any given time, he's bound to run into a few of them every now and then. Seven former students even teach alongside him at the school now.

Once, while on a Navy base in San Diego, he was surprised to hear, "Mr. Decker?" as yet another student remembered him from more than a decade ago.

The reserve captain made a special effort to run into one student from almost three decades back, though, when he requested to be a boot camp company mentor last August.

Capt. Kathy Felger, the commanding officer of Training Center Cape May, N.J., graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 1997, but in the early 1990s, she'd been a student in the high school psychology class of Mr. Decker. They'd discussed the Coast Guard, as its mission sets appealed to both.

"He was a great teacher—one of the younger teachers who was around a lot, active with the community," said Felger.

Only a few years apart in age, the two chatted about their ambition to join the sea service—rare in a Midwest town.



Capt. Tim Decker has been a high school teacher for three decades, and a Coast Guard reservist almost as long.

Photo courtesy of Tim Decker.

"There's not a lot of people from Indiana who end up in the Coast Guard," said Felger with a laugh.

From the same high school, the two captains joined the Coast Guard in the mid-90s, she as an active duty cadet, and he as a reservist through the Reserve Officer Candidate Indoctrination program.

Felger remembered coming back for a 10-year high school reunion.

"I walked in the lobby, and there was a big Coast Guard standard in the lobby," said the TRACEN CO. "I thought it was for me, but then realized it was for Mr. Decker."

At the time, Decker had been deployed to Kuwait with Port Security Unit 309 as the unit conducted shoreside and waterside security for the Kuwaiti naval base.

The friends kept in touch, following each other's careers but working together only briefly. Decker had been a boot camp company mentor in 2018, but when his former student and friend was selected as

the head of the boot camp itself, he requested a second mentoring opportunity. In August, he got his chance, and the captains gave side-by-side graduation speeches to the Direct Entry Petty Officer Training class DEPOT 07-19.

Decker said the experience was like seeing his teaching career come full circle.

"This is the rewarding part of teaching that you don't get to see very often," said Decker. "As a teacher you don't always get to see where life takes the students. But when something like this occurs, it's neat to see the success that a student has achieved."

Decker still teaches at the high school in Fort Wayne, Ind., and will retire after 25 years of service this summer. Felger will command TRACEN Cape May through 2021. ≈



Decker's former student, Capt. Kathy Felger, is the commanding officer of Coast Guard Training Center Cape May, N.J., where Decker served as a boot camp company mentor.

Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Richard Brahm

## Parental leave: We've got the watch

Story by Lt. Sarah Dorsey, Sector Lake Michigan

Petty Officer 1st Class Jennifer Padilla stood waterways management duty (WWM) at Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Chicago. It was a four-person shop. The lieutenant in the division was transferring soon and that would leave just Padilla and two junior petty officers for the next few months. Padilla was the only qualified WWM representative, and she was about to go on maternity leave with the busy summer season coming up. She worked out a plan with the command. She would stand WWM duty as needed while on maternity leave. It wasn't ideal for her and the new baby, but the unit had a mission to execute. But just before Padilla began maternity leave, the Coast Guard rolled out the Paternal Leave Program, and it was a game changer.

"Focus on your family. We've got the watch." That's the tag line for the new program, which support active duty members who are on parental leave. Born from feedback provided to a recent RAND study, this initiative recognizes how members struggle between focusing on family and being available to support unit operations.

Instead of having to borrow active duty staff from another unit to fill in for the expectant mother, or operating with one less person, the service is making good use of reservists' augmentation capability. The command worked with Sector Lake Michigan's Reserve Force Readiness Staff to put their request in as soon as possible, making them one of the first units to participate. The unit tried hard to find someone to replace all of Padilla's skills, and Padilla was happy to hear Sheskey could augment. "Katie was just finishing up some investigative work for the unit, and she was already WWM qualified. It was such a relief to have her



come in for me. Then I could stay home with the baby."

With some slight adjustments in assigned duties, Sheskey proved to be a highly valuable asset and ensured unit operations continued seamlessly. Flexibility, and outside-the-box-thinking has become a hallmark of this program as units distill their requests to what they need when one-for-one candidates are not available.

This new approach of taking care of our people, while a benefit to the active duty, has become an unexpected boon to the Reserve

force. For reservists the benefits of earning qualifications and experience cannot be overstated.

Sheskey said, "The parental leave program gives reservists the opportunity to incorporate into an active duty crew, with an assigned work load and duty routine. During this activation, I adjudicated numerous marine event permit applications, responded to multiple pollution cases, completed funeral honors, and served as the unit's community engagement representative. The nature of the Reserve often requires a large time commitment to ensuring readiness, and sometimes limits the extent that drilling reservists are able to augment the rating-specific workload of their home unit.

Sheskey advised other reservists to apply for the program.

"Be prepared to learn, and ask for the resources to study if you find yourself boggled," said Sheskey. "Pushing yourself leads to growth."

As an RPA, I am extremely proud of the skills of our Reserve force and their willingness to serve. This program finds the sweet spot in the Venn diagram between mobilization, training and unit augmentation. ≈



## Updated weight pilot program offers service members two new options

During a virtual town hall meeting held last summer, Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Karl Schultz unveiled an update to the service's weight and body fat standards. The new update even has a new name—it's called the Body Composition Pilot Program, and it's aimed at creating a healthier military service.

Historically, 17 percent of Coast Guardsmen are taped during their weigh-ins, which is a secondary screening tool after Body Mass Index. In this new one-year pilot program, which began Oct. 1, 2019 Coast Guardsmen who exceed their Maximum Allowable Weight (MAW) will be taped using either the standard taping method or the new abdominal circumference (AC) measurement, but only need to comply with one of the two measurements. The max AC measurement will be 39 inches for men and 35.5 inches for women.

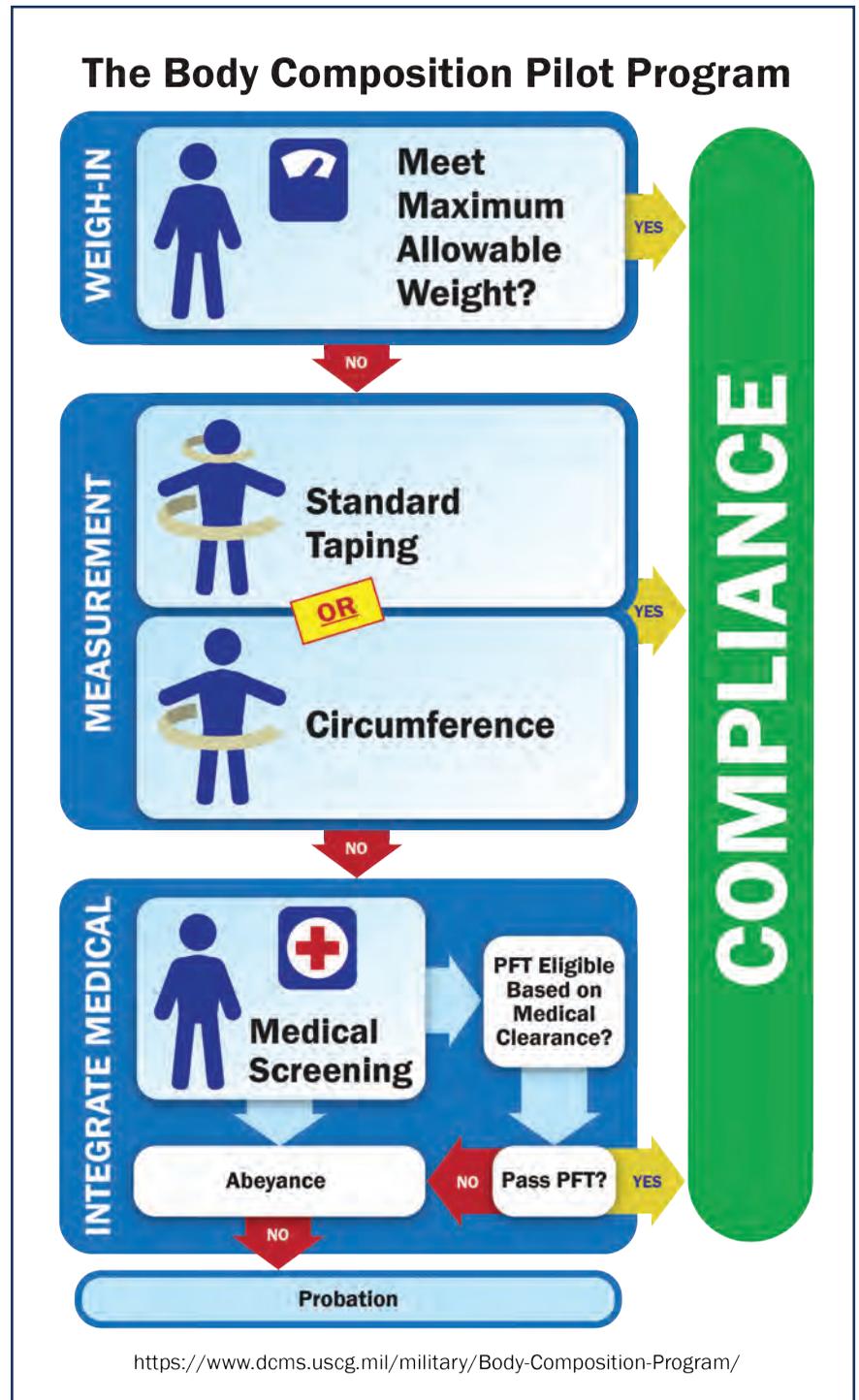
Recent studies show AC is a more accurate measurement of overall health risk than the standard taping methods. The National Institutes of Health found that excess body fat in the abdominal area—indicated by an AC measurement greater than 40 inches for men or 35 for women—was an important independent risk factor for diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular disease.

The new pilot program added a physical fitness test as a way for service members who have not met their MAW, AC measurement or taping requirements to demonstrate compliance, pending an approval from medical. This option comes as a result of direct feedback from the fleet, and the correlation to health indicated by passing the PFT is also supported by scientific data from DoD.

"We want our members to present a sharp military appearance and more importantly, we want them to be healthy," said Lt. Emily Trudeau, an office of budget and programs reviewer.

"Physical fitness affects our readiness as a service, and this new baseline ensures a healthy lifestyle is a service priority."

With readiness as the Coast Guard's primary focus for its 48,000 uniformed members, the healthy options are a welcome change. To get the specifics on the Body Composition Pilot Program, see Flag Voice #516 or visit: <https://dcms.uscg.mil/military/Body-Composition-Program/>. ≈





## Coast Guard sees the talent, not just the tattoos

The Coast Guard opened its doors to a wider swath of the next generation of service members when the commandant, Adm. Karl Schultz, announced the redesign of the Coast Guard tattoo policy. While many of the changes seem subtle, recruiters say this effort will remove more barriers to members who want to serve their country.

Though not a heritage-based decision, the service has a history with ink that stretches back to its inception. As recently as 30 years ago, tattoos weren't just authorized—they were looked at as a rite of passage. However, over decades of change in society, tattoos were given the same notorious reputation as smoking—bold, rebellious, even dangerous.

But these days, smoking is banned nearly everywhere, while, conversely, tattoos have been adopted by society, specifically by the millennial generation, which has embraced self-expression. Some are traditional, representing special family members or deeply rooted in religion, and others represent major life accomplishments. Still others are minuscule reminders of guiding principles to a generation that chooses to live with intention.

As the Coast Guard continues to grow its ranks, its sailors and recruits have become more educated, more creative and more confident about self-expression. Unsurprisingly, education, creativity and confidence are the same qualities desirable in leaders.

The Coast Guard joins the growing number of military services and law enforcement agencies who have allowed their personnel to uncover their art and reveal their humanity. Police officers and state troopers from Pennsylvania to California used to have to wear long sleeves to cover their ink, even during sweltering summer months. More officers are now rolling up their sleeves and bonding with the populations they serve.

"I am pleased to see the Coast Guard's new tattoo policy, which strikes a balance between personal expression and maintaining our professional appearance," said Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard Jason Vanderhaden. "The new tattoo policy will expand our recruiting candidate pool and provide those already serving a few new options."

"The long-held stigmas associated with having tattoos, and particularly visible ones, may be eroding, especially among younger individuals who view body art as a natural and common form of personal expression," said Michael French, professor of health economics in the Miami Business School's Department of Health Sector Management and Policy. (French coauthored a study that found tattoos may help candidates in competitive markets.) "Given the increasing prevalence of tattoos in society—around 40 percent for young adults—hiring managers and supervisors who discriminate against tattooed workers will likely find themselves at a competitive disadvantage for the most qualified employees."

Tattoos have become commonplace among the largest pool of candidates for recruiters of any military branch. A 2010 Pew Research Center study said that about 38 percent of young people ages 18 to 29 have at least one tattoo. Today, just a decade later, that number nears half the same demographic.

In 2016, the Navy chose to adopt the most lenient policy of all the services, which boosted recruiting numbers almost immediately. The Navy's senior enlisted leader told the *Navy Times* that the change was necessary to maintain the service.

"We need to be able to tap into the skill of all segments of our community," said Capt. Tom Kaminski, head of the Personnel Readiness Task Force, a unit designed to address broad-based challenges affecting recruiting and retention. "Otherwise, we are missing out on talent."

This move slides the Coast Guard closer to the front of the pack in recruiting. The Marine Corps holds the line against sleeve tattoos, the Air Force bans tattoos above the collarbones, and the Army doesn't permit neck or hand tattoos for its soldiers. Coast Guardsmen will still appear the same in ceremonial uniforms; the changes are extremely subtle and almost invisible when a sailor is wearing the Service Dress Blue uniform. With the newly revised policy, the Coast Guard ensures its recruiters have access to a broader range of talent in our society—both officers and enlisted—pulls the traditional image of a Coast Guardsman forward into the 21st century. ≈

— *Story by Anastasia Devlin*

# Reserve retirement: time in rank and high-three pay

I've written many posts about military retirement, and the system is hugely complicated. Today's post covers Reserve and National Guard retirements, and it explains "retired awaiting pay." Here's the reader question about a very confusing issue:

I know that a Reserve Component retirement is no longer based on your highest 36 months of pay, but on the grade that you've held for 36 months. If you have 20 qualifying years of service, get promoted, and transfer into the IRR before you've completed three years in grade, can your IRR time count towards those three years, even if you don't earn 50 points per year?

Two concepts are mixed together here, and your retirement indeed still is based on your highest 36 months of pay. However, it's a little more complicated than that. First, the time served in the Individual Ready Reserve counts toward time in rank, even if you don't earn enough points for a good year. Time in rank is only based on the promotion date (not the selection announcement!) and does not depend on drilling status or retirement credit. Points count toward the good years and the pension calculation but they aren't related to time in rank.

However, all service members have to serve in a rank for at least six months to retire in that rank. The time in grade for O-5 and above is three years. In some cases (like a drawdown), federal law allows this to be waived by the service secretary to two years. Your personnel branch will let you know the likelihood of being approved to retire at a senior rank with only two years at that rank. Remember that this only determines the rank on your retirement certificate.

Your retirement pay is determined by the "high-three" average of the 36 months of highest pay. You may retire at a different rank than you held on active duty, or you might not have enough time in rank to retire at the higher rank you held on active duty, but the pay for that higher rank still counts toward the high-three average used to determine the amount of your pension.

That bears repeating: Reserve/Guard pensions are still based on the highest 36 months of pay. Here's the really interesting part: it's the pay tables in effect when the pension starts. When you "retire awaiting pay" (instead of separating or being discharged\*) then the time until the pension starts is counted for service longevity as though you've been on active duty the entire time. It not only includes the 36 months before your pension starts (at age 60 for most gray area retirees) but it's also at the longevity as if you'd been on active duty.

If you're 45 years old in 2015 and retire awaiting pay (gray area, not discharged) then your pension will start at age 60 in 2030. (If you deployed to a combat zone for at least 90 days in a fiscal year after 28 January 2008 then your pension will start

three months earlier. See also the comments [from the original article] from January 2016 and December 2017 about contingency operations and national emergencies.) When DFAS

determines your highest 36 months of pay, they'll include all the military pay tables between 2016 and 2030 as well as the rest of your service. (This gives your Reserve pension a little protection against inflation.) For almost all Reserve retirees starting their pension in 2030, the highest 36 months of pay will be in those pay tables of 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030.

Not only will your high-three pension be calculated from the pay tables in effect when your pension starts, but (because you're "retired awaiting pay") it'll be determined from the longevity in your retirement rank as though you've been on active duty the entire time. If you "retired awaiting pay" as an E-7>20 in 2015, then your high-three calculation would include the E-7>35 column of the pay tables. E-7 pay tops out at >26 in the 2015 pay tables, but that could be different by 2030. Although you retired as E-7>20, your pension is calculated on at least E-7>26 pay. The difference is even bigger for an O-6, where pay tops out at >30.

This means that as soon as you reach time in rank (whether you're drilling or in the IRR), you can retire awaiting pay (gray area) at that rank. Your longevity will continue to accrue, and you don't have to hang around in the IRR waiting to go >24 or some other pay boost.

If you're wondering why the Department of Defense is being so nice to gray area retirees, it's because "retired awaiting pay" means being subject to mobilization until the pension starts. That only happens during a total mobilization (like [World War II]), but DoD is willing to compensate service members for that availability.

\* The only way to avoid the remote possibility of mobilization during the "gray area" years is to retire as "discharged" or "separated", which means that your pension is frozen at the date you retire. The pension still starts at age 60, but it does not use the pay tables in effect at age 60 and your retirement rank does not accrue longevity. In my two decades of service (and another decade of writing about military finances), I've only seen one person who was discharged into retirement. ≈

— Story by Doug Nordman

**Editor's Note:** This article was originally published in *The Military Guide* ([the-military-guide.com](http://the-military-guide.com)) in June 2019, and it's reprinted here with permission from the author. Mr. Nordman retired in 2002 after more than 20 years with the Navy, and runs a website on financial education for military members.





## THE MORE YOU KNOW

# MESSAGE TRAFFIC

### ACN 129/19

#### SUBJ: PERIODIC HEALTH ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Over the last 18 months, Coast Guard senior leadership has heard concerns from the field regarding challenges associated with scheduling and attending PHA appointments. Our Independent Duty Health Services Technicians (IDHSs) will now be allowed to perform PHAs. Why does that matter to you? Because they will also be allowed to travel to your unit, once per year, to do PHAs on-site.

So now, instead of using the Reserve Health Readiness Program to arrange a PHA group event, your unit leadership can request a PHA group event from the clinic and IDHS(s) that are responsible for your unit. One or more IDHSs and/or medical officers will come to your unit and get as many tasks done as they can (not only the PHA, but other individual medical readiness services as well, depending on logistics, such as HIV blood draws and immunizations). RHRP will remain an option.

If your unit decides to have a PHA group event with Coast Guard medics, you'll still need to do your online PHA survey well in advance (at least 14 days), so that once the medics arrive, they'll only need to review the PHA with you.

As far as PHA due date and periodicity are concerned, starting in calendar year 2020, everyone will need to get a PHA by the end of their birth month, and no more than 12 months can pass between future PHAs. If you get a PHA done before your birth month, however—for example, at a group event—the month of the group event will become your new PHA due month for subsequent years. There will be no minimum amount of time that must pass between PHAs. Coast Guard Business Intelligence, however, will not reflect these changes until sometime in the spring of 2020, so until then unit leaders will have to keep a close eye on Individual Medical Readiness—more specifically, PHA completion.

The changes to the PHA program will give personnel more flexibility, allow IDHSs to use their training, and reduce the clinical appointment backlog. The Health, Safety, and Work-Life Service Center will develop procedures to conduct low-risk PHAs via telephone or other telehealth modality and should be available by the end of 2020.

### ACN 122/19

#### SUBJ: FY20 COAST GUARD TUITION ASSISTANCE (TA) POLICY

Reservists affiliated with the Selected Reserve (SELRES) are now authorized to apply for and receive tuition assistance. They are required to submit the "Tuition Assistance Counseling Worksheet" (Form ETQC-41472) as part of the application process with their commanding officer or first O-6/GS-15 in the chain of command. The command will use this form to ensure members meet the following eligibility criteria: a. Satisfactory progress toward completion of unit qualifications; b. Satisfactory progress toward watch station qualification; c. Satisfactory proficiency of craft; d. Satisfactory conduct during the six months prior; and e. Satisfactory progress towards participation standards.

In addition, reservists must be making satisfactory progress in the current anniversary year and have met participation standards for the previous anniversary year. Reservists utilizing TA must also upload their most recent points statement to the myEducation portal prior to submitting their application.

Lastly, a complete TA application (degree plan, points statement, and command approval) must be received by Education and Training Quota Management at least 14 days prior to the class start date. There are no exceptions or waivers to this policy, and questions should be directed to your local ESO.

### ACN 139/19

#### SUBJ: RESULTS OF UNIFORM BOARD 48

PSC is compiling a FAQ document to provide further guidance and clarification on the new standards, which will be made available in the near future on the Uniform Distribution Center website. In the meantime, you may direct all questions regarding the new uniform and grooming standards to: HQS-SG-CGPSC-PSD-MU@uscg.mil. A summary is below:

**FEMALE GROOMING STANDARDS:** Female max hair bulk is 3.5 inches, and max bun size is 4 inches as measured perpendicular to the scalp. Women may wear ponytails unpinned, but the hair shall not extend beyond the bottom of the shirt collar. Female fingernail color choice shall present a professional appearance in a business environment, only one color. Florescent or multi-colored polish is not authorized.

**FEMALE FLATS** are optional with the skirt.

**FEMALE MATERNITY ODU** postpartum nursing T-shirt is authorized, purchased on the economy in dark blue, not extending below the lower edge of the ODU blouse.

**BALL CAP RANK INSIGNIA:** Enlisted members (E-7 to E-10) shall wear the garrison cap rank insignia (larger size) on their ball cap.

**WINDBREAKER METAL RANK INSIGNIA:** Enlisted members (E-4 to E-10) shall wear metal collar rank insignia on the windbreaker in the same fashion as on the tropical blue shirt.

**TROPICAL BLUE LONG SLEEVE:** Uniform option consists of a long sleeve, light blue shirt with four-in-hand tie and tie bar/tie tack, or the female blue tab tie, name tag, no ribbons, a single insignia, miniature CO/OINC device (incumbents only), and only one miniature staff badge (incumbents only).

**GROOMING:** Lopsided, asymmetrical, unblended, un-tapered, undercutting hairstyles are not authorized.

**TIE BAR/TIE TACK** is required for wear anytime the four-in-hand tie is worn.

**BOAT SHOE** is removed from UDC inventory, but remains an optional uniform item with ODU as commands authorize.

The Uniform Program is testing several uniform initiatives, including: Coast Guard Utility Uniform (CGU) which looks similar to the Navy Working Uniform (NWU) Type III, new performance fabric for physical fitness shirt, shorts, and fitness; a tactical law enforcement shirt with the breathable chest area and ODU Sleeves, a female Combo Cap similar to the male's cap; and improvements to badges.

See ACN 139/19 for full details.



## Electronic Health Records Update

In the last Virtual Town Hall, the commandant, Adm. Karl Schultz, announced that the Coast Guard will begin pilot testing its new electronic health records system—a proven Defense Health Agency program called MHS GENESIS—in fiscal year 2020. Fleet-wide implementation of electronic health records will begin in clinics and sick bays starting in fiscal year 2021. When MHS GENESIS is completed, Coast Guard members and their families won't have to worry about carrying around their printed health records, submit repeated tests, or have to relate basic information to different providers. The access to

centralized, standardized health care data will provide a big picture view of the member's health. Clinics will have access to a single electronic health record through data access and information sharing across Coast Guard, DoD, and civilian health care organizations. The transition will improve timely access of accurate and complete records, improve quality of care, and reduce errors. The future Patient Portal will allow members to view health information online (including records, notes from visits, and certain lab test results), make appointments, and exchange messages with providers.

### ACN 107/19

#### SUBJ: FY20 COAST GUARD RESERVE-TRAINING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM KICK-OFF

The goal of CGR-TMS is to increase Coast Guard Reserve Force capabilities and align training expectations with the Strategic Planning Directive. Reservists should familiarize themselves with the information on the CGR-TMS CG Portal page at: <https://cg.portal.uscg.mil/communities/CGR-TMS/>. This page contains the process guide to request C-School training. Individual requests will be routed through the district and area where they will be prioritized prior to quota assignment. Requests should be entered into the electronic training request module in Direct Access as soon as possible in addition to submission of primary and alternate candidates' names via the CGR-TMS chain. The ICS coordinator point of contact list and other important information is located at <https://cg.portal.uscg.mil/units/cgcpe/SitePages/ICS%20Coordinators.aspx>.

### ACN 114/19

#### SUBJ: FY20 SELECTED RESERVE BONUS, ELIGIBILITY, PAYMENT METHOD AND SPECIAL INCENTIVE PAY

CG-133 has approved an exception to policy in FY20 to allow SELRES bonuses to be paid in lump sum to members that meet the established Coast Guard requirements. A single lump sum bonus payment of \$10,000 is authorized if participation standards have been met for assignment to a Port Security Unit (PSU), in the critical ratings of BM, ME and MK for the applicable SELRES bonus programs.

Designated unit pay (DUP) is authorized at \$15 per Inactive Duty Training (IDT) period or Additional Training Period (ATP) authorized with pay for reservists assigned to a PSU, Naval Coastal Riverine Squadron (CORIVRON), or Naval Coastal Riverine Group (CORIVGRU).

These tools are being employed to encourage the recruitment, proficiency and retention of individuals in designated ratings and units and to help facilitate a return to the currently authorized end strength of 7,000 for the Reserve in the long-run, as well as to enable our most critical units to maintain full staffing capacity now and into the future.

### ALCGPSC 105/19

#### SUBJ: Armed Forces Service Medal available to members at Southwest border

The Department of Defense authorized award of the Armed Forces Service Medal to all Coast Guard service members deployed in support of Customs and Border Protection operations at the Southwest border. The medal is available to members who have served within 100 miles of the international border within Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California since April 7, 2018. Coast Guard military personnel deploying to eligible areas in direct support of CBP for 30 consecutive, or 60 non-consecutive, days may qualify for this award. The message outlines specific eligibility criteria and guidance for administrative processing and verification guidance. Please submit requested information for qualified service members and direct questions to the Personnel Service Center Medals and Awards Staff at [ARL.Medals@uscg.mil](mailto:ARL.Medals@uscg.mil).



### ALCOAST 336/19

#### Microsoft Office 365 Update

The service begins the transition to Microsoft Office 365, which brings major improvements to email and file storage. This, along with AUXDATA, is the Coast Guard's first move to the cloud, as part of a larger enterprise effort to increase workflow efficiency and productivity. Migration to the cloud will improve email reliability, searching, and increase mailbox sizes from 1 gigabyte to 100 gigabytes per user. All personal file storage will be migrated to the cloud and will enable up to one terabyte of storage per user. This storage expansion will eliminate the need to move user accounts during PCS moves. The pilot program kicks off early in 2020 with full Coast Guard integration and new productivity tools in place over the next couple of years. Learn more about the migration to O365 at [www.uscg.mil/cloud](http://www.uscg.mil/cloud). ≈

RPM announced the assignments for Reserve Command Gold and Silver Badge positions:



**Command Master Chief  
(Gold)**

MCPO Robert J. Pasqua  
LANTAREA

MCPO Timothy A. Beard  
PACAREA

MCPO Justin P. Knudsen  
DISTRICT ONE

MCPO Janine M. Tschantz-Hahn  
DISTRICT SEVEN

MCPO James R. Wood  
DISTRICT EIGHT

MCPO Shannan K. Garretson  
DISTRICT THIRTEEN



**Command Master Chief  
(Silver)**

MCPO John B. Chinnici Jr.  
SECTOR VIRGINIA

MCPO Allen M. Garneau  
SECTOR NEW YORK

MCPO Roger N. Bond  
SECTOR OHIO VALLEY

MCPO Josip P. Pehar  
SECTOR SAN FRANCISCO

MCPO Wayne E. Davis  
SECTOR SE NEW ENGLAND



**Command Senior Chief  
(Silver)**

SCPO William H. Robinson  
SECTOR BUFFALO

SCPO Christy R. York  
SECTOR CHARLESTON

SCPO Terrance A. Mayweather  
SECTOR HOUSTON-GALVESTON

SCPO Christopher M. Bryant  
SECTOR LAKE MICHIGAN

SCPO John M. Murdock  
SECTOR LONG ISLAND SOUND

SCPO Kristen A. Santini  
SECTOR MARYLAND-NCR

SCPO James M. Strack  
SECTOR N NEW ENGLAND

SCPO Wesley B. Overton  
SECTOR NEW ORLEANS

SCPO Ismael Torres  
SECTOR SAN JUAN

SCPO Paul C. Koessel  
SECTOR UPPER MISSISSIPPI  
RIVER

SCPO Bradley S. Clair  
PSU 307



**Command Chief  
(Silver)**

CPO Jack F. Burr  
SECTOR DETROIT

CPO Kari M. Brubaker  
SECTOR LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER



**ALCGPSC 144/19**

**SUBJ: PY20 RESERVE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR (RPA) DESIGNATION BOARD RESULTS**

Congrats to the following officers who have been recommended for designation as provisional RPAs!

**Primary:**

LT Kevin Adams  
CWO2 Brian Applegate  
LTJG Louis Carsia  
LTJG Mike Conley  
LT Amy Correa

LTJG Heather Davis  
LT Brandon Garofalo  
LT Laura Gilbert  
LT Bryce Kessler  
LT Ydania Matos

LT Christopher Mohnke  
LT Marvi Rivera  
LT Simon Sekitoleko

**Alternates:**

CWO2 Victor Almodovar  
CWO3 Christopher Pere  
CWO2 Justin Goodrum

LT Samantha Maxwell  
LT Alexandria Trypuc  
LT Alexander Austin

CWO2 Alex Acevedo  
ENS Liesl Olson  
LTJG Duy Lam

# A Cautionary Tale: The pitfalls of parallel military/civilian careers

*Editor's Note: This is the first in a four-part ethics discussion, brought to you by the Ethics Legal Advisors in the Coast Guard's Office of General Law. Barton also serves as the Coast Guard's civilian ethics attorney.*

**R**eservists need to be aware of the pitfalls associated with having positions in industry that may relate to their reserve military positions. Most reservists will not serve in Coast Guard positions that create a conflict of interest with their civilian employment. However, for those that do risk creating a conflict of interest, there is a federal felony concern for Coast Guard officers and a Standards of Conduct violation for enlisted members. Ultimately, every reservist must understand what a conflict of interest is under the law and regulations and then work with their commands to avoid a violation of law or Coast Guard policy.

This issue is especially precarious for reservists mobilized for a contingency involving a regulated entity (e.g., a civilian oil industry employee who was also a reservist mobilized for Deepwater). Reservists continue to backfill on a variety of active duty orders; understanding how to spot a conflict of interest concern, for yourself or a shipmate, is critically important to the well-being of our members and the integrity of our operations.

There are a number of legal cases involving Reserve Component members who were convicted of violating the conflict of interest laws. One case involving a Coast Guard officer stands out as a cautionary tale, because his series of assignments and orders are not in the least bit unusual for a Reserve Component member.

Lt. Cmdr. David Baird served as a full-time active duty Coast Guardsman for five years before transferring to the Reserve. After being laid off from his civilian job, he returned to full-time military service as a reserve officer under a series of consecutive short term orders, the first set for 139 days followed immediately (with no break) by a second set of short-term orders for 69 days.

During the 139-day tour, Baird received a tip about a position as a project manager for International Science and Technology Institute. The position involved lending technical expertise to ISTI's venture in seeking and then carrying out a contract with the Coast Guard. Baird went to Washington, D.C., from his home in New Orleans for an interview with ISTI and to attend the first meeting with the Coast Guard on behalf of ISTI. At the time of the meeting, Baird was still on active duty with 20 days

left on his second set of orders. Baird was present at the meeting but engaged in no meaningful discussion. After completing the 69-day set of orders, Baird was paid to prepare and attend a formal presentation for ISTI. At this second meeting, Baird was introduced as a Coast Guard reservist and the project manager for ISTI, and he explained technical aspects of ISTI's proposal to representatives of the Coast Guard, the Small Business Administration, and the Department of Transportation.

The government investigated Baird's participation in the second meeting and secured an indictment. It charged, in one count, a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 203, which prohibited him from representing ISTI for compensation. The jury returned a guilty verdict, and Baird was sentenced to a year in prison (which was suspended) and 200 hours of community service.

Baird's story is one of many where a reservist didn't consider or properly apply the standards of conduct regulations and conflict of interest laws that apply to all military personnel as they sought or engaged in non-federal employment while serving on or shortly after completing active duty military orders. Since 9/11, reservists in every military branch have been recalled with much greater frequency and for extended periods of time. Increased personnel demands over two decades of war, coupled with periods of inconsistent federal appropriations, have routinely created gaps in the active component that are filled by reservists.

This movement between the components places reservists in a position where they are constantly entering or exiting the non-federal workforce, including seeking non-federal employment while their active duty orders are winding down. Further, reservists are frequently placed into a position where they are trying to "tie up loose ends" at their civilian employment or even managing certain aspects of their civilian jobs while on active duty (or inactive duty for training [IDT]).

Reservists who are unaware of the conflict of interest laws and standards of conduct regulations that govern the interaction and transition between their military positions and their non-federal employment can unwittingly engage in a federal felony offense and find themselves subject to a federal indictment, like Baird. Reservists should be aware of the general concerns relating to their transition.

The phrase "conflict of interest legislation" describes the many volumes of legislation Congress passed in the post-Watergate era to prevent and punish corruption of our public

officials. The criminal conflicts of interest law include provisions relating to accepting unauthorized compensation, unauthorized representational activities, the post-employment restrictions on federal employees, and the prohibition on acquiring a financial interest in a public matter.

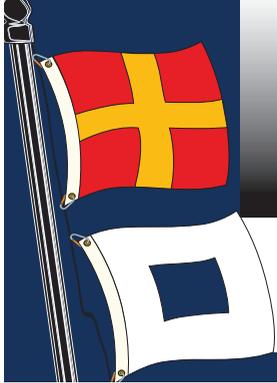
Beyond the conflict of interest related laws, the Procurement Integrity Act and federal acquisition regulations places additional limitations on federal employees who are involved in procurement related matters, have access to proprietary procurement related information, or who wish to contract with the federal government through an

outside, non-federal activity such as a privately owned company. These provisions impose federal felony sanctions on federal officials who violate the law.

Moreover, even where a federal felony concern may not exist, a member may be subject to administrative sanctions resulting from a violation of the federal or Coast Guard standards of ethical conduct, such as misuse of position or the failure to carry out their federal responsibilities in an impartial manner. Reservists with questions should seek direction from their servicing legal office and stay tuned to this series to broaden their understanding of the rules that apply to them. ≈

— Story by Capt. Mike Barton and Cmdr. Amanda Lee  
Coast Guard Judge Advocate General





## Forever a Coastie: how the National Retiree Council stays connected to the Coast Guard

Story and photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Jasmine Mieszala

The Coast Guard, known for its family-like community, is perhaps among few organizations people want to remain connected to once they retire.

"With more than 52,000 retirees, the majority of our retiree community want to remain actively attached to their Coast Guard and know that their Coast Guard remains attentive and responsive to their issues," explained retired Rear Adm. Jeff Hathaway.

He serves as co-chair for the Coast Guard National Retiree Council (CGNRC) and joined retired Master Chief Petty Officer Kevin Isherwood in the role in May. Isherwood is within his fourth year of leadership as co-chair.

The connectivity Hathaway mentioned is was one of the biggest reasons the council was established in 1982. Hathaway and Isherwood ensure retiree issues are properly conveyed to leadership through several mechanisms, including an annual report to the commandant. Thus, the council's primary function is to promote open and positive lines of communication between the commandant and the retirees—including family members, annuitants and survivors.

For some, like Hathaway, they are called to the council with a heart to give back.

"My motivation for volunteering as CGNRC co-chair comes from my desire to give something back to an institution that gave so much to me for 33 years," said Hathaway. "Plus four more years at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy."

"My Coast Guard career counterparts are now mostly members of our retiree community and it gives even more meaning to my decision to volunteer to provide leadership to the CGNRC. I have to believe all of the volunteers engaged in both the CGNRCC and all of our regional councils are similarly motivated," said Hathaway.

The council's national co-chairs lead representatives from 17 regional councils and several members at-large, including an annuitant (spouse of a deceased retiree), which make up the council's leadership body. The regional councils are geographically disbursed and provide in-person engagement with the retiree community. Each council has a base or training center that serves as its active duty sponsor, and although they all adhere to standard responsibilities, they are free to provide meetings and activities



Retired Senior Chief Petty Officer Jim Huffman receives a Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award for his dedicated service as a National Retiree Help Desk (NRHD) watchstander. A vibrant octogenarian, Huffman faithfully stood the 24/7 virtual watch for 41 weeks over five years, serving as a role model for all retirees. He was joined at the event by his wife Marilyn, daughter Jennifer, and son Jonathan.

best suited for their geographical communities.

The retirees enjoy a myriad of benefits from their membership, and two standouts include the retiree services help desk and the annual national council meeting—both supported by the CGNRC.

"One call to 833-224-6743 or email to NRHDDesk@gmail.com connects you with a qualified Coast Guard retiree volunteer who can assist retirees or their family members in getting answers or help with almost any issue," said Hathaway. "The help desk fields more than 1,000 calls per year."

The annual national council meeting is typically attended by Coast Guard leadership, including the commandant, and it provides a forum to hear current Coast Guard

briefs and share work being done by regional chapters, best practices, as well as priorities and initiatives of the council. For example, this year it became a priority to focus on improving communications methods for talking with the retiree community.

"The Coast Guard shutdown earlier this year [2019] brought to light we only had email addresses for about 50% of our retirees, which hampered us from providing them with timely updates," said Hathaway. "All retirees are urged to add personal email addresses to their accounts but the group is also reviewing channels including the retiree services website, the retiree services program guide, the retiree newsletter and regional chapters."

Other priorities included addressing the long lead time for Pay and Personnel Center processing of required VA disability pay paperwork, reviewing the regional retiree council guide, better recognition for retiree volunteerism and framing a pilot "retiree to retiree" mentoring program.

The future of the CGNRC looks bright. In addition to standing up the retiree mentoring program, the council will continue to explore ways to better serve the retiree community and refine best practices for retiree volunteerism. Hathaway and Isherwood will work to get retiree program services better integrated into TGPS\* so that retiring service members can truly understand that service continues even after duty ends. ≈

**Editor's Note:** TGPS (Transition, Goals, Planning, Success) is the new name for the Transition Assistance Program (TAP).

# How to read your retiree payslip

1

WADE WILSON 4321 DARK SIDE CIRCLE GOTHAM CITY, NY 12121		USCG / PHS / NOAA RETIREE/ANNUITANT STATEMENT OF MONTHLY INCOME		EMPLID	SBP Coverage Type
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. COAST GUARD CG-5209-RET (REV 12-07)		USCG / PHS / NOAA RETIREE/ANNUITANT STATEMENT OF MONTHLY INCOME		The SBP base amount is based on the Cost of Living Increases to your pay	
Period Covered 1-30 JUN 2018	Pay Grade E9	Employee ID 9100000	Pay Delivery EFT		
BIRTHDATES FOR SBP PURPOSES		SBP INFORMATION			
Member 1959-NOV-06	Beneficiary/Spouse 1961-AUG-05	Youngest Child 1998-SEP-11	Coverage Type 1-Spouse/C	Base Amount 5,227.81	Annuity 2,875.00
ENTITLEMENTS		DEDUCTIONS			
CRDP	1,182.52	1,182.52	VA COMP	1,182.52	1,182.52
RETIRED PAY	5,224.00	5,224.00	FITW	314.19	314.19
TOTAL ENTITLEMENTS	6,406.52	6,406.52	SBP-CH PREMIUM	1.36	1.36
ALLOTMENTS	OLD	NEW	SBP-SP PREMIUM	339.81	339.81
TRICARE PRIME	48.18	48.18			
DENTAL	115.00	115.00			
TOTAL ALLOTMENTS	163.18	163.18	TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	1,837.88	1,837.88
YOUR NET PAY	Old Amt 4,405.46	Name MKCM Wade Wilson USCG RET	Bank Name USAA SAVINGS	Route Nbr FEDERAL 314074269	Amount 4,405.46
NEW AMT 4,405.46					
FEDERAL TAXES		STATE TAXES			
Exemptions M/3	Mo Tax Income 4,882.83	Income YTD 29,296.98	Withheld YTD 1,965.67	State #1 Withheld YTD 0.00	State #2 Withheld YTD 0.00
COMMENTS ARE ON REVERSE SIDE					

Birth date of your spouse at the time you retired and selected SBP

This is the birth date of your youngest at the time you signed up for SBP

Amount of military pension

Exemptions from W4

Year to Date Tax information

Monthly TAXABLE income

SITW = State Income Tax Withheld  
This applies if your state of residence has an agreement with the Coast Guard and you have designated a dollar amount to have withheld

Direct deposit information and amount

Federal Income Tax Withheld

If spouse is listed in coverage type box, the amount your spouse will receive each month after your death for the rest of their life

2

WADE WILSON 4321 DARK SIDE CIRCLE GOTHAM CITY, NY 12121		USCG / PHS / NOAA RETIREE/ANNUITANT STATEMENT OF MONTHLY INCOME		EMPLID	SBP Coverage Type
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. COAST GUARD CG-5209-RET (REV 12-07)		USCG / PHS / NOAA RETIREE/ANNUITANT STATEMENT OF MONTHLY INCOME		The amount received from the VA is non-taxable income.	
Period Covered 1-30 JUN 2018	Pay Grade E9	Employee ID 9100000	Pay Delivery EFT		
BIRTHDATES FOR SBP PURPOSES		SBP INFORMATION			
Member 1959-NOV-06	Beneficiary/Spouse 1961-AUG-05	Youngest Child 1998-SEP-11	Coverage Type 1-Spouse/C	Base Amount 5,227.81	Annuity 2,875.00
ENTITLEMENTS		DEDUCTIONS			
CRDP	1,182.52	1,182.52	VA COMP	1,182.52	1,182.52
RETIRED PAY	5,224.00	5,224.00	FITW	314.19	314.19
TOTAL ENTITLEMENTS	6,406.52	6,406.52	SBP-CH PREMIUM	1.36	1.36
ALLOTMENTS	OLD	NEW	SBP-SP PREMIUM	339.81	339.81
TRICARE PRIME	48.18	48.18			
DENTAL	115.00	115.00			
TOTAL ALLOTMENTS	163.18	163.18	TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	1,837.88	1,837.88
YOUR NET PAY	Old Amt 4,405.46	Name MKCM Wade Wilson USCG RET	Bank Name USAA SAVINGS	Route Nbr FEDERAL 314074269	Amount 4,405.46
NEW AMT 4,405.46					
FEDERAL TAXES		STATE TAXES			
Exemptions M/3	Mo Tax Income 4,882.83	Income YTD 29,296.98	Withheld YTD 1,965.67	State #1 Withheld YTD 0.00	State #2 Withheld YTD 0.00
COMMENTS ARE ON REVERSE SIDE					

When you receive a disability rating from the VA and the percentage amount is between 10 to 40 percent, the Coast Guard reduces the amount of your pension by the amount you are now receiving from the VA.

Concurrent Retirement Disability Pay (CRDP) is an awarded benefit of funds that restores your military pension back to the full amount. To Qualify for CRDP you must have a 50% or higher disability rating and 20 years of service.

The CRDP (which is taxable income) amount is added to your military pension which causes your Coast Guard entitlement to equal your full retired pay. Essentially you are receiving your FULL RETIRED PENSION (due to the CRDP benefit) from the Coast Guard AND you are receiving the DISABILITY amount from the VA.

When you are receiving CRDP you still see a deduction for the amount the VA pays you (which equals the CRDP amount IN MOST CASES).

# An OIC takes a walk down memory lane

Story and photos by Petty Officer 2nd Class Clayton Ridley, Port Security Unit 312

What an incredible day.

We departed at about 0800, and made our way to Tahoe City, Calif. Senior Chief Petty Officer Ken Davis was riding shotgun, his wife Melanie in the back with my aunt keeping her company over the mountainous drive.

We wound our way along until pulling onto a narrow driveway shared with a public dock. Behind a gate, the well-known Station Lake Tahoe A-frame cabins, and beyond that, Ken's station.

We pulled up to the gate and buzzed the intercom, greeted by a second class petty officer standing watch. "ME2 Ridley with Senior Chief Retired, Davis, to see Chief Fairchild." The gate slid open, and our vehicle crossed onto base. We heard piped across the grounds: "Now, senior chief retired, arriving."

From there, we found our way into the command center, which is so much the same and so much different from what the senior chief remembered. Melanie, having been the wife of the officer-in-charge, remembered so much of it as well. Stories of the old station, changes made—Ken took over as the first command to not have a cook billeted for the station. Jokes about the sauna that was replaced by the hot tub room. The hot tub room is now the officer-in charge office, windows looking out on the lake and the surrounding Sierras. Chief Petty Officer Colt Fairchild asked about Ken's office, and he said "Oh, it was down the hall in the garage." The garage is now a morale room.

In the crew day room, drawings completed by a fellow Coastie still hung above, still backlit at night—a feature Ken's crew installed.

Outside, they checked out the 29-foot response boat—a far cry from the open 21-footers Ken and his crews ran on the lake. Ken was invited to get underway with the duty crew but politely declined.

"I spent my whole life on Coast Guard boats," he said. "I don't need to get on one again. And, as you see, I'm not as stable as I used to be. It wouldn't be good." Ken resigned himself to standing



on the pier with the current officer-in-charge, sharing old sea stories.

Various crewmembers ventured by, listening to tidbits here and there. Someone made a comment about west coast surfmen, and Ken unzipped his jacket to show his polo shirt, denoting him as a surfer.

Then the challenge: "What number are you?"

Ken said, "I earned this before they started giving numbers." The sudden increase in respect and reverence was noticeable—the senior chief boatswain's mate was not one to trifle with.

The crew assembled for photos, including the station's two dogs. They presented Ken with the Station Lake Tahoe challenge coin—the last one of its kind.

Fairchild pulled out one of the station's archive scrapbooks. In it, he found an article from The Malibu Times in June 1984, Ken was interviewed about working at Lake Tahoe.

As we prepare to leave, a crew member came outside with a freshly folded American flag; it had been flying during his visit to the station. Along with that, a genuine promise from one officer-in-charge to another: our door is always open, and you can call on us for anything you may need.

We said our goodbyes, and the crew got back to work. As we got into in the car to leave, the silence was broken: "Now, Senior Chief retired, departing." ≈

**Author's note:** My sincerest thanks to the crew of Coast Guard Station Lake Tahoe, to specifically include OIC, Chief Fairchild. Your hospitality was indescribable. Thanks to Chief Tim Murphy for helping me connect to the station. In setting this up, both Chiefs said, "Tell us what you want, and we will make it happen." And you both delivered tenfold. This wouldn't have happened without you. A huge thank you to my aunt, Debby Conklin. Ken wouldn't go today without Melanie, and Melanie wouldn't have made it without you.

**Editor's note:** Ridley, a reserve maritime enforcement specialist, is a full-time deputy sheriff in Douglas County, Nevada. He and Ken Davis worked together for three years at the sheriff's office. Davis was a 911 dispatcher at the agency from 1988-2008.

ABOVE: Retired Senior Chief Petty Officer Ken Davis, his wife Melanie, and the author, Petty Officer 2nd Class Clayton Ridley.

RIGHT: Davis, Melanie, and Chief Petty Officer Colt Fairchild, Station Lake Tahoe's officer-in-charge, inspect the unit's 29-foot Response Boat-Small. Davis was the officer-in-charge of Station Lake Tahoe in the mid-80s.





Mrs. Rosalen Becker, Coast Guard Radioman 3rd Class and trailblazer for women's equality, celebrates her 100th birthday with service members from Coast Guard Sector New York, Oct. 13, 2019. At the height of World War II, Rosalen volunteered for the SPARS, the United States Coast Guard Women's Reserve, where she specialized in communications technology and the upkeep of radio equipment.

Photo by  
Petty Officer 1st Class Robert Harclerode

## Remembering a trailblazer: Family reflects on SPAR's legacy of service

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael White

During the height of World War II, Rosalen H. Becker resolved to serve our country and defy convention by volunteering to support the war effort. She was among the first corps of women to enter the ranks of the Coast Guard. On Jan. 20, 1943, Becker enlisted in the Coast Guard Women's Reserve, known as SPARs (an acronym for Semper Paratus "Always Ready.")

Throughout her pioneering career, her accomplishments included becoming the first woman in the radio technician rate and, later, becoming an instructor for the rating. She ultimately advanced to radio technician 2nd class and served honorably until her discharge Nov. 9, 1945. She was awarded the Victory Medal.

Becker's efforts helped break down barriers to women's equality and paved the way for others. However, even before she was issued a uniform, it became clear that her commitment to promoting a culture change in the Coast Guard and equality for women would mean confronting adversity and challenges.

Writing in her personal memoir, Becker described an encounter with a recruiter that illustrated her motivation to serve, her steadfast devotion to duty, and her unwavering resolution to becoming an agent of change:

"At the beginning of the war, I went to work at the Remington Arms Plant. My fiancé was killed at the beginning of the war, and I felt I should be doing more for our country. Finally, I took the step and went to the recruiting office of the Navy. A little seaman took my information with a scowl on his face. You could tell that he thought women had no place in his Navy. After filling out all the papers for the Navy, he said, 'Maybe you would like the Coast Guard.' I said that yes, I would

like that. He had to start all anew. I'm happy he did," she wrote.

This past October, just one day after her 100th birthday, Becker crossed the bar. She is survived by her two sons and two daughters.

During the military funeral honors, Lt. j.g. Maria Cielo Fishman of Sector New York presented the folded American flag to one of Becker's sons, James, who is also a veteran.

James recalled how he felt this final salute was conducted in a most fitting way, considering the unique character of his mother's military service.

"That was overwhelming for me," said James. "I was so proud at that moment, and when they played taps and I saluted, and they all saluted, I just felt very proud of her and very proud of myself. It was a great send-off."

James also offered his thoughts concerning his mother's decision to volunteer for wartime military service.

"She didn't have to [volunteer]," said James. "She could have stayed home comfortably. She was not afraid to act on her motivations. I think she just looked at where she could do more than what she was doing. She felt compelled by her nature to want to do more in the war effort. She was very motivated, it was just her nature. It's the way she was. She wanted to do it."

Becker's other son, Bill, succinctly described his mother's legacy in two words: trailblazer and dedicated. He reflected on the significance of his

mother's service.

"Well, I knew there weren't many women in World War II, and she, like many other young people, male and female, she just wanted to do her duty, and serve her country during the war," said Bill. Becker wrote about overcoming the resistance she experienced.



"The men in uniform, at first, found it difficult to accept us, but they did come to realize that we were an essential part," she wrote.

Her son James said, despite her remarkable efforts, Becker did not expect special recognition.

"She never really thought of it as ground-breaking," he said. "She just thought of it as 'I'm doing my part.'"

After she left the Coast Guard, Becker continued to live a life of service, reflecting the Coast Guard's core values, through being a leader and role model for both the youth in her community and her family.

"She was a district leader in the Girl Scouts. She went on to do quite a bit of volunteer work, and she just liked being out doing things like that," said James. "Whether the military did that or not, it's hard to tell, but she had that nature to get involved in things, to want to get involved and be a part of something bigger."

"I think the Coast Guard service probably gave her a sense of duty, a sense of service, a sense of family," said Bill. "And she passed that along to us."

Surrounded by family and friends, Becker's life of service was celebrated on her 100th birthday.

During the event, she was presented with a New York City proclamation memorializing her lifetime of service. Additionally, members of Coast Guard Sector New York presented her with a Coast Guard ensign, in recognition of the exemplary honor, respect, and devotion to duty she demonstrated both in military service and beyond.

Becker was delighted to see members of the Coast Guard at the event. "She knew right away that it was Coast Guard. She could recognize the uniform and she just brightened right up. It was something to watch, how she reacted to that," said Bill. "It's a tribute to the Coast Guard that they honored my mom that way," he added.

"She was flattered by it," said James. "She was overjoyed and very overwhelmed."

In her own written words, Becker best summarized her story of service: "My time in the Coast Guard was a great part of my life, and I remember it fondly."

Her historic contributions to the Coast Guard will never be forgotten. ≈

## Retirement List

### RET-1 (with pay)

RADM John Welch  
CAPT Timothy Butler  
CAPT Mary Ellen Colella  
CAPT Dale Ferriere  
CAPT David Gardner  
CAPT Brett Content  
CAPT Leon Dame  
CAPT John Garofolo  
CAPT Mark Ames  
CDR Curtis Flynn  
CDR Kevin Nishimura  
CDR Cynthia Sparacino  
CDR Lynn Dumas  
CDR Armin Cate  
CDR Brian Flory  
CDR Christopher Harwood  
CDR John Roos  
CDR Craig Sattergren  
CDR Paul Wolf  
LCDR Kevin Baldwin  
LCDR Wilfred Hudson  
LCDR Nicholas Holder  
LCDR Harry Craig  
LCDR Jonathan Kendrick  
LCDR Kenneth Rickabaugh  
LCDR Jonathan Schafler  
LT Mark Briggs  
LT William Read  
LT Scott Tredinnick  
LT Eric Carter  
LT Derrick Franklin  
ENG4 Norman Smith  
F&S4 William McLaughlin  
MSSD4 Dean Bunk  
OSS4 Roderick Golphin

CWO Marion White  
CWO George Abernethy  
CWO Vivian Brennan  
CMC Andreas Apenburg  
MECM Robert Fowler  
MKCM Timothy Chipman  
MKCM Mark Stainbrook  
MSTCM James Williams  
MSTCM Paul Wysosky  
YNCM Therese Benavene  
BMCM Stephen Murphy  
ETCM Richard Hines  
PACM Alan Haraf  
OSCS Michael Garcia  
OSCS David Hydock  
YNCS Corina Liendo  
MKCS Christopher Horak  
OSCS Herbert Hofstetter  
DCCS Kirk Eschenburg  
HSCS Kenneth Schnetzler  
ITCS Ronald Gresak  
IVCS Brendan Kerin  
MKCS Robert Manning  
MSTCS James Douglas  
OSCS John Behe  
YNCS Ellen Cellini  
BMC Anthony Boudouin  
BMC Paul LaPlant  
BMC Clydette Sawyer  
EMC Timothy Soboleski  
ETC Aristides Maldonado  
MEC David Minor  
MKC Robert Cooner  
MKC Andre Ford  
MKC John McDonald

MKC Robert Ryan  
MSTC John Peek  
OSC Michael Bazis  
PSC Anthony King  
SKC Patricia Johnson  
YNC Richard Klee  
YNC Helen McDowall  
BMC Carolyn Carter  
MKC Clemente Cuevas  
MKC Brian Siperly  
MKC Mark Sullivan  
EMC Roger Edington  
MSTC Kevin Morrin  
MEC Michael LaFond  
MKC John Thompson  
MSTC Robert Hare  
MEC Harvey Gjesdal  
BMC James Silva  
MEC Stephen Zukowsky  
MKC Michael Grimes  
MKC William McCormack  
OSC David Gilbert  
PSC David Daniels  
MST1 Frank Pedersen  
YN1 Barbara Jokismith  
BM1 Kevin Hook  
ET1 Lincoln Eldridge  
FS1 Louis Vecchione  
BM1 David Lockwood  
IT1 David Asselin  
ME1 Thomas Faulks  
MST1 John Morehart  
YN1 Ronald Cornwell  
YN1 Andrew Hayes  
EM1 Jeffrey Theros

GM1 Christopher Morency  
HS1 Carlos Briceno  
MK1 John LaRocque  
MK1 Randall Myers  
MK1 Gary Olson  
MK1 Kerry Veach  
MST1 Edward Fleming  
MST1 Everitte Perry  
PS1 Brian Futch  
SK1 John Ohayer  
YN1 Frank Kawano  
BM2 Duane Michalsky  
BM2 Glenn Moore  
BM2 Stephen Safrit  
ET2 Larry Goettel  
MK2 Scott McDade  
SK2 Zyndall Scott  
BM2 Donald Roberts  
BM2 Christian Tramp  
BM2 William Buttenbusch  
BM2 Joseph LaDouceur  
PS2 Tony Williams  
SK2 Wilbert Standberry  
MST2 Karl Kuhn  
MK2 Bradley Webster  
MK2 Jeffrey Ott  
EM3 Carlton Toppin  
BM3 Robert Trombley  
MK3 Bennie Dorsett  
DC3 Kenneth Williams  
BM3 Steven Davis  
BM3 Ernest Engelhardt

Mr. Paul Redmond, Cmdr., USCGR, (ret.), retired from civilian service after 25 years. He had spent the last 20 years being the manager, facilitator and driving force of the Organizational Assessment Survey, or OAS, the Coast Guard's quadrennial survey to measure the service's progress in areas such as leadership, culture, work-life, diversity and professional development. His work created a lasting legacy of data-driven decision making, that impacts every facet of Coast Guard operations.



Ms. Jewel Beverly retired from civilian service after 33 years. She had spent the last 19 years working for the Assistant Commandant for Reserve. Her knowledge of Coast Guard administration and management, as well as her technological skill with forms creation and records management made lasting contributions to CG-R, Coast Guard reservists and the Coast Guard.



## RET-2 (without pay)

CAPT Scott Hale  
 CAPT Michael Spolidoro  
 CAPT Sharif A. Abdrabbo  
 CAPT Brian J. Dudley  
 CAPT Andrew T. Grenier  
 CAPT Julia A. Hein  
 CAPT Matthew J. McCann  
 CDR Okechukwu K. Amadi  
 CDR Keirsten Current  
 CDR Theresa M. Fasceski  
 CDR Keith T. Gensch  
 CDR John A. Jacob  
 CDR Bryan D. Johnson  
 CDR Kirk W. Jorgensen  
 CDR William P. Margulies  
 CDR Jimmie B. Martin, Jr.  
 CDR Dale A. McFarland  
 CDR Christopher B. Phelan  
 CDR Thomas A. Sidener  
 CDR John C. Summers  
 CDR Gerald L. Thornton  
 CDR Bruce M. Tucker  
 CDR Kevin M. Tyrell  
 CDR John Mower  
 CDR Thomas Murray  
 CDR William Suter  
 CDR Jeffrey Caubarreaux  
 LCDR Deanna Beck  
 LCDR David S. Jenkins  
 LCDR Jessica Grooms  
 LCDR Thedrit Parker, Jr  
 LCDR Gregory S. Jones  
 LCDR Darek J. Kitlinski  
 LCDR Cameron D. Land

LCDR Bobby L. Lindsay  
 LCDR Heather R. Paetow  
 LCDR Robert A. Price  
 LCDR Robert C. Scott  
 LCDR Ronald D. Terrell  
 LCDR Emily McHugh  
 LCDR Matthew Brooks  
 LCDR Peter Reeves  
 LCDR David Bavencoff  
 LCDR Timothy Joachim  
 LT Matthew Maggolino  
 LT Steven Raynor  
 LT Jonathan Scott  
 LT Marco D. Rodriguez  
 LT David R. Simonson  
 LT Andrew J. Taylor  
 LT Nicolette C. Travland  
 LT Robert B. Villacres  
 LT Patrick D. Zeitler  
 MLES3 Edward Croissant  
 CWO Melinda Bacon  
 CWO Renier Hernandez  
 CWO Shawn Urbas  
 CWO Dennis C. Carney  
 CWO Darrin P. Kimsey  
 CWO Randall W. Thompson  
 BMCM Michael A. Freeman  
 CWO Danny Duffy  
 CWO Aaron Hemme  
 CWO Richard Wagner  
 BMCM Kurt Shoemaker  
 YNCM M. Hoff  
 MECM Douglas Gilmer  
 BMCM James Pancari

MECM John McDermott  
 MECS Richard Shaffer  
 BMCS David Lee  
 MECS Brown  
 DCCS Sean D. Weed  
 MKCS Michael J. Callanan  
 MSTCS Jorge L. Torres  
 BMCS Roger Rebman, Jr.  
 BMC Robert Angell  
 BMC Eugenio Arencibia  
 BMC Phillip DiMarco  
 CSC Raymond Jaskolski  
 IVC Edward Barrientos, Jr.  
 MKC Kevin Kennedy  
 BMC Bernard J. Eischen  
 BMC Keith M. Heiser  
 BMC Collin C. Mauck  
 DCC William V. Grant  
 EMC Jason S. Bolling  
 IVC Gary D. Poen  
 MEC Matthew A. Berg  
 MKC Michael D. Cole  
 MKC Eric T. Harding  
 MKC Carl M. Sette  
 OSC Melissa A. Byrd  
 BMC Matthew Moore  
 MKC Paul Rinta  
 MEC Jeffrey Domingcil  
 MEC Jeremy Vahle  
 MKC William Shaw  
 YNC Joseph Terrell  
 BMC Jason Farrell  
 BMC Erik Johnson  
 MEC David Ryle

MSTC Alicia Belmas  
 MK1 Nicholas Cea  
 MS1 Joseph Reilly  
 MST1 Arnold McMillion  
 YN1 John Farrell  
 YN1 Nathaniel Santanaroman  
 GM1 Robert Harris  
 MST1 Holli Lamb  
 IV1 Alfredo Ferrer  
 BM1 Joseph Santoli  
 ME1 Jonathan Phillips  
 BM1 Austin R. Griggs  
 CS1 Antonio J. Folk  
 DC1 Daniel Puchala, Jr.  
 ME1 Daniel Baenziger  
 MK1 Christopher Szarka  
 YN1 Andrea J. Boucher  
 YN1 Yvonne E. Makalena  
 BM1 Todd Taylor  
 PO1 Jennifer Greb  
 YN1 Jason Warner  
 MK2 Antonio Rizzo  
 BM2 Thomas F. Sperandeo  
 BM2 Harry Pinti  
 BM2 Patrick J. Tuohy  
 BM3 Nathan A. Hemphill  
 BM3 Emily L. Peck

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

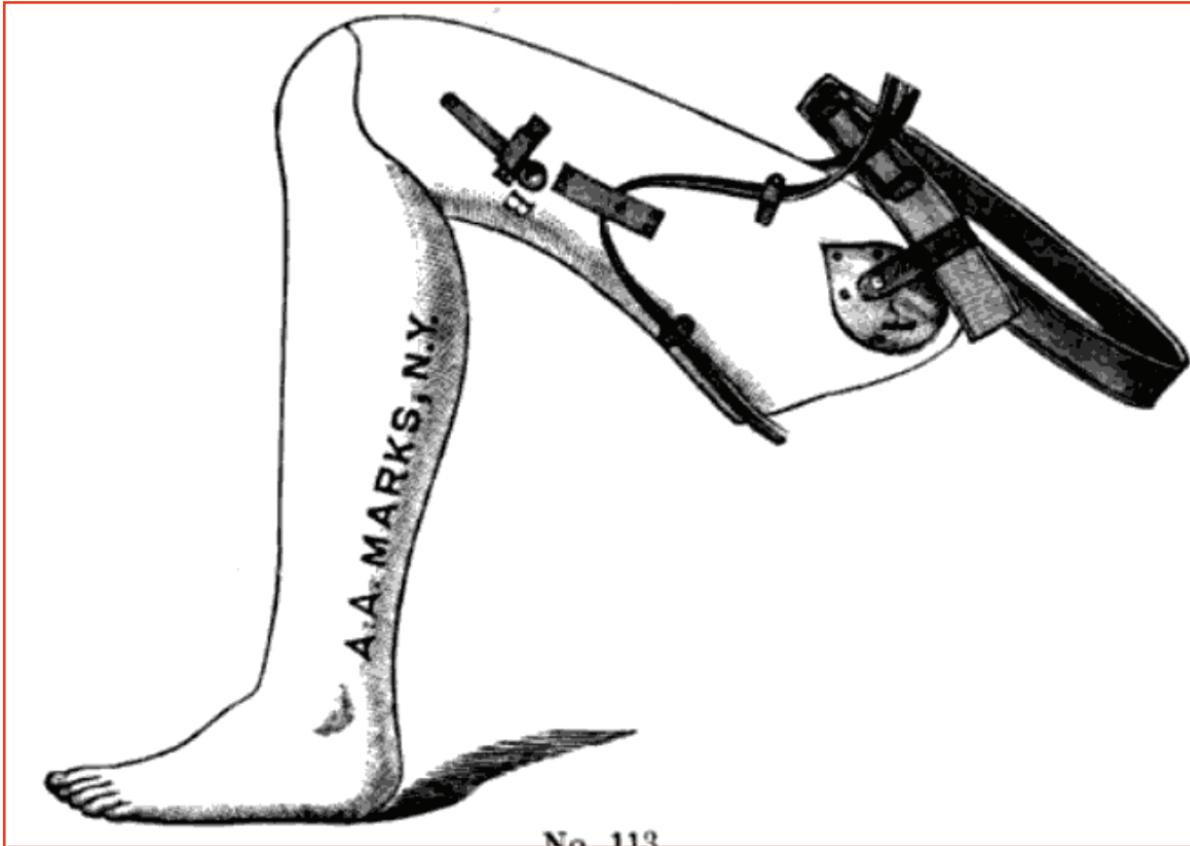


Image of an artificial leg from "A Treatise on Marks' Patent Limbs with Rubber Hands and Feet". (A.A. Marks Company 1888)

## *Working with a disability in the 1800s*

Cmdr. Neil E. Hurley, USCGR (ret.)

It's a sad fact of medical history from the 1880s that many people who suffered from broken arms or legs were treated with amputation. At the time, there simply were no antibiotics or complex surgeries that could save a limb and, as a consequence, the injured person's life.

In the United States, the A.A. Marks Company of New York was the nation's largest manufacturer of artificial arms, hands, legs and feet. In 1891, they estimated that there were 250,000 people in the United States who were "maimed" in some fashion. The biggest culprits were railroads and machinery. About 85 percent of amputations were legs, and 15 percent were arms. Not only were men injured; women accounted for 22 percent of legs amputated.

Although patients usually recovered from amputation, it was unusual for a person to continue working in the same occupation they previously held. This was certainly true for lighthouse keepers, as they

were government appointees who required a high degree of mobility to climb stairs and ladders as part of their duties maintaining a lighthouse.

Born in Charleston, S.C., in 1845, John Miles was a keeper in the United States Lighthouse Service who continued to serve after losing his leg. After the Civil War, Miles lived in Fernandina, Fla., and served at Amelia Island's North Range Lights located in the extreme northeast corner of Florida. There, he lived and worked from 1873 into the 1880s and likely until his death in 1895.

Miles' service as a lighthouse keeper was documented in the biannual Official Register of Employees of the United States. Starting out as the assistant lighthouse keeper, he was paid \$400 per year. He was promoted to the position of head keeper in 1880, and his pay increased to \$600. Between 1887 and 1889, lighthouse keepers received a pay increase and his salary was then increased to \$660 per year.

Miles' disability was reflected in two documents: a testimonial published by the A.A. Marks Artificial Limb Company and a letter from the Lighthouse Service.

Miles' testimonial was dated Nov. 3, 1887:

*Dear Sir:*

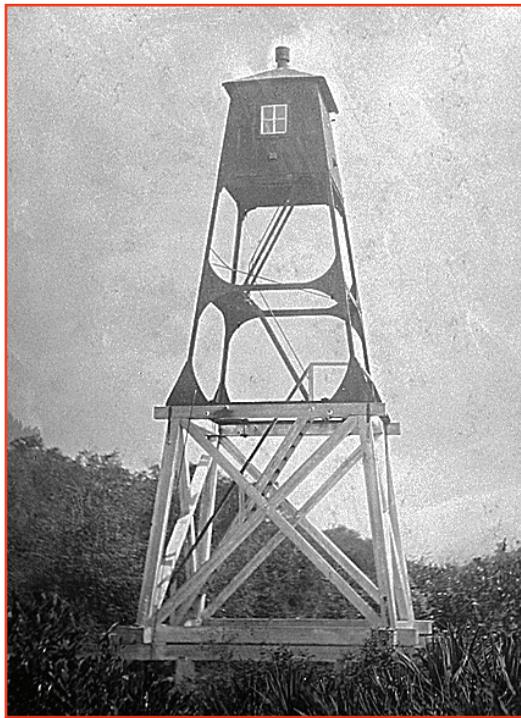
*Permit me to say that your artificial leg with rubber feet attached, which I have been using continuously since December 1886, is all that you have claimed for it.*

*I have but seven inches of thigh stump. My occupation is U.S. Light House Keeper, North Beacon Ranges, Amelia Island, Fla. and I have to go up and down in one of the ranges 45 feet high, on iron-rod steps, at least twice a day; so I have good reason to say your limbs are all you claim for them.*

*You are at liberty to use this as you wish.*

*Respectfully yours, John Miles.*

Chris Belcher, a Florida lighthouse historian and president of the Florida Lighthouse Association, found a



Photograph of Amelia Island North Rear Range Light located near Fernandina, Florida. (National Archives)

second source of information in the National Archives. Apparently, Miles' continued employment as a lighthouse keeper after having his leg amputated required special permission from the chairman of the U.S. Lighthouse Board in Washington. The letter was written by Navy Cmdr. Benjamin Lamberton, Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District headquartered in Charleston:

*December 14th, 1885*

*To: Chairman of the Light House Board Washington D.C.*

*Sir,*

*I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's letter of the 12th instant making inquiries concerning the disability of Mr. John Miles Keeper of the North Range, Amelia Island, Florida.*

*As stated in my Report of Inspections of this Station dated Nov. 23rd 1885 the keeper had his leg broken*

*on the 4th of November 1885 and sometime later had the leg amputated at the knee joint. The lights were being attended to by a very intelligent young man whom Mr. Miles had employed and the Station was in its usual good condition and the Lights properly kept. Mr. Miles was hauling supplies to the station for his personal use when the accident occurred.*

*Being a sober, industrious man who has been in the Light House Service continuously since June 1st 1873 and against whom no report has ever been made, I felt his case was one deserving sincere consideration hence made a special report of his illness and no recommendations as to his removal until it was definitely determined that he would be permanently disabled.*

During the 19th century, employers discriminated against people with disabilities and racial minorities. Not only was John Miles one of the earliest known disabled lighthouse keepers, but records indicate that he was also African-American. Census records from 1870 list Miles as a single black male living in Fernandina, working as a domestic servant. In the past several years, researchers have uncovered dozens of other African-American keepers like Miles, who kept the light. These black keepers served mainly in Maryland, Virginia, and along the southeast coast of the U.S.

Miles was buried in the African-American section of the Bosque Bello Cemetery in Fernandina Beach. His headstone indicates that he was born Aug. 10, 1845, and died Feb. 16, 1895, at the age of 50. His headstone also indicates that he was "a devoted husband and affectionate father." Moreover, he should also be remembered as a hard-working lighthouse keeper who overcame a severe injury to become one of the Lighthouse Service's first keepers with a disability. ≈



Illustration of a man with prosthetic leg climbing a ladder. (A.A. Marks Company 1888)

# Bulletin Board

## ATTENTION RESERVISTS:

Coast Guard Reserve wants your story ideas for our social media channels.

If you have pictures or videos of all the great work you or your unit are performing around the world, we want to know!

Submit content to:

[USCGReservePAO@gmail.com](mailto:USCGReservePAO@gmail.com)



Coast Guard men and women and their families, who took part in the Coast Guard Flags Across America event, Nov. 2, pose in front of the Tampa Memorial on Coast Guard Hill in Arlington National Cemetery. The annual event is one of several held around the country to honor fallen Coast Guardsmen wherever their final resting place may be.



### State of the Coast Guard Address

More than a dozen reservists participated in the execution of the Commandant's State of the Coast Guard Address in Charleston, S.C., Feb. 20, 2020. Afterward, they met with the commandant, Adm. Karl Schultz, as well as the Master Chief Petty Officers of the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve, Jason Vanderhaden and George Williamson, respectively. From left: Lt. Michael Browning, Lt. j.g. Steven Sarkees, Ensign Fritz Miller, Adm. Karl Schultz, Lt. Waymando Brown, Petty Officer 1st Class John Spry, Lt. j.g. Ian Roberts, Lt. Brian Drake. Front from left: Petty Officer 1st Class Lisa Ferdinando, Lt. Cmdr. Cara Lowry, Lt. Judee Brandt, Ensign Kay Wilson, Master Chief Petty Officer Gee Williamson, Master Chief Petty Officer Vanderhaden, Lt. Mary Tabor, and Lt. Dennis Bradford. Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Jetta Disco



### TO CHANGE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS:

#### Selected Reservists

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](mailto:ppc-dg-ras@uscg.mil)  
 or call 1-800-772-8724

TELL US  
 YOUR STORY:  
[thereservist@uscg.mil](mailto:thereservist@uscg.mil)



Petty Officer 2nd Class Virgilio Garcia was pinned with new first class devices, surrounded by family, at his advancement ceremony at Port Security Unit 313 all-hands event Oct. 19, 2019.

# ACHIEVEMENTS



Lt. Waymando Brown spoke to 160 elementary school students in the Atlanta area Oct. 28, 2019, about the missions of the Coast Guard, recreational boating safety, search and rescue, and safety tips for recreational swimming. The event was part of the Elementary School's career week and focused on water safety in and around public waterways and recreational swimming pools.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Jason Zito is advanced to first class in a ceremony held Oct. 12, 2019, at Coast Guard Station Atlantic City while his wife Janel, son Ethan, father David, and reserve and active station members look on.

Photo courtesy of Senior Chief Petty Officer Michael Emery.

Petty Officer 1st Class Brendan Whelan, with his wife, Brooke, is advanced to first class in a ceremony held Oct. 12, 2019 at Coast Guard Station Atlantic City.

Photo courtesy of Petty Officer 1st Class Brendan Whelan



Petty Officer 1st Class Nick McMaster, a reservist from Coast Guard Station Indian River Inlet in Rehoboth Beach, Del., returned Nov. 17, 2019, from his deployment to El Paso, Texas, in support of Southwest border operations. He was greeted by his sons at the airport.

Photo courtesy of Erica Leigh McMaster.

Station Sandy Hook reservists held an informal retirement dinner and ceremony Nov. 16 for two of their own: Chief Petty Officer Christopher Davis, the unit's senior enlisted reserve advisor, and Petty Officer 1st Class Jason Jablonski. Both members celebrated over 20 years of service in the Coast Guard Reserve.



Coast Guard Sector New York held its semi-annual Chiefs Call to Initiation Acceptance Dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn in Staten Island, N.Y., Nov. 14, 2019. Newly-minted Chief Petty Officer Rodney Colon, a drilling reservist at Sector Miami who lives in New York City, completed the initiation process and became an active member of his local Sector New York Chiefs Mess. Colon is flanked by Master Chief Petty Officer Justin Knudsen, the Sector New York reserve command master chief, and Master Chief Petty Officer Rashaun Morris, the First District reserve command master chief.



Station New York's senior enlisted reserve advisor, Senior Chief Petty Officer Brian Marek, was awarded the Coast Guard Commendation Medal by Station New York Commanding Officer Lt. Cmdr. Brad Conway for outstanding work for the service's largest station reserve component.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Fred Eshelman reenlists Petty Officer 1st Class Michael Franco of Station New York's Reserve Maintenance Team Oct. 11, 2019, with an all reserve boat crew at the Statue of Liberty.





In a ceremony held Nov. 5, 2019, civilian supervisor Israel Caraballo was presented with the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Patriot Award.

Retired Army Lt. Col. Ron Smetana, the employer outreach coordinator for Ohio's ESGR, recognized Caraballo, the assistant dean for learning commons and academic support services at Cuyahoga Community College, with the Patriot Award. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Pete Jennings, an assistant professor/librarian at the college, nominated Caraballo for the award to recognize his outstanding support of military members.

Pictured from left to right: Lt. Col. Ron Smetana, Dean Israel Caraballo, and Chief Petty Officer Pete Jennings, a reservist at Marine Safety Unit Toledo.



Petty Officer 1st Class Hylan Rousseau discusses firearm safety with a young recruit while giving a tour of the 32-foot transportable port security boat Dec. 7, 2019.

Photo by Lt. j.g. Kristina Robertson.

## TRANSCOM Change of Command

In a change of command ceremony held Sept. 7, 2019, at Coast Guard Reserve Unit U.S. Transportation Command, Capt. Joanna Hiigel relieved Capt. Jill Lumpkin as commanding officer. Air Force Brig. Gen. Kenneth Council presided over the ceremony, and Hiigel's daughter, Tana Hiigel, a third class cadet at the Coast Guard Academy, performed the national anthem. Lumpkin received the Defense Superior Service Medal for her years of service to TRANSCOM.



Capt. Joanna Hiigel, commanding officer of Coast Guard Reserve Unit U.S. Transportation Command, is flanked by her daughter Tania, a cadet at the Coast Guard Academy where her parents met, and her husband Capt. Mark Hiigel, who is the chief of incident management for the First Coast Guard District.



The Base Portsmouth, Va., crew held its annual all-hands in October under the leadership of Capt. Kim Guedry. Photo courtesy of Lt. Cmdr. Byron Dixon.

# AWARDS

**Editor's note:** Send your unit's names and awards (no citation needed) to [TheReservist@uscg.mil](mailto:TheReservist@uscg.mil).



**Defense Superior Service Medal**  
CAPT Jill Lumpkin



**Meritorious Service Medal**  
CAPT Frank Schaefer



**Joint Service Commendation Medal**  
CDR Jerry Stanek  
CDR Cliff DeTemple



**Coast Guard Commendation Medal**  
CDR Chris Anderson  
ITCS Brian Marek



**Coast Guard Commendation Medal  
(with Operational Device)**  
IV2 Brian Heany  
IV1 Paul Buccat  
IV1 Brian Huber  
IVC John Russo



**Joint Service Achievement Medal**  
LT Joshua D. Brandt



**Coast Guard Achievement Medal**  
LT Andrew Fiddes  
LT Julie Duncan  
MEC Andrew Lieberwirth  
ME2 Kyle P. Gorham



**Coast Guard  
Letter of Commendation Ribbon**  
LCDR Jeffrey Lamont  
HS3 Samantha Seaman



**Joint Meritorious Unit Award**  
CAPT James Cobb  
CAPT Geoffrey Deas  
CAPT John Caraballo  
CAPT Michael St. Jeanos  
CDR James Herlong  
CDR Thomas Sidener  
CDR Lynn Capuano  
CDR Dale McFarland  
CDR Samuel Alvord  
CDR Karl Hansen  
CDR Georgios Sekeroglou  
CDR Robert Bisang  
CDR Josephine Heron  
CDR Patrick Markowitz  
CDR Michael Calhoun  
CDR Brian Boland  
CDR James Cullen  
CDR Scott Wolland  
CDR Tiffany Davidson  
CDR Brandon McGowan  
LCDR Todd Remusat  
LCDR Emir Holmes  
LCDR Jonathan Bernhardt  
LCDR Adrien Bellin  
LCDR Patrick Hanley  
LCDR James Thach  
LCDR Brian Dudley  
LT Joshua Brandt  
MEC John Simpson  
MEC Zac Horne  
YNC Kimberly Donn



**Coast Guard  
Meritorious Team Commendation**  
IS1 Stephanie Pendergraft  
IS3 Christopher Johns



**Coast Guard  
Good Conduct Medal**  
ME1 Stephen Long  
BM1 John Kindler  
YN1 Sara Cook



**Coast Guard Reserve  
Good Conduct Medal**  
DCC Korrena Jennings  
BM1 Daniel P. Foley  
GM1 Daniel Jackson  
CS2 Katrina Kubeja  
ME2 William Hicks  
ME2 John E. Rose  
ME2 Hunter Cates  
ME2 Trenton Morneault  
ME2 Erik J. Bernard  
ME2 Kyle P. Gorham  
ME2 Brandon L. Gonzalez  
BM3 Joseph M. Puopolo  
BM1 Mary L. Murphy  
BM3 Anita Chen  
HS3 Samantha Seaman



**PSU Pin**  
BM1 Dugan McElroy  
BM1 Travis Schade  
YN1 Sara Cook



The Bud Sparks Award for best large Coast Guard Reserve Unit was awarded to Coast Guard Sector New York. The award was formally presented to the crew during their semiannual reserve all hands Oct. 19, 2019. During the ceremony, the most senior and most junior reservist came on stage to represent the 250 reserve members of Sector New York. After the award was presented, the reserve officers and chiefs gathered with LANTAREA Reserve Chief of Staff Capt. Miriam Lafferty, Sector Commander Capt. Jason Tama, Senior Reserve Officer Capt. George Bamford and Reserve Command Master Chief Justin Knudsen. Bravo Zulu!



Station New York reservists spend a day working on range training at the range in Fort Dix, N.J., Oct. 12, 2019.

Photo courtesy Master Chief Petty Officer Justin Knudsen

## It's signed!

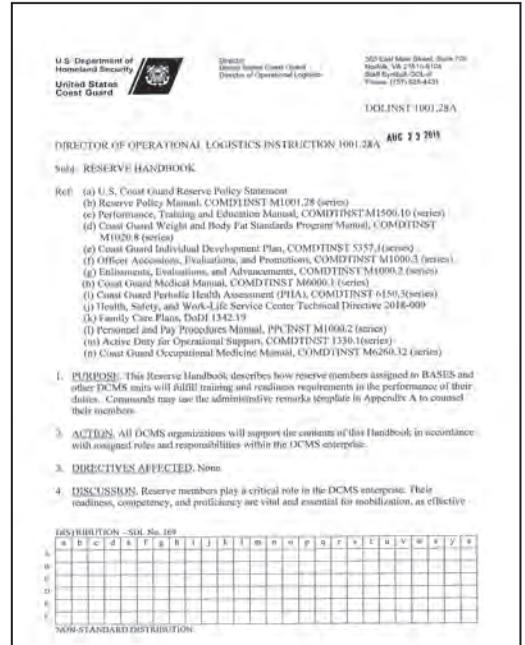
The RESERVE HANDBOOK, Director of Operational Logistics Instruction, DOLINST 1001.28A has received its final signature. FY20 road shows are being planned!

National Commander Center reservists rounded out their October all-hands weekend with a morale tour of the White House Oct. 26, 2019. Attendees included Ensign Rob Wood, Lt. Cmdr. Cris Michelucci, Lt. Cmdr. Will Thompson, Lt. Cmdr. Jenn Di Nino, Lt. Cmdr. Luke Grant, Lt. Goliath Demisie, and Lt. Cmdr. Julian Middleton.

Photo courtesy of Lt. Cmdr. Will Thompson.



In August, Lt. Cmdr. Ricardo J. Rodriguez from Coast Guard Reserve Unit Indo-Pacific Command received his doctorate from Walden University in Criminal Justice with a specialization in Law and Public Policy. BZ, Commander!



# Are You Aboard?

**STAY CONNECTED!**

By registering, you will be kept informed of the latest scuttlebutt, including:

- Quarterly Newsletters
- Upcoming Events
- Major Milestones in the design and construction phases

Registration is now open to ALL Coast Guard personnel - active, reserve, retired, civilian, auxiliary and family!

Visit [CoastGuardMuseum.org](http://CoastGuardMuseum.org) to register today!



860.439.1790 | [info@coastguardmuseum.org](mailto:info@coastguardmuseum.org) | [www.CoastGuardMuseum.org](http://www.CoastGuardMuseum.org)



Chief Warrant Officer Jennifer Wilhite administers the oath for Petty Officer 1st Class Jose Rodriguez, who reenlisted Oct. 30, 2019, for another eight years of service at the General Douglas MacArthur Memorial in downtown Norfolk, Va. Rodriguez and his mentor, Wilhite, have been serving together at Shore Infrastructure Logistics Center since May 2018.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Samantha Seaman received her first good conduct medal Aug. 8, 2019 at Port Security Unit 313.



Master Chief Petty Officer Michelle Foster received her second star, advancing to master chief at Port Security Unit 313's all-hands gathering July 7, 2019.

## TAPS



**Lt. Cmdr. Jason Young, 48, USCGR**, passed away Jan. 2, as a result of injuries sustained during an off-duty vehicle crash in Gladstone, Mo.

He was also a long-serving member of the Independence Police Department, serving his community in the Patrol Division, Criminal Investigations Unit, the Drug Task Force, the Special Victims Unit and as a Tactical Medic Sergeant.

His funeral service Jan. 8 included full military and police honors, as in addition to his career as a sergeant in the Independence Police Department, he served in the Coast Guard Reserve since 2006. He earned the rank of lieutenant commander and deployed to Guantanamo Bay and Kuwait. Commander Young was a recent transfer to Coast Guard Reserve Unit U.S. Transportation Command after a tour serving with Port Security Unit 312.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Truman Heartland Foundation in his memory. All donations

will be used for medical supplies in Independence Police Department's tactical unit.

Fair winds and following seas; rest in peace, we have the watch.

**Petty Officer 1st Class John Anthony Hodurski, 75, USCGR**, of Lake Wales, Fla., passed away Nov. 17, 2019. He was born November 6, 1944 in Nyack, N.Y., to the late Bruno and Etoile A. (Knoebel) Hodurski. He was a resident of the area for four years, coming from Cape Cod Harwich, Mass. He was a Meeting House Mechanic for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.



He was a police officer, a Vietnam veteran, and a member of the Navy the Massachusetts Army National Guard and the Coast Guard. He was a ham radio operator, member of the Lake Wales Radio Amateur's Club. He loved model trains, railroads, fixing things and cooking. He is remembered in the Coast Guard for his service at Station Chatham, Mass., as a great cook, crewmember and shipmate.

Petty Officer Hodurski is survived by Sharon, his wife of 53 years, and their three children and six grandchildren. He was interred at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Fla.



## Available Boat Forces C-Schools for FY2020

Submitted by Mr. Donald P. Hartmayer, Program Analyst, CG-731

Course Number	Title	Dates
502127	RB-S Coxswain Intro	6/1 – 6/12/2020
502127	RB-S Coxswain Intro	6/15 – 6/26/2020
502127	RB-S Coxswain Intro	7/13 – 7/24/2020
502127	RB-S Coxswain Intro	7/27 – 8/7/2020
502127	RB-S Coxswain Intro	8/10 – 8/21/2020
502127	RB-S Coxswain Intro	8/24 - 9/4/2020
502420	Reserve RB-S BCM	4/20 – 5/12/2020
502420	Reserve RB-S BCM	5/11 – 5/22/2020
502463	RB-M Org. Maintenance	4/6 – 4/13/2020
502463	RB-M Org. Maintenance	4/20 - 4/27/2020
502463	RB-M Org. Maintenance	5/11 - 5/18/2020
502463	RB-M Org. Maintenance	6/15 - 6/22/2020
502463	RB-M Org. Maintenance	7/13 - 7/20/2020
502463	RB-M Org Maintenance	8/3 - 8/10/2020
341095	Boarding Team Member	4/20 - 5/1/2020
341095	Boarding Team Member	8/24 - 9/4/2020
501853	Boarding Officer Practical	5/11 – 5/22/2020
501853	Boarding Officer Practical	6/15 – 6/26/2020
501853	Boarding Officer Practical	7/27 – 8/7/2020
501853	Boarding Officer Practical	8/17 – 8/27/2020



**BOAT FORCES RESERVE**  
READY TO RESPOND

For additional information  
review the ETQC website at:

[https://cg.portal.uscg.mil/units/forcecom/  
ETQC/TrainingPage/SitePages/Home.aspx](https://cg.portal.uscg.mil/units/forcecom/ETQC/TrainingPage/SitePages/Home.aspx)

# PARTING SHOTS



A boat crew travels to the cargo ship Ocean Giant Jan. 22, 2020, near McMurdo Station, Antarctica, in order to ferry passengers from the cargo ship to McMurdo Station. The crew of the Coast Guard Cutter *Polar Star* created a channel in the ice near McMurdo Station as a part of Operation Deep Freeze—the U.S. military’s contribution to the U.S. Antarctic Program, which is managed by the National Science Foundation.

Photo by Senior Chief Petty Officer Nyxolyno Cangemi



A 29-foot Response Boat-Small crew from Coast Guard Station Dauphin Island assists Dauphin Island Fire Rescue fight a fire aboard a vessel near Dauphin Island, Ala., January 15, 2020. All three people aboard the vessel departed their burning boat onto a life raft and were rescued by members from Station Dauphin Island.

U.S. Coast Guard photo



Petty Officer 3rd Class Joseph Kraus, a machinery technician, works with Petty Officer 3rd Class Steven Gilbert, a boatswain's mate, both members of Coast Guard Aids to Navigation Team San Juan, work on recovering equipment on the Guayanilla Front Range Light Jan. 14, near Bahia de Guayanilla, Puerto Rico. The range light was damaged during recent earthquakes around Puerto Rico.

Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Robert McCurdy

Petty Officer 3rd Class Marco DiSandro of Coast Guard Station Portsmouth summits Kilimanjaro in October. DiSandro, who also serves at the Pentagon as a civilian member of the public affairs staff, is planning his next challenge—the 26-mile Bataan Memorial Death March, in uniform, in New Mexico.

Photo courtesy of Marco DiSandro.



Commanding Officer (mas)  
Pay & Personnel Center  
444 SE Quincy Street  
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

PRSTD STD  
Postage and Fees Paid  
United States Coast Guard  
Permit Number G-157

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
Penalty for Private Use \$300

# U.S. Coast Guard Reserve



For 79 Years — Always Ready When Needed Most