DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. COAST GUARD

YARD NEWS

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

VOLUME 61 NUMBER 03 MAY/JUNE 2012

Yard Delivers BEAR, 270' Phase II MEP Cutter

By CDR Steven Hendershot, Chief of Project Management

In May, the Yard completed the 270' Phase II Mission Effectiveness Project (MEP) on CGC BEAR of Portsmouth, VA. During this project which began in October 2011, the Yard accomplished approximately 54,000 hours of work and accommodated 15% growth in scope. Every shop put in long hours to finish the 7-month, $6M modernization project.

Major items included upgrading the propulsion control and monitoring system; installing new fuel and lube oil purifiers and tank level indicators; repairing and preserving decks, bilges and nearly every tank onboard; completely renewing the sewage tank; cleaning the fuel tanks and piping; restoring the responsiveness of the controllable-pitch propellers to within parameters, and installing a prototype boat davit and cradle on the fantail.

The overall project, jointly funded by the acquisition, maintenance and operation communities, completed approximately eight percent under budget - an exceptional value for the Coast Guard and its stakeholders.

Along with managing MEP on select 210' and 110' cutters since 2005, the Yard has completed upgrade on six cutters under the 270' MEP Phase I project and five cutters under the 270' Phase II. BEAR joins its sister ships - TAMPA, NORTHLAND, LEGARE, and THETIS - having completed MEP 270' Phase II modernization at the Yard.

The U.S. Coast Guard Yard
Since 1899, Servicing The Fleet
That Guards Our Coasts

CGC BEAR docks on the Yard's shiplift in December 2011 while undergoing modernization under the Mission Effectiveness Project

The Commanding Officer's Column

by Captain Richard K. Murphy

Greetings! There has been a lot of activity since my last column. As I write, we are aggressively working nine cutters on the waterfront. Many thanks to all for the success of several recent deliveries including: CGC ESCANABA (270' WMEC, Boston, MA), delivered in June after an $8 M, 11 month MEP, and CGC BEAR (270' WMEC, Portsmouth, VA), delivered in May after a $5.3 M, 7 month MEP - both highlighted by the installation of new Main Propulsion Control and Monitoring Systems. The CGC OAK (225' WLB, Charleston, SC) and CGC RIDLEY (87' WPB, Highlands, NJ) departed following regular dry-dock availabilities. Recent arrivals include FRANK DREW (WLM, Portsmouth, VA); BAINBRIDGE ISLAND (WPB, Highlands, NJ); BLOCK ISLAND (WPB, Atlantic Beach, NC); FLYING FISH (WPB, Boston, MA), and STURGEON BAY (WTGB, Bayonne, NJ). MEP work also continues on the CGC TAHOMA (WMEC) and CGC CHANDELEUR (WPB).

Congratulations go out to CDR Dugan, the Yard's Executive Officer, on his outstanding contributions over the past three years. He is now moving on to CG Headquarters (CG-93) as the Deputy Project Manager for the Nationwide Automatic Identification System (NAIS) project. On behalf of the entire Yard team, I wish him "fair winds, and following seas" and thanks for a job well done! A warm welcome to his replacement, CDR Pat Dozier, who joins us from Headquarters (CG-926) Office of Research, Development, Test and Evaluation.

It was great to have U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin of Maryland on-board recently to provide the keynote remarks for the annual Memorial Day Service. In recognition of his support and appreciation of the Yard's personnel and mission, he also made time during his visit to meet with Yard leadership, tour the waterfront, and meet with the BAMTC Union leadership team.

We had a very successful ISO 14001 (Environmental Management) Surveillance Audit that resulted in zero non-conformances. Thanks go out to all the shop areas, contractors, and tenant commands that were visited. All were very prepared and did an excellent job of demonstrating knowledge and commitment to the Environmental Management System (EMS). We have improved our EMS in many measureable ways since 2000 when we first achieved our ISO 14001 certification, but there's always a need to remain diligent and continue to improve.

Many thanks to everyone involved in supporting the Baltimore 1812 Sailabration activities that included an international parade of more than 40 tall ships and naval vessels and a week of activities in Baltimore Harbor. The Yard played a critical support role for this event that included transforming Berry Hall into an interagency command center and Arundel Cove into a marina with over 40 CG Auxiliary boats.

The Yard's Fiscal Department is heavily involved in the ongoing, CG-wide, DHS Financial Audit and the tests of effectiveness of Yard internal controls. Mr. John Bowerman was recently recognized at the annual meeting of the American Society of Military Comptrollers for his outstanding performance during last year's Financial Audit and internal controls work. John received the CG CFO Award for Excellence for the GS-9 to GS-12 category. Congratulations to John and the entire fiscal team!

I'd like to welcome USCGC CHOCK to the Yard. CGC CHOCK, a 65-foot tug, changed homeport from Portsmouth, VA to the Yard on June 28th. The cutter will moor adjacent to the JAMES RANKIN and report to Sector Baltimore.

I'd also like to invite everyone to the Yard's picnics throughout the summer and especially to our Coast Guard Day celebration on August 3rd in the Grove. Our Morale staff does a great job putting these picnics together for everyone, and CG Day is especially a good time for all.

Finally, please join me in saluting LCDR (ret) Heinz Bartnick from EOPMB and MSG (ret) Robert Jacobs from X20. Both recently retired; LCDR Bartnick after 29 years in the Coast Guard, and Master Sergeant Jacobs after 34 years in the Army and Army Reserve. Congratulations to both!

As always, thanks for all you do to keep the Coast Guard's surface fleet Semper Paratus!

YARD NEWS

Printed on Recycled Paper

The YARD NEWS is an authorized publication published bi-monthly for active and retired employees of the U.S. Coast Guard YARD and selected Coast Guard offices. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of Homeland Security nor the U.S. Coast Guard. Address contributions and inquires to: Editor, YARD NEWS, U.S. Coast Guard YARD, 2401 Hawkins Pt Rd, Baltimore, MD 21226; Tel. (410) 636-7238; dottie.e.mitchell@uscg.mil

Captain Richard Murphy
Commanding Officer
Jennifer Walter
Collateral Duty Graphic Designer

Dottie Mitchell
Editor
YN2 J. Walden
Collateral Duty Photographer

"We're Working On It!"

The 87' Cutter RIDLEY arrived at the Yard on April 13th and departed for its homeport of Montauk, New York, on June 10th. Highlights of its availability were 100% preservation of the lazarette and painting the underwater body, freeboard, and main deck (including renewing the nonskid pads). The Yard executed a change request to install stainless steel plates around the cutter's exhaust ports. This was the first 87' WPB that the Yard lifted with a new cradle fabricated last year.

The Yard continues work on the 270' WMEC TAHOMA from Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The cutter arrived in early May for an anticipated 9-month MEP modernization. TAHOMA is the 7th 270' Phase II MEP upon completion next year.

The Coast Guard Cutter FRANK DREW is a 175' coastal buoy tender homeported in Portsmouth, VA. The cutter arrived at the Yard on June 6th for an anticipated 10-week routine dry-dock availability. During this work period, Yard tradesmen will preserve the underwater body, buoy deck, ballast tanks, and chain lockers. The Z-Drive propulsion units will be inspected and wearing parts renewed. Deck equipment, including the crossdeck winches, main in-haul winch, anchor windlass, and warping capstan, will be inspected and overhauled.

Yard Builds Final Switchboard for 110' MEP Cutter Fleet

The Yard Electric Shop, with support from other trades, completed construction of the 17th and final switchboard for the 110' patrol boats that have been modernized under the Mission Effectiveness Project (MEP) at the Yard. The shop's work spans seven years and concludes with the Cutter CHANDELEUR, the last 110' MEP cutter expected to depart in July.

The switchboard is the heart of the 110' boat's power plant and provides all metering and control for generators and shore power. In addition, the switchboard feeds power to the power panels that control the boat's electrical systems.

The below narrative is provided by Yard Electric Shop Supervisor Frank Schwarz who relates a step-by-step journey of the Yard's switchboard manufacturing process.

Yard craftsmen who built all 17 switchboards for the 110' MEP cutter fleet pose for a group photo in front of the final switchboard destined for installation on the Cutter CHANDELEUR. Pictured left to right are: Ken Ducker, X30; Jim Snyder, X30; Miles Schucker, X10; Mike Swank, X10; Bo Okonski, X10, and Mike Rockocy, X30.

"The 110' switchboards were built from the ground up by Yard craftsman from Electrical, Sheetmetal, Welding, and Paint Groups. Mike Swank & Miles Schucker from the Sheetmetal Shop designed the cabinets and doors, cut holes, and made plates for all the components such as meters, gauges, circuit breakers, etc. Bo Okonski, with his welding skills, welded together the cabinet foundation and frame. The next step in the process was to paint the switchboard. Our Coating Specialist, Mike Rockocy from the Electrical Group (Paint Shop), put his expertise to work and did a beautiful job. The final steps were making the copper buss work, installing it in place, mounting the equipment on the plates, and completing the wiring.

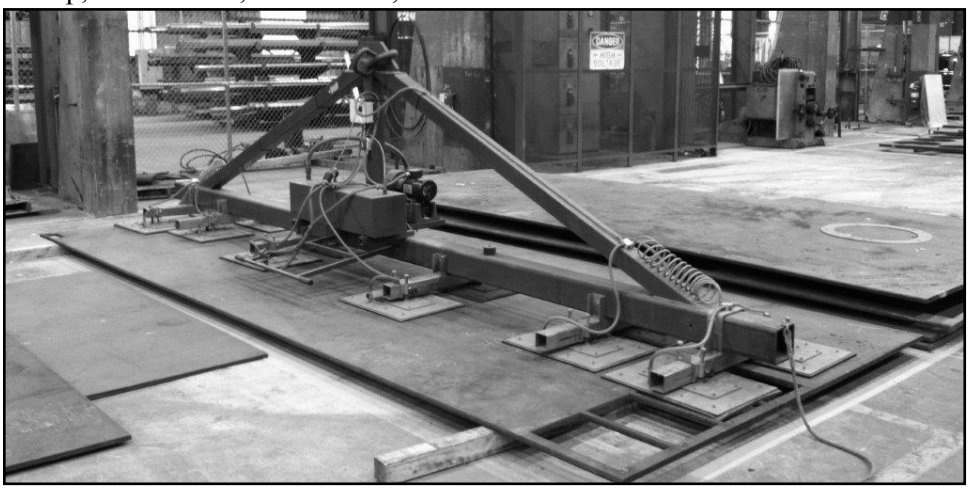
Ken Ducker and Jim Snyder from the Electrical Group provided the finishing electrical touches, getting the switchboard ready for the last step - a test in the shop before final installation on the boat. Mission complete."

Lean Update: 5S and SCBA Production Cell

By Eric Linton, Yard Business Manager

The Yard's Lean Team has been busy with 5S events and developing production cells for new product lines. Rodger Pugh's Structural Shop 5S event is nearing completion (5S is Sort, Sweep, Set in Order, Standardize, and Sustain). Rodger, Victor Fricke, Joe Meyers and Donald Storm reorganized and disposed of tons of materials left over from various Yard projects.

The team organized the shop's plate stock so that it is more accessible and is now maintaining a stock of frequently used plate that can be used on future Yard projects. Plate is now organized by size and arranged so that it can be picked up by the shop's new magnetic lifting device that can be used to put plate on and remove it from the Yard's computer controlled cutting machine. This also eliminates handling costs that are one of the seven deadly wastes Lean processes strive to eradicate. The technical term for waste is Muda (Japanese for waste).



Structural Shop's Magnetic Lifting Device

Mike Thomas is leading the Garage in another 5S event. The shop is reorganizing in order to free up more interior shop space for equipment maintenance and to better manage maintenance records.

See **Lean**, pg 7

MEP's Return On Investment

Cutter LEGARE Seizes Cocaine In Caribbean

The 270' WMEC LEGARE, homeported in Portsmouth, Virginia, was one of several Coast Guard assets that contributed to significant, high-dollar seizures of cocaine during March and April, 2012. The cutter's drug interdiction success was only five months after departing the Yard upon completion of modernization under the Mission Effectiveness Project (MEP).

LEGARE's 12-month MEP involved installation of a lube oil purifying system and main propulsion monitoring system; repairs to the controllable pitch propeller; overhaul of the cutter's ventilation and steering unit; installation of new tank level indicating systems and helicopter service systems; upgrade of the fire system; refurbishment of berthing areas, and tank preservation.

The Yard's expert craftsmanship improved LEGARE's reliability and reduced the cutter's operating costs enabling the 270' WMEC to more efficiently perform its Coast Guard missions.

The account of the efforts of LEGARE and a Coast Guard law enforcement detachment are published below. Their work within a 60-day period resulted in five drug busts involving 168 seized bales of cocaine having a street value of $135 million. (Courtesy of *Coast Guard Compass*, May 31, 2012)

What happened when a Coast Guard law enforcement detachment and medium endurance cutter teamed up with a U.S. Navy frigate? A total of 168 bales of cocaine, worth more than $135 million, never made it on to the streets of America.

Occurring during a two-month period, the five separate interdictions were a result of Operation Martillo. Spanish for "hammer," Operation Martillo, is a U.S., European and Western Hemisphere effort targeting illicit trafficking routes in coastal waters along Central America.

The first of the interdictions occurred with the USS ELROD, a 453-foot Navy guided missile frigate. The ELROD and an embarked Coast Guard law enforcement detachment team were on patrol in the Caribbean Sea March 20 when crewmembers located a fishing vessel. When the vessel was boarded, they found 18 bales of cocaine and detained four suspects who were transferred to law enforcement agents.

Exactly a month later, while still patrolling in the Caribbean, crewmembers aboard ELROD located a go-fast vessel. Altogether, crewmembers recovered 89 bales of contraband aboard the go-fast, later testing positive for cocaine.

Elsewhere in the Caribbean, Coast Guard Cutter LEGARE made two go-fast interdictions in a 48-hour period. A helicopter crew from the Coast Guard's Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron, or HITRON, spotted a go-fast vessel with three crewmembers aboard and bales on deck. Crewmembers from LEGARE were able to recover four bales and one kilogram of cocaine from the water.

"The ability of flight deck equipped ships combined with HITRON capabilities is a robust force multiplier in counternarcotics strategy," said CDR Kevin Carroll, Commanding Officer of LEGARE. "This well-matched combination of assets allows us to effectively and efficiently interdict drugs in the transit zone, far from U.S. shores."

Just five days later, there was still time for one more drug bust as crewmembers aboard ELROD located another go-fast vessel. The Coast Guard law enforcement detachment team, attached to the ELROD, boarded the vessel, located 10 loose kilograms of cocaine and retrieved 57 bales of cocaine.

The Cutter LEGARE departs the Yard's shiplift following MEP dry-docking in August 2011. The Yard completed LEGARE's 11-month, $11.107 million MEP modernization last November. The Cutter's recent participation in a large drug interdiction operation in the Caribbean provided a significant return on the Coast Guard's MEP investment.

Yard Hosts U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin of Maryland For 2012 Memorial Day Service

The Baltimore Area Coast Guard Commands held their annual Memorial Day Service on Friday, May 25, 2012 at the Coast Guard Yard Veterans Monument. United States Senator Benjamin Cardin of Maryland provided keynote remarks to an audience of 300 military members and civilian employees. Several guests from local Anne Arundel County communities were in attendance. The ceremony included presentation of colors by the Baltimore Area Coast Guard (BACG) Color Guard, a traditional wreath laying by BACG organizations, a 3-volley salute by the Yard Rifle Squad, taps played by Coast Guard Auxiliarist Paul Deafenbaugh, and distribution of "buddy poppies."

Earth Day 2012 Improves Yard's Environmental Footprint

Volunteers clean up the former shipways on the waterfront during the Yard's celebration of Earth Day 2012.

"Battle of the Shops" Winner - Group 10

Although rain delayed the annual Earth Day celebration from April 26th to May 3rd, the spirit of this year's participants was not dampened. Nearly 200 volunteers from the Baltimore Area Coast Guard commands toiled throughout the morning to improve the Yard campus. Projects included landscaping at the main gate, Veterans Monument, firehouse, Chief's Mess, playground, and picnic area at the grove. A crew of ten workers removed two 30-yard dumpsters of debris from the shipways' storage areas. Another team weeded and planted fruits and vegetables in the grove's MWR garden. The garden supplies fresh produce to the Dry Dock Club throughout the summer months.

The Earth Day 2012 celebration initiated the first competition among volunteers for the "Battle of the Shops." This year's winner is Group 10 for their efforts to reduce their shops' environmental footprint by eliminating waste and regaining space. The team discarded unneeded trash, metal, and wood in and around Building #78 to gain valuable floor space and improve safety. Job well done!

Chaplain's Corner

Rebar and Response

By Chaplain Jason Ulven, Sector Baltimore

Years ago, I was a youth pastor, and I took a group of high school students to Honduras to begin construction on an orphanage. Our job was to dig over a dozen holes that were three feet deep, three feet wide, and three feet long. We built a mesh grid of rebar that laid at the bottom of the holes, then built rebar towers that came up out of the holes. Lastly, we mixed concrete by hand and filled up the holes. Because Honduras has occasional earthquakes, these holes would serve as very solid foundational footers that the orphanage would be built upon. It was hard work, and the thing that made it even harder was that we'd never see the end result. We'd never see the children enjoying the safety of their new home because our job was limited to digging and filling holes.

Despite all that, I had the joy of working with Paul. Paul was in 11th grade, and he did something that I found to be remarkable. His task was to use wire to fasten the rebar towers to the rebar mesh grids in the holes. Our foreman instructed him to use wire cable and fasten at two joints, but I caught Paul fastening the wire at three joints. When I asked him why he was taking the extra time and energy to add an extra wire, (we really didn't improve the structural integrity), he responded with, "I know that I'll never see kids running through this building, but I like to think that I'm doing something to provide them with a safer, better future."

When we serve others, we rarely get to see the impact of our efforts. In fact, we may not even know if our hard work made any difference at all. So you might ask, "What's the point in putting others first?" In my observation, an interesting thing happens when we strive to be a blessing to others. Almost inevitably, we end up being blessed for putting others first. We are often rewarded for rewarding others.

James 1:27 helps illustrate this point. It says, "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

The first time you read it, you might conclude that it's a pretty good idea to look out for others. But James says that we should look out for others so that God accepts our faith as real and worthy. In other words, doing good for others ends up being good for us.

This week, as you think about all the things you should do… you should be a good spouse; you should be a good parent; you should be a good employee, remember that serving the soul of others often ends up serving and blessing ours.

Yard Police News

By SN Lauren Funicelli, Yard Police Department

Police Chief Fred Dolbow will be returning to the police station this month. He is the most recent graduate of the prestigious FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA, maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Chief Dolbow's new law enforcement knowledge will be greatly beneficial to the police station. Another graduate the police department would like to recognize is Officer Taylor Abernathy who graduated from the U.S. Army Civilian Police Academy in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Following him at the same school is Officer Steve Krawchuck who is expected to graduate in mid-August. All of the training the officers have been learning is a valuable asset to the station.

The Police Department has been keeping quite busy with retirement ceremonies, the Baltimore Area Coast Guard Memorial Day service, and the recent setting of the Francis Scott Key buoy ceremony held on the USCGC JAMES RANKIN. Because of these special events, the CGPD saw approximately 100 visitors daily, provided escorts, and arranged parking.

The officers at the CGPD want to remind those who choose to ride their bicycles on base to use proper safety measures. Make sure that helmets are always worn with a strap and that. cell phone use is prohibited while riding.

During the month of May, the Yard saw over 1,000 visitors. The Police Station and its officers have continued to stand a taut watch over the Yard.

Lean, cont from pg 4

The Lean Team is assisting shops with the development of new production cells for Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) maintenance and Program Logic Controllers (PLCs). The SCBA cell is located in building 79 that houses the Yard Firehouse, and this location was chosen for its proximity to the warehouse. Since all SCBA's will be sent from the warehouse to the SCBA cell, this reduces transportation costs (less Muda). The SCBA cell is also organized so that material flows through the shop in a "U" pattern. The "U" material flow minimizes transportation and people movement costs (Muda again).

Congratulations, FEB Gold Medalists!

LT Kimberly McLear, Industrial Department, and Rick Heilman, Electronics Shop, came home with gold on May 4th as they captured top honors in the 2012 "Excellence In Federal Career Awards" competition sponsored by the Baltimore Federal Executive Board (FEB). The ceremony, held at Martin's West Banquet Center in Woodlawn, Maryland, was the annual FEB competition that recognizes local civil servants and military members for outstanding work in select job categories. Over 245 winners of bronze, silver and gold medals received congratulations from over 1000 federal employees, family members, and guests in attendance.

The FEB presented LT McLear and Rick Heilman with gold medals for being the "best of the best" in the categories of "Workforce Diversity/ Equal Employment Opportunity" and "Outstanding Trades & Crafts," respectively. A synopsis of their award nominations is presented below.

LT Kimberly McLear, "Workforce Diversity/Equal Employment Opportunity Service"

LT Kimberly McLear currently serves as a Deputy Project Manager in the Yard's Industrial Department. Her dedication to organizational outreach is extremely noteworthy. A staunch advocate for mentoring, she dedicated more than 400 of hours of her personal time mentoring students and professionals in various fields. She has volunteered hundreds of hours towards workforce diversity and community outreach. LT McLear was instrumental in expanding the CG Yard's Partnership in Education (PIE) Program to include a significant outreach at the high school level. She established an innovative partnership with Baltimore Community High School, a school that serves urban, high-risk young people from widely divergent backgrounds that often include having been truant, dropped-out, or repeatedly failing. Students from this school are hand-selected and are matched with eight active duty and civilian mentors in a "big brother/big sister" style program on the base. There were drastic positive improvements over the past school year in the students' behavior, attitude, communication skills, and participation in school activities.

LT McLear was a College Select Pre-Commissioning Initiative mentor; a program that commissions officer candidates from historically minority serving institutions.

LT McLear spoke about career opportunities at two Morgan State University Job Fairs and the Huber Memorial Church Job Fair, reaching 600+ young adults in Baltimore Community. She was a key speaker at the Women in Engineering Forum at Severna Park High School, and was subsequently invited to be the keynote speaker at next year's forum because of her inspirational and motivational impromptu speeches as a panelist.

LT McLear diligently worked to extend the national partnership with CG-1 Human Resources and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). She developed a model to forge long-term, sustainable relationships between professionals (pilots, engineers, etc) in the Coast Guard and NSBE collegiate /junior chapter students to increase the advancement of underrepresented groups pursuing engineering careers in the Coast Guard. This model has already gained interest by chapters in Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, and Miami. She also volunteered as a competition judge for the NSBE Summer Camp. She continued to work with the Coast Guard Academy, local recruiting offices, and operational units on projects to broaden the NSBE partnership with local elementary schools, middle schools, and colleges. She spoke at three regional conferences to 200+ students on opportunities for

LT Kimberly McLear

Rick Heilman

See **Gold,** pg 10

Milestones

Retirements

LCDR Heinz Bartnick, Chief, EOPMB, 29 years

Ronald Metzger, Planner/Est (Elec), 34 years

Jo Ann Clark, 22 years, Secretary

Tyrone McNeill, Rigger, 31 years

Robert Clyde, Heavy Mobile Equip Mech Supv, 41 years

John Quaty, Electrician, 22 years,

Kenneth Ward, Rigger, 30 years

Promotions/Advancements

CWO4 Sean Fennell, Chief, Military Personnel Branch
YNCS Michael Jarbeck, Chief, SPO
YN2 Jordan Walden, Yeoman, SPO
Douglas Griffin, Electrician, to WG-11
Stanley Waters, Painter Leader, to WL-9
John Rider, Financial Accounts Administrator, to GS-9
Larry Phinny, Services Group Asst Foreman, to WS-15
Timothy Behan, Marine Mach Mech Leader, to WL-10
Michael Thomas, Crane Operator Supervisor, to WS-12
Robert Compton, Shipfitter (Welder), to WG 10
Nelson Sapunar, Shipfitter (Welder), to WG-10
Russell Cholewa, Machinist, to WG- 11
Joseph Meyers, Rigger Supervisor, to WS-10
Timothy Sheppard, Rigger Supervisor, to WS-10
Joseph Dillard, Machinist, to WG-11

Congratulations 40-35-30 Year Yard Service Pin Recipients

Pictured left to right: Irvin White, X60, 40 years; John Vranus, X10, 30 years; Joe Jackowski, X30, 35 years; Joe King, X40, 35 years; William Tyson, X40, 40 years.

Roy Bartholomew, X10, 30 years

Yard Civilian Personnel Service Pins

25 Years
John Mark, X10
David Walker-El, X10

20 Years
Charles Brady, X60
Matthew Powers, X30
Jeffrey Warnick, X20
Scott White, X60
Christian Wooden, X60
Robert Reed, X20
Victor Fricke, X10

15 Years
Sandra Pashley, X30
Robert Phillips, X40
John Regiec, X20
Bart Ramsey, X30

10 Years
Bennett Carey, X10
Jody Turner, X60
John Planinshek, X10
Dennis Ober, X30
John Quatry, X30
Douglas Zyla, X20
Henry Vernacchio, X20
Calvin Cain, X40
Ronald O'Connor, X40
Michele Camara, Fiscal
Robert Hayden, Fiscal

5 Years
Christopher Wargo, X20
Phillip O'Neal, X20
Jessica Dembinski, X10
Darren Conrad, X10
Michael Williams, X10
Kevin Means, X10
James Greenfield, X10
Donald Hayes, X10
Joe Evans, X10
Alvin Kuhn, X10
Brett Sturgeon, X10
Ed Wendt, X20
Don Riddle, X30
Leon Wilson, Jr., X10
James Milan, X30
Ryan Northcraft, X30
James Walker, X40
Jackee Hutton, X40
John Driscoll, Jr., X40
Harry Gray, X40
Thomas Burnham, X80
Nelson Sapunar, X10
William Hunt, X10
Daniel Stum, X10

Gold, cont from pg 8
underrepresented groups to become officers in the Coast Guard.

Richard Heilman, "Outstanding Trades and Crafts Employee (Non-Supervisory)"

Rick Heilman is an Electronics Work Leader (WL-12) and a 25-year veteran of the Yard's Electronics Shop. Rick is responsible for all electronics installs for the 110', 210', and 270' Coast Guard Cutters in the Mission Effectiveness Project (MEP) at the Yard. His work insures the Coast Guard fleet remains a reliable entity until the arrival of replacement cutters.

Six of the 110 footers are deployed as part of Patrol Forces Southwest Asia supporting Maritime Security Operations in the Arabian Gulf in support of Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Jordan.

Rick's diligent attention to details served the Coast Guard exceptionally well for the much required meticulous and extensive preparatory work for the SCCS upgrade installations on the six 110' WPB class ships stationed in Bahrain and Kuwait. As the work leader in charge of the installation crew consisting of three other mechanics, Rick overcame extreme work conditions, insurmountable logistics complications, and cultural challenges to ensure proper installation of a command and control system that is vital to mission operations in the Persian Gulf and our nation's fight against terrorism.

The SCCS install on the six 110' WPBs in the Persian Gulf was originally scheduled as a four week job that required the crew to work for three weeks without a day off under arduous and stressful conditions. Rick's steadfast confidence and leadership ensured that his work crew retained the highest quality and productivity while in a foreign country. During the preparation of the SCCS install, he frequently attended conferences with Engineering, Project Management, and C3CEN personnel to resolve technical, logistical, and administrative details that, without his invaluable input, would have made the project unfeasible. During the entire SCCS upgrade availability in the Persian Gulf, he tirelessly interacted with the local command to ensure his work crew had all the needed environmental conditioning support crucial in a desert climate. He resolutely lobbied through the local command's liaison to procure storage and staging areas close to the work site to minimize his crew's exposure to the elements that sometimes exceeded a heat index of over 120 degrees.

Rick's dedication to the Yard's core values were exemplified by his willingness to extend his stay twice when mission critical events delayed the availability schedule of the vessels to be upgraded. He further went well above and beyond the call of duty and the project by packing up tools and material and relocating to Kuwait to complete another ship's upgrade and thereby making him one of the most prized and loyal employees of the Coast Guard Yard.

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Coast Guard Yard

Mail Stop #5
2401 Hawkins Point Road
Baltimore, MD 21226-1797

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use $300