U. S. COAST GUARD

EVENING COLORS

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

October–December 2004 | **Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty** | Issue IV/2004

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Northrop Grumman Awarded Contract To Begin Work on U.S. Coast Guard's Maritime Security Cutter

Source: Northrop Grumman News Release 30Jun 04

PASCAGOULA, Miss. -- June 30, 2004 -- Under the U.S. Coast Guard's Deepwater program, Northrop Grumman Corporation (NYSE: NOC) has been awarded approximately $250 million in production and long lead material contracts for the first Maritime Security Cutter, Large (WMSL), formerly named the National Security Cutter, which is a highly capable high-endurance cutter. These contracts, awarded to the company's Ship Systems sector, bring the lead ship of the most advanced cutter class in the Coast Guard's fleet one step closer to delivery and leverage significant continued production savings across three different cutter classes by sharing the same design team, with common systems, logistics, and training.

The Ship Systems sector leads the construction effort as a major partner in Integrated Coast Guard Systems, a joint venture of Northrop Grumman and Lockheed Martin. The ship will be manufactured here at the Northrop Grumman's Pascagoula shipyard. Construction will begin in September 2004 with the keel laying to follow in April 2005. The anticipated delivery date for the lead ship is the second quarter of 2007.

The WMSL will be a 421-foot vessel with a 4,112-ton displacement at full load, when delivered, and will be powered by a twin-screw combined diesel and gas turbine power propulsion plant designed to cruise at a maximum speed of 28 knots. The cutter will include an aft launch and recovery area for two rigid hull inflatable boats, a flight deck to accommodate a range of rotary-wing manned and unmanned aircraft and state of the art command and control electronics.

Integrated Deepwater System (IDS) is a critical multiyear, multibillion-dollar program to modernize and replace the Coast Guard's aging ships and aircraft, and improve command and control and logistics systems. It is the largest re-capitalization effort in the history of the Coast Guard. When complete, the interoperable IDS will include three classes of new cutters and their associated small boats, a new fixed-wing manned aircraft fleet, a combination of new and upgraded helicopters, and both cutter-based and land-based unmanned aerial vehicles. All of these highly capable assets link with command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems, and are supported by a new and far-reaching integrated logistics system.

Northrop Grumman Ship Systems includes primary operations in Pascagoula and Gulfport, Miss., and in New Orleans and Tallulah, La., as well as in a network of fleet support offices in the U.S. and Japan. Ship Systems is one of the nation's leading full-service systems companies for the

see** 'Northrop Grumman Contract' **on page 2

Northrop Grumman Contract-*continued from page 1*

design, engineering, construction and life-cycle support of major surface ships for the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard and international navies, and for commercial vessels of all types.

Source: Northrop Gumman News Release 30Jun 04

2004 Commandant of the Coast Guard National Retiree Council Meeting

The Commandant of the Coast Guard National Retiree Council (CCGNRC) held its third annual meeting in accordance with COMDTINST 1800.5D from 13 to 15 April 2004 at Coast Guard Headquarters. This was the inaugural meeting held by the CG for only the CG. In addition to the Co-Chairs, five chartered Regional Coast Guard Retiree Councils (RCGRC) were represented plus one representative from Mobile. There are eight RCGRCs, currently active with Mobile, going through the chartering process. Three representatives were unable to attend at the last moment: two due to travel problems and one due to illness. RADM Fred Ames, the incoming officer co-chair, also attended.

LT Howard Wright of G-IPA provided an overview of the Coast Guard's Engagement Plan and provided the council with an understanding of how the retiree community can help. From providing information on boating safety to telling the Coast Guard story, members of the CG retiree community through our regional councils are already assisting local commands providing speakers for public events, college fair nights at local high schools, and any other community and public service need. The CCGNRC co-chairs will maintain a close liaison with G-IPA and will provide assistance where the need arises.

The Council as a whole met with the Vice Commandant to get a sense of current Coast Guard issues. Vice Admiral Barrett reported that the Coast Guard is still "Semper Paratus!" He reported the Coast Guard continues its growth by 4,000 people and its budget increase by 10% per year. It has been a very busy year for CG personnel with the push to accelerate the DEEPWATER timetable and some 64% of the reserves on active duty. With regard to Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld's comment to "get the CG out of DOD plans," VADM Barrett does not see that happening, as the military leaders at the Pentagon depend on the CG to perform special missions around the world.

Mr. Tim Cox, COO, Armed Forces Retirement Home (ARFH), presented an update of AFRH. In FY 2002, the National Defense Authorization Act provided for: a name change, full time COO, elimination of the board structure, active duty military directors, a restructured resident fee schedule, and making the local boards advisory only. Now the AFRH is one organization in different locations with one set of standards, policies, and procedures. This is a giant step forward in elimination of duplication and waste! Coast Guard monetary contributive participation in the AFRH should be viewed in several positive and proactive ways. First, parity of our other DOD services. We remain as the only military service that does not contribute to the AFRH, thus giving us a "less than status." Secondly, this could be viewed as a possible option for long-term care for some of our enlisted members as they reach the 'golden years.' Finally, the contribution of $6.00 per year per enlisted member and Chief Warrant Officer can also be viewed as a benevolent contribution, given that the vast majority of our service members may not take advantage of AFRH residency opportunities, yet they can assist in helping others. The Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force present this to their members as another opportunity to help take care of their own, particularly past veterans who have helped build the success of its service. The CCGNRC continues to believe that the CG should become a party to the AFRH.

The Military Coalition/Alliance briefed their priority legislative issues. These include SBP reform as the top issue. SBP reform involves three issues: (1) eliminating the SBP Age-62 Annuity drop (proposing new legislation for 10-year phase out of drop), (2) repeal the SBP-DIC offset, and (3) move paid-up SBP effective date back to 2004 from 2008 (those who signed up in early 70's). The other priority issue is expanding concurrent receipt for disabled retirees. The CCGNRC unanimously supports these legislative priorities as doing the right thing for our annuitants and disabled veterans.

The Council was briefed by Dr. Michael Doyle, program manager of the Coast Guard's Mentoring Program. Although the briefing itself focused on the active duty mentoring program, the discussion proved valuable in how the retiree community can proactively participate in assisting the active duty community through the Transition Assistance Program (TAP). Retirees may participate in TAP as guest speakers, or as added information resources on topics where they may currently be involved with through

*see **'National Retiree Council Meeting'** on page 5*

U. S. Coast Guard Personnel Service Center (PSC)

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Executive Director

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Editor, Evening Colors

Evening Colors is a publication containing news of general interest, suggestions, and information to keep Coast Guard and NOAA retirees and their family members informed of recent developments. This publication shall not be considered authority and is non-record material

New Medal Authorized
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOTEM)

To recognize members of the Armed Forces of the United States, including Coast Guard Personnel (active duty and reserve), Executive Order 13289, 12 March 2003, established a medal for service in or in support of Global War on Terrorism Operations, on or after September 11, 2001, to a future date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense.

Only one award of the GWOTEM is authorized per individual. No Service stars are prescribed. The GWOTEM may be awarded to the same individual if the member satisfies both criteria while serving in multiple roles during different periods of time.

The initial award to Coast Guard members is limited to personnel deployed abroad in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom in the following Department of Defense designated specific geographic Areas of Eligibility (AOE): Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bulgaria (Bourgas), Crete, Cyprus, Diego Garcia, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Romania (Constanta), Saudia Arabia, Somalia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey (East of 35 Degrees East Latitude), Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Yemen, that portion of the Arabian Sea, North of 10 degrees North Latitude and West of 68 Degrees Longitude, BAB El Mandeb, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Aqaba, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Suez, that portion of the Mediterranean Sea East of 28 degrees East Longitude, Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Strait of Hormuz, and Suez Canal.

Coast Guard members must be assigned, attached, or mobilized to a unit participating in designated operations for at least 30 consecutive days or for 60 nonconsecutive days in the AOE, or meet one of the following criteria:

- Under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action, regardless of time in the AOE.
- Be killed, wounded or injured requiring medical evacuation from the AOE while participating in designated operations.
- Be participating as a regularly assigned aircrew member flying sorties into, out of, within, or over the AOE in direct support of Operations Enduring Freedom and/or Iraqi Freedom. Each day that one or more sorties are flown in accordance with the criteria shall count as one day towards the 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive day requirement.
- Coast Guard members operating in the United States are not eligible for the GWOTEM. The GWOTEM may be awarded posthumously to any Coast Guard member who lost their life while, or as a direct result of participating in global war of terrorism operations, without regard to length of such service, if otherwise eligible.

Requests for GWOTEM

Requests for award of the GWOTEM to veterans, retirees, or their next of kin should be submitted in writing to the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC).

The NPRC address is:

National Personnel Records Center
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Request should include a copy of the DD Form 214 and any other supporting documentation to substantiate service as outlined above.

Sources: ALCOAST 294/04

RIBBON: Scarlet, white and blue represent the United States. Light blue refers to worldwide cooperation against terrorism. Gold denotes excellence.

OBVERSE: A bronze color metal disc charged with a shield adapted from the Great Seal of the United States surmounting two swords hilts to base saltirewise enclosed within a wreath of laurel; overall an eagle, wings displayed, grasping in its claws a serpent. The shield and eagle represent the United States. The swords denote readiness and the resolve to fight international terrorism, which is symbolized by the serpent crushed in the eagle's claws. The wreath denotes honor and achievement.

REVERSE: The eagle, serpent and swords from the front of the medal within the encircling inscription "War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal."

Douglas Munro Memorial Cle Elum, Washington

by ATCM Charles Craig, USCG (Ret)

Many of our members of the " Coast Guard Family" will be traveling this year and in the future. If your travels happen to take you on Interstate 90 in Washington State about 90 miles east of Seattle through the community of Cle Elum, make a brief stop and visit the Douglas Munro Memorial and VFW Wall of Honor. It is the final resting place of the Coast Guard's only Medal of Honor Recipient. He was killed in action in World War II and was awarded the Medal for heroic action rendered on Guadalcanal. The Memorial location is at Laurel Hill Cemetery on the west end of the town approximately three blocks northwest of the Safeway Plaza. The Douglas Munro Memorial has been designated a Washington State Historical Site thanks primarily to the efforts of one of our members of the Coast Guard Family, YNCS Everest Black (Ret) of Seattle, WA. Hopefully, one of these days we will have the Munro Memorial designated a National Historical Site as well.

I had the honor of being the principle speaker at this year's Memorial Day ceremony on 31 May. Attendance increases year after year due to the people that have been able to visit the Memorial while in route PCS or TAD, numerous retirees in their travels who stop to pay their respects, and at local events such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day. While passing through Cle Elum one evening a couple of months ago on my return from a trip to Eastern Washington, I made my usual "pit stop" at the Memorial site and found two Coasties visiting there. It is truly heartening to see that our hero is getting the recognition he deserves. If you visit the Memorial and have an extra few minutes, walk around the veteran section adjacent to the Munro Memorial and check it out. There is likely a "pilgrim immigrant story" associated with each one of those diverse names of veterans buried there.

The site looks splendid and is well cared for, thanks to Steve Jones, a life member of the local VFW Post, who does the "day to day" chores. Others that help are members of Douglas A. Munro VFW Post 1373, Seattle Chapter CPOA, Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association, and periodic visits by recently promoted Chiefs who are charged to pay their respects, write in their journal about the visit, and perform maintenance as directed by the Puget Sound Chief of the Mess. With all that help, we have most of our bases covered in maintaining the site in a pristine manner. Projects we have in the works are; providing a means of perpetually supplied flags for the Munro site, and in the future, plans to submit for consideration, a proposal for establishing National Historical Site status. It is an impressive memorial site for such a small community.

My charge and hopefully yours is to let people know about our Coast Guard Hero and Medal of Honor Recipient. If you visit the Memorial, share some of your thoughts with us about the site and your visit via, e-mail: de1puma@ hotmail.com

Semper Paratus, ATCM Ret Charles Craig

Photo Source: ATCM Charles Craig, USCG, Ret

National Retiree Council Meeting *continued from page 2*

employment, volunteerism or experiences. One item of note is the newly formed Cape May regional retiree council is involved with the recruit training mentoring program, where retirees are sponsoring recruit companies. The CCGNRC will continue to openly and proactively support all CG mentoring program initiatives.

T-NEX is the TRICARE next generation of contracts and will transition this CY with the goal of seamless transfer of claims data from outgoing to incoming contractors. The administration of TRICARE will be greatly enhanced with a significant reduction of regions and contractors from eleven (11) and seven (7) to three (3) and three (3) respectively. TRICARE management expects the new system to be easier to access, more customer service focused, and more responsive to patients. The changeover should be transparent to most. However, as with any change to such a massive system, we may very well experience a few changeover issues, likely to be on a case by case basis. The Military Coalition will be monitoring this carefully, as will CG Health Services. All retirees who use TRICARE should be made aware of the change and be on the alert for potential provider or claims processing issues. As always, use the Health Benefit Advisor (HBA) hotline as soon as any problems are detected: 1-800-9HBA-HBA (1-800-942-2422).

Recruiting Initiative Update: Coast Guard Recruiting Command (CGRC) personnel updated the CCGNRC on enlisted personnel recruiting with emphasis on the effectiveness of the SMART initiative. They re-emphasized the Partnership for Success opportunities for RCGRCs to establish points of contact with the local recruiting offices through the CGRC, and to assist the Coast Guard to aggressively pursue its diversity recruiting goals through focused and streamlined efforts in selected areas nationwide. In addition to fostering development of new enlisted recruits, reserve enlisted recruiting is also aligned with the SMART initiative. Details on both the enlisted and officer-recruiting programs are posted on the CGRC Web-site (www.gocoastguard.com).

COMPASS is a diversity outreach program to increase awareness of the CG in local communities and is distinct from recruiting. See **'COMPASS Outreach'** on page 11.

The CCGNRC received a PowerPoint from Military Advantage, Inc, which runs and maintains the widely acclaimed website, http://www.military.com/. The site itself, which has over 3 million registered members is a clearing house of internet access to virtually hundreds of links that are of interest to all members of the military community, including active, reserve, retired, veteran, family member and civilian employees of the military services. Most importantly, the site has created a Mentoring Network system, which allows members to link with people either employed or connected to an organization or occupation, as well as specific to each military service. The site includes opportunities for retirees and veterans to create unit 'home pages' for reunion announcements, and as a way to keep in touch with former colleagues and shipmates. Also, the site has direct links to all military information news sites, military benefits, and career information. The CCGNRC intends to make use of this site to help build a mentoring network among retirees who volunteer to provide members of the Coast Guard family transition assistance (relocation resource), and keep abreast of Coast Guard and other military news.

The Chief, Office of Security Policy and Management presented the new CG Vehicle Decal security system. Due to the requirements for increased security (post-9/11), the old decal system has been scrapped and replaced with a system that is "needs" based. See '**Privately Owned Vehicle Decal Program'** on page 10.

D5 Commodore Donnie Karpman provided a general brief on the CG Auxiliary. While the briefing was especially informative, we had anticipated a follow up to the presentation last year by CDR James Welch, focusing on how retirees can be enabled to readily join the Auxiliary. Apparently we did not convey the specifics of our interest to the Commodore in preparation for his visit. RADM Ames will meet with the National Commodore to clarify our interest in further developing mutual recruiting/accession strategies.

The Navy Mutual Aid Association (NMAA) provided a highly informative presentation on insurance; covered the different types of insurance vehicles including Long-Term Care (LTC). They provide a similar presentation to retiree seminars throughout the country and is available to local CG chapters. Retiree chapters are encouraged to contact NMAA as soon as they schedule seminars for possible inclusion on their agendas. Further information on LTC insurance resources can be found at: Federal Plan, www.ltcfeds.com; Insurance Marketplace Standards Association, www.imsaethics.org. Especially noteworthy issue is that widows who remarried after age 57 now have a window of opportunity to regain lost DIC, but need to register by December 15, 2004.

CCGNRC Initiatives:

a. Supporting the CG Band through an award/recognition program. One of the items noted in attending briefings of the other services' retiree councils are their involvement with sponsoring recognition award programs for their ceremonial honor guards and military bands. These particular groups are chosen because of the distinction of their roles as unique visibility representing their services. The Military Advantage, Inc. has offered such an opportunity for the Coast Guard Retiree Council to sponsor an award to the Coast Guard Band. Upon contacting the band in September of 2003, they put together criteria to establish a "bandsman of the year" program and named it the "Sam Hasty Award" in honor of MU1 Sam Hasty who passed away in 2002 from cancer, and was seen as a personal inspiration to the band members in his ability to work tirelessly through his illness and his spirit of motivating others to not give up. The specific write up for

*see **'National Retiree council Meeting'** on page 7*

Are you or someone you know eligible to enroll in Medicare Part B, but you haven't due to the premium surcharge you would have to pay? We have good news for you!

What's New with Medicare Part B?

One of the provisions of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 allows uniformed services beneficiaries who would be eligible for TRICARE For Life (TFL) but are not enrolled in Medicare Part B to enroll without penalty during an open enrollment period through **31 December 2004**. An open enrollment letter will be sent to those Medicare-eligible beneficiaries who don't currently have Medicare Part B.

Who's eligible?

- Medicare-eligible retirees, including retired National Guard and reservists
- Eligible qualifying family members and survivors
- Certain former spouses if they were eligible for TRICARE before age 65, and who have not remarried and do not have employer-sponsored other health insurance
- Dual-eligible beneficiaries under the age of 65 who are entitled to Medicare Part A because of a disability or because of end-stage renal disease

TRICARE Management Activity is working with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and Social Security Administration to send uniformed services beneficiaries targeted information on Medicare Part B open enrollment.

Eligible beneficiaries will not be required to take any action; there will be an automatic enrollment by mail. Upon receipt of the enrollment letter from Social Security Administration, Medicare-eligible beneficiaries will be given the opportunity to choose any month in 2004 for their Medicare Part B enrollment.

They also will be given the option to refuse Medicare Part B, or if they currently have other health insurance, they will have the option to wait until a special enrollment period to enroll.

The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 also includes a provision for beneficiaries who enrolled in Medicare Part B between January 2001 and December 2004 and are subject to a penalty for late enrollment. Beginning January 2004, these beneficiaries will have the penalty waived. Beneficiaries who enrolled in Medicare Part B in 2004 and have paid a premium surcharge will be eligible for a rebate. TRICARE Management Activity is working with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Social Security Administration to send a mailing to individuals who enrolled in Medicare Part B between January 2001 and December 2004 to notify them of the penalty waiver. For the latest updates, check the Medicare Web site at http://www.medicare.gov.

Source: http://www.tricare.osd.mil/medicare

Nautical Terms, Phrases & Trivia

Scuttlebutt

The cask of drinking water on ships was called a scuttlebutt and since Sailors exchanged gossip when they gathered at the scuttlebutt for a drink of water, scuttlebutt became U.S. Navy slang for gossip or rumors. A butt was a wooden cask, which held water or other liquids; to scuttle is to drill a hole, as for tapping a cask.

National Retiree Council Meeting *continued from page 5*

the award criteria was established by the CG Band, and will make their first presentation this year during the annual Coast Guard concert at the Navy Memorial in Washington, DC in August, 2004. To help make this event a successful and elite occasion, the Commandant (assuming he will be available and attending the event) will assist in making the presentation to the band member. Military Advantage, Inc. is purchasing the award plaque and the perpetual award, which will display in the spaces of the CG Band at the CG Academy.

b. Regional Retiree Council Initiatives: There are a number of opportunities in which retirees have and can continue to make a difference through involvement with active regional retiree councils. There is a need for retiree support at the unit level to assist when needed with decedent affairs and military funeral honors. Regional councils can play a substantial role ranging from administrative support to the CACOs, attending funeral services as part of the Coast Guard contingent for deceased active duty, reserve, retired, or family member. The CCGNRC co-chairs will provide a listing of the decedent affairs officers (military funeral honors coordinators) at ISCs to the regional councils to develop their own points of contact to coordinate assistance.

c. Other regional retiree councils such as Northern California, Pacific Northwest and Washington, DC are sponsoring "Retiree Appreciation Day" events in their areas, a combination workshop/seminar offering members of the retiree community an opportunity to receive up-to-date detailed information on issues and subjects that impact them, such as TRICARE, medical disability evaluations, financial planning and insurance, as well as Coast Guard specific information including recruiting, CG Auxiliary, etc.

d. Regional retiree councils will also continue to work closely with their sponsoring unit assisting in relocation efforts of newly arriving CG personnel to the area, as well as those who are transitioning.

Coast Guard For'er**.** Last year we reported on a new Marine Corps program called Marine For Life (M4L). The M4L Program is designed to expand transition assistance and provide sponsorship for the Marines who honorably leave active service and return to civilian life. Marines serving in local communities throughout the Nation will act as sponsors for transitioning Marines by providing information and points of contact for employment opportunities, housing, education, and other matters. The M4L Program formally extends their commitment to "take care of our own" and nurtures mutually beneficial relationships inherent in the Marine ethos "Once a Marine, Always A Marine." The members of the CCGNRC unanimously endorse it to be an excellent model for the Coast Guard to adopt. We recommend the Commandant be briefed on a possible CG version of the M4L program that we have labeled "Coast Guard For'er!"

The Regional Council representatives shared their council activities with the group. It was noted that each of the active councils continues to enjoy a high level of support from their sponsoring commands. Getting pertinent and useful information to their retirees and annuitants is a priority for all the Councils. All produce a local newsletter (either printed or electronic) from two to four or five times each year and meet as a council just as frequently. They all remain "Semper Paratus" to help the active CG where possible. The topic of new charters was discussed. It was agreed that new charters would be issued to the existing Regional Councils that comprised the first meeting of the National Council in 2002 using the date of the new COMDTINST 1800.5D as the charter date (Jan. 13, 2003).

MCPOCG Patton, USCG, (Ret) attended the USAF Retiree Council meeting 4-7 May 2004 at Randolph AFB, TX. While their subject area was similar in nature to all other military service retiree councils (TRICARE, Commissary & Exchange updates, Retiree Dental program, legislative updates) there were a few items of note to include in this report of interest to the Coast Guard.
USAF Retiree Activities Office (RAO) assists a significant number of CG retirees and annuitants.

a. Briefing on "My Pay" from the Defense Finance and Accounting System (DFAS), addressing a new initiative to allow retirees and annuitants to make online changes to their pay account such as allotments, change of addresses, state and federal tax withholding, and access to form 1099Rs and earning statements when needed. Currently only 22% of the AF retirees are taking advantage of this program. The emphasis is placed to increase this number over the next year.

b. DFAS is also building a retiree email address book, similar to our "global" address system. In addition, DFAS will begin doing allotments for TRICARE Prime payments on 1 Sept 2004.

c. The USAF has officially termed "Airman" [emphasis on the capital 'A'] to represent all members of the USAF team, active, reserve & civilian members.

d. The "Air Force Village" is a long-term independent and custodial care living facility open to widows/widowers of retired officers representing all branches of the armed services. Priority is given to USAF annuitants first. The village does have a Coast Guard annuitant as a resident.

e. The "Air Force Enlisted Village" is the enlisted equivalent of the 'Air Force Village.' It too has a Coast Guard annuitant as a resident.

f. The Air Force Chief of Staff, General John Jumper designated the "Charity Ball" which is done annually at Bolling AFB, with proceeds going to the Air Force Aid Society (equivalent to the CG Mutual Assistance Program). Over $200K was raised at the 2003 ball.

*see **'National Retiree Council Meeting' on page 8***

FAIRWEATHER, Reactivated After Fifteen Years.

The NOAA Ship FAIRWEATHER is a hydrographic survey ship, originally commissioned with NOAA in 1968 and deactivated in 1989. But a critical backlog of surveys for nautical charts in Alaska, where FAIRWEATHER will operate, was a motivating factor to reactivate the ship. "The FAIRWEATHER will bring a much-needed capability to the tremendous survey backlog in Alaska waters. I know Ketchikan will give a warm welcome to the vessel and the NOAA families attached to it," said Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska). The 35-year old ship has been tied up at NOAA's Marine Operations Center - Pacific in Seattle, Washington.

The ship will be equipped with the latest in hydrographic survey technology – multi-beam survey systems; high-speed, high-resolution side-scan sonar; and an on-board data-processing server.

The FAIRWEATHER is named for Mt. Fairweather in southeast Alaska. Mt. Fairweather is the highest peak in the Fairweather Range, which is the tallest coastal range on earth. The vessel is operated by NOAA Marine and Aviation Operations. It has now officially resumed its position in the NOAA fleet, and began hydrographic survey operations on 23 August. FAIRWEATHER was built in the late 1960s, and was deactivated in 1988 because of budget cuts. It was briefly reactivated in 1989 after the Exxon Valdez oil spill to serve as a command post in Prince William Sound for NOAA and other agencies working to mitigate the damage there. After sitting idle for 15 years at the Marine Operations Center-Pacific, the ship was towed to Cascade General in Portland, Oregon, and was refurbished and outfitted with new technology over a period of 18 months. The ship is now multi-mission capable, and will conduct some fisheries and oceanography research in addition to its primary mission-helping RAINIER reduce the 9700 square-nautical-mile backlog of critical survey areas.

I am delighted to have this important NOAA asset back in the fleet, and offer best wishes to Commanding Officer CDR John Lowell, his officers, and crew as they get underway.

Source: RADM Bow, Jr., NOAA Director, NMAO and NOAA Corps

National Retiree Council Meeting *continued from page 7*

RADM Ames attended the first two days of the Chief of Staff, Army Retiree Council meeting in the Pentagon (26 and 27 April). Co-Chairs LTG John Dubia and SMA Bob Hall heartedly welcomed the Coast Guard's participation. The General ensured each presenter was aware of the Coast Guard's attendance and went out of his way to ensure the Coast Guard was a valued member of the 'joint' retiree team. Especially impressive was the commitment and participation of high-level Army and DoD leaders, including the Army Chief of Staff, Director of the Army Staff, G-1, Sergeant Major of the Army, Director of Army Public Affairs, Chief of the Army Reserve, CGs of both AAFES and DeCA, and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. The President of the Armed Forces Services Corporation provided the clearest and most informative explanation of SBP, DIC and SS benefits and their interrelationships.

The CCGNRC continues to enjoy an excellent relationship with RADM Venuto (G-W) and his staff in (G-WPM) who are especially supportive and helpful regarding the CCGNRC program and initiatives. However, our point of contact continues to be a collateral duty of the Decedent Affairs officer in G-WPM-2. This limited appropriated support continues to hamper the full realization of the CCGNRC program as envisioned in COMDTINST 1800.5D. Further, there is no reference to retirees or the National Retiree Council in any directory maintained at CGHQ including the Intranet telephone book. If you don't know whom to contact, you can never find out! On the plus side, being listed on the CG Home page has enabled us to help out a number of retired individuals over the last year and to get the word out to our Council members. The Co-Chairs will continue to activate additional Regional Councils, especially at CG districts and the Academy. RADM Piché has completed his term as officer co-chair and been relieved by RADM Ames who attended the meeting as an observer. The organization will continue efforts to engage in recruiting, mentoring, the CG Engagement Plan and the Compass Program. The retiree community remains a contributing part of Team Coast Guard. We are "Coast Guard For'er!"

Sincerely,

Gordon G. Piché RADM USCG (Ret.), Co Chair, Vincent W. Patton, III MCPOCG USCG (Ret.), Co Chair,
Fred L. Ames RADM USCG (Ret.), Relieving Co Chair

RADM F.L. Ames, USCG(Ret) Named as Co-Chair to Coast Guard Retiree Council

A warm welcome to all Coast Guard retirees! This is my first message to the retiree community as Co-Chair of the Commandant's National Retiree Council. I 'relieved' RADM Gordon Piché after this year's meeting 13-15 April 2004 in Washington, DC. We all owe Gordie a hearty 'well done' for his three years of service to the many Coast Guard veterans who served ably and honorably to our nation throughout their active duty or reserve careers.

First, a bit of background. During my last active duty assignment as Assistant Commandant for Human Resources (1998-2002), in consultation with the Commandant, ADM Jim Loy, I took on the task to improve the essential connections to the Coast Guard retiree community. This involved encouraging chartering new Regional Retiree Chapters and nurturing Chapter growth by way of a National Council sponsored by the Commandant, similar to each of the other military services. RADM Bobby Hollingsworth had already been serving admirably representing the Coast Guard at the other services' meetings, but was hampered by limited structure and support from HQ. In conjunction with the need to find a relief for Bobby and begin the necessary changes, I recruited RADM Piché, a good friend and exceptional leader who had recently retired as Director, Personnel Management at HQ. Thankfully Gordie accepted the challenge and began work with MCPO Bill Phillips, USCGR (Ret). During RADM Piché's tenure, new regional councils were chartered, the Commandant's National Retiree Council was established and annual meetings held (this year being the first time our Council met independently as its own entity); retiree resource website developed; and the 'voice' of the Coast Guard retiree community provided to the Commandant, the other military services, and the Military Alliance/Coalition.

Our Council continued to mature with MCPOCG Vince Patton relieving MCPO Phillips as Co-Chair. Having worked closely with Vince my last four years in Washington, and the fact that I was the one who recruited RADM Piché for the Council, I wasn't surprised that he and Vince in turn recruited me as Gordie's tenure came to a close. Needless to say, it was an offer that I couldn't refuse. Besides Vince telling me he was going to do all the work (so then why am I writing this?), it really would be a distinct pleasure to work with him again and continue to serve our great organization and all those who have given so much to its success over the years.

So that's the long and short of it. I am here to serve once again. Although I have a demanding full-time job with a management consulting firm in Northern Virginia (we do a lot of work with the Department of Defense and the other military services), I will endeavor to help build on the fine work of my predecessors. I look forward to working with the Regional Chapter co-chairs in disseminating information important to retirees, ensuring your voices are heard by the Commandant and the Military Alliance/Coalition, and seeking support/nurturing Regional Chapter activities and involvement in the active duty Coast Guard.

There are many ways you can get involved in today's Coast Guard. These include joining (or starting if one does not exist) your Regional Retiree Chapter; mentoring and providing assistance to the local Transition Assistance Program (TAP), supporting recruiting and Coast Guard awareness activities, and joining the Coast Guard Auxiliary. I encourage you to get involved in way that you can as time permits. I expect the latest National Council meeting minutes to be posted during May or early June.

Coast Guard For'er!
RADM F.L. Ames, USCG, (Ret)

Evening Colors Available on the Web

Evening Colors is available on our web page at **http://www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/eveningcolors**.
If you would like to discontinue receiving your hard copy of Evening Colors and opt for accessing it on our web page, please write, e-mail or call the Retiree Newsletter Editor at:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
USCG Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591
E-mail: psc-rasnewsletter@hrsic.uscg.mil
Phone: 1-800-772-8724, Ext. 2206/(785) 339-2206

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

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

Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Public Affairs
Media Relations
Washington, DC 20420
(202) 273-6000
www.va.gov
News Release

VA to Begin Chiropractic Care

WASHINGTON – Veterans can receive chiropractic care at 26 selected Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities beginning this fall, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi announced today.

VA will hire or contract with doctors of chiropractic to provide the care. In consultation with VA primary care providers, doctors of chiropractic will offer patient evaluations and chiropractic care for neuromusculoskeletal conditions.

"Today, VA makes another significant improvement to the world-class health care we provide for eligible veterans," said Principi. "Veterans who will benefit from chiropractic services will now have the opportunity to receive chiropractic care to restore them to good health."

Locations where chiropractic care will be provided include Togus, Maine; West Haven/Newington, Conn.; Buffalo and the Bronx, N.Y.; Butler, Pa.; Martinsburg, W.Va.; Salisbury, N.C.; Augusta, Ga.; Tampa and Miami, Fla.; Mountain Home, Tenn.; Columbus, Ohio; Danville, Ill.; Iron Mountain, Mich.; Kansas City, Mo.; Jackson, Miss.; San Antonio, Temple and Dallas, Texas; Albuquerque, N.M.; Phoenix, Ariz.; Fort Harrison, Mont.; Seattle, Wash.; Martinez and Los Angeles, Calif.; and Sioux Falls, S.D.

Eligible veterans in areas distant from these locations will also be able to receive chiropractic care through VA's outpatient fee-basis program after a referral by their primary care provider, and prior authorization by the department.

VA was authorized to offer chiropractic care and services under the provisions of section 204 of Public Law 107-135, the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Programs Enhancement Act of 2001. Chiropractors seeking employment or to provide contract services to veterans should call the Human Resources office of any of the above facilities. Some VA positions may be advertised at http://www.vacareers.com.

Source: Department of Veterans Affairs June 25, 2004

U.S. COAST GUARD

Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) Decal Program

The Coast Guard has undertaken to improve its Privately Owned Vehicle Decal Registration Program. These revisions are one component of an overall effort to enhance USCG Security. To promulgate these changes, The Coast Guard recently published ALCOAST 151/04, and Change 1 to the Physical Security and Force Protection Program Manual CIM5530.1C.

Originally the vehicle decals were designed to prove ownership and ensure proper registration, insurance, and the like. They have evolved over time, particularly since 9/11, and are perceived as an integral part of facility security. In view of the dramatic increase in external threat to all U.S. Government facilities, enhancements to current security measures are considered prudent. Improvements in access control, including the Decal Program, are one of the key features of the overall Internal Security Program that protects Coast Guard installations and assets.

The new Decal Program incorporates several changes and all units will be required to request authority to issue decals.

To qualify as an Issuing Authority, a unit will need to have access controls in place at their installation. Furthermore, they will be expected to use the CG decal as one of their access control measures. The new CG Decals will be centrally managed, at the CG Security Center located in Chesapeake, VA. A full time manager has been designated to expedite the process, and centrally manage the web-enabled database. This electronic management tool will better monitor the issuance and disposition of CG Vehicle Decals. It will facilitate the tracking of decals throughout their life cycle, from printing, through unit and individual issue, and eventual destruction.

The new Decal Program processes and procedures will dramatically improve decal accountability, and thereby limit the risk of unauthorized access to our installations. The result will be enhanced internal security that better protects our people and property.

Source: ALCOAST 151/04

Benefits under the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) form a unique, comprehensive dental benefits program available to Uniformed Services retirees and their family members. If you have not already enrolled, we invite you to be a part of this exciting program.

Subscriber Toolkit
The subscriber toolkit allows covered members and their spouses to easily verify eligibility, review up to date benefits information, check claims and more.

Attention New Retirees

If you enroll in the TRDP within 120 days after your retirement from active duty military service, you are eligible for a **special enrollment offer**. Find out more information about how new retirees can benefit by enrolling in the TRDP right away.

Enhanced TRDP Premiums
The TRDP has been designed to provide you and your family with comprehensive dental benefits at an affordable cost. To find your premium, use our premium search feature located under the enhanced TRDP section of the web site.

Upgrade your coverage
Those enrolled in the basic program may choose to upgrade their coverage to the enhanced program at any time. The basic program is available only to retirees enrolled in the program prior to September 1, 2000.

Dentist Directory
Locating a participating dentist close to home is easy. Our dentist search feature allows you to define the distance you want to travel to a general dentist or specialist. The dentist directory also allows you to create a map showing the easiest route from your home to the office you select. http://www.trdp.org/retiree/index.html

Source: The TRDP Advisor Vo.4. Issue 1 Spring/ Summer 2004

COMPASS Outreach Points Toward Recruiting

After the terrorist attacks on 9/11, Armed Forces Recruiting Offices, including those of the Coast Guard, started receiving calls from retirees who desired to return to active duty to do their part to help fight the war on terror.

"My office started receiving calls within the first few days after the attack," said SCPO Frank Burgess a former recruiter-in-charge at Recruiting Office Dover, Delaware and currently a sector supervisor at the Coast Guard Recruiting Command.

"I didn't have anything for them," said Burgess, "we weren't growing at that time nor had we depleted our ranks." Since that time many retirees are still eager to volunteer their time for the Coast Guard to help get the word out.

One such program that has seen growth from these volunteers is the COMPASS Diversity Outreach Team. This program is made up of volunteers throughout the country who are committed to increasing awareness of the Coast Guard in diverse communities.

The COMPASS team is comprised of active duty, reserve, civilian, auxiliarist, and retired Coast Guard members. There are currently more than 160 members throughout the country, with new members constantly being added.

COMPASS team members focus on outreach. As community members become more aware of Coast Guard missions and opportunities, the number of people interested in Coast Guard careers is expected to increase as well. Ultimately, COMPASS outreach efforts should lead to an increase in the number of people recruited.

"We want to ensure that COMPASS team members and local recruiters are collaborating so that communication with local schools and other venues is well coordinated," said LCDR Necia Chambliss, COMPASS manager. Chambliss also said COMPASS team members will be contacting recruiters in their local area, and encouraging them to contact local COMPASS members as well.

"In areas where you have already established a strong relationship with a particular school or organization, the COMPASS member will be available to assist you on an as needed basis," said Chambliss.

In addition to assisting recruiters, team members conduct outreach activities primarily in their own communities. Members conduct

*see '**COMPASS Outreach**' on page 12*

COMPASS Outreach *Continued from page 11*

many types of outreach activities, such as speaking at high schools and colleges, staffing booths at community events such as Pow-Wows and cultural festivals, and speaking to Girl Scout Troops, Chambliss added.

"By utilizing our own Coast Guard members who are already deeply rooted in their own local communities, we are able to build bridges with people throughout the country that have otherwise been unreachable," said Chambliss.

One such community is the town of Dillsboro, IN population 1,200 and home of CWO William Redwine who retired in 1987. Although he may not be wearing Coast Guard blue any longer, Redwine was eager to volunteer for the program and help with Coast Guard recruiting and awareness.

"I was interested in helping out because anytime, anyplace, anywhere you can promote the Coast Guard – you do it," said Redwine. If you, like Redwine, are ready to get out there and help promote and recruit for the Coast Guard, if you have events that you need assistance with, or if you are aware of valuable outreach opportunities that you cannot attend, a member of the COMPASS team may be able to assist you.

To request assistance from a COMPASS member for an event, please contact the COMPASS Manager, LCDR Necia Chambliss, at (202) 267-6237 or at nchambliss@comdt.uscg.mil.

Source: PA1 Daniel L. Tremper, US Coast Guard Recruiting Command

Photo source: www.baltomaritimemuseum.org

The USCG Cutter TANEY, The Last Surviving Warship from the Attack on Pearl Harbor

The morning of 7 December 1941 found TANEY at her home berth of Pier 6 near Honolulu's Aloha Tower. Shortly before 0700 the cutter's radio room copied an unusual message: the USS WARD reported that it had attacked and sunk an enemy submarine in the approaches to Pearl Harbor. Sensing from the message a dramatic turn of events, the Officer on Deck (OOD) on duty that morning immediately recalled all officers from shore and had the crew stow the ship's deck awnings, remove gun covers and bring up ammunition from the magazine. After clearing the ship for action the Coast Guardsmen waited. Suddenly, around 0800, the sky to the northwest came alive with anti-aircraft bursts as Navy ships commenced a frantic defense of Pearl Harbor some eight miles away. Commander Louis B. Olson, USCGC TANEY's Captain, gave the order to sound General Quarters and then called for steam in preparation for getting underway. Olson later reported that the ship's "anti-aircraft battery as well as all other guns were ready to fire… within four minutes." As the battle raged, the sky over the fleet anchorage turned black from the smoke of burning ships and TANEY's crew waited for a chance to open fire should enemy planes approach Honolulu. An hour after going to battle stations, several scattered formations of Japanese planes came overhead and Commander Olson gave the order to commence firing. On TANEY's fantail, the ship's two 3"/50 anti-aircraft guns went into action firing some 27 rounds of shrapnel ammunition at the raiders whose distance and altitude was just outside effective range.

During the morning, confusion reigned as Japanese aircraft not only attacked Battleship Row and the adjacent facilities, but also hit Army, Navy and Marine Corps installations throughout Oahu. While the bulk of Japanese aircraft had completed their attacks by 1000 hours, small groups of planes continued to appear until almost Noon. At Pearl Harbor, Japanese bombers were fired on by a number of US ships between 1100 and 1135 hours.

TANEY's crew remained at battle stations throughout the morning in case the raiders reappeared over Honolulu. Finally, just before noon, the cutter's gun crews were able to engage a target at close range. "At 1158," reported Commander Olson, "a formation of five enemy planes approached the vessel directly from the south southwest over the harbor entrance on what appeared to be a glide bombing or strafing attack on the power plant north of the vessel's berth at Pier 6." TANEY's guns opened up on the planes which were "rocked by the fire and swerved up and away." Commander Olson was able to report that "Several .50 cal. tracers appeared to pierce the wing and tail structure of one plane," before the attackers changed course to avoid the barrage.

"The officers and crew," reported Commander Olson in the wake of the attack, "bore themselves well although most members of the crew had no training except drill and had never seen anything above a .50 caliber fired."

-by Paul B. Cora, Curator of the Baltimore Maritime Museum

Homeland Security

Information Analysis And Infrastructure Protection

Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) helps deter, prevent and mitigate acts of terrorism. IAIP brings together - for the first time within one organization - the capability to identify and assess threats to the homeland, map those threats against our vulnerabilities, issue warnings and support the implementation of protective measures to secure the homeland. We are actively recruiting for the following positions and others that will be posted shortly:

- Counter-Terrorism Intelligence Analysts
- Intelligence Operations Specialists
- Alien Smuggling Analysts
- Aviation Threat Analysts
- Infrastructure Systems Analysts
- Information Technology Specialists
- Policy and Program Managers
- Program Management Analysts
- Policy Analysts
- Staff Assistants
- Security Specialists
- Administrative Officers
- Financial Management Analysts
- Electronics Engineers
- Computer Scientists
- Telecommunications Specialists

To apply visit: www.usajobs.opm.gov/homeland.asp

1. Click on: To see current job openings in the Department of Homeland Security, select here
2. Click on: Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection
3. Click on: Search for Jobs at bottom of page

The OPM USAJOBS website will list specific IAIP vacancy announcements. You must submit both a resume and an occupational questionnaire to be considered. The Department of Homeland Security is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants must be U.S. citizens. All candidates must have or be able to obtain required security clearance levels for the desired position.

Nautical Terms, Phrases & Trivia

Over the Barrel

The most common method of punishment aboard ship was flogging. The unfortunate sailor was tied to a grating, a mast or over the barrel of a deck cannon.

Source: The Nautical Origins of Some Common Expressions http://www.fortogden.com/nauticalterms.html

Tricare South Region to begin Transition August 1

The Department of Defense (DoD) today announced the continuation of its transformation to new military healthcare contractors and changes in regional areas of responsibility.

On Aug. 1, 2004, Tricare-eligible beneficiaries in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, eastern Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee transition to the Tricare South Region. These locations formerly comprised the Southeast and Gulf South Regions (Regions 3 and 4). This is the third major transition to new regions and new contracts announced by the department, including the initial transition of parts of the West Region on June 1 and parts of the North Region on July 1.

According to Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, "Through these new and competitively awarded contracts we offer our beneficiaries a suite of services that provide the highest quality of care and a high level of customer service. These qualities of Tricare also make it a world-class, value-added benefit of military service."

Tricare benefits, costs and the enrollment process remain the same under the new regional contracts. Beneficiaries in the South Region who are not currently enrolled in Tricare Prime, but who are eligible and residing in a Prime area, will have the opportunity to enroll. Humana Military Healthcare Services Inc. will provide beneficiaries information on enrollment, network providers, procedures for filing claims, and contacts for assistance in the South Region.

Beneficiaries in Arkansas, the remaining part of Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas, except for the far Western part of the state, will complete the Tricare South Region when they transition on Nov. 1, 2004.

Military treatment facilities (MTFs) in all regions remain at the core of the military health system and will now schedule appointments for their beneficiaries. MTF locations are on the Tricare Web site at http://www.Tricare.osd.mil/mtf/.

The new Tricare contracts build on the best aspects of a system developed over the last 10 years, making a strong program even better and by providing incentives for improvements in quality care, access and claims payments. DoD also has awarded additional specific contracts for mail order pharmacy, retail pharmacy, retiree dental care, the Uniformed Services Family Health Plan, Tricare Global Remote Overseas, Tricare healthcare for Puerto Rico, marketing and education programs, information services, and national-quality monitoring, and claims processing for Medicare-eligible beneficiaries.

Humana Military Healthcare Services Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Humana Inc., has worked with the DoD as a Tricare regional managed care support contractor since 1996. Under the next generation of Tricare contracts, Humana will provide healthcare services and support to the approximately 2.86 million beneficiaries in the new Tricare South Region. Beneficiaries in the South Region may access healthcare information by calling Humana at (800) 444-5445 or online at http://www.humana-military.com/.

For more information on the contracts and the transition schedule, visit the Tricare Web site at http://www.tricare.osd.mil/contractsimplementation/default.cfm. Beneficiaries may access information on the Tricare benefit on the Tricare Web site at http://www.tricare.osd.mil/. For more information, beneficiaries may visit Tricare online, http://www.tricareonline.com/, or consult their service and/or local MTF.

Source: DoD News Release No. 717-04 July 28, 2004

New 800 number for Physical Evaluation Branch

CGPC ADM-1 (Physical Evaluation Branch, CG Personnel Command) has instituted a toll free number, which all Coastguardsmen (active duty and retired) can contact for service. The number to call is: 1-866-307-1336. This number places the caller into a directed menu that will guide them to the service they most need. The menu is tailored specifically to commands, medical treatment facilities, and members. Included in the menu is a list of answers to six frequently asked questions about the physical disability evaluation system, serving to answer questions many callers have up front.

Source: ALCGPERSCOM 050/04

HELP OUR TROOPS CALL HOME

To donate a card log on to the Coast Guard Exchange Web Site: http://www.cg-exchange.com. Click the "Help Our Coasties Call Home" link. From there, a prepaid calling card may be purchased for an individual at their deployed address or to "any service member" deployed or hospitalized. The exchange will distribute donated cards to "any service member" through the American Red Cross, Air Force Aid Society and the Fisher House Foundation.

Source: DOD Press release and http://aafes.com

Veterans Day

Department of Veterans Affairs

What is the difference between Veterans Day and Memorial Day?

Many people confuse Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Memorial Day is a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. While those who died are also remembered on Veterans Day, Veterans Day is the day set aside to thank and honor *ALL* those who served honorably in the military - in wartime or peacetime. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank *LIVING* veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served - not only those who died - have sacrificed and done their duty. A complete history of Veterans Day, and why it is observed on November 11, can be found on our Veterans Day History Web page (http://www1.va.gov/vetsday/).

Why are red poppies worn on Memorial Day, and where can I obtain them?

The wearing of poppies in honor of America's war dead is traditionally done on Memorial Day, not Veterans Day. The practice of wearing of poppies takes its origin from the poem "In Flanders Fields," written in 1915 by John McCrae. For information on how to obtain poppies for use on Memorial Day, contact a veterans service organization, such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW), as the VFW distributes poppies annually on Memorial Day. You can find veterans groups in the Veterans Service Organization link on VA's Veterans Day web page. Veterans groups in your area can be found in your local phone book. Look in the yellow pages under "Veterans and Military Organizations" or a similar heading.

Source: http://www1.va.gov/vetsday/

WWII Veterans Outreach

This year marks not only the 214th anniversary of the founding of our service, but also the official observance of the 60th anniversary of World War II. The Coast Guard's role in WWII began in 1939 enforcing the country's neutrality. Ultimately 241,000 men and women of the greatest generation served in the Coast Guard during that war.

August 4th began a yearlong campaign to record the oral histories of our World War II Veterans with the Library of Congress veterans' oral history project, http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/. We are publicizing this effort, to encourage our service WWII veterans, SPARS, Merchant Marines, and their families to enter their stories via the Internet. Additionally, Coast Guard auxiliary public affairs officers nationwide have volunteered to capture the reminiscences of those veterans who do not have access to the internet.

Source: ALCOAST 356/04

TriWest and TRICARE: What's the Difference?

During the time that TriWest Healthcare Alliance has been in existence, we have noticed that many people find it hard to understand the difference between TriWest and TRICARE. Each name starts with the same three letters, and even the logos are similar.

To understand what TriWest is, you first have to understand TRICARE. TRICARE is the managed care program of the U. S. Department of Defense (DoD) that was created in the early 1990s as a better way to provide health care services for active duty military personnel and their families and for military retirees and their families. It receives its funding as part of the annual defense budget, which is approved by Congress and signed by the President.

TriWest Healthcare Alliance is a DoD contractor, a management service organization-one of several private organizations that administer the TRICARE program in various regions of the United States and abroad. It is not an insurance company and should not be described as such. The TRICARE Central Region, which is TriWest's area of responsibility, is made up of 16 states, or parts of states, from Minnesota to Nevada and from Montana to El Paso, Texas.

Source: http://central.triwest.com/triwestportal/TriWest_and_TRICARE.asp

Letters to the Editor-

Photo Source: Alvin Sumner, CDR, USCG Ret (aviator #1141)

I am writing concerning the picture on the last page of the July-September Evening Colors issue. The bell certainly looks like one that was used on large bell buoys. They were approximately 2-1/4 foot tall and 3 foot at the largest diameter and weighed 1,000 pounds. Perhaps the buoy to which the bell was attached broke loose from its moorings and drifted ashore on Isla Cozumel. It is not unusual for buoys to end up thousands of miles from their original location. Some East Coast buoys have drifted to England and the Mediterranean.
Chuck Mosher, Short Range Aids to Navigation Division G-OPN-2

I think it's from a bell buoy that slipped its mooring and washed to a beach in Mexico. I know some bells were engraved U.S.C.G. and I think a date also. James P. Lawson BMCM Ret, N.C.A

My neighbor has one of these bells, "USCG" and "1972", out by his flagpole and the Long Island Maritime Museum (West Sayville, NY) has two bells ("USCG" and LHS"), I don't know the dates.

My neighbor's bell was recovered by his son, now a former 180' buoy tender C.O.
I believe that these three bells and the "Mexican" bell are all from buoys, not vessels.

I drove to the LIMM to gather additional data re the two buoy bells on the site.
One is: "USLHS" "1931". The other bell is: "USCG" "1942". (The U.S. Light House Service became part of the Coast Guard in 1939.) I looked up the 180' buoy tender captain and he did confirm that we are looking at floating aid to navigation bells. The one in front of his dad's house shows the four clapper marks of a gong buoy. The two bells at the museum do not show clapper marks; therefore, they are probably bell buoy bells.
E J Neale

These comments are from an American friend of mine, who lived in Cozumel part time for many years. He even learned to speak Mayan, so you can see he was in a position to know more about the local history than the average tourist.

"Luis de Hoyos had the anchor and two bells in front of his house. He told me that he had salvaged them from light house ships which had been sunk by the Germans on Chinchorro reef, about fifty miles or so southwest of Cozumel. Luis told me that the Germans had a submarine, which was based out of the south end of Cozumel. This boat's job was to impede (sink) traffic east of the Panama Canal. Sinking the lighthouse ships was part of this.

The U.S. Army set up an Air Corps base on the island, about where the present airport is now. This required that some of the town of San Miguel be moved to its present location, further south. In spite of the Army Air Corps' daily flights, the submarine was not caught until almost the war's end. Luis said that it was finally bombed and remains in fairly shallow water on Chinchorro Reef. I wanted to dive on it, but ultimately didn't try to find it."

We generally believe that "light ships" were Coast Guard vessels. That's the possible explanation for the observations of CDR Sumner. I hope the USCG historian can add specifics to this.
C. S. (Nick) Ferris, CDR, USCGR, Ret.

While visiting my Dad, I read, with interest, an article in "Evening Colors" on CDR Stewart Ross Graham. [the first helicopter pilot to use a helicopter hoist to rescue survivors] My Dad has a photo that hangs on his wall of the first USCG helicopter hoist. The photo was taken at the USCG Air Station, Traverse City, MI, 1948. The hoist was developed by my Dad, ADC Kenneth Gradom Mac Petrie USCG, Ret, and Chief Matlana. They worked long and hard on it and Dad hit the tarmac many times. The hoist was then taken to D.C. by a couple of officers.
I have the pleasure of knowing my Dad saves lives everyday.
Sincerely Yours,
Carolyn M. Ogden

In May, Commander, 14th CG District sent a letter to all known retirees in the district asking about their interest in establishing a Regional CG Retiree Council in Hawaii. If you did not get the letter, let Jerry Lesperance know if you are interested.
Contact: jlesperance@hawaii.rr.com
Phone or fax (808) 488-5205
Address: 98-864 Laelua Place
Aiea, HI 96701

John Lyman Book Awarded
Capt. Alex Larzelere, USCG (Ret) was presented with the "Best Book on U.S. Maritime History". His book, The Coast Guard in World War I: An Untold Story was published in 2002 by the Naval Institute Press. Each year the North American Society for Ocean History presents the John Lyman Book Awards to recognize excellence in the publication of books that make significant contributions to the study and understanding of maritime and naval history.

"Six years ago Alex Larzelere, wrote a history of The Coast Guard at War: Vietnam 1965-1975. He was writing then about a mature service. In this comprehensive study of the new Coast Guard and its contribution to the American war effort, he writes about a new service and how it gained its 'sealegs' in the cauldron of war. Thoroughly researched and concisely written it makes a significant contribution to our understanding both of the Coast Guard and of maritime aspects of American participation in World War I," said Chairman James C. Bradford.

WHY DON'T WE HAVE A REUNION?

BILL MADIGAN gave up his search for an old shipmate when told that he'd died in a car crash. Since nearly half a century had passed, he wondered if he'd ever see his Coast Guard buddies again. But when a miracle answered his question, it also slapped him with a challenge that could brighten the days of us all.

Miraculously, the name of his dead buddy suddenly showed up on the Internet. Could it be the same guy? Was he alive? He sent an e-mail message. It was indeed his buddy. A few weeks later they were sitting in a bar, reliving the good old days and feeling like teenaged sailors again. At his home, a dusty box from a closet yielded more memories. Old photos resurrected more and more shipmates. "Let's see if we can find them," Madigan urged.

On the Internet, a familiar name showed up in a phone directory for a nearby state. They dialed the number and asked, "We're you on the Rockaway?" The voice answered, yes. Ten calls later they'd found more shipmates. Those shipmates knew where more shipmates were. "Wow," said Madigan, "Why don't we have a reunion?" But hundreds of worries assaulted them. Would hotels give them discounts, so more guys would show up? If they didn't show up, who'd pay the hotel? Just before they threw up their hands, the wife of a shipmate came to their rescue. With experience in tourism, she volunteered to show them how a reunion is run, if they'd hold it in nearby Orlando. They agreed.

Evening Colors agreed to print their announcement, and veterans magazines followed suit. They built a web page on the Internet, to have a central meeting place. As new shipmates logged in, they added missing pieces to the final days of their cutter, with photos to back it up. Old rumors died when a photographic history of their cutter was finally published on their site.

The Rockaway, as many believed, did not lie in a watery grave. She had not been the target of a naval gunnery drill. Nor did she any longer sail the seas. She was now a ghost ship. She'd left this world the same way she came in.

Each discovery led to more discoveries. They were not the first to sail her. She had first belonged to the Navy. More announcements appeared in more magazines, as they invited the Navy crews to join them in Orlando. Incredibly, though the Rockaway had been built just before the attack on Pearl Harbor, Navy crewmen responded. They even heard from a shipmate on the very first crew of the Rockaway: a plank owner, who had joined the Navy at the age of 15. He, too, was coming to the reunion.

The big event finally came and went. With all the emotions, from laughter to tears, everyone voted to do it again. Its success also opened eyes. For the first time they'd seen the power of reunions. The power to revive the spirit, and the power to bargain.

Now planning their third reunion, the Hilton DoubleTree in Phoenix is giving them 2-room suites for half price, with full-breakfast buffets every morning, free. Since the Rockaway rate is also good for 3 days before and after the reunion, shipmates are stretching it into 10-day vacations in the Grand Canyon State at never-before seen bargain prices. For those flying to the reunion, airlines, too, are offering discount fares.

But bargains, they insist, are only a bonus. The soul of a reunion is the bond it renews. They'd once again become a band of brothers. No one, they realized, should miss out on this. That's why they've opened their reunion, for the first time, to brothers from sister cutters, to see first hand why they, too, should ask, "Why don't we have a reunion?"
For details, if you served on one of her sister cutters, see the Rockaway web site: http://www.cccnews.net/rockaway

Coastal Georgia Historical Society (CGHS)

P. O. Box 21136 · St. Simons Island, GA 31522
912.638.4666 (phone) · 912.638.6609 (fax)

St. Simons Island, GA- ***It's official***-restoration and rehabilitation work has begun on the 1936 Coast Guard Station at East Beach, St. Simons Island, GA. The CGHS is looking for stories, artifacts, memorabilia, photographs, and possible oral histories of the men who guarded the coast while living in this unique station. If you have any information you'd like to pass along,

Contact: Mia Knight-Nichols - Coastal Georgia Historical Society (912) 638-4666

e-mail: ssi1872@bellsouth.net

http://www.saintsimonslighthouse.org/member.htm

REUNIONS

USS and USCGC ROCKAWAY Reunion

When: 29 April - 1 May 2005
Where: Phoenix, AZ
Hilton DoubleTree Suites: 800- 800-3098
Contact: Rockaway Reunions
Website: http://www.cccnews.net/rockaway/reunion.htm
e-mail: tio@cox.net
Phone: (623) 933-2226

All U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard personnel who have served on any of the AVP's are invited to join the crews of the USS and USCGC ROCKAWAY for their third reunion at the Hilton Double Tree Suites in Phoenix, Arizona the last two days of April and the first of May 2005.
Those who register (a printable form is available on the Rockaway web site) qualify for 2-room suites at half-price, and a full-breakfast buffet every morning free, as well as the chance to stretch the reunion into a 10-day vacation at the same half-price rate.
Reunion registration ($100 per person) and suite reservations should be made as soon as possible, since the number of suites at the half-price rate are limited, on a first-come-first-served basis. For details, see the reunion page of the Rockaway web site.

Veteran's Day Parade

When: 6 Nov 2004
Where: Long Beach, CA
Contact: Martha Thuente 562/422-6669
e-mail: msthuente@hotmail.com
Councilman Val Lerch 562/570-6137
e-mail:district9@longbeach.gov
CWO4 Don Darnauer, USCG, Ret.
562/435-3746
e-mail: Donbarbi@aol.com

Long Beach is one of the only cities in the area to stage a Veterans' Day Parade, and this year they are specifically honoring the U.S. Coast Guard and its Homeland Security roles. The new District Commander will be the Grand Marshall and retired CWO Don Darnauer will be the Honorary Grand Marshall, in recognition of years of community service. One of the recently elected City Council members of Long Beach is retired YNC Val Lerch.

San Antonio Units Reunion

When: October 30,2004
Where: Aggie Park, San Antonio, TX
Contacts: CPO Russell Miller, Ret (210) 342-0321
SCPO Carl Rodriguez (210) 432-4419
MCPO Jerry Fierro (210) 432-4419
e-mail: hscmuscg@aol.com
San Antonio, TX is planning its FIRST reunion for all reservists who were ever assigned to the San Antonio units.

Coast Guard CW Operators Association 2004 Reunion

When: October 27-30, 2004
Where: Sam's Town, Las Vegas, NV
Contact: David Johnson ZUT213
6904 Stonycreek Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73132
e-mail: zut213@earthlink.net
See schedule of events: www.comm-one.org

255 Sailors Reunion IV

Shipmates, It is once again time to start thinking about our next reunion of the thirteen 255's.
When: 15 May 2005
Where: PLAZA HOTEL/CASINO Las Vegas, NV
Contact: RMC Doak Walker
e-mail: doak17@gci.net
http://www.255wpg.org
Reservations will be made directly with the hotel
1-800-634-6575
Inform them you are with the USCG 255 Sailors Reunion.
The registration forms should be completed and sent to:
255 Sailors Reunion
P O Box 33523
Juneau, AK 99803.
Registration forms should be received by 15 April 2005 to enable us to have nametags and packets made up.

Master Chiefs GM and FT

The year 2009 will mark the 50th year of the first Coast Guard Master Chiefs. I will be constructing a web site for all the Master Chief Gunner's Mate and Fire Control Technicians. I am asking for a photo (in uniform if possible), the date of rate, units served including those of prior to Coast Guard service, if any.
Please send information to:

Contact: Bill Wells, GMCM, USCG, Ret
258 Meadowlake Drive
Martinez, GA 30907
e-mail: wrw2@earthlink.net

Send your reunion or other notices to:

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

e-mail: PSC-RASNewsletter@hrsic.uscg.mil
Fax: (785) 339-3772
Phone: (Toll-Free, US Only) 1-800-772-8724 or (785) 339-2206

'Reunions' continued from page 18

Personnel Locator: If you are searching for an individual we can help. Place your personal correspondence to that individual in a sealed envelope, making sure to include how they can get in touch with you. On the outside of that envelope address it to them with their full name and Rank/Rate (for military). Please write your return address and attach a stamp on the envelope. Then, place that envelope in a larger envelope and address it to:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
USCG Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, Kansas 66683

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

WWII Coast Guard Amphibious Operations Veterans

Author/researcher is seeking to contact Coast Guard Veterans, of World War II, involved in amphibious operations.

Contact: Mike Walling
99 Fort Meadow Drive
Hudson, MA 01749-3138
(978) 562-9872

Seeking World War II Pacific Veterans

Researcher is seeking to contact World War II Veterans, who served in the Pacific Theater.

Contact: Frank Nappi
2 Massachusetts Avenue
Massapequa, NY 11758-3845
(516) 541-1787
e-mail: fnap33@aol.com

Seeking African-American Veterans

Author desires stories, etc. from African-American veterans, of all wars, and their families for a book.

Contact: Lisa Daniels
3516 43rd Street
Sacramento, CA 95817-3732
(916) 455-5816
e-mail: sweetiepiepress1@yahoo.com

U. S. Coast Guard Retiree Council - Tidewater Chapter

All retirees living in Tidewater, VA (Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and NE North Carolina) are invited to contact the ISC Portsmouth Decedent Affairs Officer to get information about the Tidewater Chapter of the CG Retiree Council. Future endeavors include the establishment of a Retired Affairs/Retiree Services Office staffed by retiree volunteers at ISC Portsmouth. **Contact:** CWO D. E. Van Clief
(757)-686-032
e-mail: dvanclief@iscports.uscg.mil.

Contact: Captain Ed Ard Ret Co-Chairmen of the Tidewater Chapter at (757)-484-8898
email: edard@infionline.net and MCPO Nick Ferro Ret (757)-867-9538.

Montauk Point Light Station Museum Expansion

The Montauk Point Lighthouse Museum Committee is presently expanding their facilities and offerings and is seeking public support in order to showcase the history of both the Lighthouse Service and Coast Guard presence at the light. They are seeking any help and/or assistance in achieving that goal. They are particularly interested in photographs, memorabilia, and artifacts acquired during the period up until 1987 particularly from people who had served at the light. Any help in this regard would be greatly appreciated.

Contact: Montauk Point Lighthouse
Box 943, Montauk, NY 11954
631-668-2544 Toll Free: 1-888-Mtk-Point
e-mail: Keeper@montauklighthouse.com

USCGC HAMILTON (WHEC-715) / WESTPAC (Vietnam) 1969-70 CREW MEMBERS

I am searching for any of the crewmembers from this deployment for the possibility for a future reunion. Please contact Brent Cole at 443-783-1805 or cbcguard-retired@yahoo.com if you or anyone you know made this cruise. We have about twenty members so far. I have the crew list available and am acting as the contact coordinator. Email or call for more details. (RM3 Brent Cole then—OSC Retired now.)

USCGC DEPENDABLE (WMEC-626) 1970-1972 CREW MEMBERS

I am searching for crewmembers who served on the Cutter DEPENDABLE from 1970 to 1972 for the possibility of a future reunion. The home port of the DEPENDABLE was Panama City, Florida.

Contact: David E. or Beverly Taylor (540) 362-4474
cell (540) 353-3842
Mailing address: 4751 Jacklin Drive
Roanoke, VA 24019

HOUSTON - Veterans age 60 or older who have been told that they have memory problems within the last year may be eligible to participate in a Houston VA Medical Center and Baylor College of Medicine research study. The Memory Study is investigating the progression of memory loss over a two-year time period. The study includes home visits with veterans and their caregivers, every four months. Eligible participants must live in Houston or surrounding areas. The study is free. Participants can receive up to $120 for completing the entire study. For more information,

Contact: Jennifer Khan at 713-794-8624
e-mail:jennifer.khan@med.va.gov

FORT JACKSON RETIREE NEWSLETTER

is available on the Fort Jackson Homepage located at:
http://www.jackson.army.mil/

USCG Retirements

Name	Rank	Retirement Date	Years of service
Acker, Dennis	OSC	19-May-04	37
Adams, Todd	MAT3	1-Jun-04	20
Addison, Phillip	BMC	1-Aug-04	26
Adlon, Scott	AST1	1-Aug-04	20
Ahern, Joseph	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Alam, Carl	CDR	1-Jun-04	20
Alaniz, Fernando	YNCM	1-Jul-04	30
Anderson, Lorraine	YNC	1-Aug-04	25
Arentsen, Eric	BM2	1-Aug-04	20
Atkin, Robert	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Balsinger, William	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Bardsley, Randolph	AMTCM	1-Aug-04	30
Barnes, David	ELC2	1-Jun-04	24
Barnes, Richard	AET1	1-Jun-04	20
Bartholomew, John	ENG4	1-Jul-04	25
Bartocci, Charles	YNCM	1-Jun-04	30
Batchelor, Ronald	BMC	1-Aug-04	26
Bazzano, Carmelo	LCDR	1-Jul-04	21
Bear, Gene	ENG4	1-Jul-04	33
Bechtler, Herman	BMCM	1-Jul-04	32
Beck, Bobby	LT	1-Jul-04	23
Becker, Dennis	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Belisle, Richard	BMC	1-Jun-04	23
Bell, James	SKC	1-Jun-04	20
Benbow, Joseph	GM1	1-Jun-04	20
Berry, Dwayne	LT	1-Jul-04	23
Beyer, Richard	LCDR	1-Aug-04	20
Biagianti, David	AET1	13-Jul-04	24
Black, Bradford	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Bogardus, William	PS1	7-Sep-04	35
Borders, James	MSTC	5-Jul-04	35
Borgert, Glen	F&S4	1-Jul-04	30
Bowe, Gerald	CAPT	1-Jul-04	35
Boyd, David	F&S2	1-Jun-04	23
Boyle, David	CDR	17-May-04	37
Bradshaw, William	OSC	1-Jul-04	20
Brand, Michael	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Bray, Michael	MKC	1-Jun-04	21
Brusseau, Joseph	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Caldwell, David	F&S3	1-Aug-04	28
Caldwell, Richard	MKC	1-Jul-04	20
Calnan, John	SK2	6-Nov-04	36
Cameron, Keith	CAPT	1-Jul-04	27
Carlson, Kurt	CAPT	1-Jul-04	32
Carrier, Roderick	AETCS	1-Jul-04	30
Carroll, Edward	CAPT	1-Aug-04	27
Carroll, Thomas	CAPT	13-Jul-04	35
Carter, Eric	AET1	1-Aug-04	24
Chalue, Richard	MST3	17-Jul-04	22
Coachman, Clarence	ETC	1-Jul-04	23
Coccia, Joseph	CAPT	1-Jul-04	27
Coffelt, Wanda	AVI3	1-Aug-04	24
Coffin, Lowell	LCDR	5-Aug-04	38
Collings, Robert	LT	1-Aug-04	20
Coolidge, David	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Coy, Donald	GM1	1-Jun-04	20
Coykendall, Andrew	AMT1	1-Aug-04	26
Crawford, Randall	AMT1	1-Jul-04	20
Crawley, Matthew	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Cruthis, Gregory	LCDR	1-Aug-04	20
Cummings, Thomas	BMC	1-Aug-04	20
Currier, David	YN1	26-Jul-04	41
Cusworth, Roy	GM1	1-Jul-04	20
Cuty, Patrick	MSTC	1-Aug-04	20
Daniels, Randall	F&S4	1-Aug-04	26
Danscuk, Stephen	CDR	1-Jun-04	25
Davies, Dennie	YNCM	17-May-04	43
Davis, Brian	MST1	6-Oct-04	32
Davis, Jeffrey	MK1	1-Jul-04	21
Decrosta, Stephen	BOSN4	16-Jul-04	22
Dees, Bobby	YN1	1-Jul-04	20
Dehler, Nicholas	ENG3	1-Jun-04	24
Deleon, Frank	LCDR	1-Jul-04	22
Destefano, Nicholas	IVCS	15-Jun-04	36
Dibello, Richard	SN	27-May-04	1
Dickey, Thomas	BOSN4	1-Jul-04	31
Didomenico, Lawrence	BOSN3	1-Aug-04	21
Diliberto, Jerome	BMC	23-Jun-04	36
Dillard, Veronica	HSC	1-Jun-04	26
Dornburg, Karl	LCDR	1-Aug-04	21
Douglas, Stanley	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Douglas, William	CDR	1-Aug-04	20
Dowling, Michael	OSC	1-Jun-04	20
Driscoll, John	ET1	1-Aug-04	21
Dube, Thomas	EM1	27-May-04	13
Dugger, Bryon	PERS4	1-Jul-04	27
Dulac, Monique	SN	27-May-04	1
Dumas, Jonathan	OS3	7-Jul-04	3
Dunn, Robert	CAPT	1-Aug-04	30
Durrell, Colon	CDR	5-Jun-04	36
Dwyer, Patrick	CDR	1-Aug-04	20
Ebersole, Gregg	MKC	1-Jul-04	21
Elam, John	BM2	1-Aug-04	21
Emmons, Mark	LCDR	1-Jul-04	20
Epstein, Marvin	LCDR	15-Jul-04	37

*see **'Retirements'** on page 21*

'Retirements '*continued from page 20*

Name	Rank	Retirement Date	Years of service
Farwick, Don	PS1	25-Jul-04	37
Fay, Mark	HSC	1-Aug-04	23
Fehrman, Charles	ELC3	1-Jun-04	20
Feldmann, Scott	BM2	1-Aug-04	20
Findley, William	MK2	1-Jun-04	21
Fisher, Bruce	LCDR	1-Aug-04	20
Fisher, Jeffrey	MKCS	1-Aug-04	30
Fisher, Lewis	LT	1-Aug-04	25
Fitting, Jeffrey	BMC	1-Aug-04	21
Flammia, Thomas	MAT4	1-Aug-04	27
Fleming, Andrea	BM1	25-May-04	9
Fleming, Scott	CDR	1-Aug-04	20
Flemingmakell, Rhonda	LCDR	1-Jul-04	20
Flinn, John	BM2	10-Jul-04	32
Floyd, Alan	DCC	1-Aug-04	20
Fomby, Trent	FSCS	1-Jul-04	20
Foreman, Edmund	MK1	26-Jun-04	33
Francis, Paul	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Franklin, Alton	MKC	1-Jul-04	20
Freeman, Allen	FS2	1-Aug-04	21
Fried, Arthur	CDR	20-May-04	37
Friend, James	BMC	1-Aug-04	23
Fuka, David	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Gallagher, Gary	OS1	1-Jun-04	20
Gamble, Dennis	BOSN2	1-Jul-04	20
Gamble, Jeffrey	CAPT	1-Jul-04	27
Garrison, David	LT	1-Jul-04	25
Gibbs, Brian	YN1	1-Jul-04	22
Gibbs, Michael	BMCM	1-Aug-04	34
Gibson, Bobby	FS1	1-Aug-04	20
Givens, Andrew	CAPT	1-Jul-04	26
Gleinig, Manfred	ET1	14-Jun-04	38
Gordon, Kevin	HSCS	1-Aug-04	21
Gorkowski, Joseph	PERS4	1-Aug-04	30
Gray, Ellis	MAT2	1-Aug-04	21
Green, Charles	CDR	6-May-04	39
Green, Mark	HSC	1-Jun-04	20
Green, Robert	SKCS	1-Jul-04	27
Greeson, Howard	DCC	1-Aug-04	20
Greig, Leonard	LCDR	1-Jul-04	24
Grieb, Christopher	YNC	1-Jul-04	22
Groeneveld, Joseph	SKC	1-Jun-04	20
Gross, William	SKC	1-Aug-04	22
Grossweiler, Philip	CDR	23-Jul-04	38
Grout, Jonathan	BM2	1-Jul-04	20
Guenther, Leonard	BMCS	1-Jul-04	24
Guinee, Paul	CDR	1-Jul-04	21
Gurley, Arthur	MST1	9-Jul-04	27
Haaseth, John	EMC	1-Jun-04	20
Hall, Dennis	PAC	1-Jun-03	22
Hall, Joseph	BMC	1-Jul-04	20
Hansen, Lloyd	BM1	1-Aug-04	20
Hanson, Kermit	MKCM	1-Jun-04	21
Harden, Luke	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Harkins, Kevin	CDR	1-Aug-04	20
Harris, Daniel	ET1	1-Jun-04	21
Harris, William	AMT1	1-Jul-04	21
Hartman, Richard	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Harvey, Jessica	MK3	22-Jul-04	4
Hay, Walter	BMC	1-Jul-04	23
Hedge, Lothrop	BM2	17-Jun-04	23
Henderson, Gary	LCDR	1-Jun-04	21
Hendrickson, Tyson	MK3	7-Jul-04	4
Herring, Bruce	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Hill, Obie	ENG2	1-Aug-04	21
Hobaica, Thomas	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Hoffler, Gary	YN1	1-Jul-04	21
Hoffman, Dennis	CDR	1-Jul-04	20
Holmes, Michael	PSC	1-Aug-04	23
Holmes, Rick	MKC	1-Jul-04	20
Homoki, Kurt	ETCS	1-Jul-04	21
Honse, Christopher	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Hoover, David	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Hoppe, Matthew	LT	1-Jun-04	23
Horney, John	PSCM	6-May-04	37
Hoy, Alan	SN	5-May-04	1
Hucke, William	CDR	1-Jul-04	20
Huey, George	BMC	11-Jul-04	33
Hughes, Cedric	LCDR	1-Aug-04	28
Hurtt, Thomas	BM1	1-Aug-04	22
Hutchings, Karl	IT1	19-May-04	11
Illuminate, David	CAPT	1-Jul-04	27
Jackson, Dave	MKC	1-Jun-04	22
Jacot, Kevin	AETC	1-Jun-04	24
Jager, Charles	CDR	1-Jun-04	21
Janssen, Mark	SK1	1-Jun-04	23
Jodoin, Jessica	AMT3	27-May-04	4
Johnson, Yvette	SK1	1-Jul-04	22
Joichin, Larry	ETC	1-Aug-04	24
Jones, Allen	LCDR	1-Jul-04	24
Kellenberger, James	DCCS	1-Jun-04	25

*see '**Retirements'** on page 22*

'Retirements '*continued from page 21*

Name	Rank	Retirement Date	Years of service
Kelly, Michael	MKC	17-Jun-04	38
Kendrick, Robert	F&S4	1-Jun-04	26
Kenyon, Stephen	AETC	1-Jun-04	26
King, John	AMTCM	1-Aug-04	27
King, Thomas	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Kmiecik, Chris	CDR	1-Aug-04	20
Knapp, James	YN1	28-Jul-04	36
Knight, Michael	AMT1	1-Aug-04	24
Knutson, William	LCDR	13-Jul-04	38
Koch, Frederick	COMM4	1-Jul-04	30
Koehler, Richard	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Kowalski, Thomas	PSC	12-May-04	38
Kozak, Scott	AMT2	1-Aug-04	20
Ladd, Robert	IVCM	11-May-04	31
Landye, James	F&S4	2-May-04	36
Lanum, Miriam	YN1	26-Jun-04	25
Lapointe, James	ET1	1-Jul-04	20
Lawley, Charles	MSTC	22-Jul-04	30
Lebel, Ronald	BM2	19-May-04	32
Lee, Douglas	BMCM	4-May-04	24
Lee, Michael	BOSN4	1-Aug-04	26
Lee, Robert	DCCS	1-Jul-04	24
Leitheiser, Todd	ITC	1-Jul-04	21
Leoni, Charles	MK1	5-Jul-04	35
Lesperance, Steven	AETC	1-Jul-04	20
Levreault, Michael	MKC	27-May-04	16
Lieberz, John	PSC	2-Jul-04	34
Lincoln, Thomas	CAPT	10-Jun-04	43
Linton, Eric	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Lipscomb, Robert	GM1	1-Aug-04	20
Lober, James	CAPT	1-Jul-04	29
Lockwood, Christopher	CDR	1-Jul-04	24
Long, James	YN2	1-Jul-04	36
Lueck, Thomas	LCDR	2-May-04	38
Lyon, Kevin	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Macconnell, James	ET1	1-Jul-04	21
Macinnes, Bruce	ETCS	1-Aug-04	30
Mack, Eddie	CAPT	1-Jun-04	26
Mackenzie, David	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Maes, Michael	CDR	1-Jul-04	28
Mahoney, Michael	BM1	1-Aug-04	20
Mank, Frederick	ENG2	1-Jul-04	20
Marguet, William	PSCM	1-Jul-04	38
Marquardt, Wesley	LCDR	1-Aug-04	39
Marriner, James	IVC	25-Jun-04	24
Martin, Raymond	CDR	1-Aug-04	20
Matthews, Earl	BMC	1-Jun-04	20
Mattina, Joe	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Mcbrearty, Sean	LCDR	1-Jul-04	23
Mcclellan, Michael	YNCS	1-Aug-04	30
Mccullough, Herminia	LT	1-Jul-04	24
Mcinnis, James	BOSN4	1-Aug-04	24
Mcintire, Donald	ELC2	1-Aug-04	22
Mclaughlin, Robert	CAPT	1-Jul-04	27
Mcnaughton, Charles	HS1	9-May-04	36
Mehaffy, George	CAPT	16-Jun-04	37
Menard, Alfred	SKC	1-Jul-04	26
Merrick, Gary	CDR	1-Aug-04	24
Metzger, Ian	SN	20-May-04	2
Meyer, Mark	MED2	1-Jun-04	24
Miko, John	CAPT	1-Jun-04	27
Minutolo, Stephen	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Mitchell, John	MED4	1-Jun-04	30
Mitchell, Peter	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Morgan, Jay	FSC	1-Jun-04	20
Morgan, John	PS1	26-Jul-04	38
Morin, Keith	MKCS	1-Aug-04	25
Mroz, Edwina	PERS4	12-Jul-04	31
Muir, Philip	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Mullins, Raymond	MKCS	3-Jun-04	26
Munden, James	PS1	20-Jun-04	38
Neill, Joseph	LCDR	11-Jul-04	37
Neprud, Kirk	MAT3	1-Aug-04	25
Newbauer, William	GMCM	1-Jul-04	23
Niebauer, Michael	FS1	1-Jul-04	20
Nixon, Paul	MKC	1-Jul-04	22
Nolen, Patrick	IT1	1-Aug-04	21
Oakes, Curtis	AETCS	1-Aug-04	25
Obrien, Robert	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Ocker, Ronald	MKCS	23-Jul-04	42
Odonnell, Shawn	ET1	1-Jul-04	20
Oleary, Timothy	CDR	1-Aug-04	20
Oliver, Paul	DC1	1-Aug-04	21
Osoro, Diana	SN	25-May-04	5
Osullivan, James	PS2	25-Jun-04	36
Palmer, Christopher	SKCS	1-Jul-04	22
Palmer, Gary	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Palmer, Theresa	LCDR	1-Aug-04	23
Patterson, Shaw	BM1	1-Aug-04	21
Payne, David	FS1	1-Aug-04	20
Pedrick, William	MKC	1-Jun-04	30
Perez, Marina	YN3	20-May-04	28
Perrin, William	CAPT	1-Jul-04	33
Persall, Judy	LCDR	1-Jul-04	21
Peterson, Matthew	FSC	1-Jun-04	20

*See **'Retirements'** on page 23*

***Retirements** 'continued from page 22*

Name	Rank	Retirement Date	Years of service
Phifer, Steven	LT	1-Aug-04	24
Phillips, Richard	HSC	1-Aug-04	20
Pierre, Michael	MKC	1-Jul-04	20
Pineiro, Richard	LCDR	1-Aug-04	27
Potter, Donald	LCDR	1-Jul-04	24
Prescott, Mark	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Price, Matthew	AMTC	1-Aug-04	22
Quarles, Ivette	LCDR	1-Jul-04	21
Ramseier, Daniel	PS2	4-Jun-04	29
Raney, Scott	BMCS	1-Aug-04	20
Reed, Frank	CDR	1-Aug-04	27
Rehmer, Robert	SK2	10-Jun-04	26
Reinecker, Robert	EMC	13-May-04	32
Reitz, Perry	FSC	1-Aug-04	23
Ressel, David	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Rhodes, Scott	AMT1	1-Aug-04	20
Rhodes, Selden	CAPT	27-May-04	39
Richard, Sarah	YN2	21-May-04	5
Riell, Russell	OSCS	1-Jul-04	20
Rife, Robert	CDR	14-Jun-04	40
Robbins, Norman	ELC2	1-Jun-04	23
Robison, Don	CDR	1-Aug-04	20
Rodriguez, Cristian	COMM2	1-Aug-04	20
Rodriguez, Edwin	OS1	1-Jul-04	20
Rose, Barbara	LCDR	1-Aug-04	20
Ross, Alan	AMT1	1-Aug-04	20
Rotondi, Louis	PSCS	13-Jun-04	36
Russell, Kevin	LCDR	1-Jul-04	20
Ryan, Daniel	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Ryan, Mark	LCDR	1-Aug-04	20
Sachse, John	AMTCS	1-Jul-04	26
Sampont, Gerald	LCDR	3-Jul-04	40
Sanders, Philip	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Santacruz, George	CAPT	1-Jun-04	34
Santos, Danilo	LT	1-Jun-04	21
Santos, Lawrence	FSC	1-Aug-04	23
Satalino, Daniel	COMM3	1-May-04	29
Satter, Robert	AMTCS	31-Jul-04	34
Saunders, Roy	GMC	1-Jun-04	20
Schaffer, Eugene	MKC	1-Aug-04	23
Schneider, Bruce	BOSN4	1-Jul-04	28
Schneider, Jeffrey	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Schrinner, John	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Schuler, Michael	SK2	1-Jun-04	20
Scott, Jeffrey	AMTC	1-Aug-04	23
Seale, Bryan	CDR	1-Aug-04	21
Seekins, Timothy	FSCS	1-Aug-04	23
Seitz, Tod	ENG2	1-Jul-04	22
Sellers, Anthony	LT	1-Jun-04	26
Sens, Dennis	CDR	1-Jul-04	29
Sentell, Frederick	DCC	1-Jun-04	20
Sharp, William	BMCS	1-Jul-04	30
Shatinsky, Gerald	CDR	1-Jul-04	33
Sherwood, Kenneth	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Shoemaker, Neil	LCDR	1-Jul-04	21
Shrader, William	MK1	1-Jul-04	23
Shuey, Tom	MK1	6-May-04	38
Shuman, Michael	MK1	1-Jul-04	24
Sickler, Timothy	LCDR	1-Aug-04	23
Silva, Ronald	RADM	1-Jul-04	33
Simmons, Richard	PSS4	31-Jul-04	33
Simons, Robert	MK1	6-May-04	41
Simpson, Walter	IT1	1-Jun-04	20
Skewes, David	CDR	1-Jul-04	25
Smith, Charles	YN2	1-Jun-04	20
Smith, Kenneth	LCDR	1-Jul-04	22
Smith, William	LCDR	15-May-04	38
Smotherman, Sharon	LTJG	27-Apr-04	20
Sonia, Jeffrey	MK1	1-Jun-04	20
Sorenson, David	BMC	1-Aug-04	24
Sosonka, Stephen	MKC	1-Jul-04	24
Steigleder, Bradley	BMCM	1-Aug-04	30
Stevens, Richard	ET1	1-Jul-04	20
Stevenson, David	CDR	1-Jul-04	23
Sweeney, William	MK1	26-May-04	14
Templeton, Arthur	MSTCS	25-Jun-04	31
Tennyson, Mark	LT	1-Aug-04	20
Teubner, Jeffrey	AMT1	1-Jun-04	20
Teuton, George	CDR	1-Jul-04	27
Thomas, Karin	MED2	1-Jun-04	20
Thomas, Mark	CAPT	1-Jul-04	27
Thompson, Allen	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Thomson, Charles	HSCS	1-Jul-04	20
Thurber, Scott	ENG4	1-Jul-04	30
Tonkinrider, Brenda	SKC	1-Aug-04	24
Tosatto, Michael	CDR	1-Aug-04	20
Trousdell, Drew	LCDR	1-Jul-04	21
Tucker, Kirby	ITC	1-Jun-04	20
Utley, Ralph	RADM	1-Jul-04	34
Vachon, Derrick	AMT1	1-Jun-04	20
Varnadoe, Wayne	EMC	18-Jun-04	35
Verano, Edgar	YNCM	1-Aug-04	30
Wade, Glenn	BMC	1-Jul-04	30
Walker, Andrew	HS1	1-Aug-04	23
Ward, Kenneth	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30

*See **'Retirements'** on page 24*

***Retirements** 'continued from page 22*

Name	Rank	Retiremen Date	Years of service
Ward, Peter	HSC	29-Jun-04	41
Watry, Brian	MKC	1-Jul-04	20
Weddington, Peter	CDR	1-Aug-04	20
Weikle, Christopher	MK2	25-May-04	9
Wells, Jason	ETC	1-Aug-04	20
Wenzinger, George	MKCS	1-Jun-04	20
West, James	YNC	1-Aug-04	26
West, Rodney	AMT1	1-Jul-04	20
West, Willie	MK1	16-Jan-04	34
Westman, John	PS1	2-Jun-04	38
Wheatley, Gerald	CAPT	1-Jul-04	27
White, Marvin	MKC	1-Jun-04	22
Whitney, Todd	MKCS	1-Jul-04	24
Wicklund, Robert	CAPT	1-Jul-04	30
Wiggans, Thomas	LCDR	1-Jun-04	20
Wiggins, Holly	BMC	1-Aug-04	20
Williams, Claude	MK2	26-Jul-04	38
Williams, Randall	ENG4	1-Jun-04	26
Willie, Louis	ENG3	1-Jun-04	24
Wilson, George	BMCM	22-Jul-04	33
Wilson, Kevin	LT	1-Jul-04	24
Wilson, Tom	LT	28-May-04	32
Wood, Steven	CDR	1-Jul-04	20
Woolford, Richard	LCDR	1-Jul-04	26
Woolsey, Larry	BMCS	10-May-04	37
Yates, Michael	MKC	1-Jul-04	23
Yeager, John	BM1	27-May-04	11
Yoka, Jerome	FS1	1-Jul-04	20
Young, Christine	YN2	21-May-04	20
Young, Donald	BOSN3	1-Aug-04	29
Young, Robert	LCDR	1-Jul-04	21
Zaikis, Michael	FSC	1-Jul-04	20
Zaki, Bassem	FN	27-May-04	8
Zuhlke, Marcus	FSCS	1-Jun-04	26

Report of Death

To report the death of a Coast Guard, NOAA retiree/annuitant, or a Lighthousekeeper call:

- 1-800-772-8724 (Toll-free, US only)
- (785) 339-3415 (O'seas long distance)
- FAX: (785) 339-3770

Or write:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
Coast Guard Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

http://www1.va.gov/vetsday/page.cfm?pg=11

U. S. Coast Guard Vietnam War Memorial

The Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association is sponsoring the construction and installation of two identical memorials to the more than 8000 Coast Guard personnel who actively participated in our country's war in Vietnam.

One memorial will be placed at the USCG Training Center at Cape May, NJ. The second memorial will be placed at the USCG Academy, New London, CT.

The design includes the names of all CG vessels, units, detachments, and support activities involved in the war. Also it will include an abstract of CG theater missions, activities and operations.

Contributions in support of this project should be made payable to: CGCOMVETS Vietnam Memorial Fund and is tax deductible. Please mail your contribution or direct questions to:

William G. Hicks
586 Fairwood Drive
Talmadge, OH 44278-2026

Submitted by: CAPT Donald M. Taub, USCG Ret

TAPS

The United States Coast Guard wishes to extend heartfelt sympathy to the loved ones and friends of our fallen shipmates.

Last Name	First Name	Rank	Date	City	State
Abel	Robert	PSCS	19-Aug-04	Granite City	IL
Allen	Carl	CWO4	25-Jun-04	St Louis	MO
Austin	Donald	CS2	19-Jun-04	Portsmouth	VA
Bahr	Clifton	LT	21-Jul-04	Absecon	NJ
Ballou	Roy	MKC	1-Jun-04	Bedminister	NJ
Bauer	Raymond	BMCM	7-Aug-04	Town Bank	NJ
Benson	Chester	GM1	22-Jun-04	Covina	CA
Berry	Donald	ENC	10-Jun-04	Neptune City	NJ
Bowen	Roland	CWO4	6-Aug-04	Melfa	VA
Bowman	Dennis	LCDR	31-Jul-04	Galveston	TX
Bradley	John	GMC	15-Aug-04	Aiken	SC
Bradshaw	Theodore	BM1	2-Aug-04	Sequim	WA
Breseman	Robert	SKCM	30-Jun-04	Wheaton	IL
Britt	Willie	DCC	11-Jul-04	Quincy	FL
Brooks	Thomas	CWO4	26-Jun-04	Sykesville	MD
Bruen	John	CAPT	18-Aug-04	Clinton	CT
Burton	Archie	SD1	17-Jul-04	New Port Richey	FL
Carter	James	BMC	6-Aug-04	Dewey	AZ
Casselman	Robert	CWO4	21-Jul-04	Walworth	NY
Childs	Robert	YNCS	5-Jul-04	Manteca	CA
Coffin	Frederick	BMCS	1-May-04	Nantucket	MA
Colon	Antonio	PSC	11-Jul-04	Jacksonville	FL
Conger	Carson	YNCS	8-Jun-04	Crystral River	FL
Cooper	Arlen	AE1	19-Jul-04	Warsaw	MO
Covington	Vernon	QMC	15-May-04	Chesapeake	VA
Coy	Harvey	CWO2	2-May-04	Corpus Christ	TX
Crowningshield	William	SKC	5-Jul-04	Wilmington	NC
Dahlgren	Wallace	CAPT	10-Jul-04	Wellington	FL
Dewitt	Gary	BM1	24-Jul-04	Portsmouth	VA
Dinatelo	Tony	BMC	9-Jul-04	Pasadena	TX
Donahue	James	RMC	31-Jul-04	East Dennis	MA
Drew	George	CWO2	4-Aug-04	Seattle	WA
Drum	Albert	ADC	16-Aug-04	Avondale	CO
Earll	Morris	WO1	6-Jun-04	San Diego	CA
Eidson	Fred	LCDR	4-Jul-04	Metairie	LA
Emery	Clinton	BMCM	10-Jun-04	Gallatin	TN
Erickson	Sherri	SKC	21-Jun-04	Flagstaff	AZ
Ervin	Cameron	CDR	19-Jun-04	El Dorado Hills	CA
Fahey	Edward	YNCS	11-Jul-04	Oakdale	CA
Ferrer	Hector	BMC	16-Apr-04	Dorado	PR
Fleming	Robert	ETCS	26-Jul-04	Springville	AL
Flynn	Gerald	CWO3	6-Aug-04	Palm Harbor	FL
Forry	Richard	CWO4	12-Jun-04	Peoria	AZ
Foulk	John	BM2	12-Jun-04	Gilroy	CA
Garey	Kenneth	MK1	1-Jul-04	Gastonia	NC
Garvin	Ralph	CWO4	29-Jul-04	Sinton	TX
Glancy	David	CDR	11-Jun-04	Chevy Chase	MD

*See **'TAPS'** on page 26*

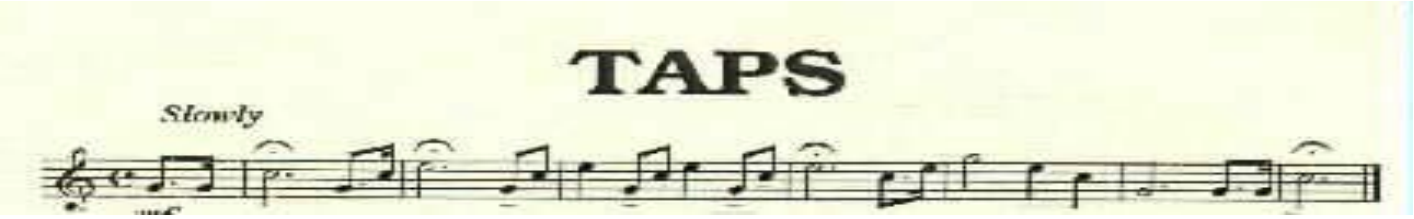
'TAPS' continued from page 25

Last Name	First Name	Rank	Date	City	State
Gordy	James	ATCS	6-Aug-04	Mobile	AL
Halsey	Orval	CWO3	2-Jun-04	Newport	OR
Hammond	Robert	RADM	11-Jul-04	Silverdale	WA
Harp	Paul	CWO4	7-Jun-04	Biloxi	MS
Harris	Joseph	CWO2	3-Jul-04	Nashua	NH
Harrison	James	CAPT	6-Aug-04	Lacey	WA
Hayes	Gerald	CDR	20-May-04	Ocala	FL
Hein	Francis	SS2	28-Jul-04	Burien	WA
Hern	Lelen	ENC	21-May-04	Grant City	MO
Hickey	Clovis	CWO4	22-Jun-04	Fremont	CA
Holt	Russell	CWO4	27-Jun-04	Wilmington	NC
Hutchings	Karl	IT1	19-May-04	Houston	TX
Immer	Harry	LT	14-May-04	Camano Island	WA
Jessup	Daniel	AD2	25-May-04	Kodiak	AK
Kahl	Frederick	CWO2	21-Jun-04	Morehead City	NC
Kavern	Harold	LCDR	23-Jun-04	Morro Bay	CA
Keeten	Cleo	BM1	28-May-04	Glade	KS
King	John	ENCS	27-Jul-04	Baltimore	MD
Kolb	Alfred	CWO4	1-Jul-04	Nottingham	PA
Lamprecht	Robert	CDR	3-Jun-04	Oak Brook	IL
Lawrence	John	AMC	15-Jun-04	Theodore	AL
Ledbetter	Henry	CDR	11-May-04	Brooksville	FL
Lee	George	LCDR	4-Jul-04	Biloxi	MS
Lindquist	Peter	CWO2	7-May-04	Tukwila	WA
Lofton	Marvin	GMC	23-Jun-04	Biloxi	MS
Lorenz	David	LCDR	5-Jun-04	Katy	TX
Lundberg	Russell	AECM	22-May-04	Carolina Bch	NC
Maclain	Frederick	HMC	23-Jul-04	Sebring	FL
Malinit	Ambrosio	SSC	26-Jun-04	Philippines	RP
Marple	Charles	CAPT	1-Jul-04	Annapolis	MD
Matautia	Paepaega	YNC	6-Jun-04	Pago Pago	AQ
Mccolgan	William	SA	12-Jul-04	High Falls	NY
Mefford	Archie	BMC	22-Jul-04	Ridge Manor	FL
Miller	David	TTCS	27-Jul-04	Temple	TX
Molano	Leoncio	SSC	15-Jun-04	Seattle	WA
Monson	Spencer	CWO3	30-Jun-04	Florence	OR
Moore	Jack	SSC	5-Jul-04	N Tonawanda	NY
Murphy	Matthew	EM1	24-May-04	Spring Valley	CA
Pappas	Peter	BM1	23-May-04	North Beach	MD
Parker	Lloyd	MKC	24-Jun-04	Hayes	VA
Parker	Louis	HMC	29-Jun-04	Groton	CT
Patton	William	DCCM	28-Mar-04	Lake Charles	LA
Perkins	Carl	DCCM	14-May-04	Portsmouth	VA
Pessin	Samuel	RMC	1-May-04	Gretna	LA
Puckett	Louis	ENCS	20-Jul-04	Lowell	AR
Quillen	John	CSC	15-Jun-04	Lewes	DE

*see **'TAPS'** on page 27*

'TAPS' continued from page 26

Last Name	First Name	Rank	Date	City	State
Quinn	Thomas	CDR	20-Jun-04	Queensbury	NY
Randall	John	BMC	23-Jul-04	San Pablo	CA
Rauh	Herbert	SKC	23-May-04	New Port Rich	FL
Rodriguez	Gaston	EN1	30-Jul-04	San Juan	PR
Russell	Roger	BMCM	20-Jun-04	Hayden Lake	ID
Salomone	Jerome	CAPT	5-Jul-04	Hammond	LA
Schulz	Samuel	BM1	18-May-04	Shaker Hts	OH
Schwab	Robert	SS1	2-Jul-04	Cape Coral	FL
Scott	James	CDR	17-Jul-04	Sun City Ctr	FL
Sellers	Robert	CWO4	1-Jul-04	Fiddletown	CA
Sherlock	Joseph	LT	6-Jul-04	St Louis	MO
Simmons	Alva	BMCM	4-Jun-04	Hatteras	NC
Smith	Eugene	ENCM	7-Jul-04	Salem	OR
Smith	Ronald	ATC	19-Jul-04	Sacramento	CA
South	Darrel	EMC	22-May-04	Oakland	OR
Stobbe	Bruce	PSCM	10-Aug-04	Tigard	OR
Storms	Howard	RDCM	23-Jul-04	Tecumseh	OK
Stozich	John	CAPT	5-Jul-04	Findlay	OH
Suarez	Jose	BMCM	17-Jul-04	Ft Myers	FL
Sustaita	Fernando	ET1	4-May-04	Edinburg	TX
Taylor	Lewis	DCCM	24- Aug-04	Columbus	GA
Tobiason	Eilif	CWO4	20-Aug-04	Ipswich	MA
Trapp	Glenn	CWO4	13-Jul-04	Morgan City	LA
Trauscht	Lawrence	WO1	5-Aug-04	Lompoc	CA
Vaughan	Michael	MKC	13-Mar-04	Lanexa	VA
Vawser	Dean	YNC	23-May-04	Scappoose	OR
Villasenor	Rudy	SSC	16-Jul-04	Chula Vista	CA
Warner	Johnnie	MMC	14-Jun-04	Philadelphia	PA
Weihermiller	Jon	AT1	30-May-04	Milton	FL
White	Leroy	GM1	27-Apr-04	Tampa	FL
Whitman	Robert	CWO4	6-Jun-04	Port Angeles	WA
Wilkins	Ronald	CWO4	9-Jun-04	Midland	TX
Wood	Charles	CWO4	21-Jun-04	Clearwater	FL
Woods	Roy	BML1	22-Jun-04	Bothell	WA
Young	Rollin	CAPT	3-Aug-04	Wolfeboro	NH
Zable	Gale	CWO4	7-Jun-04	Renton	WA



TAPS is the most beautiful bugle call. Played slowly and softly, it has a smooth, tender and touching character. The bugle call was written during the Peninsula Campaign of the Civil War by General Butterfield, with an assist from his bugler, Oliver W. Norton, in 1862.

Source: http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/taps.htm

Dependent Taps

Name of Spouse	Relationship	Date of Death	Location
Barbara Gail	Wife of Capt Kenneth E. Gail USCG (Ret)	5-Apr-04	Downey, CA
Marion B. Fuechsel	Wife of Capt John C. Fuechsel, USCG (Ret)	1-Apr-04	Springfield VA
Sandra B. Middleton	Wife of CDR James L. Middleton, USCG (Ret)	18-Jun-04	Atlanta, GA
Agnes A. Elbon	Wife of QMC Jennings O. Elbon, USCG (Ret)	29-Jan-04	Portland, OR
Janet E. Leslie	Wife of BMCS Howard G. Leslie, USCG (Ret)	16-May-04	Arab, AL
Mary E. Burke	Wife of GMC Lambert L. Burke, USCG (Ret)	5-Dec-03	Las Vegas, NV
Madeline Cherney	Wife of BOSNW4 John Cherney, USCG (Ret)	19-Jun-04	Long Beach, CA
Peter D. Mitchell	Son of BMCM Arthur D. Mitchell, USCG (Ret)	15-Feb-03	Green Bay, WI
Kevin M. Grady	Son of YNC Gary M. Grady, USCG (Ret)	25-Jun-03	Puyallup, WA
Lynne E. Casavant	Wife of YNCS Andrew S. Casavant, USCG (Ret)	6-Jun-04	Daphne, AL
Elizabeth Kaluske	Wife of Lt Matthew J. Kaluske, USCG (Ret)	2-Apr-04	Grand Haven, MI
Murphy J. Dore'III	Son of EMCM Murphy J. Dore' Jr., USCG (Ret)	25-Jun-04	Pass Christian, MS
Kathryn S. Allocca	Widow of Capt Louis J. Allocca, USCG (Ret)	25-Jul-04	Vero Beach, FL
Josephine C. Wyatt	Wife of QMCS Gilbert E. Wyatt, USCG (Ret)	31-May-04	Missoula, MT
Bonnie F. Maurer	Wife of CDR Allen T. Maurer, USCG (Ret)	17-Jul-04	Chesapeake, VA
Alice Wimbrow	Wife of CWO3 John C. Wimbrow, USCG (Ret)	22-Aug-04	Chincoteague, VA

If you have lost a loved one and would like their name printed in Dependent TAPs, please contact the Editor with their name, date of death, your name and retired rank, and city/state of residence. You can write the Editor at USCG Retiree Newsletter, PSC (RAS), 444 SE Quincy Street, Topeka, KS 66683; or e-mail to: "PSC-RASNewsletter@hrsic.uscg.mil".

You may also fax your request to (785)-339-3770.

HURRY! HURRY! Classes Start Mid-September!

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Questions? Call Bob Archer at (785) 339-3629 or email rarcher@hrsic.uscg.mil

Personnel Service Center, Retiree & Annuitant Services (RAS) - Directory Assistance

Questions, Address or Direct-Deposit Changes

If you need information or have questions about:

- Your Retired or Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuity payments
- Your Retired/Annuitant Statement
- IRS Form 1099R (reporting taxable income)

- or you need to change:

- Your Home Mailing Address (for Retired/Annuitant Statement, Newsletter, 1099R)
- Your Financial Institution or account number for your Direct Deposit
- Report a change to your Designation Of Beneficiary For Payment Of Unpaid Retired Pay (Note: Use form *CG PSC-3600 Designation Of Beneficiary For Payment Of Unpaid Retired Pay)

You may make the requests listed above by **telephone**, by **Fax** or in **writing**. Our telephone and Fax numbers are:

Toll Free: 1-800-772-8724
Commercial: 785-339-3415
Fax: 785-339-3770

Allotments, SBP Coverage and Beneficiary Changes

If you need to:

- Start, Stop or Change an allotment (Use form *CG PSC-7221 Retired Allotment Authorization Form)
- Report a change to your Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) coverage

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

Commanding Officer (RAS)
U. S. Coast Guard
Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy St
Topeka KS 66683-3591

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

Income Tax Withholding Changes

If you need to:

- Start or change the amount of State Income Tax Withholding (Retirees use *IRS form W-4, Annuitants use *IRS form W-4P or State form. If using IRS form, indicate that the form is for State Tax Withholding, not federal).
- Change your Federal Income Tax Withholding
- Change Exemptions or Additional Withholding

You must make the requests listed above in writing. The original Form IRS W-4 or W-4P must be mailed to PSC (RAS) for action and filing, per IRS requirements. PSC (RAS) cannot accept a faxed W-4 or W-4P. Please mail to:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
U. S. Coast Guard
Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy St
Topeka KS 66683-3591

(*) Note: Forms available from our website http:www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/forms or directly from the IRS

Report of Death

To report the death of a Coast Guard, NOAA retiree/annuitant, or a Lighthousekeeper call:

Toll Free: 1-800-772-8724
Commercial: 785-339-3415
Fax: 785-339-3770

Or write:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
Coast Guard Personnel Service Center
444 SE Quincy Street
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

E-Mail articles, dependent taps entries, reunion notices, etc. to PSC-RASNewsletter@hrsic.uscg.mil or call us at the numbers listed below (phone menu option #4). The deadline for the next issue is 9 November 2004.

1-800-PSC-USCG/1-800-772-8724

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

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

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

Other Important Phone Numbers and Websites

Medical/Dental Benefits	Phone	Website/Notes
Eligibility (DEERS)/ ID Cards	**1-800-538-9552 (TTY/TDD) 1-866-363-2883**	http://www.tricare.osd.mil/deers In CA: 800-334-4162. In AK & HI: 800-527-5602
Mail-Order Pharmacy	1-866-363-8667	http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/tmop.cfm
Retiree Dental Plan	1-888-838-8737	http://www.trdp.org/retiree/index.html
TRICARE **Overseas**	1-888-777-8343	http://www.tricare.osd.mil/overseas/
TRICARE **United States**	phone numbers available on web site.	http://tricare.osd.mil
TRICARE For Life	1-888-363-5433	http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tfl/default.cfm
Senior Pharmacy Program	1-877-363-6337	http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/seniorpharmacy.cfm
Federal Long –term Health Insurance	1-800-582-3337	http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc/
CG Health Benefits Advisor	1-800-942-2422	
Veterans Benefits	**Phone**	**Website/Notes**
Department of Veterans Affairs	1-800-827-1000	http://www.va.gov
Insurance Information	1-800-669-8377	http://www.insurance.va.gov
Veteran's Group Life Insurance **New VGLI Applications and VGLI Reinstatements:** OSGLI PO Box 5000 Millville, NJ 08332-9928	1-800-236-6142 Overseas (973) 548-5699	http://www.insurance.va.gov/sglisite/vgli/vgli.htm **Death and accelerated benefits claims only**: Phone: 1-800-419-1473, Fax: 1-877-832-4943 or e-mail: osgil.claims@prudential **General Correspondence**: Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance, 290 West Mt. Pleasant Ave., Livingston, NJ 07039.
Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents	1-800-827-1000	http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.htm VA Pamphlet 80-02-1
Headstones & Markers	1-800-697-6947	http://www.cem.va.gov/hm.htm
Other	**Phone**	**Website/Notes**
Final Active Duty Pay	1-866-772-8724 Overseas (785) 339-3550	http://www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/ses.htm Commanding Officer (SES) Coast Guard Personnel Service Center 444 SE Quincy St. Topeka, KS 66683-3591
Contact PSC (SES) for information on Severance Pay, Separation Pay, Disability Severance Pay, LES's, IRS Form W-2.		
Travel Claims	1-866-772-8724 Overseas (785) 339-2200	http://www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/tvl.htm Send Final Travel Claim to: Commanding Officer (TVL) Coast Guard Personnel Service Center 444 SE Quincy St. Topeka, KS 66683-3591
Service Records	(314) 801-0800	http://www.archives.gov/research_room/vetrecs/ Write to: National Personnel Records Center 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63132-5100
For copies of DD214's, personnel records, medical & dental records, and service medals - requests must be in writing and include complete name, rank, SSN, dates of service and date of birth.		
Social Security	1-800-772-1213	http://www.ssa.gov
WWII US Merchant Marine Awards and Decorations	1-800-996-2723 Overseas: 202-366-2646	http://www.marad.dot.gov/contact_us.html Attn: Patricia Thomas, Medals and Decorations Maritime Administration U.S. Department of Transportation 400 7th Street, SW, Room 7304 Washington, D.C. 20590

WHEN THE TIME COMES, WILL YOUR SURVIVOR KNOW?

- **How to file a death report**
- **How to claim final retired pay due**
- **How to get the elected survivor annuity started**
- **How to claim other federal benefits that may be due such as:**
  - Department of Veterans Affairs Entitlements
  - Dependency Indemnity Compensation
  - Social Security
  - ID Cards
  - Burial Flags

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

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

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

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