

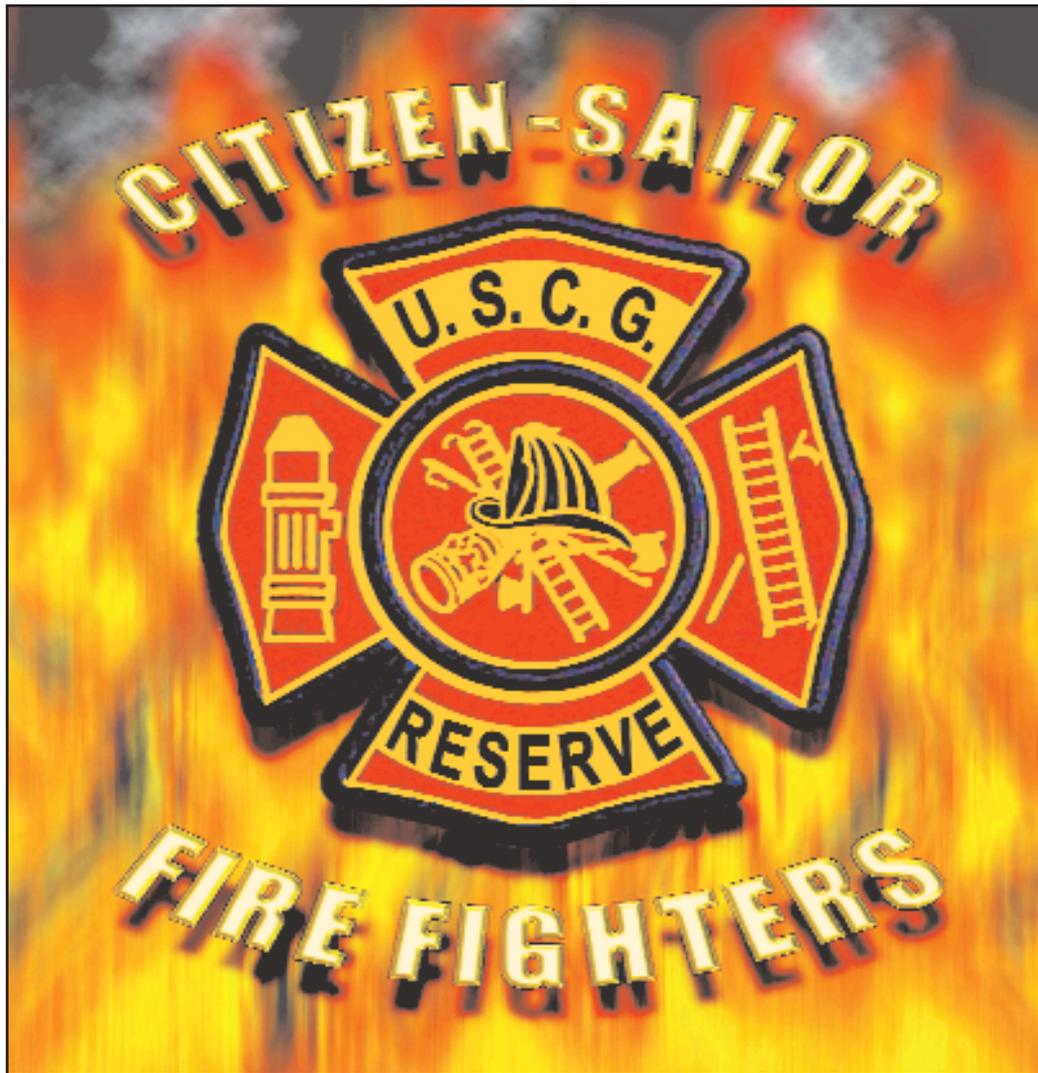
U.S. COAST GUARD
RESERVIST
[November/December 2001]



Byron Hagood

**EIGHTH ANNUAL SALUTE TO CITIZEN-SAILORS
THIS YEAR WE HONOR**

FIRE FIGHTERS



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WAR ON TERRORISM

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It's time for long-awaited eighth annual Citizen-Sailor issue! This year we're honoring our Coast Guard Reservists who are firefighters.

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ON THE COVERS

FRONT: IT'S THE EIGHTH ANNUAL CITIZEN-SAILOR ISSUE, THIS YEAR HONORING FIREFIGHTERS. ORIGINAL ARTWORK BY YN2 BRYAN MORGAN, USCG

BACK: DOT SECRETARY NORM MINETA, ADM JAMES LOY AND MCPOCG VINCE PATTON PLACE A WREATH AT THE USCG MONUMENT AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY ON VETS DAY 2001. PHOTO BY PAC EDWARD J. KRUSKA, USCGR

Long before the events of Sept. 11, we planned on featuring firefighters in the eighth annual Citizen-Sailor issue. In February 2001, the call went out to Coast Guard Reservists who are firefighters and, as usual, the response was tremendous. Thanks to all who contributed. Special thanks to YN2 Bryan Morgan, USCG, who painted our cover photo this month.

While we honor all of our firefighters, we have dedicated this issue to MK1

Jeffrey A. Palazzo, USCGR, a Coast Guard Reservist and member of the New York City Fire Department. He paid the ultimate sacrifice when the World Trade Center collapsed Sept. 11. One of Palazzo's best friends recently set up a memorial fund with all proceeds benefiting Palazzo's two young children. T-shirts and ball caps honoring MK1 Palazzo are available as part of this memorial fund. For details, please contact: Dennis



Photo by Lisa M. Kruska

At the Vietnam Wall on Nov. 10, left to right, HS1 Barb Hoff, CPO Ed Kruska, MCPO Edna Doak, FA James Ruona and CWO4 James Roberts.

Boccasio, 668 Bray Avenue, Port Monmouth, NJ 07758, or call 732-787-8743.

On Nov. 10, the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the Chief Petty Officers Association held their third annual Veterans Day "USCG Flags Across America" event. This year, the chiefs had the best turn out yet with 72 volunteers placing 400 USCG flags on graves of Coast Guardsmen at Arlington National Cemetery. Later that day, while visiting the Vietnam Wall, some in the group chanced upon Fireman Apprentice James Ruona, USCG, of Lakeville, Minn. He had just graduated from boot camp the day before, and the chiefs asked him to join them in placing USCG flags under the name of each of the seven Coast Guardsmen on the Wall. Appropriately, FA Ruona placed the flag under the name of Fireman (FN) Heriberto Segovia Hernandez of San Antonio, Texas. Welcome aboard to FA Ruona who is heading to *CGC Vigilant* and his fellow recruit company graduates as they set sail on their



Photo by Lisa M. Kruska

FA Ruona places a USCG flag at the base of FN Heriberto Segovia Hernandez's name on the Vietnam Wall.

great USCG adventure.

What a historic 60th anniversary year we've had in the Coast Guard Reserve! 2001 has been a year of major ups and downs — we had various celebrations all over the nation recognizing the 60th, including a memorable celebration at the Coast Guard Festival in August. We saw PSUs deploying earlier this year to the Middle East, then the events of 9-11, followed by a huge call-up of over 2,500 reservists. Words cannot adequately sum up the events of 2001 but as a fellow reservist reminds me often, "Chief, we're living in historic times!"

We don't know what kind of hand will be dealt us in 2002, but we do know that the United States Coast Guard will be on the front lines in defense of our nation. Have a very happy holiday season and Happy New Year 2002!

- ED.

GOOD-BYE, SHIPMATE

While Sept. 11 was a tragic day for the nation, it was more tragic for the Danz family. PS2 Vinnie Danz, USCGR, our shipmate and my friend, was killed.

On Oct. 5, we went to our shipmate's funeral. We mustered in front of 212 Coast Guard Drive, Fort Wadsworth. It was a bright, sunny day, warm for October. The funeral was in Farmingdale, Long Island, an hour away. We crossed the Verazanno Bridge — the New York skyline looked different. The van was quiet, very unusual for Coast Guardsmen who have an opinion on everything.

We parked blocks away and got out into a sea of blue. Vinnie was also a cop and thousands of them came to say good-bye. Our white covers stood out among the blue. We mustered in front of the church, St. Killian, and stood in formation across the street. RADM Richard Bennis was there and the NYPD color guards were there.

We thought of Vinnie — he always had a story. He was a member of the NYPD "heavy rescue team." He had told us of the New York rooftops, rope exercises atop the Verazanno Bridge, and a thousand other cop stories. He had spoken of his wife Angela, his two girls, and recently of his three girls as the youngest is just six months old.

At the funeral, first came the rescue trucks of Vinnie's unit, EM3. Next came the family. It was crowded and hard to see. They climbed the steps into the small church. Next EM3 climbed the steps. We marched in and stood at attention in our pew. The church was crowded. No one spoke. A baby cried.

Mass was celebrated, and the communion lines were long. Vinnie's oldest daughter, eight-year-old Winifred, recited a poem. Our eyes got wet. Mayor Giuliani spoke of heroism, bravery, sacrifice, justice and what lies ahead for Angela and their girls. Our chests swelled as he spoke of Vinnie's duty with the Coast Guard. The police commissioners spoke next. We clapped for Vinnie — it was like thunder.

Angela spoke next, and called Vinnie frugal — we laughed because he was. She spoke of Vinnie's last cell phone call from the tower. Our eyes dripped. The service was over. We rose and filed out, back to formation. Vinnie's family came down the St. Killian steps, Winifred now clutching Vinnie's hat and crying. She had finally figured out what this day was all about.

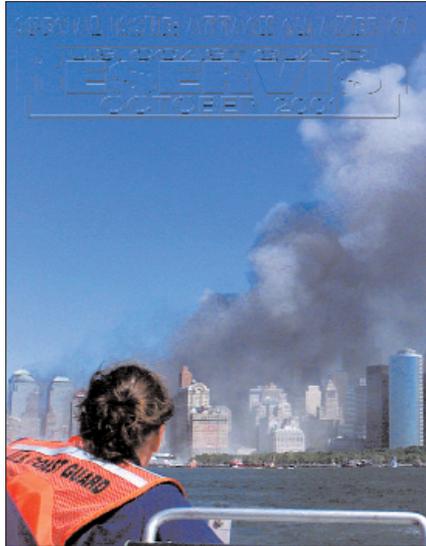
Vinnie was a Marine before a cop or a Coastie, so the Marines performed a gun salute. Helos flew overhead, the Emerald Society played a muted tune with their black-draped drums. Motorcycles rode by. Last were the limos, long and black.

The ride back to the base was quiet. On the bridge, the skyline still looked different, but now the sun was out and shining on Lady Liberty.

Good-bye, shipmate.

— MSTC William Farrell, USCGR
Activities New York

Ed's note: A "Missing in Action" In Memoriam was published in the October 2001 Reservist, page 22, for MK1 Jeff Palazzo and PS2 Vincent Danz. Both Coast Guard Reservists were participating in rescue efforts at the World Trade Center when it collapsed. Taps for MK1 Palazzo is published in this issue on page 18. More to follow in the January 2002 issue.



LET FREEDOM RING!

It's ironic to note that shortly before my retirement from the uniformed force of the NYC Fire Department, all members were asked to submit suggestions of how the new uniform patch should be designed. As a marine firefighter, I felt the most prominent landmark in New York Harbor, the Statue of Liberty, should be displayed on the left side (that is, facing the patch) with the Manhattan skyline in the background, which so prominently acknowledged the presence of the World Trade Center twin towers.

The final design was just the Manhattan skyline, with the twin towers having a red fire department Malta Cross over it — including a flame in its center.... It's a

generation later, and my heart aches with much pain, knowing that the patch I helped design is now a sacred symbol of the bravest who perished within those same twin towers so aptly emblazoned upon the uniform they all so proudly wore.... God Bless America! Rid us of terrorists! Let freedom ring!

— CAPT Daniel Kozak, U.S. Merchant Marine (ret.)
Greenville, N.C.

Ed's note: CAPT Kozak also served in the Coast Guard Reserve, retiring as a lieutenant.

REMEMBER OUR NATION'S CORE VALUES

In the wake of the recent terrorist attacks, we feel hurt, vulnerable, and angry. These feelings are real and should be acknowledged and dealt with. However, acting out these feelings through acts of racism and religious persecution undermines our strength as a Nation and our ability to combat terrorism. We must remember the core human values expressed in the Bill of Rights of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom to peaceably assemble, freedom to petition authority, freedom of religion, and for all people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects.

The people that committed these terrorist acts stand against these values. As members of the Coast Guard, we are reminded of our oaths to Support and Defend the Constitution of the United States. This is more than taking up arms in defense of our national security. As we live these values daily in our interaction with others, we strengthen the Nation and its security. We also send the signal to our fellow Americans and to the world of our resolve and our commitment to freedom, democracy and human dignity.

— CAPT Douglas Clapp, USCGR
Deputy Director of Reserve & Training
Washington, D.C.

CHEERS BUT TEARS

The October 2001 "Attack on America" edition was a truly spectacular issue, but you should not bring tears to the eyes of your Big Apple subscribers!

— CAPT Mary E.
McWilliams, USCGR(ret.)
Great Neck, N.Y.

PENTAGON PLACEMENT

I have had the opportunity to read the October issue. However, I need to point out one important fact: The Pentagon is in the state of Virginia. I work for the Arlington, Va. Fire Department as a paramedic/ firefighter, and was there on that tragic day. Many of my co-workers read my magazine when I take it to the firehouse, and as you might expect, they ask why only *The Washington Post* newspaper and *The Arlington Journal* get correct information. Washington, D.C. was never attacked. Please help me understand this misunderstanding. This letter is not a complaint, but just a point of reference as to the location of the Pentagon.

PS3 Byron C. Dixon, USCGR
Centreville, Va.

Ed's note: The Pentagon's mailing address is Washington, D.C., but it is located in Arlington, Va., about four miles from Coast Guard Headquarters.

PATROLLING THE POTOMAC TOO!

I just read the article "Patrolling the Potomac" on page 21 of *The Reservist* magazine (October 2001). It was a very good article reprinted from *The Alexandria, Va. Journal*. Well, the crew on CG-41330 from Station St. Inigoes, Md. was the first on scene in D.C. They arrived approximately four hours after the attack and immediately commenced establishing a security zone. We worked with CGC's *Albacore*, *Frank Drew*, and *James Rankin* for three and half weeks after Sept. 11.

Crews from all four stations in Activities Baltimore manned our boat, including some reservists. Additionally, reservists and auxiliaries completely manned Station St. Inigoes during this period because my crews were up in D.C. They all did a fantastic job — they truly made *Team Coast Guard* come to life. I don't want to sound like I am tooting my own horn, but I wanted to make sure everyone gets recognized for the truly amazing job they did.

— BMC John N. Brady, USCG
Officer in Charge
USCG Station St. Inigoes, Md.

A BLUE STAR, THEN AND NOW

We have a flag with a blue star in our window.

I haven't seen one since the time I was a kid and my older cousins served in World War II. Just about every other house on the block had a flag in their window, and often they weren't blue, but sadly gold, because a loved husband or son from that house had been killed during the war.

My husband served in WW II from Normandy through the Battle of the Bulge. Having also lived through the Korean conflict, the Cold War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, Vietnam, and the Gulf War, never in his life did he think his son, Jim, would be serving his country more than 60 years later in the war on terrorism.

He never spoke much about his time in service during the 42 years we have been married. I only got an inkling

of what it was like when I asked him to write some of his memories for his children and grandchildren, so they would know another side of their dad and grandfather's life. It is only because I typed his notes for him that I found out some of what really happened to him and others during battle.

My husband, who at the time was not a citizen, tried, but could not enlist because he was a British citizen. However, he and his brother signed up for the draft and were soon called to duty. My son, ENS Jim Cullen, enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve several years ago. When he was told about the sabotage of the Twin Towers early on Sept. 11, he immediately rushed to New York City to help and to report for active duty.

One similarity that struck me between my husband's and son's approach to military service was that there was no hesitation about serving. There was then, and there is now, a job to be done, and so they went to defend their country.

We have talked about seeing our son being called to active duty and of course, have many, many thoughts. My husband feels it is a much more difficult undertaking this time around because when he was in battle, he knew the enemy. The enemy wore a uniform — you could see them and they could see you. They shot at you and you could fight back. Today, you cannot identify the enemy as an entity in itself.

Recently, my husband, along with other local residents who served in WW II, received an award for serving their country 60 years ago. My son was there to honor his dad, who now proudly honors his son with the blue star in the window, reinforcing the fact that men and women will continue to cherish and serve their country so it will always be the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

— Carol A. Cullen
Succasunna, N.J.

Ed's note: This letter was originally published in the Morris County, N.J. Daily Record on Nov. 6, 2001. It is reprinted here with permission of the author. The blue star flag program is making a comeback around the nation during the WOT (War on Terrorism).

COAST GUARD FESTIVAL'S GRATITUDE

On behalf of the entire Coast Guard Festival organization, I would like to thank you for your reporting of this year's event in the "Special 60th Issue" of *U.S. Coast Guard Reservist* magazine. Grand Haven, Mich. hosts the annual Coast Guard Festival each year to honor all the dedicated men and women, past and present, who serve our country in war and peace.

We are privileged to host the annual celebration of our country's heroes in the United States Coast Guard and hope that all who read your coverage of the 2001 Festival will be encouraged to enjoy our hospitality by visiting Grand Haven, aka "Coast Guard City, USA," as we celebrate during next year's festival. Our upcoming event dates are July 26 through Aug. 4, 2002. For more information about the annual Coast Guard Festival your readers can find us on the Web at: www.ghcgfest.org/ or call 888-207-2434. Thank you again for helping us "get the word out" to all *U.S. Coast Guard Reservist* readers!

— Jackie Dupuis
Director of Marketing & Fund Development
Coast Guard Festival, Inc.
Grand Haven, Mich.



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20593-0001

AN OPEN LETTER TO TEAM COAST GUARD

In the wake of the terrible events of September 11th, every one of you has answered the call to action to protect and defend the liberties of a grateful nation. I am deeply proud of your superb response.

We are now in the process of adjusting operations to the “new normalcy” of American life. I know that many of you have experienced long hours, or have sacrificed plans and time with your families, due to the heavy strain of round-the-clock operations. I want you to know that I am committed to finding ways to reduce that strain.

As we work to rebalance our missions and resources, I urge you not to think of maritime security as a new task added suddenly to a growing constellation of tasks. Rather, we must see it as our north star. The mission of maritime security is not new to us. It is more urgent today than two months ago, but no less important than 211 years ago. We are guarding the coasts of the United States.

In the midst of our present trials, we must maintain clear vision and a keen sense of vigilance. We must continue to keep watch — building awareness of our vulnerabilities, the threats to our security, and those who would seek to do us harm.

Above all, we must continue to protect America at all costs.

Semper Paratus

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.M. Loy', written over the printed name and title.

J.M. LOY
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard



AN ACT OF WAR — A CALL TO ACTION!

On Sept. 11, we witnessed an event that has changed our lives forever. Time is now measured in before and after. The dividing line, Sept. 11, is bold and stark, marking the day in history when the world stayed the same, but the people

changed. For many, it was a day the nation grew up — a day innocence died.

We have experienced the devastation of asymmetric warfare. Although this type of nontraditional warfare is not a part of our past, it has become a part of our future. We are stepping into a brave new world, one that possesses risks, and calls for creativity, initiative, sacrifice and devotion to duty. Emerging threats could span the spectrum from cyber warfare to weapons of mass destruction; threats that can be delivered from the air, the land or by sea.

As a service, we are challenged to define what our new normalcy will consist of in terms of our core mission requirements. The Commandant has already directed that port safety and security missions stand as our primary mission alongside search and rescue. He has established a high-level team to define the new maritime homeland security environment and to identify the activities and resources needed to meet our national security goals within this environment.

As we have for the past 211 years, we are involved in defending our nation, our ports, and providing for continued commerce. Within two weeks of the terrorist attacks, over 25 percent of the Selected Reserve force had answered the call. In every port, at every Group, Support Command, MSO and station, reservists stand the watch.

One program that is staffed exclusively by Reserve personnel is the Sea Marshal program. Conceived and developed by District 11, “m” and “o,” under the leadership of VADM Ernest Riutta, Sea Marshals is an armed escort program designed to guard against the use of a

commercial maritime vessel as a terrorist instrument against high-interest targets. Tactics similar to those used on the hijacked aircraft could be employed by terrorists to gain control of a large commercial carrier within the marine transportation system. The Sea Marshals program employs preventative measures. The presence of the Marshals armed escorts will provide security for the pilot, master, and bridge navigation team while the vessel transits our navigable waters. It will ensure the safe movement of all commercial deep draft vessel traffic.

Our expeditionary forces have also answered the call, both in support of our Homeland Defense mission and in our OCONUS role. On Oct. 10, I stood on the tarmac at March Air Force Base and watched a C5A Starlifter load

PSU 311's boats into her cargo bay. I was honored to address the unit before the deployment. Each member stood proud with a look of determination, ready and waiting to exact the mission for which they have been trained. Preparation equals performance.

The unit will *perform!*

I feel an overwhelming sense of power and pride at their commitment, their professionalism, and their spirit. They are proud to wear the uniform

of the USCG, and proud to be members of the Coast Guard family. I wish them Godspeed and a safe return.

It is a time for a new, enduring commitment to the Guard and its mission in the 21st century. As I write this last paragraph, I am sitting on a plane en route to PACAREA. Before I boarded, CBS aired a broadcast of Osama Bin Laden. His message was clear — there will be more terrorist attacks against the United States, and our military action in Afghanistan will not go unpunished. By the time this article is published, our world may be just as dramatically changed as it was from Sept. 10 to Sept. 11. You may be required to make great sacrifices, you and your families may suffer the loss of separation for an extended period — but I know that you are ready to answer the call. A grateful admiral and a proud nation salute you.

God bless you. God bless the Coast Guard. Semper Paratus.

“We are stepping into a brave new world, one that possesses risks, and calls for creativity, initiative, sacrifice and devotion to duty.”

**RADM Mary P. O'Donnell, USCGR
Deputy for Mobilization & Reserve Component Affairs, PACAREA**

“STRIKING” BACK AT CAPITAL CRIME

WASHINGTON, D.C. — When anthrax was discovered in several congressional buildings on Capitol Hill in mid-October 2001, the Coast Guard National Strike Force was called in for its unique capabilities.

“We had over 30 members of the Strike Force here in D.C.,” said LCDR Nathan Knapp, Executive Officer of LANT Strike Team. “We checked 26 different sites, and anthrax was found in the Ford, Hart, Longworth, and Dirksen buildings, and the Supreme Court and P Street mail facility.”

Members deployed from all three Strike Teams and the National Strike Force Coordination Center in Elizabeth City, N.C. Despite the geographic disparity, camaraderie developed quickly and the integration of all teams and component members proved seamless. Reservists augmenting the Coast Guard Strike Force at the “U.S. Capitol Incident” site included LT Rocque Yballa, SK1 Genevieve Panni, of PAC Strike Team and MST1 John Kapsimalis, of LANT Strike Team.

“The reservists filled in a lot of gaps right off the bat,” said MK1 David Wojciechowski of LANT Strike Team.

The Strike Force’s unique capabilities included the Incident Command System (ICS), contractor oversight and critical item recovery (including art and other artifacts). The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund), under Title 42, U.S. Code, provided the legal mechanism and funding for other federal agencies to obtain the Coast Guard’s unique contributions.

Immediately following the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, Kapsimalis was recalled to active duty after immediately contacting his unit. He worked two weeks at Ground Zero in New York City assisting at washing stations and with air monitoring, and then three weeks at the World Trade Center landfill on Staten Island. In Washington, Kapsimalis was part of the entry team and helped out with decontamination of various sites.

“This event was very fast paced and it was changing all the time,” said Kapsimalis, who deployed to Washington Nov. 11. “I’m grateful that I was able to help out here and in New York,” explained Kapsimalis, a six-year veteran of the Strike Team. “A lot of people [the public] wanted to help out and they supported us in every way they could — they bought us meals, shook our hands and cheered us on — you had no wants. And the teamwork among Strike Force members and other federal agencies has been great.”

Ed’s note: The Strike Force also deployed members to Florida and New York. For more information, see the National Strike Force’s Web site: www.uscg.mil/hq/nsfcc/nsfweb/index.html. For a Reservist magazine feature, see the March 2000 issue at: www.uscg.mil/reserve



MSTC Pat Riley and LT Rocque Yballa, USCGR, don newly purchased Bio Pak 240 protective gear prior to entering the Hart Building from the Dirksen 5th floor access. The suits will be utilized for the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah.

NO TEA PARTIES HERE...



Photo by PA2 Megan Casey, USCG

It was serious business in Boston following the attack on America. Here, PSU 307's Raider Boat patrols Boston Harbor after their deployment from their homeport in St. Petersburg, Fla..

PSU 311 DETACHMENT DEPLOYS

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — A detachment from Coast Guard Port Security Unit (PSU) 311, based in San Pedro, Calif., departed March Air Force Base Oct. 3.

The unit was called to active duty Sept. 28 to provide waterside security and maritime force protection in support of the Department of Defense. PSU 311 is a deployable unit organized for sustained operations to support military missions worldwide. The unit patrolled the Los Angeles and Long Beach harbors with other Coast Guard assets immediately following the events of Sept. 11.

— *By CWO Lance Jones, USCG
USCG Public Affairs,
ISC San Pedro, Calif.*

ESCORTING THE QUEEN!



Photo courtesy CAPT Daniel May, USCG

PSU 307's Raider Boat escorts the Queen Elizabeth II into Boston Harbor during the unit's deployment to Boston following the Attack on America Sept. 11.

AMERICAN PRIDE SHOWS AS PSU 308 TRAINS

GULFPORT, Miss. — Coast Guard port security units are so low key that even others in the military's fifth service don't know they exist.

"When I got assigned to the unit, I had to call first find out what it was," said BM1 Red Rankin, one of five full-time active members of Port Security Unit 308, based in Gulfport.

Rankin and the other 138 members of PSU 308 returned from 10 days of intensive military training at Camp Lejeune, N.C. in late September. Camp Lejeune is home of the PSU Training Detachment.

"A lot of people forget that even though the Coast Guard comes under the Department of Transportation, it functions as part of the military," said Rankin.

Members of PSU 308 learned Middle Eastern methods of warfare while in North Carolina. Although the training was planned long before the terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, the timing inspired the participants to train harder.

"Nothing was changed in the training because of the attacks," Rankin said. "But everybody put extra effort into it. Everyone gave it all they've got. The American pride that came out around the country came out even more so with us during the training. Everybody gave it 150 percent instead of the normal 120."

— *By Reni Winter, The Gulfport/Biloxi/Mississippi Gulf Coast Sun Herald Oct. 3, 2001*

RALLYING "DOT TROOPS"



Photo by PAC Edward J. Kruska, USCGR

Secretary of Transportation Norm Mineta addresses the crowd at a Department of Transportation All Hands Sept. 25 in Washington, D.C. held to "thank and rally the DOT troops" following the Attack on America Sept. 11. Looking on are, left to right, Coast Guard Chaplain Leroy Gilbert, Coast Guard Commandant ADM James M. Loy and DOT Chief of Staff John Flaherty.

EIGHT MORE YEARS...



Photo by PAC Edward J. Kruska, USCGR

CAPT Doug Clapp, Deputy Director of Reserve and Training, left, reenlists PS1 James McCormick into the Coast Guard Reserve for eight more years at HQ Oct. 31. McCormick first met Clapp back in 1979 at CG Station Atlantic Beach, Long Island, N.Y.

COAST GUARDSMEN AT THE WHITE HOUSE!

It's not everyday you see Coast Guardsmen in the White House but that was the case Nov. 9 when President Bush signed a proclamation declaring Nov. 11-17 Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week. In the East Room, left to right, MCPO George Ingraham, Reserve Force Master Chief; RADM Dennis Sirois, Director of Reserve & Training; BMCS Mark Allen, USCGR; Norm Mineta, DOT Secretary; and LCDR Robert Cunningham, USCGR.



Photo by Russ Davidson, USCG, Senior Coast Guard White House Social Aide

ALL-RESERVE RESPONSE OPS AT MSO CLEVELAND

CLEVELAND — The all-Reserve Response Operations Department at MSO Cleveland is staffed by 11 of the unit's 17 Coast Guard Reservists. It is the unit's largest department.

The MSO's response function must be ready to serve on a moment's notice, and on that premise, the Response Operations Department's role was established. It was tasked with qualifying its staff to train newly assigned active duty personnel in pollution response, providing a valuable service during the summer active duty transfer season.

The reservists are also charged with maintaining oil spill response equipment and Incident Command System supplies, and training local Coast Guard units and response organizations on oil spill response. Deployment exercises are planned and executed by the department, which validate response strategies identified in the local Oil and Hazardous Materials Area Contingency Plan. The members also receive training in Incident Command System positions to augment surge operations identified in local Area and Port Level Contingency Plans.

The Department's staff augments other areas as well, such as watch section duties, harbor patrols, and other port safety missions like the Coast Guard's activities in support of the Great Lakes Tall Ships Challenge 2001. The Reserve yeomen, though not assigned to Response Operations, drill with the department to support them administratively. The unit's five remaining reservists augment the Inspection Department and participate in ICS training with the Response Operations staff.

Reservists managing their own department achieved MSO Cleveland's response readiness objectives and more.

"The leadership that has been allowed to blossom as a result of the program is of incredible value," said CDR Ray Perry, the unit's Commanding Officer. "The reservists are performing the same duties as, and less in the shadow of, their active duty counterparts."

The Chief of the Response Operations Department, LT Pete Killmer, established goals to support the command and managed his staff and equipment, including

coordination with the other departments and local units. His two assistants, LTJG Ann Caretto and ENS Cliff Detemple, manage the department's training and equipment sections respectively. The senior petty officers' responsibilities are the same as their active duty counterparts. They plan drills, manage their own budget, train and mentor their own people, and ensure they have the tools they need. By making these management functions part of their routine, they are better prepared to integrate with the same level of organizational knowledge as an active duty member.

The pride of ownership and spirit of teamwork that has developed is beyond the expectations of Perry when he established the department in the fall of 2000.

"In a few months, they organized their department, identified equipment needs, greatly improved the management of our response equipment in our area, and planned and executed an oil spill exercise with Coast Guard Station Ashtabula," said Perry. A training plan that included reservists and a liaison program involving active duty members LT Gary Jones and MST2 Enoch Eller were important elements in the program's early success. The achievements of the department are a result of the enthusiasm of all of the department's plank



MSO Cleveland Response Ops Department and MSO staff members, left to right, YN1 George Hrenko, USCGR; LTJG Ann Caretto, USCGR; LCDR Kim Valentine, USCGR; SN Angela Novy, USCGR; CDR Ray Perry, CO, MSO Cleveland; LT Pete Killmer, USCGR; LCDR Martin Malloy, XO, MSO Cleveland; MST3 Enoch Eller, Enlisted liaison; LT Gary Jones, officer liaison; ENS Cliff DeTemple, USCGR; MK1 Robert Nettleton, USCGR; BM3 Damon Ferguson, USCGR; PS3 Shawn Patsolik, USCGR. Missing is MST3 Wagner.

owners, and the leadership of LCDR Kim Valentine, the senior reservist, and LT Killmer.

Perry says that things changed following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, but for the good. All the reservists were recalled for short-term active duty, with five staying on for at least a year.

"As a result of Sept. 11, their mission has broadened and they're focusing on more security-related missions now," said Perry. "They were ready to step right in and are standing the watch and running our Maritime Domain Awareness program to ensure proper response decisions are made.

The other thing that changed was the overwhelming influx of Coast Guard Auxiliarists that have come to help on a daily basis since Sept. 11. The reservists are working with and managing the auxiliarists as well.

— By MSO Cleveland staff

CONGRESSIONAL KUDOS...



Photo courtesy Rob Geist

U.S. Rep. Frank LoBiondo, right, Chairman of the House Coast Guard Subcommittee, congratulates BM3 Michael Carola at a Capitol Hill ceremony Oct. 3. Carola was awarded the Association for Rescue at Sea's Gold Medal for his bravery in rescuing an elderly man from drowning when the fishing boat the man was on hit a bridge and sank in waters off Cape Hatteras, N.C.

CHANGE OF COMMAND



Photo by MK2 Kevin Palmer, USCGR

It was all smiles following the PSU 309 Change of Command at Camp Perry, Ohio Oct. 20. Left to right, CDR Steve Day, Sharon Day, Doris Milkovich, and CDR Michael Milkovich. Day was relieved by Milkovich as the unit's Commanding Officer.

IT'S "OKEY DOAK" WITH HER...

YNCM Edna Doak, center, is pinned a Master Chief Petty Officer by her children, John and Stephanie, at a special ceremony at Headquarters Oct. 25. Doak has served in the Coast Guard Reserve 28 years.



Photo by PAC Edward J. Kruska, USCGR

NEWS BRIEFS

COAST GUARD RESERVIST RECALL

On Dec. 5, 2001, Coast Guard Ready Reservists numbering 2,198 were defending the nation on Title 10 USC recall orders. The Atlantic Area contributed 1,618, while the Pacific Area provided 580 of these patriots.

COMMANDANT PROUD OF RESERVISTS

Coast Guard Commandant James M. Loy reminded reservists on Nov. 1, 2001, "I am proud of your service, your commitment and your contributions." Explaining that on Sept. 11, 2001, the Secretary of Transportation authorized the recall of the entire Coast Guard Ready Reserve, "Ours was the first Reserve component mobilized. Over 2,700 members from all over the nation responded to augment our Coast Guard forces. This was the largest surge of Coast Guard Reserve forces since World War II. I encourage all Team Coast Guard members to thank their Reserve shipmates for their dedication and resolve." www.uscg.mil/reserve/msg/coast502-01.htm

COMMANDANT CALLS FOR LARGER RESERVE

According to the *Navy News & Undersea Technology*, Coast Guard Commandant James M. Loy stated on Nov. 2, 2001, "We...need a larger Selected Reserve force able to be pulled to active duty, and the support structure to recruit and train them."

CGR SKILLS INVENTORY IMPLEMENTED

As recent events have so dramatically illustrated, the specific needs of the Coast Guard in a given situation may be above and beyond the rating/CG specific knowledge. Coast Guard Reservists have seen this in the past with numerous responses to natural disasters and more recently with the responses to the terrorist activities. To make locating these critical skills more manageable and effective, reservists are completing the Reserve Skills Inventory located at: www.uscg.mil/hq/reserve/skills. For those without internet access, please fill out the form enclosed on page 38.



Photo courtesy Sr. Mary Maney

It was a mini-SPAR reunion at the new Veterans Wall of Honor in Albany, N.Y. recently including, left to right, YN Sr. Mary E. Maney, White Plains, N.Y.; SK Ellen Ferguson Trossbach, Northport, Fla., and YN Sr. Christine M. Barton, Albany, N.Y. Sr. Maney's photo is on the wall behind and just to the right of her.

NUN, A WWII SPAR, SALUTED ON "WALL OF HONOR"

ALBANY, N.Y. — In the navy blue uniform of the Coast Guard women's branch, Sister Mary E. Maney, R.D.C., served her country during World War II. Now, she is among nearly 3,000 alumni of the State University of New York at Albany to appear on its new Veterans Wall of Honor.

Not only is Sister Maney listed but her photograph is one of 24 that appear on the 36-foot-long multimedia mural. She served in the Coast Guard Women's Reserve (SPARS, an acronym for the Coast Guard's motto, "Semper Paratus, Always Ready") from 1944-46.

She was in for a complete surprise when she attended the dedication of the mural in the university's main library back on June 9.

"My niece looked up and said, 'I think that's your picture,'" she said. "I had no idea! I said, 'Oh, it couldn't be!' I had to get up closer."

It was indeed her, in Coast Guard SPAR uniform at age 21!

She called the mural, whose paintings are done in an oil wash, "lovely to see." Her likeness is one of the five larger pictures painted by the artist Dahl Taylor. The artist had spent a year culling hundreds of snapshots and selecting the men and women in various eras and branches of the military. He painted portraits in a light oil wash of earth tones, which merged with 80 black-and-white and color photographs.

"I looked at these faces for so long, and there's an overwhelming feeling of dignity and of ordinary people doing extraordinary things when asked to serve," said Taylor.

The only veteran in the Sisters of Divine Compassion at Good Counsel Convent in White Plains, N.Y., she celebrated her 50th anniversary as a member of the religious community on Sept. 22, 2001.

"It was a very inspiring Golden Day," said Sr. Maney who recently spent time with her missionary cousin priest in Ecuador.

An Albany native, she said she enlisted in 1944 because of patriotism. She admitted she also liked the idea of going to the SPARS Training Station at Palm Beach, Fla., for boot camp since in those days, people traveled far less than today.

"You saw all the recruiting posters, and this was an opportunity to serve the country by doing the jobs of the men

going off to war, and you wanted to be a part of it," she said.

As a yeoman second class, she served in clerical capacities at the Coast Guard training station in Brooklyn, and at the Air, Sea Rescue Headquarters in Manhattan. The headquarters was the command center for the Eastern seaboard, looking for possibly suspicious sightings along the beaches.

Sister Maney said Coast Guard boot camp was good preparation for when she became a postulant in 1951.

"We had regular hours, strict discipline, everything had to be shipshape — and we enjoyed the camaraderie," she said regarding her boot camp experience.

After her honorable discharge in 1946, she attended Siena College in Loudonville, N.Y. and later received a bachelor of arts degree from Good Counsel College in White Plains. She also earned a master of science degree in educational administration from the State University at Albany in 1973. Although her calling to religious life began around the fourth grade, she said she fought against it.

"But the Lord was compelling," she said.

She spent the next five decades as a teacher, college registrar and working in her religious order's development office.

"Sr. Mary Maney attends our SPAR reunions and has always been gung ho about the Coast Guard and the SPARS," said CAPT Jeanne Gleason, a retired reservist who met Sr. Maney in 1992 at the SPARs 50th reunion in Washington, D.C.

Now, 55 years after her service ended with the SPARs, Sr. Maney is being recognized for her service.

"Being part of the mural is a big event and this really makes things come full circle."

Ed's note: For info about the Veterans Wall of Honor, go to www.albany.edu/veterans/. Readers who wish to send e-mail to Sr. Mary Maney may do so at: marybeth-maney@yahoo.com

— By Julia Martin, *Catholic New York*, July 12, 2001 and Kate Blain, *The Evangelist*, Sept 20, 2001. Excerpts of both articles were reprinted with permission from *Catholic New York* and *The Evangelist*, newspaper of the Albany Roman Catholic Diocese.

CGC GRAND ISLE



The deck crew of CGC Grand Isle prepares to recover the cutter's 17-foot small boat after it returns from a boarding.

Story and photos by PA1 Zach Zubricki, USCGR, First District Public Affairs

QM1 Steven Carriere peered through binoculars into thick, milk-white fog as he stood on the deck of *CGC Grand Isle's* open bridge. Visibility was a mere 25 yards. Over the din of the diesel engines, Carriere somehow heard a faint fog horn blast.

"Fog horn off the port bow," he reported to the bridge through the voice tube.

All Carriere could do was wait, watch and listen. Minutes later, as *Grand Isle* lurched forward, a 40-foot sailboat emerged from out of the whiteness and harmlessly sailed across the bow of the cutter.

It was not what Carriere had hoped to find.

"Due to the visibility we were not able to determine what that contact was," he said. "Some of our plots [on radar] indicated a vessel such as a trawler or a scalloper fishing in a closed area. But we were not able to determine that until we started to close on the contact. Once visibility opened up a little bit, we were able to determine it was just a sailboat."

Carriere — *Grand Isle's* operations petty officer — went below to the bridge and scanned the cutter's radar, plumbing a new cluster of contacts. However, the contacts were safely outside the fine electronic magenta line that demarcated the closed boundary. The brief excitement quickly faded into boredom as the cutter logged its second day of a two-week patrol from Aug. 6 through Aug. 21.

Operating about 40 miles south of Nantucket, Mass., the 110-foot patrol boat had 15 enlisted men on board — including three reservists — who were fulfilling their two-week ADT requirement. LT Paul Baker is the commanding officer of the Gloucester, Mass.-based cutter, and LTJG Chad Harvey is the executive officer.

No stranger to policing New England's fishing fleet, Baker looked at a fresh group of contacts flashing on the radar the next morning. He decided to have his boarding team check out the fishing vessel *Excalibur*, a 40-foot stern trawler from Point Judith, R.I.

The deck crew lowered the cutter's 17-foot small boat into the green and turquoise sea, the boat crew and boarding team jumped in, and the orange boat sped toward the fishing vessel upon gentle, rolling swells. BM1 T.J. Malvesti,

coxswain, skillfully maneuvered the boat to the stern of the trawler, and the four-person boarding team one at a time jumped onto the *Excalibur's* slippery deck, timing their leaps with the swells.

This is never an easy evolution, according to BM2 David Luczek, who was assigned to the boarding team that day.

"It's actually very dangerous because once you get along side, if you have any type of casualty to the small boat, you are pretty much in harm's way," Luczek explained. "You could just slide back into the fishing gear wire rope, which would be catastrophic. That would flip the boat over and everyone would be in the water."

The boarding team got onto the trawler without a problem, however.

Dead whiting, a small, silver and brown fish with tiny teeth and jet-black eyes littered *Excalibur's* rusting deck. Two of the trawler's crew men were at the stern, wading through a sea of lines and nets. One of the *Excalibur's* three crew men was over six feet tall, sporting a shaved head, goatee, and sunglasses as he sipped a hot cup of tea in the morning sun.

The boarding team quickly went to work.

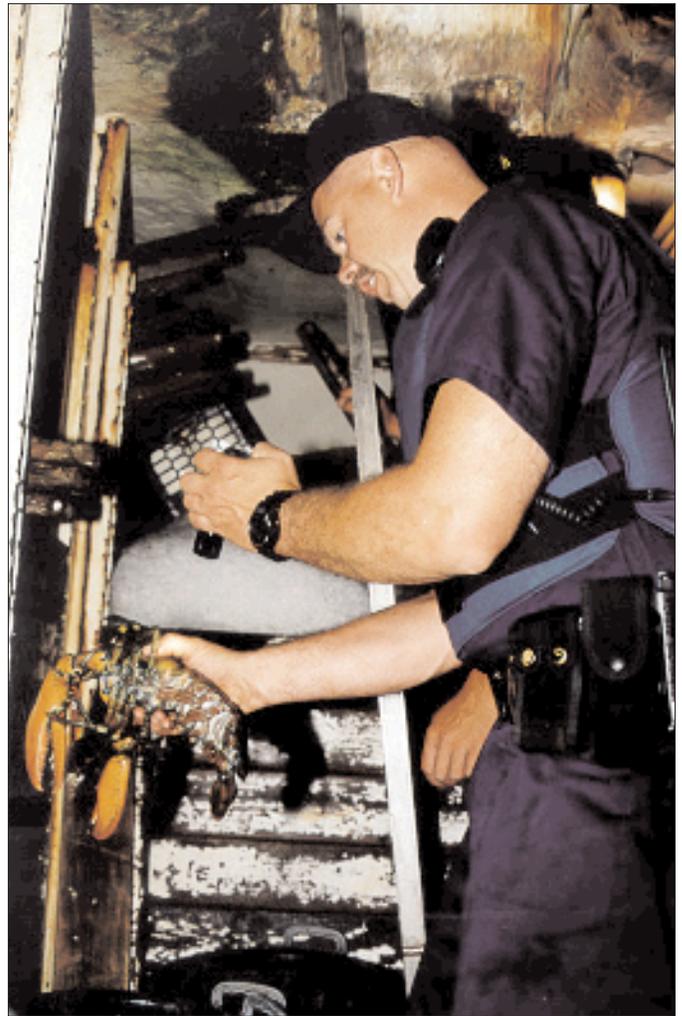
"The first thing we do when we get on a fishing boat is an initial safety inspection," said reservist MKC Kurt E. Lautenschlager. "We want to make sure there is no loose machinery on the deck that may be a hazard to the boarding team. We then check the safety gear, the fire extinguishers, survival suits, stuff like that. We check for the number of crewmembers that are supposed to be on the boat and for excess oil in the engine room."

Lautenschlager explained that once the vessel's documentation and safety equipment is examined, boarding teams will then check out the vessel's catch stored below. *Excalibur's* hold was over half full of whiting, sorted by size and stacked neatly between layers of ice. Also below were several live and kicking lobsters.

According to Lautenschlager, everything seemed to be in order, and *Excalibur* had no violations.



Excalibur's "haul back," or the pulling of its fishing net, yields a bounty of mostly whiting and flounder.



Coast Guard Reservist MKC Kurt E. Lautenschlager inspects a lobster in the hold of fishing vessel *Excalibur* during a boarding.

But before the boarding team could leave, the trawler had to complete its "haul back," or the pulling in of its fishing net. The master fired up the winch; its motor groaned and strained as the catch was hauled up from the deep. Soon the net was reeled in, and a bountiful harvest of whiting were dumped into a pen, with a few flapping flounder thrown in for good measure. The *Excalibur's* crew toiled away at the pile of squirming fish, slowly sorting them by size into plastic tubs as the trawler's master gaffed the trash fish back over the side, which attracted a noisy flock of hungry, squawking gulls.

After the net was put back down, Lautenschlager radioed the small boat to pick up the boarding team. Working past 10 p.m., the boarding team inspected two more fishing vessels that day, but no major violations were given. It was only day three of the patrol, with miles of ocean ahead. But as long as fishermen are called to sea by their ancient trade, cutters like *Grand Isle* will be among the fishing fleet, making sure everything is safe and legal.



HOME OF THE BRAVE

EVERY FALL SINCE 1994, THE RESERVIST HAS FEATURED THE DIVERSE CIVILIAN CAREERS OF COAST GUARD RESERVISTS. LAST YEAR, WE HONORED THOSE IN THE FIELD OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND IN 1999, THOSE IN EDUCATION. LONG BEFORE THE EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11TH, WE PLANNED ON FEATURING CITIZEN-SAILOR FIREFIGHTERS. IN THE AFTERMATH OF SEPTEMBER 11TH, WE GAINED AN EVEN BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE SACRIFICE IT TAKES TO BE A FIREFIGHTER, AND A WHOLE NEW APPRECIATION FOR THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO WORK AS FIREFIGHTERS. THEIR BRAVERY AND SACRIFICE HIT CLOSE TO HOME WHEN WE LEARNED THAT ONE OF OUR OWN, JEFF PALAZZO, A RESERVIST AND MEMBER OF THE FDNY, WAS ONE OF THE VICTIMS AT GROUND ZERO. WE ARE FORTUNATE AS A SERVICE AND AS A NATION TO BE ABLE TO CLAIM SOME OF THEM AS OUR OWN. THOUGH WE FEATURE ABOUT 80 IN THIS ISSUE, WE SALUTE ALL OF OUR FELLOW COAST GUARD RESERVISTS WHO WORK AS FIREFIGHTERS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION TO KEEP OUR NATION AND COMMUNITIES SAFE.



JEFFREY A. PALAZZO FDNY RESCUE 5

• **MK1 Jeffrey A. Palazzo**, USCGR, 33, of Staten Island, N.Y., Sept. 11, 2001. He was serving with the New York City Fire Department at World Trade Center recovery operations when it collapsed. He had been a member of the Coast Guard Reserve since 1988 and drilled at Station New York. His remains were not recovered but the family was given a box with ashes from Ground Zero. Death was confirmed by certificate of death dated Nov. 6, 2001 by the medical examiner. He is survived by his wife, Lisa; two daughters, Nicole, 4, and Samantha, 1. A funeral Mass was held Oct. 9 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Roman Catholic Church. Internment at Resurrection Cemetery, Staten Island. Full military honors (both USCG and FDNY) included a helicopter flyover, bagpipes, procession, and flag ceremony. A memorial fund for his two children has been established. Contact Dennis Boccasio, 668 Bray Avenue, Port Monmouth, NJ 07758; 732-787-8743.

A True American Hero

MK1 Jeff Palazzo was a reservist at Station New York. He was also a firefighter with FDNY Rescue 5. On the morning of Sept. 11, Jeff and 10 of his Rescue 5 brothers gave the ultimate sacrifice while saving countless lives in the evacuation of the World Trade Center (WTC).

For those of us that worked with Jeff, this heroism came as no surprise. We also realize that even if Jeff had known that this would be his last day on earth, he would not have changed a thing. Jeff had always been a true American hero. I had the honor and privilege of serving with him while on active duty at Station Rockaway, N.Y. between 1989 and 1993. He was the consummate professional, who did not accept anything less than 100 percent. He made me a better petty officer, shipmate, and American. His confidence, energy, strong moral values, and commitment to his family and the Coast Guard was a source of inspiration for everyone who worked with him. Jeff approached everyday as he approached the attack on the WTC. His love of his fellow Americans and his love of Station Rockaway, and everything the unit stood for never wavered.

Jeff was involved in many high profile cases. This included the sinking of the *Bronx Queen*, a charter boat that sank off the Rockaways in rough seas during the winter of 1989. Seventeen of the 19 persons on board were successfully saved from the freezing Atlantic Ocean. Again, when the *Golden Venture* grounded in the rough surf, Jeff was directly responsible for saving dozens of the almost 300 Chinese migrants.

The stories are endless with Jeff — he never considered himself or his safety. I've been blessed to know Jeff and to have met his wonderful family. He was a hero long before Sept. 11.

— CWO2 Bill Lyness, USCGR, Mattawan, N.J.

CHRISTIAN R. WAUGH NEW YORK FIRE DEPARTMENT

PS1 Christian Waugh of Pine Bush, N.Y. was one of the first on scene the morning of Sept. 11 at the World Trade Center in New York City. Waugh, shown at far left in the photo, was one of the New York City firefighters who helped carry FDNY chaplain Fr. Mychal Judge from the rubble. Waugh has served 28 years in the FDNY and is assigned to Division 1, Ladder 5, which lost 11 firefighters Sept. 11. Waugh is a PS1 and drills at the Governors Island Fire Department.



Photo by Shannon Stapleton, Reuters

ERIC M. BOWERS WASHINGTON, D.C. FIRE DEPARTMENT



Both the Coast Guard Reserve and fighting fires are fairly new to DC3 Eric M. Bowers. As a firefighter with the D.C. Fire Department, he is assigned to the busiest truck in the city, Truck 17 at #50 49th Street N.E. Bowers started with the DCFD on Oct. 10, 2000 and just finished his probation year. Bowers' CGR career began in

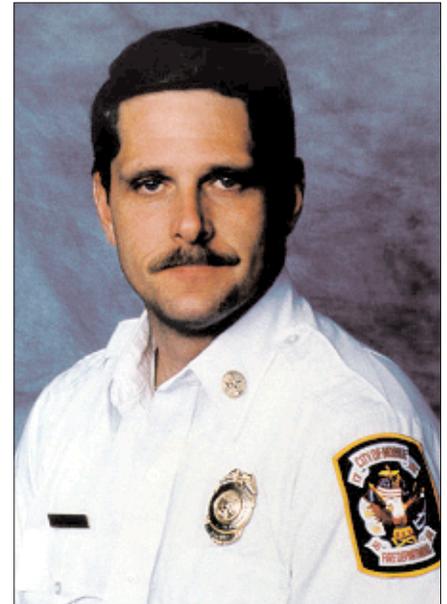
June 1997 with his first Reserve assignment at the Coast Guard Yard Firehouse. He now drills at PSU 305 and is assigned to the Engineering Support Division.

When the Pentagon and World Trade Center were hit by hijacked airliners, Bowers responded, first as a firefighter, then as a reservist.

"I worked all night long with the DC Fire Department at the Pentagon and got relieved the next morning at 0700," said Bowers. "Then PSU 305 called me up and I spent the next six weeks in New York City."

RICHARD F. BRANNON MOBILE, ALA. FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

For 23 years, Richard "Rick" Brannon has been employed with the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department in Mobile, Ala. He is currently a District Chief in charge of the Emergency Medical Services Division. His duties include the day-to-day management, direction and training of over 100 paramedics and the operational readiness of the departments 13 advanced life support (ALS) ambulances.



Brannon earned a bachelor of professional studies degree in fire administration from Memphis State University, a bachelor of arts from the University of South Alabama and is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program. He is currently a lieutenant assigned to the Coast Guard's National Strike Force, Gulf Strike Team in Mobile, serving as Assistant Chemical Division Response Officer.



CWO Ken McDaniel, center, is part of the Fairfax firefighting team.

FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA.

Here at Fairfax, we have 10 firefighters currently serving in the CGR; three recently retired. Here is a general summary on each of them:

- **CWO3 John J. Brown, USCGR** —
Activities Baltimore
Retired Assistant Chief of Operations, Fairfax County
Fire & Rescue (now Assistant Chief of Loudon County, Va.
Fire & Rescue)
- **CWO3 Kenneth L. Jones, USCGR** —
HQ Command Center
Deputy Chief of Training, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue
Deputy Chief Jones retired from Fairfax County on Aug.
24 with 30 years of service. He became Fire Chief of the
City of Newport News, Va. on Sept. 1.
- **CWO2 Kenneth L. McDaniel, USCGR** —
MSD Grand Haven, Mich.
Lieutenant, 13 years with Fairfax County, 21 total years
of fire service experience. Currently assigned as a lead
instructor for recruit training at the Fairfax
Fire & Rescue Academy.
- **BMC Robert S. Cochran, USCGR** —
Station Cape Charles, Va.
Captain II, Emergency Medical Services Supervisor, 3rd
Battalion
- **PSC Eugene W. Beach, USCGR** — *(story on page 21)*
Activities Baltimore
Firefighter, Resource Management Division
- **Special Agent Michael T. Reilly, USCGR** —
CGIS
Battalion Chief, Hazardous Material Regulatory Branch
- **PS2 Timothy J. Pias, USCGR** —
PSU 305
Probationary Firefighter/Cardiac Care Technician, Fire &
Rescue Station 23
- **PS3 Kerry R. Jackson, USCGR** —
Activities Baltimore
Master Apparatus Technician, Fire & Rescue Station 10
- **CWO4 Rand Gaber, USCGR (ret)** —
CGIS
Firefighter, Retired
- **PSCS Yancey Woodard, USCGR** —
Activities Baltimore,
Apparatus Technician, Retired

STEPHEN BOYNTON TUALATIN VALLEY, ORE. FIRE & RESCUE



Stephen Boynton joined the fire service as a firefighter and EMT in 1992. He currently works as a Deputy Fire Marshal (Captain) with Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue near Portland, Ore. "I would enter burning buildings as other people were leaving," said Boynton. Boynton says the job of a "fire cop"

involves preventing fires and investigating all major fires. Criminal cases require working closely with law enforcement and testifying in court. Other duties include responding to citizen complaints, working with juvenile fire setters, inspecting commercial buildings, and conducting fire safety programs.

Boynton is also an MST1 at MSO Portland, Ore. He is a qualified boarding officer, pollution investigator and presently works in the Port State Control office. He spent four years on active duty before entering the Reserve program in 1986.

EUGENE W. BEACH FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA. FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

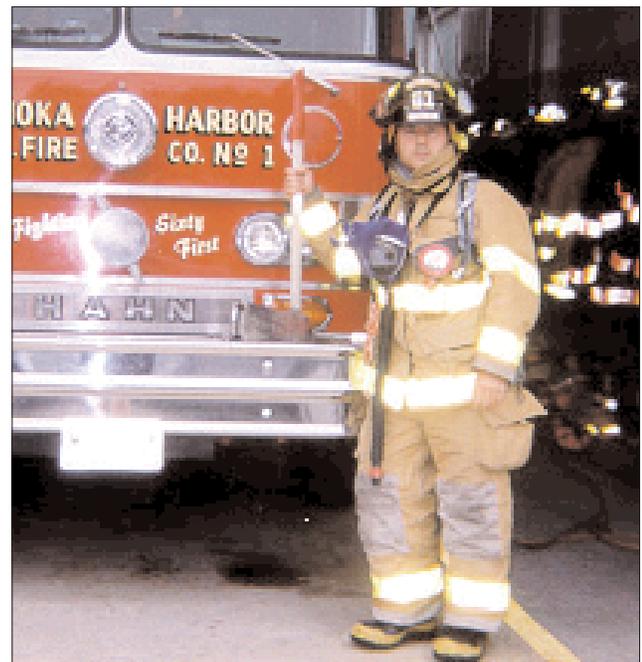
Eugene "Gene" Beach is a 23-year employee of Fairfax County Fire & Rescue. He is assigned to Fire & Rescue Station 20 at Gunston Cove, Va. where he is assigned to the fireboat. In 1995, Beach was named Firefighter of the Year. Beach drills at Activities Baltimore and is a port security chief (PSC) in the Coast Guard Reserve.



When Beach turned 50 last Jan. 14, his family threw him a surprise birthday party. Members of both Fairfax County Fire & Rescue and the Coast Guard Reserve were present for the memorable occasion and to roast the chief. If you call Beach at home you will hear the following on his voice mail: Greetings...you have reached Chief Beach!

NEIL J. CAFIERO LANOKA HARBOR, N.J. VOLUNTEER FIRE CO. NO. 1

I have been a volunteer firefighter for almost 11 years in New Jersey, beginning in New Milford, and now in Lanoka Harbor. I couldn't image not being a part of it. In a lot of ways, it is exactly like a Coast Guard station with the feeling of camaraderie, pride in service, and, or course, the ways you can insult and abuse each other all in the name of fun. But most of all, being a volunteer means a lot of training, meetings, and schooling because our lives and the people we serve depend on it. It also means an incredible amount of pride in our department and apparatus. But whether you are a paid firefighter or volunteer, the danger and scenarios are all the same. And, as you've probably learned from watching news reports following the Sept. 11 attacks, firefighters are brothers. As a reservist, I am a DC3 at Station Barnegat Light, N.J.



CG YARD FIRE DEPARTMENT CURTIS BAY, MD.

The Coast Guard Fire Department at the Coast Guard Yard has had a close relationship with the Baltimore City Fire Department (BCFD) for the past 25 years. It helps to have reservists who drill at the Yard who happen to work for the BCFD including PSCM Dave Franz at Engine 27 and PSC Ernie Uebersax at Engine 2.

In fact, the two groups continue to train together. Last winter, for example, the BCFD invited the Coast Guard Fire Department at Curtis Bay to a house burning. This was an opportunity for Yard FD members to receive training and also interact with their local jurisdictions. They'll be back out training together in January 2002 as well.

Approximately eight active duty Coasties serve at the Yard firehouse; another seven are reservists and also firefighters including PSCM David Franz, BCFD; PSC Ernie Uebersax, BCFD; DC1 Dennis



Photo by PSCM Dave Franz, USCGR

Coast Guard Yard Fire Department members take a "ride" following a training session at the Baltimore City Fire Academy. Front to rear: DC3 David Seeley, DC2 William Guillion, DC2 Steve Melville, DC2 Steve St. Onge, PS1 Mike Frank, USCGR; DC1 Donnell Harold, DC1 Thaddeus Stryminski.

McMemamin, Yard Safety Office; PS1 William Meyers, retired from BCFD; PS1 Michael Frank, BCFD; PS1 David Donohue, International Association of Firefighters; and DC3 Frank Deems, BCFD.

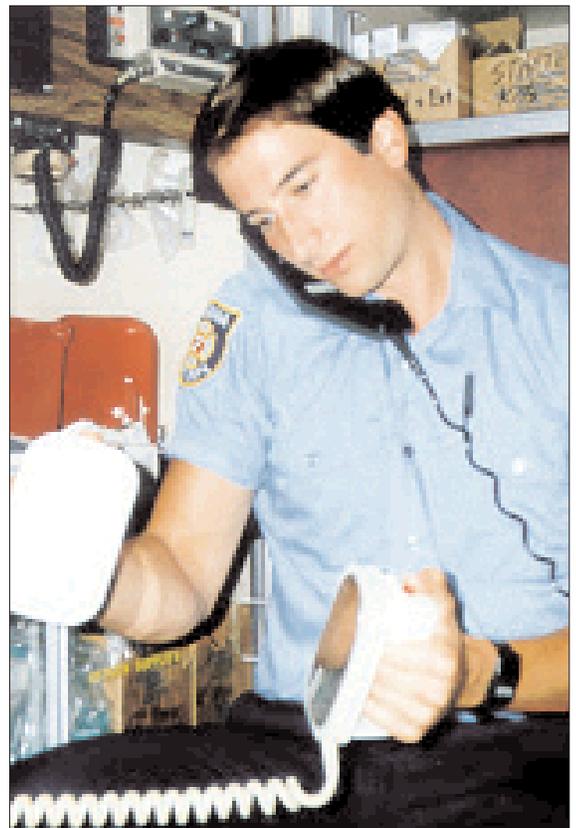
JOHN R. CRAIG PARMA, OHIO FIRE DEPARTMENT

It was my desire to become a firefighter that led me to enlist in the Coast Guard Reserve some 20 years ago. In the past, the PS Class A school consisted of two weeks of basic firefighting skills, and this training would become invaluable when I began testing for the fire service. Competition was fierce but my Coast Guard training gave me the edge I needed.

Once hired, having secured my dream job in my hometown of Parma, I attended 10 weeks of training at the fire academy at our local community college for state certification. I was then sent for paramedic training that consisted of nine months of intensive classes, lectures and on-the-job training in emergency medicine and patient care.

In the course of my duties over the years, I've seen the joys and sorrows life can bring. I have had the highs of helping deliver healthy newborn babies and the lows of telling a deceased patient's family that they had not survived.

In Parma, we function as firefighters and paramedics. On any given day, we may be assigned to either fire truck or ambulance. I am very fortunate to work for an All-American city in which my Coast Guard duties have always been supported. I am currently a PS2, and I've been recalled to active duty four times in the past decade. During Desert Storm, my fire crew flew the Coast Guard flag below Old Glory during my absence. In the demanding world of fire rescue, we are just like the Coast Guard — Semper Paratus and waiting the next alarm.





The Ocoee Fire Department crew during presentation of the Christmas gifts — Engelhardt is standing fourth from left, while LT Ledford is in white shirt fourth from the right.

ERNEST G. ENGELHARDT CITY OF OCOEE, FLA. FIRE DEPARTMENT

I am a 13-year veteran firefighter for the City of Ocoee (pronounced o-KO-wee) and a retired BM3 reservist. This city of about 28,000 residents is located near Orlando, and the fire department has three fire stations and 48 paid firefighters on duty. We provide fire and medical protection for the City of Ocoee, but also for the township of Windermere as well.

About 10 years ago, LT G. Ledford, my lieutenant, came up with an idea. Rather than exchange gifts with one another at Christmas, how about give gifts to needy kids? Ledford contacted a local elementary school principal and arranged to have the first name and age of children submitted. We each picked a couple of names and provided a gift, fully wrapped, for the child. The gifts were then turned over to the principal for distribution. These children did not know that we sent the gifts — it was just one way we tried to make their Christmas brighter.

FRANK KRUPPA NAVAL STATION FIRE DEPARTMENT



I retired from the USCGR about four years ago as a PS1. I transferred overseas and now work as as training officer at the Naval Station Fire Department on Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The patch gives a pretty good description of what we do: prevention, protection and rescue.

DAVID K. DONOHUE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

I served as a municipal fire fighter-paramedic in Florida from 1981-1998. Then in 1998, I accepted a position with the International Association of Fire Fighters. For two years I designed fire and EMS departments, analyzed municipal response capabilities, provided emergency and disaster planning, and helped write laws, rules, and regulations relating to fire and EMS operations in the United States and Canada. Currently, I serve as a hazardous materials training coordinator. I also have served as a guest lecturer at the National Fire Academy and at George Washington University, and serve as a Commissioner for the Jefferson County Ambulance Authority.

As a reservist, I drill at the Coast Guard Yard Fire Department where I'm a PS1. My firefighting skills were put in service several times while a member of the Coast Guard, including my response as the Coast Guard representative following a fuel spill in West Palm Beach, Fla. that placed approximately 20,000 citizens at risk. I used my planning skills to update and correct the Area Contingency Plan for the Area of Responsibility.

ALBERT FERNANDEZ HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT

Aloha from the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) where I've been a member for over 16 years. I have also worked part time as a lifeguard for 16 years as well. I am also a MK3 reservist serving aboard *CGC Washington* (WPB-1331) for the past five years.

The Honolulu Fire Department has been most gracious and supportive in allowing many reservists and fellow firefighters to serve in all the Reserve components. There are many other dedicated HFD members who are also Coast Guard Reservists including: CDR Robert Ludwig, DC3 Robert Moss, Glen Nelson, MK3 Paul Boddy, DC3 Cory Apo, Austin Kaio, DC3 Michael Carter, MSTC Ken Thompson, and PS3 Ricky Mamiya. Another Coastie, PSCS Richard Pang, is retired from the HFD and now spends much time performing service in the Coast Guard service. Mahalo Nui Loa.

JAMES W. FITZGERALD CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT



Hello fellow Coasties! My fire department experience all started in 1994. After having served two years with the Coast Guard, I was not satisfied with my major in college. I soon found myself as a paid on-call firefighter with the Roberts Park Fire Protection District in Justice, Ill. I received my

Illinois State Firefighter II certification along with EMT-A and then my Paramedic license. I also worked for the Lemont Fire Protection District and then the Westmont Fire Department.

After extensive testing, I was accepted into the Chicago Fire Department and reported for duty at the Robert J. Quinn Fire Academy Dec. 1, 1999. Upon graduation, I was assigned to ALS Engine Co. 97 on the Illinois/Indiana border. Earlier this year, I served in the Middle East with PSU 309 where I'm a PS2.

I would like to dedicate this article to a friend, the late Lt. Scott Gillen, who was struck by a drunk driver and killed on Dec. 23, 2000, while attending to an accident scene on the Bishop Ford Expressway.

ROBERT S. GOLDENBERG CITY OF ORLANDO, FLA. FIRE DEPARTMENT



Robert Goldenberg is a firefighter and paramedic with the City of Orlando Fire Department. He is currently assigned to Engine Company Ten, on the city's west side. Attractions such as Universal Orlando, which contains Universal Studios, Islands of Adventure, and the water park, Wet and Wild, are just a few of the famous places his station protects.

In addition to his normal firefighting duties, Goldenberg is the chief designer for the department's fire apparatus. He was personally responsible for the design and engineering of three tower/ladders, five pumper/engines, 10 heavy transport rescues, and a bomb/arson unit (all at a total cost of over \$6.5 million). Goldenberg attributes his design and engineering skills and experience to his early study of naval and civil engineering as an active duty Coastie.

A recruit firefighter instructor with the Central Florida Fire Academy, he holds state certifications in hazardous materials, firefighting, emergency medicine, and apparatus operation. Goldenberg, an MKC, served seven years active duty before entering the Reserve in 1987. He drills at Station Fort Myers Beach, Fla.

TRACEN CAPE MAY FIREFIGHTERS

Firefighters are always ready at the Cape May, N.J. Training Center including, front row, 1 to r, DC3 Michael Guzman, SA Holly Campbell, FN Woody Straub, DC3 Ryan Geraghty. Back row, 1 to r, DC3 Joseph Stalica, DC3 Matthew Piechocki, FN Daniel Schenstrom, FN Christopher Bennett, DC3 Todd Correll, FN Jonathan Gehl, DC1 Taylor Fernsten, BM2 Brian Pfeifle. Not pictured are DCC Robert Ganoë, SNBM Charles Harrington, and FN Sonny Bellinger. Front and center is Autumn, the fire station's mascot.



Photo by CPO Robert Ganoë, USCG

AMADO GONZALES NAS CORPUS CHRISTI FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES



In 1971, following service in Vietnam with the Army, I joined the fire service because it was an occupation that helped people, much the same as the lifesaving mission associated with the Coast Guard. Now, I am an Assistant Fire Chief at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas. When I started in the fire department,

we did structural and crash firefighting. We are no longer a fire “department” per se, but are now known as Fire and Emergency Services due to the fact that we respond to anything from a Haz-Mat spill to medical rescues. I am also a state-certified arson investigator and I head the Prevention Branch. My degree in education greatly helps me teach children about fire safety; we were even able to build a miniature fire truck for the children!

My greatest achievement in 30 years on this job is that, although we have had fatalities in the air training sector due to aircraft mishaps, we have not had even a single death due to fire on the structural side.

I am very proud of my work with both the fire service and with the Coast Guard. I am a PS1 assigned to MSO Corpus Christi.

DANIEL KOZAK NEW YORK FIRE DEPARTMENT (RETIRED)

Daniel Kozak is a retired member of the New York Fire Department as well as a retired Coast Guard Reserve lieutenant. His career with the fire department began in 1957 with an assignment to Engine Co. 223, NYC Fireboat Firefighter.

“The Fireboat Firefighter is 135-feet long, 25-feet wide, and draws 13 feet,” wrote Kozak. “Its speed is 13 knots, and it can pump 20,000 gallons of water a minute at 150-pounds pressure. It’s a lot of boat to handle at a fire — especially the big ones.”

During his 22-year career with the New York Fire Department, he worked at four major ship fires, and four or five major pier fires. Kozak says they did a lot of collateral work like retrieving barges adrift, pumping out sinking vessels, picking up “floaters” (bodies), and attempted suicides. The fire department’s marine division covers some 500 miles of waterfront property and Kozak obtained his masters license and pilotage for the six major bodies of water covering New York Harbor.

Kozak also served as a volunteer firefighter with the Dix Hills Fire Department for over five years. He was a rescue squad member and firemanic instructor and taught shipboard firefighting as a licensed NYC substitute teacher aboard the NYC Schoolship, *SS John W. Brown*, now in Baltimore.

DAVID SCHACHER VANCE AIR FORCE BASE, OKLA. FIRE DEPARTMENT



I work as a captain/EMT at Vance AFB in Oklahoma, and have been employed there since 1983. I am a company officer with a crew of three. At this department, we are susceptible to aircraft emergency structure fires, EMS, hazardous materials and technical rescues. The photo published here shows me (wearing a yellow helmet) during a swiftwater incident; it later turned out to be a body recovery. I also work at a fire academy as an adjunct instructor and am a supervisor on a technical rescue team for three counties in northwest Oklahoma. I’m a PS3 in the Coast Guard Reserve program.

THOMAS LALLY CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT

As a Battalion Chief on the Chicago Fire Department, I command fire and other emergency incidents throughout the town. A 21-year CFD veteran and lawyer, I have worked at police headquarters in labor relations. I have also served as training instructor, department newsletter editor, emergency preparedness and Haz-Mat assistant, line firefighter and officer. I especially enjoy imparting basic fire safety lessons to schoolchildren, as I do each October for Fire Prevention month in the classrooms of my two sons.

My current role, Relief Chief (not permanently assigned), takes me to any of the city's 24 battalions on a given shift, exposing me to an amazing variety of neighborhoods and incidents. Each shift I assume administrative responsibility for four or five fire stations, as well as response duties within their area. Tasks range from the mundane (report preparation, gathering and delivery) to the newsworthy (incident command at fire, medical and Haz-Mat emergencies); and the settings range from Loop hi-rises, to "The World's Busiest Airport" (O'Hare), from major interstate roadways to quiet residential bungalows.

I also enjoy the unique privilege of experiencing the Windy City both afloat and ashore. As a PS1 assigned to MSO Chicago, I patrol and respond to incidents on Lake Michigan and other Chicago waterways. I entered the Coast Guard Reserve in 1990 as an FS (Fire Safety Technician).



ROBERT J. GRYDER CHUGIAK, ALASKA FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT



Robert Gryder is an associate member of the Chugiak Fire and Rescue Department and an instructor with the State Fire Marshal's Training Center. His civilian job is Safety and Environmental Manager. On the Coast Guard Reserve side of things, he drills at MSO Anchorage, Alaska and is a PSC. He has served in the 7th, 11th and 17th Coast Guard Districts over the past 22 years in the Reserve.

JOHN MOSLEY TUKWILA, WASH. FIRE DEPARTMENT



I have been in the fire service for 17 years and in the Coast Guard Reserve for the past 14 years. I am currently assigned as a lieutenant with the Tukwila Fire-E52 with collateral duties as a defib and CBT-EMT in-service instructor. I am a PS1 in the Coast Guard Reserve stationed in Seattle at Pier 36 where I work for the PACAREA Armory (Seattle detachment) where I'm a small arms instructor. Semper Paratus!

RAFAEL ORTIZ LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT



Rafael Ortiz first joined the Los Angeles County Fire Department in 1983 as a firefighter and paramedic. In 1990, he was assigned to Air Operations, one of only 18 in a department of 3,300. He is a certified helicopter crew chief on the Bell 205, 412 and 1st civilian version Sikorsky S-70 "Firehawk."

Ortiz is also a member of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Urban Search & Rescue Task Force Team as a Medical Specialist. He is also part of the department's Swift Water Rescue Team. He coordinates and teaches EMT-1, Flight Physiology, Helicopter Emergency Egress over water and Night Vision Goggle Physiology.

He enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve in May 1990 as an FS2 (Fire Safety Technician) and am now a lieutenant. He currently is Assistant Regional Emergency Transportation Representative, FEMA Region IX, in PACAREA.

JAMES R. WOOD BATON ROUGE, LA. FIRE DEPARTMENT



I am 20 years old and I'm a full time firefighter in Baton Rouge, La. I also just passed my third anniversary with the Coast Guard and am a PS3 assigned to MSU Baton Rouge port operations division.

Baton Rouge is a busy fire department with thousands of calls a year including about 400 structure fires. I'm a private in the fire suppression division and I work relief so I get to see all of the city and a wide range of calls. I'm also an EMT and am called upon many times per shift to use these skills. In fact, sometimes it seems like I work for an ambulance service instead of a fire department. Since Baton Rouge has a lot of chemical and petroleum plants, I get to deal with hazmat incidents.

In addition, I work part time as a contract firefighter in West Feliciana, a parish north of Baton Rouge. I attend Louisiana State University where I'm studying for a fire science and business degree.

My great-grandfather was a fireman in Providence, R.I. in the first half of 20th century. It is a profession that I love and hope it continues in my family for generations to come.

JAMES RICHARDSON CINCINNATI FIRE DEPARTMENT



I have been employed by the Cincinnati Fire Department for 25 years, and have been a lieutenant for 12 of those years. The Engine company where I am stationed is located on the northwest side of Cincinnati. Interstate 75 runs through this area so we see our share of high speed accidents. Engine 20 averages 2,800 runs yearly, involving EMS, car accidents, and all types of

fires. We also conduct building inspections, have training sessions and educate the community regarding fire safety.

I am currently a BMC. I enlisted in the CGR in 1973 and have been stationed at MSD Cincinnati for all but two years while attending college. I've been married for 20 years and my wife and I have been blessed with two girls and a boy.

RICHARD D. SCHAFFER DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FIRE DEPARTMENT

Greetings from the nation's capital to all my fellow Coasties! For the past decade, I have served as a firefighter/EMT for the D.C. Fire Department, home of Engine number 10, ranked the busiest in the world! While I have had the honor of working there several times, my regular duty is on one of three fireboats that are moored just around the corner from Coast Guard Headquarters. We handle as many as 700 cases a year, including SAR, fire, medical emergencies, aircraft distress, towing, ice breaking and environmental hazard control.

The D.C. Police Harbor Patrol, who we share a pier with, is three times as busy with LE. Sometimes they are understaffed and ask us to "back them up." In all these instances, my Coast Guard training really pays off. Unfortunately, despite all the maritime activity, there is no Coast Guard station here, nor are there Coast Guard radio watchstanders. I believe the boating public would benefit greatly from a small boat station in Washington. I witnessed the plane explode at the Pentagon on Sept. 11 from the fireboat pier so I really believe we need a small boat station here now.

Nevertheless, I helped support operations with the Station St. Inigoes, Md. 41-footer following Sept. 11 on the Potomac River (I perform my drills at Station St. Inigoes, Md. and I'm a BM3). I also work as a Washington city tour guide and historic preservationist. And yes, I'm also celebrating my first year as a cancer survivor!

Ed's note: The DCFD awarded Schaffer the Silver Medal for Valor in 1999 for a daring rescue from a smoky high rise apartment in spring 1998. Schaffer was featured in the March 1999 Reservist as "Citizen-Sailor of the Month," online at www.uscg.mil/reserve.



BM3 Richard D. Schaffer shown at right with a fellow firefighter from the D.C. Fire Department.

MICHAEL MOON ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY, GA. FIRE DEPARTMENT



Ironically, it was my introduction to firefighting in the Coast Guard that led me to my current profession. I am employed with the Athens-Clarke County Fire Department in Athens, Ga. — home of the University of Georgia. My job is so much more than the rare burning building. It includes rescue and extrication, which is using the "Jaws of Life" for automobile accidents. We handle HazMat incidents, along with some medical calls. One of the aspects I enjoy the most is the frequent training available at our new training center.

Fortunately, we endure many more false alarms than actual emergencies, but what people don't realize is that we are always ready 100 percent of the time — Semper Paratus! Teamwork is essential in building a finely tuned crew, and I don't believe that I could work with a better group of guys. There has never been a conflict for taking a day off to drill with the Coast Guard Reserve — I am currently a BM3 at ANT Georgetown, S.C. I'm always so happy to go to work; I can't believe I get paid to do this!

I am also a battalion chief/training officer at my local volunteer fire department and a first responder for the rural county where I live. I have also given presentations at my son's daycare and at the high school where my wife works. It is a great pleasure talking to a group of high school seniors about career choices in firefighting and the military.

I am blessed to have two careers that I enjoy so much. Not many people can say that about one.

GRADY B. SILLINGS SUNNY POINT, N.C. FIRE DEPARTMENT

When the Sunny Point Fire Department responded to a head-on collision on North Carolina's Highway 133 in early March 1996, it was a photo of BMC Grady B. Sillings' that made the front page of the *Wilmington, N.C. Star News*. Sillings is shown comforting a seven-year-old girl following the accident.



Photo courtesy Wilmington, N.C. Star News

"I see this picture of BMC Sillings and notice how he holds young Sabrina, comforting her through her pain and trauma," wrote fellow reservist LCDR Frank Roberts who drilled with Sillings when XO of RU Oak Island. "This is a quality that comes from a loving father. At the same time, I see him alert to his surroundings keeping aware of the situation at hand. This is typical of how he excelled at our unit — always ready, always prepared!"

Sillings remembers that accident well. In fact, to calm Sabrina down, he told her about his police dog that he uses at the Southport Police Department where he's also an auxiliary officer. After she recovered, Sillings and the dog visited her school.

Sillings, who's been with SPFD since 1987, is a professional in every aspect of his civilian job. He served 10 years on active duty and 22 years total active and reserve time.

CARMEN L. WULF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLA. VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

I have been a member of the Green Cove Springs, Fla. volunteer Fire Department for just over two years. I am a first responder and recently completed a course in Hazardous Material and Aerial Apparatus (Ladder Truck)



Training. We are on call 24-7. Being a local business owner gives me the opportunity to respond to calls during business hours as well as all hours of the night. Our calls consist of illegal burns, alarms indicating fire, vehicle accidents, and fire calls. We assist the Clay County Rescue Department with calls as well. I am also involved in setting up awareness booths and performing demonstrations with our "Jaws for Life" and other rescue equipment at local functions, such as the Clay Fair, Earth Day and Train Festival. Being a fire department volunteer is a very rewarding job and I am very proud to serve. I'm also proud to serve as an SK3 with HDCU 206 at NAS Jacksonville, Fla.

CHUCK PHILLIPS LIVERMORE PLEASANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

I am a Fire Captain for the Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department in California. I began my career as a firefighter for the City of Livermore over 21 years ago, and have been a fire captain for over 12 years. This year my fire department will handle around 9,000 emergencies including medicals, fires, hazardous materials, and public service calls.

While assigned to the Marine Safety Detachment in Concord, Calif., I was called to active duty during the *Desert Storm/Desert Shield*. Seven members of the MSD called to active duty were firefighters: MSTC Mike Edwards, Alameda Fire Department; PSC Mike Holmes, Santa Clara Fire Department; PSC Scott Kendrick, Contra Costa Consolidated Fire District; PS1 Dave Miller, Contra

Costa Consolidated Fire District; MSTC Judson Reeves, Folsom Fire Department; and PSC Ted Catalan, Stockton Fire Department.

Because of my Coast Guard Reserve career (I'm now an MSTCM), the Coast Guard sent me to the Hazardous Chemical School in Yorktown in 1985. Upon returning, I began preaching hazardous materials, so the Fire Chief told me I was now "the Haz-Mat Team." I am also a State of California certified hazardous materials instructor and teach my fire department and also the police and public works departments for our two cities. At the present time I am assigned to the planning department at MSO San Francisco Bay and also participate in the Sea Partners program.



HARLAN S. WILKIE PORTLAND, ORE. FIRE BUREAU

Portland Fire Bureau has 27 stations and nearly 700 firefighters to cover 150 square miles and protect over 500,000 citizens. The Bureau ran in excess of 55,000 calls in 2000. In February 2001, I was lucky enough to be hired on as a sworn Portland firefighter.

The entire first year, including training, is considered probationary. The first part of training is a four-month academy, consisting of class work, drills on hose evolutions, driving fire apparatus, pumping hydraulics, ladders, fire-fighting and, of course, plenty of tests and evaluations. The next six months

are spent at the training station learning front line procedures for the engine and truck crews. We work one day on and two days off at the station, rotating every shift (including who will be cooking the meals for that day...what a learning experience).

Overall, the training was excellent, including five "burn to learns" at the academy. Since starting training at station #2, I have been to four live house fires, a few traffic accidents, countless medical runs and a lot of miscellaneous calls. I really look forward to going to work — what an awesome career!

I graduated from firefighter training on Nov. 20, 2001 and will now rotate between two fire stations here in Portland. When I'm not working as a firefighter, I'm BM3 Wilkie and wearing a different blue uniform at Station Cape Disappointment, Wash.

MARIO J. TOMELLINI EAST PROVIDENCE, R.I. FIRE DEPARTMENT



After being a reservist assigned to Station Point Judith, R.I. for 15 years, I was convinced to leave the white collar world to pursue a career in the fire service. I enjoy the parallels between the small boat station and the fire station, including public service, camaraderie, and the variable work schedule. My careers in the fire service and the Coast Guard have meshed nicely since I started working in the marine firefighting training program.

At Marine Safety Field Office Cape Cod, my mission is to make the local fire departments aware of the specialized dangers to their personnel who respond to vessel fires and to other marine incidents. To me, it's all about

firefighter safety. The program is intended to prevent deaths and injuries among firefighters while still accomplishing the mission for which we are trained.

Given the complexity and relative infrequency of shipfires, it is extremely difficult for a local fire department to maintain a safe, effective response. As a reservist and a firefighter on a foam engine in a city with liquid bulk fuel transfer facilities, I am well aware of the need for specialized training in marine firefighting.

Following Sept. 11, I was involuntarily activated for the first time in 23 years and assigned to the CG Police Department at Activities New York for 42 days. I am a PSC assigned to MSO Providence.

MICHAEL MILKOVICH WESTLAKE, OHIO FIRE DEPARTMENT

I had the privilege of serving the great city of Westlake, Ohio as a firefighter and paramedic for many years. I thoroughly enjoyed serving and am now retired. The job, although dangerous at times, was especially gratifying as you usually received instant recognition for your services even if it was just a simple thank you after delivering someone to a local hospital's emergency room.

Our local safety forces, as first responders, will play a significant part in the war on terrorism, as we've seen recently. Anti-terrorism and force protection measures are a primary mission area in which all services are focusing their efforts....

Ed's note: CDR Milkovich is Commanding Officer of PSU 309. The above article is an excerpt from a letter written by him and published in his local newspaper on March 3, 2001.

SCOTT SMITH LAKESIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, EAST COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIF.



I'm a fire engineer here in the San Diego area. Our district covers approximately 50 square miles of suburban and rural communities with a large wildland interface. The department has four fire stations staffed with career firefighters. Three Paramedic

Assessment Engines, two Advanced Life Support Ambulances, one Paramedic Assessment Tele-squad, and a Rescue truck are staffed daily. We also cross-staff two wildland brush trucks and a water tender as needed.

As a Coast Guard Reservist, I'm a DC1 assigned to port ops at MSO San Diego. I am part of a special Marine Firefighting Team comprised of career fire service personnel from fire service agencies. We support the Captain of the Port by developing emergency incident contingency plans, acting as a liaison between the COTP and local emergency services agencies, and instructing local CG personnel on the Incident Command System. We also support port ops by standing the Marine Safety Duty Officer watch on weekends, allowing our active duty counterparts time off to spend with their families and friends.

JENNY STUBBLEFIELD CITY OF ROLLA, MO. FIRE & RESCUE



Jennifer Jill Stubblefield is a full-time firefighter/emergency medical technician at Rolla, Mo., and a seaman at the MSO in St. Louis. She is the first and only female firefighter at the City of Rolla Fire & Rescue and has found her job even more challenging breaking the gender barrier.

"The physical tasks can be intense, at times requiring me to believe in myself," said Stubblefield. "I know from my Coast Guard experience that I can do anything; I just have to want to do it. I try to keep in mind everyday whether I am training or at a real incident. I know I can do anything as long as I push myself to do my best."

Stubblefield is the junior firefighter on her crew of four at station #1

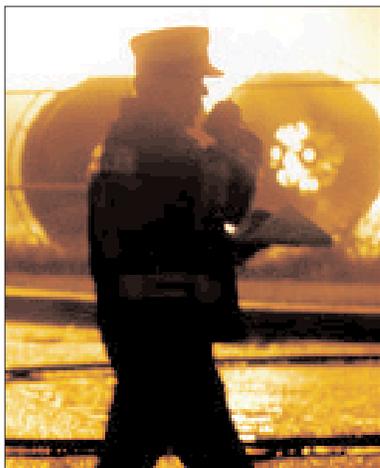
"My crew, Senior Firefighter Scott Proffit, Engineer Jeff Breen and Captain Carl Warnol, has been real supportive," she said. "They push me beyond my own expectations."

A.H. SURTASKY YORK, PA. HISTORIC TRAINING PHOTO

The photo shown here was taken at the DC Fighters school at the now closed Philadelphia Navy Yard in the late 1960s or early 1970s. The motto was "Learn or Burn." The Navy still has schools like this but they control the environment. It was a learning experience that you never forget. Active duty and reservists in the Coast Guard trained there.



WILLIAM J. VAHEY CITY OF ERIE BUREAU OF FIRE



The Coast Guard helped prepare me for my duties in the fire service and the fire service helped prepare me for my duties in the Coast Guard. This was especially true while serving as Command Enlisted Advisor with PSU 301 in 1990-91 during the Persian Gulf War. Both organization are termed the lifesavers and both are filled with

history. In the fire service, I've used the famous Coast Guard motto, "you have to go out, but you don't have to come back" many times. Without the help of the Coast Guard, I never would have advanced in the fire service. By help I mean the many wonderful schools, correspondence courses, ADT and the many wonderful people you meet throughout the Coast Guard.

I have loved my connection with the military — 34 years — and now I will be retiring from the fire department with 34 years of service too. In the fire service, I moved up to the position of Deputy Chief of the Erie Fire Department. So please sign me Deputy Chief and Master Chief Petty Officer, USCGR(Retired)...and proud of it!

KEVIN P. STEWART EASTCHESTER, N.Y. FIRE DEPARTMENT

When I got off active duty after 10 years in the Coast Guard, I chose what I consider the "family business." I became a firefighter with the Eastchester Fire Department, just north of New York City. My grandfathers were members many years ago, my father retired after 38 years, my older brother is on the job with 21 years service, and my other brother has 11 years service. My brother-in-law works for a neighboring FD as well.

I am in my first year with the FD, and I am considered a relief man. I go to any one of our five firehouses on any given tour. The reason for so much diversity is because we are a small department of about 68 men. We also have volunteers.

The FD has been a great match for me and my part time CG career in the Reserve (I am a lieutenant and serve at Group/MSO Long Island Sound in the planning department). There are many similarities between the USCG and FD, and a lot of my training can translate into either job. This is something that I have stressed with the department, and has been received extremely well. Their receptiveness is even more impressive since I am the only reservist on the job, and the only one in a good number of years. I would like to thank them for their understanding, and flexibility, and their role in realizing the importance of the Reserve component to our nation.

ROBERT T. MORTON BRIDGEPORT, CONN. FIRE DEPARTMENT

I started with the Bridgeport Fire Department in September 1977, and have been assigned to our Engine, Ladder and Rescue Company. I have advanced through the ranks and now hold the rank of lieutenant. Our department has about 350 members, and I am assigned to Engine #10 on the city's east side. Bridgeport is the state's largest city with a population of 140,000. Over the years, I have been able to coordinate training with our training division and the Coast Guard as Bridgeport is a port city and in the Area of Operations of Coast Guard MSO Long Island Sound. I am an MST1 in the Reserve program (member since 1982), and I like being part of the unit and the fact that the Coast Guard uses us often. In May 1999, I was selected as the Honor Person of the Year for Connecticut's Annual Armed Forces Week Celebration.

In addition to fire suppression, we work with the police department on their DARE program and take the mes-

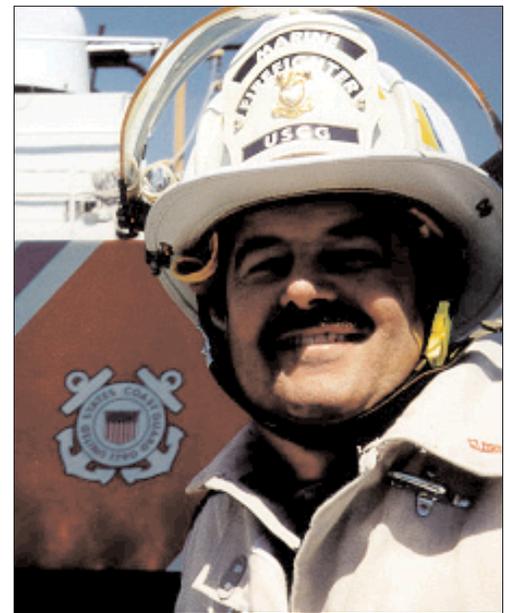


Robert Morton, center, conducts training with recruit firefighters, J. Petrusaitis, left, and L. Santiago, right.

sage of smoke detectors to the public. I cannot tell you how many smoke detectors are installed with a battery that is worn out. Remember, when you change the clocks for daylight savings time (fall back in fall, spring forward in spring), change the battery in your smoke detector!

J.R. STAFFORD DISASTER PREPAREDNESS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINER

J.R. Stafford retired in July 2000 with over 30 years in the fire service. His career began in 1968 as a Dispatcher with the Stanford University Fire Department (and later firefighter). In 1974, he transferred to the Santa Clara County Fire Marshal's office where he worked as a fire Investigator and Deputy Fire Marshal. He later served as a Deputy Fire Marshal with the City of Santa Clara Fire Department and then as Deputy Fire Marshal and Office of Emergency Services (OES) Chief with the City of Mountain View, Calif. He now works in the private sector as a Disaster Preparedness Emergency Management Trainer and is a nationally Certified Emergency Manager (CEM). Stafford worked with the Coast Guard Reserve as a marine firefighter from 1982 until 1998 at MSO San Francisco. He is currently the Reserve Command Master Chief for the 11th Coast Guard District.



DREW JAEGER & CHRIS SEKERKA OSHKOSH, WIS. FIRE DEPARTMENT



Jaeger, left, and Sekerka at the Oshkosh Air Show.

Both of us served on active duty together at MSO Puget Sound from 1992-95. Jaeger transferred to the Atlantic Strike Team and I opted to leave active duty to finish my firefighting degree and pursue a firefighting career. I returned to my home in Wisconsin and eventually was hired by the Oshkosh Fire Department.

Jaeger eventually decided to leave active duty and pursue a firefighting career as well. On his return trip home to California in the fall of 1998, he visited me and liked what he saw as a career here. He attended the California Fire Academy and then accepted a job here in Oshkosh.

The last thing I ever would have imagined was working with Jaeger here in Oshkosh. He was able to secure a Reserve billet with MSD Sturgeon Bay (he's an MSTC). I currently drill with Station Sturgeon Bay, Wis., and the MSD (I'm an MK1).

Oshkosh Fire Department is a progressive department providing fire, paramedic, airport CFR, technical rescue, dive rescue and a state regional hazardous material response team. Oshkosh is also home to an annual air show at Whitman Field each summer. The Coast Guard provides a safety zone for the waterside activities and Air Station Traverse City provides a helo as well.

ROBERT SOLIS CITY OF PHILADELPHIA FIRE DEPARTMENT



I have been a City of Philadelphia firefighter for 14 years. I work in the city's "old" Frankfort section at Engine 14, Ladder 15 station. My duties include driving the fire engine, working on the back step, as well as being a certified Emergency Medical Technician. I love going to work because just when you say, "I have seen it all," you find yourself in a situation that that you have never encountered. In fact, one time I saw a guy jump off a two-story building, land on and crush the roof of an automobile. He still had enough energy to fight off five police officers until he was subdued. The best part of this story was that the guy did not have a scratch on him.

I have been a CG Reservist for over 17 years and I served four years on active duty. My last tour of duty on active duty was on the CGC *Taney* (WHEC 37), now moored in Baltimore's Inner Harbor and a Pearl Harbor survivor. I am currently a DCC stationed at the Atlantic Strike Team in Ft. Dix, N.J.

JOHN CUOGHI CITY OF COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VA. FIRE DEPARTMENT



John Cuoghi began his career in the fire service as a volunteer in Chesterfield County, Va., working his way up to Captain. Then he started all over again as a professional firefighter-EMT with the City of Colonial Heights, Va. Cuoghi's career has spanned a variety of typical and atypical service calls including fire protection and suppression, providing emergency medical services and rescuing the proverbial cat in the tree, to organizing department picnics, fire prevention week events, and visiting local schools to teach children fire safety.

Cuoghi is certified as an Automotive Technician and Fire Instructor II, and has used these complementary skills to teach vehicle extrication in addition to standard fire fighting skills. Cuoghi came into the Coast Guard Reserve through the Direct Petty Officer Program. He is a MK3 assigned to Group Engineering at Group Hampton Roads, Portsmouth, Va.

MEMORIAL TO FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS



The National Fallen Firefighters' Memorial on the campus of the National Fire Academy at Emmitsburg, Md. honors all those who have fallen while serving as firefighters. It was built in 1981 and President Bush spoke here Oct. 7, 2001 at the 20th annual firefighters service. For more information on the National Fire Academy, see www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/

ROBERT REAM EQUISTAR CHEMICALS EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Robert Ream is an environmental engineer with Equistar Chemicals, LP, serving as a firefighter and Haz-Mat responder on the Emergency Response Team for the La Porte, Texas complex. Ream is qualified as an Incident Commander and serves with two other ICs for his company's facility.

In addition to his responsibilities at

Equistar, he is a member of the Channel Industries Mutual Aid (CIMA) Industrial Hygiene Safety Team. Ream responds to alarms all along the Houston Ship Channel, where his responsibilities include exposure monitoring to protect other firefighters and emergency responders during fires, haz-mat releases and other transportation related incidents, including ship fires. Ream also serves on the Houston/Galveston Area Marine Firefighting Committee where he represents the interests of the Coast Guard.

Ream is a lieutenant in the Coast Guard Reserve assigned to the Compliance Department of MSO Houston/Galveston, Texas. He has previously served at MSO Port Arthur and MSD Lake Charles.

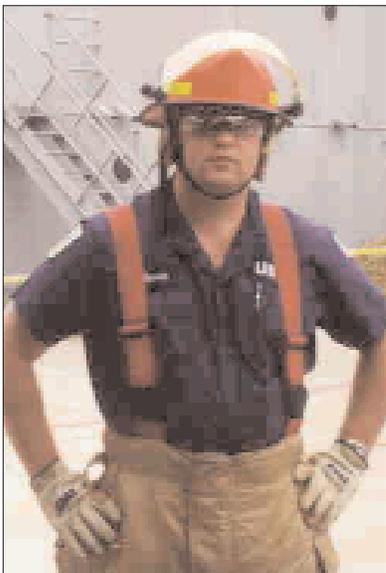




Photo courtesy of TC3 Rob Holden, USCGR

PSU 309 members and firefighters, left to right, PS1 Mike Corfman, Texas Township, Mich. FD; MKC Jerry Saunders, Toledo, Ohio FD; DC3 Wilton S. Terry II, St. Joseph, Mich. FD; PS3 Mike Fink,

Cleveland FD; and MK3 Charlie Eisenhart, Perry Township FD, Ohio. The reservists were deployed to Manama, Bahrain in March 2001, part of Operation Southern Watch.

PSU FIREFIGHTERS

Many members of CGR port security units are also firefighters. Here are some of them that were deployed earlier in 2001 to the Middle East:

- **TC1 Paul Hughes** is a member of the Villa Park Fire Department in Illinois. The VPFD serves a population of 23,000 and is located 18 miles west of Chicago. Hughes has been working as a firefighter/EMT for six years and nearly three years with the Orchard Park Fire District while on active duty at Group Buffalo, N.Y. Hughes says his chief fully understands his commitment to the Coast Guard as his son is an FN on *CGC Polar Sea*.

- **PS2 Chuck Yeargin**, a member of PSU 307's MARSEC Division, is a 17-year veteran of the Glynn County Fire Department in Brunswick, Ga. He holds the rank of captain, and is currently the station commander of Glynn County's Fire Station 4. Yeargin is also a Georgia certified paramedic, and is a recipient of the department's EMS Medal of Valor. Yeargin joined the USCGR in August 1997, and was originally assigned to MSO Jacksonville, Fla.

- **PS3 Sean Vanatter** is also a member of PSU 307's MARSEC Division, and has worked for the Hillsborough County Fire Rescue Department in Tampa, Fla. for seven years. Vanatter is assigned to Hillsborough County Station 14, which quarters two Engine Companies, one Ladder Company, one Rescue Company, and one Battalion Chief, and answers an average of 6,600 emergency calls a year.



Photo courtesy of TC3 Rob Holden, USCGR

PSU members and firefighters, left to right: TC1 Paul Hughes, PS3 Sean Vanatter, and PS2 Chuck Yeargin. The photo was taken at the Bahrain Fire Department near the Mina Sulman Port.

Astonishing Sea Stories

Art and story by P.A.S. Ron Spellman
Color by P.A.I. Dave Frenchy
Coast Guard Academy

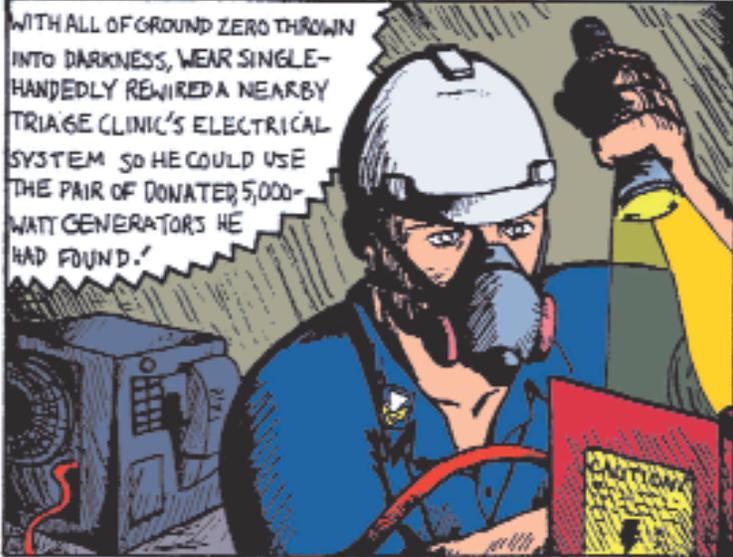
SEPT. 11, 2001 • TERRORIST ATTACKS IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, D.C. STUN THE NATION. TWO JET AIRLINERS CRASH INTO THE WORLD TRADE CENTER, REDUCING CITY BLOCKS TO RUBBLE!



THOUSANDS OF VOLUNTEERS CONVERGE ON THE CITY TO AID THE WEARY RESCUE WORKERS ALREADY AT THE SCENE. AMONG THEM IS AVT1 ED WEAR, WHO IS CURRENTLY ON LEAVE FROM ELIZABETH CITY, N.C.



WITH ALL OF GROUND ZERO THROWN INTO DARKNESS, WEAR SINGLE-HANDEDLY REWIRED A NEARBY TRIAGE CLINIC'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM SO HE COULD USE THE PAIR OF DONATED 5,000-WATT GENERATORS HE HAD FOUND.



THE MAKESHIFT CLINIC, SET UP IN A DELL, WAS THE ONLY BUILDING AT GROUND ZERO WITH POWER. THANKS TO WEAR, THE CLINIC'S VOLUNTEER STAFF COULD MORE EASILY TREAT THE INJURED RESCUE WORKERS WHO CAME TO THEM FOR HELP.



THEY'VE ONLY FOUND SIX SURVIVORS SO FAR, AND THAT WAS BEFORE I EVEN GOT HERE. GOD, I WISH THEY'D FIND JUST ONE MORE!

BUT, SADLY, NO OTHER SURVIVORS EVER EMERGED FROM THE RUBBLE.

WEAR, ONE OF THOUSANDS OF COAST GUARDMEN AND WOMEN IN NEW YORK, DID NOT FEEL LIKE A HERO. HOWEVER, EVERY TIME HE AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS PASSED THE LINES OF NEW YORKERS WAITING TO RETURN HOME FOR THEIR PETS AND POSSESSIONS...



...THEY WERE APPLAUDED. THEIR HARD WORK AND STRUGGLE HAD NOT GONE UNNOTICED, AND, PERHAPS, WAS IN SOME WAY REWARDED.

USCG Reservist Skills Inventory and IRR Contact Information Update

Reservist Skills Inventory

As the events of Sept. 11 have so dramatically reminded us, we often have urgent needs for additional resources in many diverse situations. Often these skills have been obtained in your **civilian occupation**, not from your military training, and are not adequately captured in current Coast Guard Human Resource systems. Some examples of types of skills needed could include:

- Carpenters/construction skills in response for hurricane relief efforts,
- Training/teaching experience to provide surge support for CG training efforts, or
- Civilian Law Enforcement experience (State Police, Sheriff's Dept, City Police, etc).

To make locating these critical skills more manageable, please take the time to complete the Reservist Skills Inventory **no later than Feb. 1, 2002**.

IRR Update of Contact Information

As 10 USC 10205 states, if you are still in the Coast Guard Ready Reserve (Selected Reserve or Individual Ready Reserve), it is **your** legal

responsibility to keep the USCG informed of your current contact information. Selected Reserve members should update records through their units/PERSRUs. On the following page, IRR members can fill in the appropriate contact information so we can ensure your contact information is updated.

Instructions

Selected Reserve Members (Drilling Reservists) — Use a standard workstation at your drill site or your home/business computer to complete this form online (www.uscg.mil/hq/reserve/skills). Only complete the Skills Inventory portion. **DO NOT submit contact information** updates via this form; make updates via your normal chain of command/PERSRUs.

IRR Members — If at all possible, use the online form (www.uscg.mil/hq/reserve.skills), as this greatly reduces the administrative burden of manually entering this information. If you are unable to use the computer, complete the form on the following page. After completing the form, remove, fold and tape it, and send it to the address listed.

FOLD ALONG THIS LINE

U.S. Department of Transportation

United States Coast Guard

2100 2nd St. S.W.
Washington, DC 20593-0001

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300



NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES



POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

**COMMANDANT (G-WTR-1)
ATTN: RESERVIST SKILLS INVENTORY
U.S. COAST GUARD HEADQUARTERS
2100 SECOND STREET, S.W., Rm. 5100
WASHINGTON, DC 20593-0001**



FOLD ALONG THIS LINE

PLACE TAPE HERE

CUT ALONG THIS LINE

CUT ALONG THIS LINE

USCG Reservist Skills Inventory

Contact Information

Last 4 of SSN		Place/State		Date (MM/DD/YY)		Last Name	
				USC/Other			
1 (204) 470-04				707-470-04			
Mailing Name (Full Name)		Home Mailing Address					
Home/Work							
Social Security Number							
Current Address							
Address and ZIP code							
USC			0990		001		

Skills Inventory

In the space below, please indicate your skill descriptions for your current USCG/Other position. Also indicate the % of your personal level skill you feel might prove valuable in the Fleet Command. There are no military designations as such, but a military designation is a military designation. These skills will be entered into the system as % of skill. Current level. The words "level" and "level" are from the USCG/Other position, but they are not meant to be taken with them. If possible, complete this information via the online form (www.uscg.mil/sg/reservist/skills).

Current Position

General Description (Including USCG/Other, Position, etc.)	Date Reported

Other Position Skills You Have Previously Acquired

General Description	Date Reported

Please select any of the following specific critical skills that you possess regardless of obtaining the skill through civilian or military experience:

<input type="checkbox"/> World Language (Cognate) <input type="checkbox"/> Aviation Pt. Cert <input type="checkbox"/> Ball Participation <input type="checkbox"/> Licensed/Operator in boat below <input type="checkbox"/> Licensed/Operator in boat/Operator <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> (Concrete, Plaster, etc) <input type="checkbox"/> (Formly trained) <input type="checkbox"/> College/Outsider Training <input type="checkbox"/> PFT/Equivalent <input type="checkbox"/> Specialty certification in boat/boat <input type="checkbox"/> Police/Boating/Boating <input type="checkbox"/> I (USCG/Other)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Fighting/Rescue Crew <input type="checkbox"/> Specialty certification in boat below <input type="checkbox"/> PFT/Equivalent <input type="checkbox"/> Boat/Operator in boat below <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Language (Navy language) <input type="checkbox"/> and level in boat below <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Material <input type="checkbox"/> (Formly certification in boat below) <input type="checkbox"/> I (USCG/Other) certification <input type="checkbox"/> (Formly type in boat below) <input type="checkbox"/> Instructor/Instructor <input type="checkbox"/> Education/Technology Specialist <input type="checkbox"/> Instructor/Training/Training	<input type="checkbox"/> First Aid/Rescue <input type="checkbox"/> Specialty certification in boat/boat <input type="checkbox"/> Legal (Language/Boating) <input type="checkbox"/> Motor/Operator (Boat below) <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Officer <input type="checkbox"/> (Formly in motor, engine <input type="checkbox"/> Detail) <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Specialty/Boating <input type="checkbox"/> Motor/Operator/Operator <input type="checkbox"/> Boating <input type="checkbox"/> Boat/Operator/Operator <input type="checkbox"/> Small Boat/Boating <input type="checkbox"/> Other/Operator/Boating <input type="checkbox"/> (Boat below)
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Comments:

JOINT RATINGS REVIEW

Major changes to the enlisted workforce have recently been announced — a “Joint Ratings Review” has been completed, and now its recommendations will be implemented.

These changes began in late 1996 when the need to review the work of the enlisted workforce was identified by the Rating Force Master Chiefs. Work was overlapping, and training was incomplete, while billets and workload were not properly distributed. Radical changes were predicted in future work requirements, and there were challenges in keeping some ratings at full strength and trained. The Coast Guard needed to realign its workforce around the skills required for each of these new ratings, in order to take advantage of new technologies to help prepare the Coast Guard for the future.

Five ratings — Fire Control Technician (FT), Quartermaster (QM), Radarman (RD), Telephone Technician (TT) and Telecommunications Specialist (TC) — are being merged into other ratings. Two new ratings, Operations System Specialist (OS) and Information System Technician (IT), are being created.

FTs and Electronic Technicians (ETs) will merge into a revised ET rating. QMs and Boatswain’s Mates (BMs) will merge into a revised BM rating. RDs and three-quarters of the TC rating will form the new OS rating, along with some BMs and QMs who have operations center experience. The new IT rating will be created from TTs, the remaining quarter of the TCs, and some people from other ratings who have obtained information resources management qualifications. Here is an overview of the new BM, OS, IT and ET ratings:

BM RATING: The BM rating will grow when merged with the QM rating. A redesigned BM “A” school will be established at TRACEN Yorktown, Va. by the summer of 2002. At least one new “C” school (Bridgwatch) is planned for members of the BM rating. BMs will become skilled in leadership, navigation, seamanship and boat handling. The billets where they will be assigned are on cutters, at small boat stations, at aids to navigation units, and in law enforcement detachments. Some of the BM billets currently at MSOs will eventually become MST billets.

OS RATING: The OS rating will be the tactical and intelligence experts for the service. Operations center duty will be included among OS rating responsibilities. OSs will operate command, control and communication systems afloat, ashore, and in the air. A new OS “A” school will be established at TRACEN Petaluma, Calif., and class “C” schools will be located in various other locations. Initial preparation will be focused on the telecommunications principles that are now core to the TCs of the Coast Guard. As they progress in rate, OSs will acquire the skills and knowledge required of our SAR and LE controllers. They will also be our experts in the command and control software systems in use today and planned for tomorrow.

IT RATING: The IT rating will be responsible for the implementation and maintenance of the Coast Guard’s IT infrastructure used to collect, store, and forward all voice, data and video information used in the execution of the Coast Guard’s missions and duties. ITs will maintain Standard Workstation III systems, computer networks at sea and ashore, the C4I system, propulsion control systems and perform telephony duties previously assumed by TTs. A new IT school will be established at TRACEN Petaluma.

Rating	IT	OS	ET	BM	Other
BM	Submit package for consideration in 2nd selection panel.	Submit package for consideration in selection panel.	✓	No action required	✓
QM	Submit package for consideration in 2nd selection panel.	Submit package for consideration in selection panel.	✓	No action required	✓
RD	Submit package for consideration in 2nd selection panel.	No action required	✓	✓	✓
ET	Submit package for consideration in 2nd selection panel.	Submit package for consideration in selection panel.	No action required	✓	✓
FT	Submit package for consideration in 2nd selection panel.	Submit package for consideration in selection panel.	No action required	✓	✓
TC	Submit package for consideration in initial selection panel.	No action required	✓	✓	✓
TT	No action required	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other	Submit package for consideration in 2nd selection panel.	✓	✓	✓	✓

✓ Within the Joint Rating Review does not create a new path for the rating change, members who so desire may use the standard lateral process

ET RATING: The ET rating will grow when it is merged with the FT rating. The ET core curriculum will be taught at TRACEN Petaluma, and a number of class “C” schools will be offered in various other locations. ETs will maintain and service electronics systems associated with communications, engineering, main propulsion control, integrated systems control, and fire control.

The FT, RD and TT transitions will be automatic — FTs will become ETs, RDs will become OSs, and TTs will become ITs. Members in the remaining ratings who choose not to apply for a different rating will automatically be transitioned into these default ratings: QMs will become BMs, TCs will become OSs, and BMs and ETs will remain unchanged.

For those desiring to move into a non-default rating, review boards for the OS and IT ratings will convene in June/July 2002 to determine if they are eligible. The OS rating board will only consider applicants from certain ratings affected by the Joint Ratings Review; the IT rating board will consider applicants from all enlisted ratings (see chart). **Application packages must be completed and forwarded via the member’s chain of command to arrive at CGPC-rpm by April 2002. All reservists in affected ratings will be mailed information packets that will provide details concerning the application process by late 2001.**

Formal training for the new rating changes will begin in summer 2002. For reservists needing training for their new ratings in addition to IDT and ADT-AT, more days may be requested for class “C” schools or on-the-job training in the form of ADT-OTD. All rating changes are scheduled for completion by the summer of 2003. Draft enlisted performance qualifications for the new ratings can be found on the Web site listed at the end of this article.

Since the old qualification code system was also inaccurate and out of date, new qualification codes were developed for the affected ratings; the three aviation ratings were also included in the review process because their qual codes needed minor revisions. The new qual codes are now called competencies in the new Coast Guard Human Resources Management System. If a person’s old qual code matched one of the new competencies, it will be automatically converted. Qualifications that are outdated will not be used in the new competency system, but will remain part of the member’s service record.

The Joint Ratings Review Web site offers a detailed look at the entire process at www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/jrr/

IN BRIEF

• **ARMED SERVICES YMCA ART & ESSAY CONTESTS** — Two contests are open to children of DoD and Coast Guard members. **Art Contest 2002** seeks artwork from children in kindergarten through sixth grade depicting their active duty, Reserve or Guard families. Top prizes are \$500 U.S. Savings Bonds and the winners' artwork is printed on posters for next year's Military Family Week. Deadline is Jan. 28, 2002. The **Essay Contest** is open to first through 12th graders, with prizes up to \$1,000 bonds. Children and teens of the uniformed services (active duty, Reserve, Guard and retired), and civilian (DoD, USCG and American Mission) families may enter. Essays should be on any subject related to reading. Deadline for entry is March 18, 2002. Full guidelines are available on the Armed Services YMCA Web site at: www.asymca.org; E-mail: essaycontest@asymca.org; Phone: 703-866-1260.

• **CLOTH MARINE SAFETY PINS** — The new Marine Safety Proficiency Pin is available in an embroidered version for the work uniform, coveralls and Camouflage Utility Uniforms. The cost is \$5 each. Contact P.A.M. (Patches and Monograms), 227 Waterwood Way, Suffolk, VA 23434; Phone: 757-925-4447; E-mail: nametapes@earthlink.net; Web: www.patchesandmonograms.com. *This is not a USCG endorsement of this product but is provided as a service to our readers.*

• **COAST GUARD BAND CONCERTS** — The USCG Band concert schedule has been altered due to the current national emergency. Please check the Band's Web site and hotline number before making plans to attend any events. Web site: www.cga.edu/band/default.html; Phone: 860-701-6826.

• **EMPLOYER DATA COLLECTION** — The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (Manpower & Personnel) has opened a new Web site for collecting employer data. Initially, the site will provide a means for a Reserve component member mobilized in response to the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks to **voluntarily** supply information about his/her employer. This information will be used primarily by the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) to better target information on DOD policy, programs and mobilization at employers whom it knows employ mobilized Guard and Reserve members. The Web address is: www.dmdc.osd.mil/udpdri/owa/RC.Home. ESGR's toll-free number is 1-800-336-4590.

• **FAMILY SGLI COVERAGE** — Effective Nov. 1, 2001, the spouse and children of any Reserve or Active Duty member who has SGLI coverage will **automatically** be included in the SGLI program. This came about with passage of the Veterans' Survival Benefits Improvement Act

of 2001 (PL 107-14). Children will be covered for \$10,000 and spouses for up to \$100,000. Children's coverage is free to the member and as a result cannot be canceled by the member. Spouse coverage is not free and can be canceled by the member. Also, the amount of spouse coverage cannot exceed the amount selected for the member. Monthly rates are based on your spouse's birth date as follows:

<u>Spouse's Age</u>	<u>Monthly Cost for \$100,000 Coverage</u>
Under 35	\$9.00
35-44	\$13.00
45-49	\$20.00
50-54	\$32.00
55 & older	\$55.00

The Coast Guard member will pay their first premium in November when the coverage goes into effect. **Members who do not want SGLI coverage for their spouse and want to avoid paying any premium may immediately cancel the coverage by completing form SGLV-8286A and submit it to their PERSRU.** Members can get the latest Family SGLI coverage information by going to the VA Web site at: www.insurance.va.gov/sglivgl/sglifam.htm or call 1-800-419-1473.

• **JUNIOR OFFICER LEADERSHIP & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES** — These will be available during the annual ROA Mid-winter Conference in Washington, D.C. from Jan. 20-23, 2002. For more information, click on the following link: www.uscg.mil/reserve/2002OLDTSchedule.htm

• **PSU 311 DEPLOYED** — Members of PSU 311 have been deployed OCONUS. You may write to them at the following address: Member's Name, USCG PSU-311, FPO AP 96601-3930.

• **RECALLED STUDENT-RESERVISTS: PLEASE READ** — Some reservists who have been or will be called up as part of the partial mobilization are students who will be required to interrupt their education. Most schools, colleges and universities will work with their student-reservists to refund tuition and fees they have paid for the semester they cannot complete, provide partial course credit, and allow the student-reservists the right to return to the institution upon completion of their active service. However, there may be instances in which students encounter problems that they are unable to resolve. The Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC), a consortium of national higher education associations and over 1,350 institutional members, is prepared to intercede for members who are experiencing problems such as loss of course credit in a schooling program due to the call-up. If a reservist who is called up experiences a problem relat-

ing to course credit, tuition and fees refund, or reenrollment in a program of study upon demobilization, he or she may call toll-free 1-800-368-5622 or write: Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges, 1307 New York Avenue, N.W., 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20005-4701.

• **RECRUITING RELADS** — Know anyone coming off Active Duty who would like to stay affiliated with the Coast Guard? Have them check out the CGR at www.uscg.mil/reserve (click on RELAD). For more info, contact YNC Ann Decoursey at 202-267-0629 or E-mail: adecoursey@comdt.uscg.mil

• **RETIRED MILITARY ALMANAC** — MilitaryHandbooks.com has announced the release of a Special Free Edition of The Retired Military Almanac (24th Edition). Whether you're retired, or simply planning to, this publication will give you everything you need to know about your military retirement. This special 252-page edition is now available to you - for FREE. To obtain your copy, check the publication's Web site: www.militaryhandbooks.com.

• **SUMMERSTOCK 2002** — Summerstock is an excellent opportunity for fully qualified boat crew members to work at CG stations on the Great Lakes. It's also ideal for students and teachers seeking full-time summer employment. For the summer of 2002, billets are available from late May through late September (each station's season varies slightly). Orders are authorized for continuous periods of 60 days or more. Personnel with previous Summerstock experience are particularly desired and will be placed at the station where they previously served, if possible. Interested personnel should submit a Request for Reserve Orders (CG-3453) via the chain of command to arrive at CCGD9(osr) as soon as possible. Summerstock point of contact is YN1 Patricia Feeney, D9(osr) at 216-902-6116; Fax: 216-902-6121; E-mail: pfeeney@d9.uscg.mil. Also check the Summerstock Web site: <http://cgweb.lant.uscg.mil/d9/o/osr/summerstock.htm>. *The Reservist* magazine ran a feature on Summerstock in the March/April 2001 issue (www.uscg.mil/reserve)

• **TUITION ASSISTANCE INCREASE** — ALCOAST 466/01 indicates tuition assistance has been raised for reservists from \$2,500 to \$3,500.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 2002

• **ROA MID-WINTER CONFERENCE** — Jan. 20-23, in Washington, D.C. Contact ROA, One Constitution Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002; Phone: 202-479-2200; Web: www.roa.org

• **ROA COAST GUARD RECEPTION** — The ROA Department of D.C. CG Chapter 4 invites all USCG officers to this annual event, Monday, Jan. 21, 6 p.m. at ROA Headquarters, One

Constitution Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. Attire is CG Service Dress Blue Alpha (or semi-formal business). Cost: O1 — O3, \$20; O4 and above, \$25; O1—O3 couples, \$35; O4 and above couples, \$40. For more info, contact CDR John Baker, USCGR, 13520 Walnutwood Lane, Germantown, MD 20874; Phone: 202-493-6717; E-mail: johnbzh@erols.com. Checks should be made payable to: *ROA DC Chapter 4*

FEBRUARY 2002

• **COAST GUARD RESERVE'S 61ST BIRTHDAY** — Is Feb. 19th! What is your unit planning to commemorate this special day?

MARCH 2002

• **USCG MUTUAL ASSISTANCE CAMPAIGN** — The 2002 campaign kicks off March 1 and runs through April 30. For more info, call 1-800-881-2462 or check the Web site: www.cgmahq.org

• **UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION CENTER** — Did you know you can order USCG uniform items over the phone through UDC in Woodbine, N.J.? The numbers are 1-800-874-6841 or 609-861-1221; Fax: 609-861-7930 (print or typed orders only). Hours of operation are 0800 to 1530, Mon-Thurs; 0800-1430, Friday. Web: www.uscgudc.tripod.com/index.htm

• **U.S. FLAG RETIREMENT CLARIFICATION** — The entitlement to a U.S. flag upon retirement from the Coast Guard became effective Feb. 1, 2001 (Special Issue 2001, page 32). If you retired after that date, you are entitled to a flag; there is no grandfather provision in the flag legislation. Clarification: The eligibility for a flag is only for those who retire into RET-2 status (retired without pay) after Feb. 1, 2001. It is *not* for those who become RET-1 and start receiving their retired pay, unless they become RET-1 immediately upon departure from the SELRES. The member's last unit (the unit they are retiring from or out of) is responsible for providing them the flag. Eligible members should contact their unit to receive their flag. For info, please see ALCOAST 178/01 or contact LCDR Jim Brewster, Commandant (G-WPM-2); Phone: 202-267-1648; E-mail: jbrewster@comdt.uscg.mil

• **U.S. NAVY LEAGUE LIFERING FUND** — This fund was established to assist military victims and their families as a result of the Sept. 11 attacks on America. Send donations to: Navy League LifeRing Fund, P.O. Box 656, Merrifield, VA 22116-0656; Phone: 1-800-356-5760.

• **WAVES SEEK NEW MEMBERS** — WAVES National is seeking new members. Women who have served or are now serving in the sea services — Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps or their Reserve components — are eligible to join. WAVES National was originally named after the U.S. Navy's Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Services (WAVES) organization. For further information, check their Web site: www.womenofthewaves.com or contact Shirley Lightle, 20518 Chalon Drive, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080; Phone: 810-778-3917; E-mail: [sightle@aol.com](mailto:slightle@aol.com) or send e-mail to Pat (O'Brien) Holcombe at MobileBay@webtv.net or TurboWAVE@webtv.net; Phone: 251-865-0291.

USAA ESSAY CONTEST

“What My Parent’s Participation in the Coast Guard Reserve Means to Me” USAA Scholarships Awarded

In August 2001, the United Services Automobile Association (USAA) announced plans to award scholarships totaling \$3,000 to dependent children of Coast Guard Selected Reserve members to be used for higher education for the 2001-2002 school year (ALCOAST 349/01). Applicants were asked to write a one-page essay about “What my parent’s participation in the Coast Guard Reserve means to me.”

Fifty essays were submitted, and four recipients of \$750 scholarships were announced via ALCOAST 471/01. There were so many outstanding essays in the group that USAA has decided to continue awarding these scholarships annually, and recommended that the applicants who did not receive scholarships this year should try again. Here are some excerpts from the winning essays:

• **Christopher Allred**, son of **PSCS William Allred** of MSO Wilmington, made these comments about his father. “Virtues such as honesty, integrity and loyalty are only a few my father has passed on to me, but the one I have found to be most rewarding is the patriotism that comes from serving one’s country. Today’s society is filled with people who care very little about anything, not to

mention helping others. My father has always sought to instill in my brothers and myself the importance of helping people. Through his participation in the Coast Guard he practices what he preaches.” Christopher now attends the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

• **Cathleen Cunningham**, daughter of **LCDR Robert Cunningham** of PSU 309, described how proud she felt when her father visited her third grade classroom, dressed in his Desert Storm camouflage to lecture on his experiences during his time overseas. Cathleen, who now attends Hartwick College, went on to say that “The passion he feels in his work is clearly evident in the amount of time and effort he puts in it. He never looks at his Coast Guard duties as a second job, but as a service he finds to be as equal in importance to his full-time employment. I only hope to find a career where I feel as inspired and as passionate as my father does for his work in the Coast Guard. He is admired for the courage, patriotism, strength and honor that comes with serving in the Coast Guard Reserve. It is this that I wish for myself as I continue my education and choose my career. I don’t always express what it means to me to see him leave bright and early for his week-ends away, knowing that I am only one of many who look up to him in so many positive ways. He is a guiding force to all the men and women who follow his lead, just as he has been for me all of my life.”

• **Melissa Holmes**, daughter of **YNC Mary Holmes** of ISC New Orleans, wrote of mornings watching her mother prepare and depart for duty. “I’ll be forever indebted to my mother and ever appreciative of her participation in the Coast Guard Reserve. Those mornings taught me the meaning of preparedness, acknowledgment of a positive standard, and that observation of and attention to the minute goes a long way. She trained me to remain true to my word and commitments, a lesson only solidified and exemplified by her unerring participation in the Coast Guard Reserve. She is my only role model, and I can only hope to attain her mindful code of living and being.” Melissa now attends Louisiana State University.

• **Andrew Phillips**, son of **LCDR Gregory Phillips** of the Pacific Strike Team, described observing and wanting to emulate character traits that his father displayed through his Reserve participation. “The willingness to want to stand up for a country, regardless of the position or task, has to be one of the greatest feelings in the world. To participate in that kind of service is not something that all are willing to consider. My dad did, and that is one of the attributes I love about him. I think that his service to his country has taught me to value the freedoms that I have and the many sacrifices it took to obtain them.” Andrew now attends Santa Rosa Junior College.

THE COAST GUARDIAN ANGEL

On Sept. 18, 2001, Coast Guard Reserve Special Agent Jerry Meyer of PACAREA reported for active duty in Alameda, Calif. as part of a new Sea Marshal program. While away, students in his son’s fourth grade class received a creative writing assignment about an angel. Meyer’s 9-year-old son, Brandon, wrote about “The Coast Guardian Angel,” mixing fact and fiction.

“The only facts are that I am in the Coast Guard and I am working as a Sea Marshal on ships,” wrote Special Agent Meyer.

Here is Brandon’s story:

A Coast Guardian Angel watches over my dad. The angel can protect him from harm and the Angel can give him strength when he needs it. I feel happy knowing that the Angel is watching over my dad. My dad is in the Coast Guard and he’s a good officer. My dad’s Guardian Angel is a man in a Coast Guard uniform.

When my dad was guarding the ship he saw four terrorists. They tried to knock my dad out. The Coast Guard Angel flew right behind the four terrorists and

shoved them down. Then the Coast Guard Angel gave my dad strength to throw the four terrorists in the water. He got five medals and he was made a hero.

My dad came home. We were happy that he was home safe and sound. Then I thanked the Angel and the Angel went back to Heaven. He said he would come back when my dad needs help before he left.



Brandon and his Dad, IV2 Jerry Meyer.

Photo courtesy of The Coast Guardian Angel

READINESS: YOU AND YOUR COMMAND

First, I wish to thank all those reservists who answered the call after the Sept. 11th attack. Many didn't wait to be asked; they responded to their units, and became part of the crew. I am truly proud of all of you for your unselfish acts.

I would also like to dedicate my article to the two Reserve members who lost their lives while doing their civilian jobs after the attack: MK1 Jeffrey A. Palazzo, a New York City firefighter and PS2 Vincent Gabriel Danz, a New York City police officer. Both were involved in rescue efforts at the World Trade Center when it collapsed. Our hearts and prayers are with them and their families. They upheld the finest traditions of the Coast Guard: Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty.

I am sure that you, as I, have spent time since Sept. 11 reflecting on who we are and what we are about. I know I hug my wife more often and say, "I love you" every opportunity I get. I also feel fortunate to be in the position I am, a member of the Coast Guard Reserve, at this particular time in history. I know many people who would trade places with any one of us. We have and will make a difference during this tragedy. We are not sitting on the couch wishing we could help — we are participants.

In light of the recent callups, many issues talked about for years have resurfaced. Readiness is a two-part issue. One part is the member's responsibility and the other part is the unit/command's responsibility. **You** have control over your part. The following are issues that you can effect:

- **PAY:** Make sure your information is correct. Dependent status, marital status, tax status, proper rank credit, etc.; all have caused members to receive pay that did not reflect their current status. Once the balloon goes up, it is more difficult to correct discrepancies. HRSIC/ISCs/PERSRUs are doing an outstanding job getting people paid once they have the correct information.

- **ENTITLEMENTS:** We have fought long and hard to make sure you receive all the entitlements you are owed. That is our part. Your part is to make sure that the information in DEERS is correct and accurate. It would be very helpful if your spouse/dependents have ID cards. Once again, if you do not live in the local area, entering that information becomes more difficult. You need to make choices for medical treatment; are you going to continue your civilian coverage or are you going

to select TRI-CARE? If you choose TRI-CARE, which program? Standard or Prime? Fill out the paperwork in advance.

- **CHILD CARE:** If you must leave your child/children with someone, you need to leave that person with a Limited Power

of Attorney so that in case of an emergency, the caretaker can give authorizations about the treatment of your child. Without it, critical time could be wasted trying to contact you for that authorization.

- **SERVICEWIDE EXAMINATIONS:** Congratulations to those who were advanced/promoted from the last list and those who participated in the current Servicewide Examination. Did you take the examination this year? If not, you may be missing another opportunity. The Coast Guard Reserve may grow as a result of Sept. 11. With that growth comes advancements. If you have not bought a ticket to the dance, you will be on the outside looking in. Start preparing for the next test now.

- **CIVILIAN JOBS:** Know your reemployment rights! Know your benefit rights! If you have not been called up, take the time to get knowledgeable on those issues. There are many Web sites with information. One outstanding site is the Coast Guard Reserve Web site (www.uscg.mil/reserve). Also, the *Family Readiness Guide*, published as an insert in the October 2001 *Reservist*, covers many of the issues I've mentioned.

In closing, I once again salute **you**, my heroes, for the truly outstanding job you are doing protecting our American way of life. I am proud to serve with you. God bless you and the country you serve.

SEMPER PARATUS!



By MCPO George P. Ingraham, USCGR Reserve Force Master Chief
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Forever Our Flag Will Fly

Forever our flag will fly,
Hues red, white, and blue.
The symbol of our nation,
Strong, proud, and true.

Forever our flag will fly,
A united nation we stand.
Helping and loving each other,
Side by side, hand in hand.

Forever our flag will fly,
Freedom and justice it shows.
All fifty stars united together,
This is the America I know.

— By Alexandria Mosely
12-year-old daughter of
QM1 Steven Moseley, USCGR



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