

# U.S. COAST GUARD **RESERVIST**

Special 60th Issue

*Coast Guard City, USA celebrates...*



**Inside: NEW Family Insurance Plan may cost you money, Pg. 7**

# SPECIAL 60TH ISSUE

VOL. XLVIII No. 6

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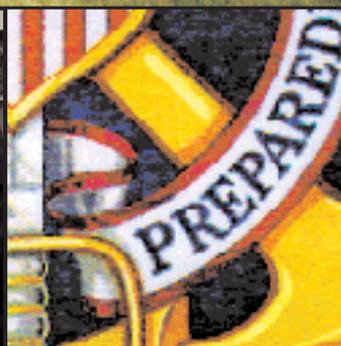
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# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

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#### ON THE BACK COVER

COAST GUARDSMEN STAND AT ATTENTION DURING THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL SERVICE AT ESCANABA PARK IN GRAND HAVEN, MICH. DURING THE COAST GUARD FESTIVAL, AUG. 4, 2001.

*As we were going to press, America was attacked on Sept. 11, 2001. With hundreds of reservists recalled to active duty, we will bring you much more in the next issue.*

In all the years I've been working on *The Reservist*, I have never published a cover story on Grand Haven's Coast Guard Festival. Since the theme of this year's festival was "USCGR: Sixty Years of Service to America," I thought the timing was right — hence, this "Special 60th Issue!" The festival committee, working with local Coast Guardsmen and hundreds of community volunteers, goes all out to salute our Coast Guard every year, and they do it with class.

This year was the sixth festival I have attended (fifth as a Coastie) and, as usual, I was *not* disappointed. On a personal note, one of the festival highlights for me was being re-enlisted into the Coast Guard Reserve by the Commandant at the community picnic on Aug. 4. The Commandant, on Coast Guard Day, in Coast Guard City? I couldn't believe it and even several weeks later, I was still asking myself, "Did that really happen?" Maybe, as Senior Chief Allen said, it is Coast Guard heaven! Many thanks to the Commandant and his staff, to my family who attended, and to Group Grand Haven who made the arrangements for that memorable moment.

A couple of other interesting events occurred this summer as well. The quadrennial National Boy Scout Jamboree was a great event that overlapped with the festival. The Boy Scouts replica of *CGC Eagle* was really something to behold! Meanwhile, the SPARs celebrated the commissioning of the new *CGC SPAR* in Kodiak on Aug. 3. Stories and photos from that event were still coming in at press time.

While planning for this past summer a year ago, I knew it was going to be hectic, so I doubled up on a couple of issues, hence this "Special 60th Issue" from Grand Haven.



Photo by PA2 Paul "Tosiz" Raszowski, USCG

— ED.

## RESERVISTS AND REBI

The article on BMC Peacock and the REBI program was very well done (May 2001), but there were several reservists who got it up and running before Chief Peacock came on full time. CWO Gene Sellers, in particular, put in a lot of time and effort. In my opinion, without Mr. Sellers, REBI would not have been around for Chief Peacock to take over. Gene did this not only on his drill weekends but also used some of his civilian vacation days to work with REBI classes during the week.

Despite Chief Peacock's assertion that there was "negative sentiment about REBI," I heard many positive comments while CWO Sellers was involved in that program.

— *LT Gene Rodgers, USCGR(ret.)*  
Chadds Ford, Pa.

## AMBASSADORS FOR AMERICA

The trip to Australia for their centennial celebration was an incredible experience (June/July 2001 *Reservist*, page 9). I was truly honored to be able to carry the Coast Guard's standard through the streets of a foreign capital as part of the multi-service color guard (see photo in *Reserve News*), and to meet the people of Australia. We were treated like sports heroes or rock stars by children (and even by some parents). We felt like we were ambassadors for America.

The Australian people strongly support the American Armed Forces and Reserve forces, and they remain deeply grateful for our participation in the battles to protect their country during World War II. We made many new friends and fully expect to see some of these Australian service members again if they have the chance to visit the USA.

It was also an honor and a pleasure to meet and work with LT Ken Stefanisin, CWO2 Brance McCune, BMC Tim Sullivan and PS1 Carol Mullins. It was great to meet these past national winners of the Enlisted Persons of the Year and Outstanding Junior Officer award. BMC Sullivan's knowledge of boats and the Coast Guard is incredible, and PS1 Mullins' energy and enthusiasm kept a lot of us going during some grueling travel periods.

— *ENS James K. Cullen, USCGR*  
Lake Hopatcong, N.J.

## DD-214 IMPORTANT ISSUE

Like MCPO Craft, I too was struck by Chief Ferante's letter regarding the issuance of the DD-214 form (February and May 2001 issues). From my earliest days in military service in the late 1960s until I retired from active duty, the importance of the DD-214 to the discharged veteran was stressed and double stressed. More often than not, the soon-to-be-released member was advised to store this all-important document in a safe deposit box or some other secure place. Having said all this, it is almost inconceivable to me that a select group within the Coast Guard (and apparently the Armed Forces at large) are denied this basic proof of service.

As MCPO Craft pointed out, the world outside of the Coast Guard recognizes only one document as proof of service and that document is the DD-214. It is important to understand that, since World War II, the Armed Forces has stressed to

the civilian community at large that the DD-214 is a veteran's proof of service as opposed to all other documents.

This is such an important issue that I would think the senior members of the Coast Guard Reserve would be immediately on top of this situation to see that it is rectified. The corrective action is one of straightforward leadership and common sense.

Unfortunately, I do not hold out much hope for change. For a decade or more, the Coast Guard has been moving away from approaching situations through leadership but instead chooses to take a bureaucratic approach citing all the reasons and regulations as to why something cannot be done. The bottom line for those who are caught in this quandary is do not expect a resolution. After all, the people affected are just reservists.

— *CDR Richard S. Martinson, USCGR(ret.)*  
Emonds, Wash.

## WRITE ABOUT IT!

I read with interest the letter from PS1 Nesdill in the March/April *Reservist* on small boat stations. He wondered why the small boat stations haven't received as much press recently as the port security units. I have

asked a similar question myself over the years, "Why doesn't the PSU community receive more press?" Well, right now, the PSUs are receiving attention because several PSUs are involved in operational deployments. Its members have been the subject of involuntary recalls to active duty, and we're getting the coverage because its news.

The Coast Guard is a large, diversified entity, and every portion deserves mention. Unfortunately, there are only so many pages in each issue of *The Reservist*. So, if you feel that your assignment, station, team or mission would be of interest, write about it! If you look closely, you will see that most of the PSU articles were written by members of the deployed unit, members who thought the portion of *Team Coast Guard* that wears the blue shirts would be interested to see what those of us on the "green suit" side are up to. If you write it, I will read it. It's the only place I can turn to find out what you "blue shirt" folks are up to.

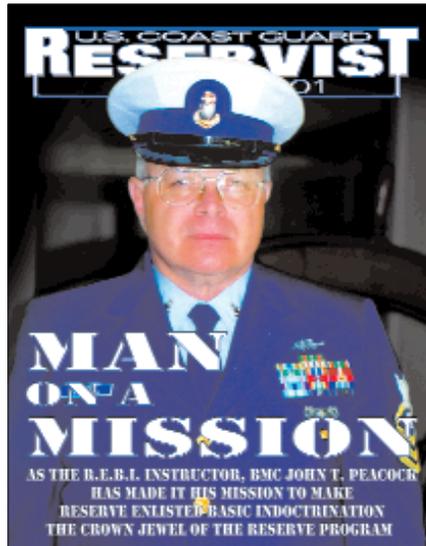
— *PSCS Pete Vickerman, USCGR*  
PSU 309, Sun Prairie, Wis.

## EARLY TRIBUTE TO ONE CG CONCEPT

Recently *CGC Point Hannon*, homeported in Jonesport, Maine for 33 years, was decommissioned to make way for *CGC Moray*. The change of the watch has special significance for Coast Guard Reservists serving both at Group Southwest Harbor, Maine and at Station Jonesport, Maine. For years, many reservists at Jonesport and Southwest Harbor spent their active duty tours on *Point Hannon*.

One stormy evening in December 1978, with seas running in excess of 12 feet, *Point Hannon* was ordered to take in tow the *MV Tuskar*, a 140-foot tug. *Tuskar* was tied up at USNAVRADSTA Cutler, Maine, where its pounding was beginning to damage the Navy fuel pier. The tug had been seized the previous day for carrying drugs into U.S. waters and the crew subsequently arrested. When ordered to take the *Tuskar* in tow, *Point Hannon* had been underway more than 12 hours, the officer in charge was not aboard, and the crew was reaching the limits of their endurance.

To solve the crew rest problem, reservists BM1 Clayton



Coffin and MK3 David Coffin from CGRU Jonesport were activated with one phone call from the Group Southwest Harbor staff duty officer. To pick up the Coffin brothers, *Point Hannon* moved into the lee of rough Bay of Fundy waters and the Coffins were taken to *Point Hannon* in an outboard. This solved the crew shortage and rest problems. BM1 Coffin was a qualified underway OD on *Point Hannon* while brother David was a qualified engineer. Interestingly, the staff duty officer in Southwest Harbor that night who authorized activation of the Coffins was also a reservist who happened to be serving a three-week tour in Southwest as Acting Deputy Group Commander — that was me. I was also CO of USCGRU Jonesport at the time.

The combined active-reserve team functioned flawlessly that evening in spite of the obstacles as *MV Tuskar* was moved to an anchor location in Southwest Harbor, Maine. The entire evolution was an early tribute to the one Coast Guard concept and *Team Coast Guard*.

— LCDR Richard M. Schlenker, USCGR (ret.)  
Castine, Maine

## SGLI COVERAGE

A question came up at our unit as to whether reservists are covered by Serviceman's Group Life Insurance full time (24/7), just the same as the Active Duty component members. I read COMDTINST M1000.6, Sec. 18.D.4.b 1 and 2 as saying we are covered full time. Am I right or wrong? I am concerned that the SGLI life insurance covers reservists just while in uniform. I have searched the Reserve Web site looking for a point of contact but thought this might be a better place to get the correct info. If you can reply any info I would appreciate it.

— BM1 Eddie Somers, USCGR  
Crisfield, Md.

*Ed's note: A quick check with the Reserve Programs and Policy Division (G-WTR-1) revealed that reservists are covered full time, regardless of whether they are on duty or not. In case you missed it, SGLI coverage increased to \$250,000 as of April 1, 2001. See ALCOAST 074/01. Also, SGLI family coverage is also now available. See the Bulletin Board in this issue.*

## L I C E N S E P L A T E //

# TEXAS! THE LONE STAR STATE

Texas native **CWO2 Jeff Bradbury** was at the Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven, Mich. when he pulled up in his 1999 Dodge Ram with "W2-TEXN" license plates. The plates were a birthday gift this year from his wife, Kellie.

During his 23 years in the Coast Guard, Bradbury has had many opportunities to work with the Coast Guard Reserve. While a Port Security "A" school instructor at RTC Yorktown, he helped train PSU replacement units at Camp Blanding, Fla. in 1991 during *Desert Storm*. In 1994, he deployed to Haiti with the Harbor Defense Command during *Operation Uphold Democracy*. He is currently working on the PSU Program Tactical Action Officer Course.

Bradbury just concluded a tour as commanding officer of Station Michigan City, Ind. By the time you read this, he will have transferred to New York City where he'll serve as Operational Training Officer for the Auxiliary in the southern 1st District. He is a second generation Coastie — his father was a master chief and was retiring as he was putting on the blue uniform for the first time.

CWO Bradbury currently lives in Coast Guard City, USA with Kellie and their two children, Jason, 16, and Kayce, 13.

"Texas is still home and Austin is where I will retire," said

## FOURTH OF JULY BELL RINGING

Back in 1776, the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia was rung to proclaim our new nation's independence and freedom with the signing of the Declaration of Independence. On each July 4th, the historic cracked bell is tapped 13 times at 2 p.m. to mark the event and to honor the brave patriots from the original 13 states who risked their lives by signing the document.

Among those who have participated in the annual Philadelphia ceremonies over the years are presidents, senior dignitaries, and descendants of the 56 signers of the historic Declaration. Four of the signers are from Maryland: Charles Carroll, Samuel Chase, William Paca, and Thomas Stone.

One June 26, 1963, Congress passed Concurrent Resolution Number 25, still in effect, encouraging nationwide participation by ringing bells 13 times at 2 p.m., Eastern Time. The event has been a major promotion by the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution since 1969. Now, thousands of communities participate. The bell ringing is simultaneous across the nation: 1 p.m. in the Central Time Zone, 12 noon in the Mountain Zone, and 11 a.m. on the West Coast. Alaska and Hawaii also participate.

In Annapolis, Md., bells are rung or tapped 13 times at 2 p.m. When the bells stop, carillons play for an optional time. Many churches outside the city now ring their bells with more joining each year. Besides churches, bells are rung or tapped at schools, colleges, institutions, municipal halls, fire stations, military bases and marinas.

Hopefully, in time, the whole nation will hear the bells...starting in your unit and town!

— CAPT John Bruce, USCG(ret.)  
Bethesda, Md.

## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

The Additional Paid Drills blurb in the June/July issue listed ALCOAST 490/00 as the reference for the increase of the maximum number of IDT retirement points to 90 per anniversary year. The correct reference is ALCOAST 498/00 (201855Z DEC 00). The "New Bull Ensign" photo outline on page 10 of the June/July 2001 issue stated that the Bull Ensign is given to the most junior ensign serving in the Office of Reserve. It should have been senior ensign.



**CWO2 Jeff Bradbury**

Bradbury. "When that will be I can't say because I'm still having too much fun in the Coast Guard."

The Lone Star State became the 28th state on Dec. 29, 1845 and is in the Coast Guard's 8th District.



## BENEFITS OF RESERVE AFFILIATION

As members of *Team Coast Guard*, we enjoy a wide array of benefits that come with being in the military. Things like the pride that comes with serving your country, performing rewarding missions and working with top-flight professionals, active duty and reserve. And fringe benefits such as commissary and exchange privileges, educational assistance and family support. Generous pay. Let's talk about pay for a minute.

It's a topic I like to discuss.

You would be surprised how many people, including reservists, don't know that a single, four-hour drill is the equivalent of a day's basic pay. Most drill weekends consist of two drills on Saturday and two drills on Sunday (or whatever days you might drill as a member of *Team Coast Guard*) meaning you are actually getting four days pay for two days work. That's a pretty good deal.

But you might also be surprised to find that not everyone is drilling as much as they can — or should. And that's a shame, because this fiscal year, I authorized four additional drills for every member of the Selected Reserve. If you are at a Port Security Unit or other part of the Naval Coastal Warfare community, that means you get 64 drills this year. If you are assigned to a station, MSO or other unit, you get 52 drills.

Those additional drills are to help you get the extra on-the-job training needed to qualify in your jobs, prepare for advancement and carry out the missions that affect the public and make America a better place. And those drills mean a few extra, well-earned dollars in your paycheck.

Meeting all your scheduled drills is important in another way, too. Commissioned officers must earn a minimum of 50 retirement points for retention in the

Ready Reserve and enlisted members of the Coast Guard Reserve meeting minimum drill requirements get a good year toward retirement and qualify for a Coast Guard Reserve Good Conduct Medal.

And satisfactory participation in the Coast Guard Reserve is the gateway to a wonderful array of benefits not available in the civilian world: use of base exchanges, commissaries, gyms and other facilities.

Did you know, for instance, that a recent Market Basket Price Comparison Study indicated that commissary shoppers receive an overall savings of 29.2 percent, which would enable a family of four to save at least

\$2,300 each year? Sounds like a pretty good deal, too.

There are other benefits, too, including the Montgomery GI Bill, Coast Guard Tuition Assistance and Coast Guard Mutual Assistance educational grants.

Sad thing is that many of these valuable benefits of Reserve affiliation are underutilized by Coast Guard Reservists.

For example, the Montgomery GI Bill provides drilling reservists with funding to pay for advanced education. Yet, participation among our eligible reservists is only around 32 percent — one of the lowest rates of all the Reserve

**“There are many benefits that come from being a member of *Team Coast Guard*. I encourage all of you to maximize your potential for success in both your civilian and military careers...”**

Components.

And, only about 25 percent of Selected Reservists are currently using Tuition Assistance, and almost no one takes advantage of the educational assistance available through Coast Guard Mutual Assistance.

There are many benefits that come from being a member of *Team Coast Guard*. I encourage all of you to maximize your potential for success in both your civilian and military careers by making full use of your available training and augmentation duty time, as well as the educational and other benefits that flow from that participation.

Finally, I urge all commanding officers and supervisors to ensure that their Reserve personnel, as well as active duty members, are fully aware of the total benefit package.

**By Rear Admiral R. Dennis Sirois  
Director of Reserve and Training**

## INTRODUCING NEW SGLI FAMILY COVERAGE

Effective Nov. 1, 2001, the spouse and children of any 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 coverage is free to the member and as a result cannot be cancelled by the member. Spouse coverage is not free and can be cancelled by the member. Also, the amount of spouse coverage cannot exceed the amount selected for the member. **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](http://www.insurance.va.gov/sglivgl/sglifam.htm) or call 1-800-419-1473.

Monthly rates per \$100,000 coverage are:

<u>AGE</u>	<u>RATE</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.*



## SPARKS TO MSO PADUCAH...

*CDR Mike Blair, Commanding Officer of MSO Paducah, third from left, receives the RADM Bennett S. Sparks Award plaque for 2000 from RADM R. Dennis Sirois, Director of Reserve & Training at the Reserve Officers Association Annual Convention in Albuquerque, N.M. July 6. Looking on l to r: CDR Ed Brock, USNR; RADM Mary P. O'Donnell, USCGR; CDR Blair, RADM Sirois, CDR Bill Huston, MSO Paducah; and RADM Bob Merrilees, USCGR(ret.).*

## GOLDEN GATE VISIT BY SECDOT

*Secretary of Transportation Norm Mineta visited Group San Francisco and Station Golden Gate, Calif. recently and was welcomed aboard the station's CG 47267 for an hour-long voyage to CG Island at Alameda. The 47-foot crew, left to right, Tom Blount, USCG Auxiliary; Secretary Mineta; BM2 Chris Sheppard, USCG (kneeling); BM3 Dave Jenkins, USCGR; and CWO Rich Glasgow, USCG.*



# JOINT FORCES PARTICIPATE IN TOM'S RUN 192-MILE RELAY



Photo by PAC Edward J. Kruska, USCGR

*A running CWO Laddy Novak is escorted by CAPT Carol Rivers on bike as they prepare to enter the Paw Paw Tunnel during Tom's Run 2001.*

WASHINGTON, D.C. — For nearly 24 consecutive hours, over 250 soldiers, sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen participated in “Tom’s Run,” a running relay along the historic C&O Canal towpath.

The event started on the morning of Friday, June 8 in Cumberland, Md. and finished the following day at the U.S. Army’s Fort McNair in our nation’s capital. Covering 192 miles, the event has the distinction of being the longest distance running event in the Mid-Atlantic region and is one of only three ultra-relay runs on the East Coast of North America.

Tom’s Run was a fun run and not a race. Teams were able to set their own pace — as fast or as slow as they wanted — as long as they finished at Fort McNair at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday. The relay itself consisted of 30 legs, varying in length from three to 12 miles. A biker was required to ride along with the runner as a safety precaution.

Teams came from U.S. Army Fort Belvoir, National Naval Medical Center Bethesda, U.S. Marine Corps Headquarters, and several local running clubs, while U.S. Coast Guard units came from Hampton Roads, Baltimore, Atlantic City and Headquarters.

Tom’s Run 2001 was coordinated by the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) activities of Coast Guard Headquarters. It is named in honor of CWO Tom Brooks, USCG(ret.), who was diagnosed in 1999 with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS — more commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease). It has grown from three teams and 46 participants in 1999 to 13 teams and 262 participants in this year’s event.

“Most teams consist of about 20 to 25 people and have drivers and bikers to support the runners,” said Coast Guard **LT Daryl Schaffer**, Tom’s Run 2001

Event Coordinator. “Their runners rarely did more than two legs.”

Schaffer coordinated with a myriad of agencies, including the Department of Transportation, Department of Interior, Metropolitan Police Department and the National Park Service, to get the relay teams cleared to run along the C&O Canal. He also worked with Frostburg State University where many participants gathered for a pre-event dinner and stayed overnight in dormitories.

The idea for Tom’s Run started in 1995 when Coasties working in the Office of Reserve at Headquarters decided to ride the entire C&O Canal “just for fun” around Coast Guard Day. In February 1998, Brooks broke his ankle ice skating. Even though the ankle healed up nicely, he noticed a loss of strength and some “clumsy” tripping. After extensive testing, the diagnosis came in: ALS. Brooks was medically retired from the Coast Guard in August 1999 and today needs a ventilator to help him breathe.

His shipmates in the USCG Office of Reserve Affairs decided to combine Brooks’ love of the C&O Canal with their own abilities and created the “Tom’s Run 200-mile relay” as a fund-raiser for him and the local ALS chapter. As the event grew larger, it was realized that federal and military regulations prohibit fund-raising events for a single non-profit agency. However, the format of the MWR event does allow each team to do their own fund-raising for a non-profit agency of their choice.

Tom’s Run 2002 is already being planned for June 7-8, and information can be found at [www.uscg.mil/reserve/tomsrun.htm](http://www.uscg.mil/reserve/tomsrun.htm).

— *By LT Daryl Schaffer, USCGR  
Commandant (G-WTR-1)*

# CG RESERVISTS GO “DOWN UNDER”

*PS2 (now ENS) Jim Cullen, second from right, joins other American service-members as part of a U.S. joint service color guard at the Australian centennial celebration. Cullen and other members of the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve and American military were guests of the Australians for 10 days in late June.*



Photo courtesy ENS Jim Cullen, USCGR

## PHILLY BOSS LIFE 2001 HONORS EMPLOYERS, FIRST PS FORCE

PHILADELPHIA — The weather was perfect June 9 as MSO/Group Philadelphia held its second-ever Employer Appreciation Day. The event also served as a salute to Coast Guard members from World War II as well.

During the early part of World War II, the Coast Guard sent out a call for volunteers to help with the security of the waterfront facilities. From this first call for volunteers, the Port of Philadelphia became the home of the first Volunteer Port Security Force and from 1942 to 1945, thousands of men and women answered the call.

To honor and recognize the Coast Guard Reserve's 60th Anniversary and to thank the employers and family members of the reservists, MSO/Group Philadelphia held Boss Lift 2001. The day was filled with speeches, presentations, SAR and helo demonstrations, boat rides, food and fun.

The day began under a tent outside the MSO building where Commanding Officer **CAPT Gregory F. Adams**, welcomed approximately 140 guests. Speakers included **Congressman Robert Borski** (D-Pa.), **CAPT Thomas Falvey** representing **RADM Carlton Moore**, and **Brig. Gen Richard Merion**, ESGR Reserve State chairman, **CDR Kevin Koob**, Reserve Command Adviser of MSO/Group Philadelphia, **CDR Bill Doty**, USCGR (ret.), ESGR Command Representative and **MCPO Laurence Pitula**, D5 Command Master Chief. Each speaker recognized the accomplishments of the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Reserve and thanked each employer and family member for their commitment to Reserve members. Employers were then recognized with a “My Boss is a Patriot” Certificate of Appreciation.

Following the ceremony, the guests were given the opportunity to tour the base, **CGC William Tate (WLM 560)**, **CGC Cleat (WYTL 65615)**, observe pollution clean-up equipment and view displays provided by the local recruiter, PSU 305, and the command. A real crowd pleaser was the rescue demonstration performed in the Delaware River by a boat crew comprised of reservists. Local Auxiliary members also provided a boat while Air Station Atlantic City provided an HH-65 Dolphin helicopter. Guests were then treated to boat rides aboard 41 footers crewed entirely by Reserve personnel.

“I had a great time, I didn't realize how many things you (reservists) did,” said guest **Sheila Hall** as she stepped off the 41 footer.

The guests then had an outdoor lunch.

CDR Koob and a committee of 10 spearheaded the event, and planning took approximately seven months. The group received support from Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve ([www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org) or 1-800-336-4590).

It was an eventful day for all involved, but as was the case nearly 60 years ago when the Coast Guard needed help, the men and women of the Coast Guard Reserve stationed in Philadelphia met the challenge and exceeded expectations.

— By **MSTCS Gerald Conrad**, USCGR  
MSO/Group Philadelphia

*Ed's note: MSO/Group Philadelphia's first Employer Appreciation Day was featured on the cover of the October 1997 Reservist and can be found on the Reserve Web site: [www.uscg.mil/reserve](http://www.uscg.mil/reserve).*



Some of those attending the ESGR event in Philadelphia.

# SEA PARTNERS AND JASON PROJECT PARTNERSHIP IN CLEVELAND

CLEVELAND — In 1986 Bob Ballard peered into the murky darkness at the hull of the *R.M.S. Titanic* and asked himself, “Why only me?”

Three years later, his dream of sharing the wonder of exploration and discovery became reality in the form of “The Jason Project.” Its mission is to help students understand how science affects the world around them and the affect they have on it as well. Jason is delivered through Primary Interactive Network Sites (PIN) directly to classrooms. There are 54 PINs around the world, (U.S., Mexico, the United Kingdom and Bermuda). Cleveland’s PIN site is Case Western Reserve University’s (CWRU) science and mathematics department.

Through Jason, thousands of students were able to join Ballard on research projects via interactive satellite broadcasts supported by a strong curriculum. This year’s Jason Project broadcast reached its one-millionth student.

Early in February this year, CWRU hosted live satellite broadcasts where more than 3,500 students from all over Ohio saw, first hand, lava flowing down the side of Mt. Kiluea on the big island of Hawaii. They witnessed zoologists rescuing albatross that had eaten plastic bags thinking they were jellyfish (albatross’ favorite food).

The students asked Ballard questions that the zoologists and volcanologists answered on the spot more than 7,000 miles away. Although the Ballard’s expeditions take place thousands of miles away, students learn how the same principles apply to their local area. This year, the concept of plate tectonics was introduced, the Global Positioning System (GPS), Global Information Systems (GIS), and watersheds and how we affect them and them us.

Enter the Sea Partners Campaign, the Coast Guard’s environmental education and outreach program delivered mostly by Coast Guard Reservists. Sea Partners is a proactive, innovative program under the Marine Safety and Environmental Protection program. It is geared largely toward students. Since today’s students are bombarded with the excitement of a high-tech world, to deliver a message of environmental protection, the Coast Guard must be “creative” in its approach.

This creativity can be achieved through a partnership with Ballard’s Jason Project. Sea Partner’s environmental protection message falls under the subject of the sciences, which is evident when the Sea Partner representative explains pollution with different hands-on experiments. Instead of calling around to visit schools one at a time and asking teachers to take time out of their curriculum to receive a Sea Partner’s presentation that may not fit into their lesson plan, Ballard has already built this important environmental information into his program.

And who better to deliver this message than the Coast Guard?

Sea Partners can play an important role in the PIN site. Local agencies surrounding the PIN form a planning committee whereby teachers are introduced to the curriculum



Photo by PA2 Amy J. Gaskill, USCGR

*The Jason Project in the form of live broadcast at Case Western Reserve University’s auditorium brings in many students.*

and offered suggestions on field trip options to enhance the Jason experience. It is in these teacher-training sessions that the Sea Partner representative can be added to the list of presenters to talk about pollution and share experiments that the teacher can take back to their classrooms.

During the live broadcasts, the Sea Partners representatives can work their two-weeks ADT to help organize the students and the experiments that take place before, during and after the live one-hour satellite feeds. Before the broadcasts, a presenter greets the students drawing them into discussions to prepare them for what they are about to experience. It is here that the Sea Partner representative has another opportunity to present ideas. Taking part in these broadcasts can also act as a great recruitment tool.

Cleveland’s Jason team is gearing up for another exciting expedition. Pack your parkas because Bob Ballard is heading to Alaska and to Jupiter’s icy moon to explore “Frozen Worlds.” This is a perfect opportunity for the Coast Guard, on the Great Lakes, to localize the information and talk about their ice breaking and ice rescue missions.

Because the Jason Project has proven so successful, more PIN sites are being developed around the country. Perhaps the Coast Guard Reservists who visit schools, one-by-one, in their area, can work with Jason and join this year’s exciting expedition — wherever that may take you, around the globe or into outer space!

— By PA1 Amy J. Gaskill, USCGR, D9 Public Affairs

*Ed’s note: PA2 Gaskill says her partnership with CWRU and the Jason Project has been very valuable these past two years. She has presented the Sea Partner’s ideas to more than 300 teachers and 6,000 students in the Greater Cleveland area. To learn more about the Jason Project, contact Gaskill at 440-546-2775; E-mail: amy.gaskill@med.va.gov. To learn more about Sea Partners, contact MCPO Linda Reid at 202-267-6891; E-mail: lreid@comdt.uscg.mil*

# SMITH SELECTED AS RESERVE REAR ADMIRAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. — *Captain Duncan C. Smith III* has been selected as the next Coast Guard Reserve rear admiral. Smith's selection was made by a five-member Inactive Duty Admiral Selection Board that convened July 9. The Secretary of Transportation approved the board's selection prior to confirmation by the Senate and president. Pending confirmation, Smith will be promoted to the rank of rear admiral some time during the summer of 2002.

Smith is currently assigned to the Ninth Coast Guard District in Cleveland where he serves as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Contingency Planning and Resource Allocation. As the Senior Reserve Officer in the Ninth District, he also represents the District Commander within the district's area of responsibility.

Academically, he earned a bachelor of arts in economics from Drew University in 1969 and a Juris Doctor from the College of William and Mary in 1976. He joined the Coast Guard in 1970 as an enlisted member and was assigned to the Engineering Division at RTC Yorktown. Upon graduation from Officer Candidate School in 1972, he was assigned to the Office of Reserve at Coast Guard Headquarters. After graduation from law school, he was recalled to a second tour of active duty as a law specialist and served in the Office of the Chief Counsel at Coast Guard Headquarters.

In 1978, he affiliated with the Reserve program and has held command of Reserve Unit (RU) Annapolis, RU James River, RU Baltimore, has served as Deputy Group Commander, Reserve Group Baltimore, Group Commander of Reserve Group Headquarters, and of Reserve Group Hampton Roads. Most recently he was assigned to the Emergency Planning Directorate at the Pentagon in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

Smith is a senior partner in the law firm of Dyer, Ellis & Joseph where he is primarily engaged in transportation, energy, environmental, defense, commodities, and federal budget matters.

The six-member Active Duty Selection Board also convened July 9 and recommended five officers on the Active Duty Promotion List for promotion to the grade of rear admiral (lower half) including: *CAPT David B. Peterman*, *CAPT David W. Kinkel*, *CAPT Jeffrey M. Garrett*, *CAPT Dale G. Gabel*, and *CAPT Stephen W. Rochon*. ALCOAST 307/01 announced the selections of both the Active and Inactive Boards.

## CWO McDANIEL!

*CAPT Frank Buckley, Chief, Office of Reserve Affairs, left, and CAPT Carol Rivers, right, place the shoulder boards of Chief Warrant Officer on CPO Ken McDaniel at Headquarters June 1. Rivers was McDaniel's CO at PSU 305.*



Photo by PAC Edward J. Kruska, USCGR



Photo by Chris Rose

## SMILING SEWARDITE!

*MKC Rawlins Apperson of Seward, Alaska, looks at a portrait of himself following the unveiling of this year's Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year plaque at Headquarters. Apperson was honored along with Active Duty EPOY BM2 Lee P. Heitner, during June in Washington, D.C.*

# RECORD BUST

A CGC Active crew member stands guard in San Diego over 13 tons of cocaine seized from the Belize-flagged ship *Svesda Maru* 1,500 miles south of San Diego on May 12. The seizure, the largest in U.S. maritime history, has an estimated street value of \$500 million.



Photo by PA2 Don Tremper, D11/PACAREA PADDET

# PROMISES MADE, PROMISES KEPT...

After taking the October 2000 Reserve Servicewide Exam, MST1 Roy Barger, left, of Marine Safety Detachment Nashville, Tenn. commented that if advanced, he would allow MCPO B. J. Williams to shave his head. So when Barger was advanced to CPO on June 1, 2001, the pinning of the anchors and the "shaving of the knob" took place at the June drill.



Photo courtesy MSTC Tommie Dee Wright, USCGR



Photo courtesy PSC Anthony Bologna, USCGR

# A CHIEF'S STARS & STRIPES FOREVER

PSC Anthony Bologna, USCGR, of Activities New York, proudly displays a new U.S. flag at his Staten Island home. The chief's name was picked randomly from among 29 classmates at a flag raffle during Reserve Class 11's Chief Petty Officer Academy in New London this past June.

# COMMENDABLE SERVICE

With his wife, Grace, looking on, LCDR Joseph Taylor, USCGR, receives the Coast Guard Commendation Medal from RADM Bert Kinghorn, Commander, Maintenance and Logistics Command Atlantic. Taylor capped more than 40 years of service with an Extended Active Duty assignment to MLC Atlantic from February 1998 to June 2001 as the Personnel Services Branch Chief and as the MLC's first Housing Management Section Chief.



Photo courtesy CDR Franklin Albero, MLCGA

# CPO ACADEMY RESERVE CLASS XI

*Reserve Class XI of the Chief Petty Officer Academy graduated June 28 following two weeks of leadership training in New London, Conn. Front row, l to r: CPO Robert Minard, CPO Wilbur Hirsch, CPO Paul Duffin, CPO William Wolff, CPO Mary Adams, CPO Greg Lewis, CPO Mario Tomellini, CPO Harold Craig, MCPOCG Vince Patton. Second row, l to r: CPO Gary Vencill, CPO Rick Ahlberg, CPO Carl Platis, CPO Thomas Dorry, CPO Janice Minson, CPO Francis Pepin. Third row, l to r: CPO Anthony Bologna, CPO Kyle Takakjian, CPO Kerry Bledsoe, CPO John Courtney, CPO Troy Price, CPO Randall Bucy, CPO Jennifer Roland. Fourth row, l to r: CPO Michael Jenkin, CPO Mark Togna, CPO Ann DeCoursey, CPO Jerome Lowery, MCPO Sandy O'Toole (CPOA School Chief), CPO Robert Hodgson.*



Photo courtesy of CPO Academy

*Back row, l to r: CPO Jeffrey Mihalik, MSGT Eris Mackey (CPOA staff), SCPO Mark Thomas (CPOA staff), CPO Timothy Neary, CPO Dan Costello (CPOA staff), CPO Brad Blatchley, CPO Mike Pallon (CPOA staff), CPO Mark Stephens (CPOA staff).*

# CPO ACADEMY RESERVE CLASS XII

*Reserve Class XII of the Chief Petty Officer Academy graduated July 26 following two weeks of leadership training in New London, Conn. Front row, l to r: MCPO Sandy O'Toole (CPOA School Chief), CPO Michael Cate, CPO Calvin Covert, CPO Anthony LaGrega, CPO Michele Roe, CPO Amelia Goodfield, CPO Lillian Ezell, CPO Lenwood Johnson Jr. Second row, l to r: CPO Rich Hines (CPOA staff), CPO Ralph Dunn, CPO Peter Wood, CPO Satchel Tucker, CPO William Farrell, CPO Neil De Canditis, CPO Roy Barger. Third row, l to r: CPO Ciro Sinagra (CPOA staff), CPO Peter Stevens (CPOA staff), CPO Roger Knight III, CPO Stephen Lain, CPO Gil Reyna, CPO Steven Craig, CPO James Dixon, CPO John Cadigan Jr. Fourth row, l to r: CPO Gerald*



Photo courtesy of CPO Academy

*Griner, CPO Christopher Fiddes, CPO George Benson, CPO Charles Carroll, CPO Charles Hamaide III. Back row, l to r: MSGT Eris Mackey (CPOA staff), CPO Robert Sebaste, CPO Mark Stephens (CPOA staff), SCPO Tom Moore (CPOA staff), CPO Mark MacGregor, CPO Kenneth Harris, CPO Robert Fischer, SCPO Mark Thomas (CPOA staff).*

# SEA PARTNERS ON DISPLAY

*MSO Cleveland's watershed diorama was the centerpiece of a Sea Partners booth staffed by reservists at the NOAA Coastal Zone 01 conference held in Cleveland July 15-20. The diorama is used to demonstrate water runoff. Left to right: MST3 Dave Pompilio, MSO Baltimore; PSC Steven Dickson, MSFO Coram; MST2 John Lamar, MSO Chicago; LT Jeannot Smith, Activities New York; SKCM Linda Reid, Headquarters; MST1 James Richardson, MSO Memphis; YN1 Eugenia Herndon, MSO Paducah. Not shown: MST3 John Peek, MSO Charleston, S.C.*



Photo courtesy of PSC Steven C. Dickson, USCGR

## MEALS AND WHEELS?

*ISC San Pedro food service specialists were paid a surprise visit by Dr. Bernie Harris of Santa Monica and his 1927 Bugatti on June 29. Shown here inspecting the Italian sports car are l to r, Dr. Harris, FS2 Kevin Roberts, USCGR, and FS1 Michelle Tully, USCGR, of ISC San Pedro, the CG Dining Facility of the Year 2001 award-winner (medium ashore).*



Photo by PAI Spring de Havilland, USCGR

## USCG FLAGS ACROSS AMERICA...

*BM1 Karl Brobst of Station Barnegat Light, New Jersey places one of 144 USCG flags on Coast Guard graves for Memorial Day, May 24, at the Veterans Cemetery in New Jersey. Brobst is a volunteer with the USCG Flags Across America program. For info, send e-mail to [uscgflags@yahoo.com](mailto:uscgflags@yahoo.com).*



Photo by BMC Dan Fiszczenoski, USCGR

# ST. LOUIS SPAR SALUTE!

*CDR Sharon Richey, ISC St. Louis, left, and SPARs Mabel Hardin and Mary Jane Thibault proudly display the Coast Guard standard at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis. All were on hand for the 41st annual Memorial Day service May 28 as USCG representatives. Jefferson Barracks is the nations third largest veterans cemetery.*



Photo courtesy of CDR Sharon Richey and CWO Larry West, USCG

## NEWS BRIEFS

### FLEET NEWS

MARINETTE, Wis. — *Mrs. Nancy Collins* christened the *CGC Aspen (WLB 208)* at Marinette Marine Corporation here April 21. *Aspen* is the eighth in a planned fleet of 16 225-foot tenders being built at Marinette. On July 28, 2001, the *CGC Sycamore (WLB 209)* was launched and christened. *Sycamore* will replace the *CGC Sweetbrier*, decommissioned Aug. 27. For more information and photos, see Pro-Marinette's Web site at: [www.uscg.mil/hq/g-a/awl/bclass/](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-a/awl/bclass/)

### CGC SPAR COMMISSIONED

KODIAK, Alaska — The Coast Guard commissioned the new cutter *SPAR* on Friday, Aug. 3. The cutter is named in honor of the Coast Guard Women's Reserve (SPARs) who served our Coast Guard from 1942 until the early 1970s. Over 50 of them attended the ceremony. The cutter, launched Aug. 12, 2000, was built by Marinette Marine Corp., Marinette, Wis. and is a seagoing buoy tender. *LCDR Joanna Nunan* is commanding officer of the crew of 45. A previous *CGC SPAR* was decommissioned in 1997.



Photo courtesy CPO Marsha Delaney, D17 Public Affairs

*Coast Guard SPARs of the Women's Reserve march before the commissioning of CGC SPAR in Kodiak, Alaska on Aug. 3.*

### RESERVIST SETS RECORD

CAPE MAY, N.J. — Coast Guard Reservist *SR Timothy Nichols* set a new Coast Guard boot camp record when he broke the 1.5-mile track run for the second time in two weeks. Nichols ran 7 minutes, 30 seconds in his first attempt, shattering the old record by nine seconds. He then shaved two seconds off his own record on Aug. 15 by running the course in 7:28. Nichols is in Delta Company and is in his 5th of 8 weeks of boot camp training. He is a sophomore at Eastern Michigan University and runs for the track team. He will be drilling at Station St. Clair Shores, Mich.

### RESERVISTS' DEPENDENTS WIN ESSAY CONTEST

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Coast Guard dependents recently had two winning entries in the Young Readers Essay Project Contest sponsored by the Armed Services YMCA. *Genevieve Kobus*, third-grade daughter of

reservist *PS2 Robert and Tina Kobus*, won a \$500 savings bond. *PS2 Kobus* is attached to the Atlantic Strike Team at Fort Dix, N.J. Receiving a \$100 savings bond was *Kristi DeYoung*, first-grade daughter of reservists *DC1 George DeYoung*, of *CGC Eagle* and *YNC Anne Priestman* of D1. This was the fifth annual contest; more than 2,500 children whose parents are serving in the military entered the contest. ALCOAST 290/01.

### THOMAS JEFFERSON AWARD WINNER

Congratulations to *PA1 John Gaffney*, USCGR, of D7 for winning Category M (Photojournalism) at the annual Thomas Jefferson Awards competition. The photojournalism category is one of the most coveted areas of the competition with entries from all five of the Armed Forces. He has been shooting photography professionally since 1988 and has been a Reserve PA for the last 15 months. It was Gaffney's first time competing in the T.J. Awards. Gaffney is a prior active duty Coast Guard member and served from 1984-1994 as a Coast Guard helo pilot. He now owns and runs a travel agency in Clearwater, Fla. D7 Public Affairs entered Gaffney in the competition. To look at some of his winning entries, click on the D7 link below: [www.uscg.mil/d7/d7dpa/flamigocay/flamingocay.htm](http://www.uscg.mil/d7/d7dpa/flamigocay/flamingocay.htm)

# A Grand “Haven” Celebration!

Photo by PA2 Paul “Rosz” Roszkowski, USCG



*YN3 Eleanor Fabyan, USCG SPAR, left, and PA3 Erin Randel, USCGR, right, carry the banner in the Coast Guard Reserve 60th Anniversary unit in the Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival parade.*

*“If I died and went to Coast Guard heaven,  
I think this is where I’d be.”*

*— BMCS Mark Allen, USCGR,  
first time Festival attendee*

**I**t was a special year for Coast Guard Reservists to make the pilgrimage to Coast Guard City and the annual Coast Guard Festival. With a theme of “USCGR: Sixty Years of Service to America,” special tributes to the Reserve were sprinkled throughout the 10-day event that also saluted the Coast Guard on its 211th birthday.

Wherever reservists dropped anchor in Grand Haven, whether at the National Memorial Service, the Grand Parade or fireworks, there was a continual drumbeat of recognition of the Coast Guard Reserve’s 60th anniversary. Some local merchants even offered special discounts for reservists.

Grand Haven, a Western Michigan community of 12,000 located on the shores of Lake Michigan, once again remembered and showed its love for the Coast Guard, and did so with red-carpet treatment of its hundreds of thousands visitors. It’s no wonder the city, long called Coast Guard City USA, was officially designated so by Act of Congress and signed by the president in 1999.

## From Small Beginnings to a Grand Event

The Coast Guard Festival started out as a picnic for the local Coasties in 1924. It soon became a water competition among area Coast Guard stations. A parade was added in 1936 and the first Memorial Service was held in 1943 following the sinking of *CGC Escanaba*, which had been homeported in Grand Haven. Since those early years, it has grown steadily into today’s grand event, and is now packed with sporting events, picnics, two parades, a carnival, concerts and even a car show.

“By my count, it was my 19th festival,” said reservist BM2 Steve Kurkowski from Oak Creek, Wis. “I play in the softball tournament and in years past, I’ve done the 10K run, bowling, golf and softball events, craft show, parade, fireworks, and now that I have a family, Kid’s Day. It’s an awesome time that more Coasties should experience.”

Traditionally, the festival kicks off the last Friday in July with a quilt show and the Miss Coast Guard City Scholarship Program. Miss Lisa Nicole Bauer, 18, daughter of Thomas and Carol Bauer of Grand Haven, was crowned Miss Coast Guard Festival 2001. A graduate of Grand Haven High School, she is a freshman at Hope College in nearby Holland, Mich. The scholarship program is a non-profit organization that helps young women take part in community activities while competing for educational scholarship funds, and is a local affiliate of the Miss America Pageant.

A 10K run and family parade are other highlights of the first of two festival weekends. The following Monday, it’s time for the Parade of Ships, which this year featured four Coast Guard cutters, the *Biscayne Bay*, *Bramble*, *Katmai Bay* and *Mackinaw*. Once they tied up in Grand Haven, they were open for tours each day and welcomed thousands of visitors aboard until

their departure a week later. Kid’s Day at Mulligan’s Hollow is full of games and fun for kids of all ages. The festival prince and princess were crowned at Kid’s Day — Princess Cheyenne Jordan and Prince Elliot Rynal.

As the week progresses, the carnival opens downtown. It is several blocks long and is chaired by Dan Guzek, who has organized the carnival since 1984; Guzek says he gains satisfaction from the “smiles on faces of people, happy and enjoying themselves.”

While most events are open to the public, the golf and softball tournaments are open only to Coasties. The winning golf team was composed of CDR Michael Shomin, CWO4 John Lackaff, SA Jonathon Kronberg, all off the *CGC Acacia* in Charlevoix, Mich., and Mr. Jeff Woodland from Whitehall, Mich.

The softball tournament brought in teams from all over the nation. This year’s champions were the Bucketheads from ATC Mobile. The runner-up was Group Cape Cod, Mass., while the consolation finalists were the Castaways and Cape May Chiefs.

“The softball tournament, that’s about bragging rights in the Coast Guard,” said MCPO Gordy Yowell, a member of the championship Buckethead team. Yowell attended regularly in the early 1980s and has played each year since 1997.

The other competitive venues included the 3-on-3 Gus Macker basketball tournament and the beach soccer tournament. Then there’s the Drum and Bugle Corps Competition. Made up of 1,500 musicians and 26 bands from the U.S., Japan, and Canada, the field also included bands from Taiwan and Sweden for the first time.

“Grand Haven is one of the top four drum and bugle corps competitions in the country, and corps who want to compete at the world level must first compete in one of these four events,” said event director Jim Cook.

“How much better can it get?” asked Cook. “If you’re



Photo by PA2 Paul “Rose” Raszowski, USCG

***ENS Bryan Markland of the Coast Guard Honor Guard presents the colors to Ray O’Malley at the National Memorial Service on Aug. 3.***

# 60th Banner Detail tells CGR story



Photo by PA2 Paul Roszkowski, USCG, Ninth District Public Affairs

*It was a Coast Guard Day to remember on Aug. 4, 2001 when the CGR 60th Birthday Banner Detail presented a special decade-by-decade history of the Reserve in Grand Haven, Mich. at the Festival picnic. Left to right are YN3 Eleanor Fabyan, USCGR(W), 1940s; MCPO Forrest Croom,*

*USCGR(Ret.), 1950s; CDR (RM1) Chuck Polk, USCGR, 1960s; BMCS Mark Allen, USCGR, 1970s; PSC Eugene Beach, USCGR, 1980s; LT Daryl Schaffer, USCGR, 1990s; PA3 Erin Randel, USCGR, 2001.*

“Banner detail, forward march!” With that command, seven Coast Guard Reservists marched in front of the large audience gathered at Mulligan’s Hollow for the Festival picnic Aug. 4. Each reservist represented a specific decade of the Reserve’s history and was wearing authentic period uniform.

“My name is Eleanor Fabyan, from West Olive, Mich. and I am a Coast Guard Reservist of the 1940s,” Fabyan told a captive audience. “I served with the Women’s Reserve, also known as the SPARs, during World War II. The uniform I have on is my own....”

Fabyan then gave a short narrative of Reserve history from that decade, as did each member of the banner detail that followed.

“I am MCPO Forrest Croom from LaGrange, Ill. I was the first Reserve Command Master Chief,” said Croom. “I am wearing the chief’s khaki uniform of the 1950s.”

Representing the 1960s was CDR Chuck Polk who came dressed as a first class petty officer in the enlisted Navy-style Service Dress White uniform of that era. Polk, who enlisted on Aug. 11, 1969, also wore the rating badge of his father, RM1 Charlie Polk, Jr., while the Coast Guard shield he had sewn on was that of deceased reservist MK1 Joe DeLauter, who served 19 years in the Reserve.

“It was a way of honoring both of them,” said Polk, attending the first Festival of his 32-year career.

BMCS Mark Allen represented the 1970s in Service Dress Blue Bravos, PSC Gene Beach was the 1980s representative in working blue, while LT Daryl Schaffer took the part of the 1990s in dress whites. PA3 Erin Randel from Cleveland, who enlisted on May 18, 2001,

represented new recruits of the 21st century and the Reserve’s future.

“I was originally going to wear the Tropical Blue Long uniform but when I saw Eleanor in her World War II uniform, I switched to Alphas,” Randel told the audience. “I’d simply like to say thank you to the many Coast Guard Reservists who have paved the way for new reservists like me.”

As each representative finished their part of the narrative, they asked members in the audience to stand if they had served in the Coast Guard Reserve during that particular decade. The banner detail then gradually unfurled the CG Reserve’s “60 Years of Service to America” banner.

“We were impressed that the Commandant and others appeared to be captivated by this presentation,” said BMCS Allen. “And we were also excited that he and the other Coasties participated by standing when we mentioned certain decades and enthusiastically agreed to a photo op.”

ENS Jerry Stanek and his wife, Lynn, from Northwest Indiana, were in attendance and watched the performance as well.

“Members displayed various uniforms worn in the Coast Guard, some from yesteryear,” said Stanek. “My wife and I found it to be very fascinating, for me especially. One of my hobbies is researching the history of the Coast Guard dating back to the Revenue Cutter Service, U.S. Life Saving Service, and the Lighthouse Service. I was surprised to see an active duty commander in a Navy-style uniform.”

— By PAC Edward J. Kruska, USCGR

going to do a festival, why not celebrate the people who are out there saving lives?"

## A Time for Fun, A Time for Remembering

While the first week is full of fun and festivity, the festival builds to a climax for the final weekend. People that booked rooms a year in advance fill every hotel and motel room to capacity and spill over into nearby communities. This year, because of the Reserve's 60th, some community members even opened their homes to reservists. Parade-goers set up their lawn chairs and rope off areas for seating a couple days in advance along the parade route, and also along the Grand River for the fireworks.

Coast Guard members off the cutters along with local Coast Guardsmen from Group Grand Haven attended an All Hands at Station Grand Haven on Friday, Aug. 3. Attending were ADM James M. Loy, U.S. Coast Guard Commandant, RADM James Hull, 9th District Commander, RADM Carlton D. Moore, USCGR, MCPOCG Vince Patton, Reserve Force Master Chief George Ingraham, D9 Reserve Command Master Chief Ray Borchert and D9 Command Master Chief William Giles.

"The Coast Guard Reserve's 60th is a moment in time when we say thank you to them for their contributions," said Loy. "While we take this moment to celebrate, a lot is going on across the nation."

RADM Moore added during his talk that the Reserve does great things for the nation, citing several recent cases in which reservists were involved.

The Commandant presented reservist QMCS Tom

Rau with the Alex Haley award for his *Boat Smart* column that promotes safe boating by sharing real-life experiences ([www.boatsmart.net](http://www.boatsmart.net)).

Meanwhile, the arts and crafts fair was drawing huge crowds to the city park. Becky Greenlee, spouse of CDR Chuck Polk, has been going to these types of events for years but thought the festival offered one of the best shows she had ever attended.

"This is a juried arts and crafts show," said Greenlee, from Annandale, Va. attending her first festival. "Juried means that vendors have to be approved by certain officials and meet certain standards. This show is really nice and, after two days, I hadn't even made it through all the booths. They had a lot of items I had never seen before."

Following the annual Coast Guard Auxiliary memorial service and a VIP reception aboard *CGC Mackinaw*, it was time for the heart and soul of the Coast Guard Festival...the National Memorial Service. The service pays tribute to all Coast Guardsmen who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The service dates back to Aug. 4, 1943 following the June 13, 1943 sinking of the original *CGC Escanaba*, with loss of 101 of 103 aboard. Ray O'Malley, the only survivor yet living, has attended the memorial service 58 consecutive years.

"He honors us with his presence, with his service, with his memories," the Commandant told the 1,000 people in attendance.

Attending for the first time was 92-year-old CDR Karl Stein and his wife, Flora, from Chicago. He was aboard *CGC Tampa* in the North Atlantic when



*The National Memorial Service draws Coast Guardsman and the community to Escanaba Park each year.*

Photo by PA2 Paul Roszkowski, USCG, Ninth District Public Affairs



***Five-year-old Leah Harris and her mother, Voni, pause during the Grand Parade. They are family members of BM2 Richard Harris, USCGR.***

*Escanaba* went down. Stein, who wore his 1940s uniform, met O'Malley for the first time during the festival.

"It was fantastic," said Stein. "It was the most impressive ceremony."

During the ceremony, Lou Draeger, Village President of nearby Spring Lake, said there are some 4,000 people living today because of the Coast Guard's rescue efforts just in the past year.

"They may be gone, but by far they are not forgotten," said Fr. Anthony Vainavicz of the *Escanaba* crew. "May we never take our Coast Guard for granted as they protect our waters."

## **A Coast Guard Day to Remember**

As a sunny and warm Coast Guard Day dawned in Coast Guard City, the parade route was soon filling up with thousands of spectators. Shortly before noon, Coast Guard VIPs and other dignitaries, led by ADM Loy and his wife, Kay, rode convertibles around the parade route to the reviewing stand.

Once seated, the Grand Parade was underway...

The Coast Guard Reserve organized a special 60th anniversary unit to march, including members from every decade of our history. The Reserve unit was given special placement up front due to the theme of this year's Festival. Carrying the 60th anniversary banner

and wearing her original WWII uniform was YN3 Eleanor Fabyan, of West Olive, Mich. Holding the other end of the banner representing new recruits and the Reserve's was PA3 Erin Randel of Cleveland.

Behind the banner were 50 reservists, some retired and some still serving, wearing a special 60th anniversary shirt with CG ball caps, and carrying CG flags. As the reservists marched the three-mile parade route through the residential and business district, some spectators in the crowd yelled "thank you" and applauded.

"I got all choked up when the first group of spectators applauded us," said BM2 Steve Kurkowski. "I felt really good when the Commandant and the rest of his group stood for us when we went by. What a great day to be a reservist!"

Behind them came more members of the Reserve in a trolley and members of PSU 309 marched along with their Transportable Port Security Boat. The 150 units entered in the parade included 18 drum and bugle corps bands. Among the dozen floats was a "live" Iwo Jima float, from Ludington, Mich. (the Battle of Iwo Jima falls on the same day as the CGR birthday, Feb. 19). As is the tradition, the world famous Scottville Clown Band brought up the end of the parade.

Reservist BMCS Mark Allen marched in the parade but then watched as much of the parade as he could while making his way to the community picnic.

"If I died and went to Coast Guard heaven, I think this is where I'd be," said Allen, attending his first Festival after 24 years of service.

At the community picnic that followed, ADM Loy, RADM Moore and RADM Hull cut a 60th anniversary cake and also addressed the hundreds of people in attendance. A special presentation by the CGR 60th Banner Detail told the Reserve's story decade by decade (see sidebar) while the Coast Guard Honor Guard, back in Coast Guard City for the first time since 1990, also performed.

As the sun set on Coast Guard Day 2001, it was time for Grand Haven's grand finale salute to the Coast Guard and this year, the Coast Guard Reserve's 60th anniversary — the fireworks extravaganza!

Pyrotecnico, a company based in New Castle, Pa., presented this year's fireworks display, as they have each year since 1995, when Robert VanKampen first became involved with supporting the festival's fireworks.

Festival Executive Director Jerry Smith said that the festival committee and the community at large owe a tremendous thanks to VanKampen, his wife, Judy, and the VanKampen Group for the generous contribution that has endowed the festival's annual fireworks display. Before passing away last year, Van Kampen donated enough funds to keep the fireworks display going and growing for another 10 years. The VanKampen Group has financially bestowed funds to improve the display by 10 percent each year.

As the fireworks began over Dewey Hill and the first

one exploded over the Grand River, the announcer said, "Bob, this one's for you!"

LT Daryl Schaffer was impressed by choreographed fireworks, even to the Star-Spangled Banner.

"I've heard about that but had never seen it done before," said Schaffer, a Reserve Program Administrator from Headquarters attending his first festival with his wife, Janis. "When they sang 'the rockets red glare,' well, red rockets actually went into the air! It was impressive."

"The Coast Guard Festival has always been a great time," said MK3 Brandon Davis, USCGR. "I've been going since before I can remember. My favorite part is the fireworks. The Coast Guard Festival fireworks are the best of any fireworks show I've ever seen, even better than any 4th of July show."

## Community Kudos

As the last firework faded and the final day of the festival dawned in Grand Haven, reservist LCDR Jim Butler was fast at work on the event he has worked on for the last seven years — the cruise-in Auto Show.

"This year we had 90 cars for the auto show," said Butler, the festival's VP for operations and who drills in Cleveland. "The whole intent of the auto show was to hold an event on the last day of the festival to keep people in town after the fireworks. We're still looking for other ideas for the last day."

So how about relaxing for a while now that the big event is over? Not likely. Like many annual events of this size, the planning is continuous and begins the day after with a critique of the entire event.

# Reservists behind the scenes at CG Festival

If you've ever dreamed about a great set of orders, Coast Guard Festival 2001 fits the bill. Group Grand Haven reservists on active duty during the Festival had the unparalleled opportunity to coordinate and participate in the National Coast Guard Memorial Ceremony and Grand Parade, and to partake in additional ceremonies and events attended by local dignitaries and senior Coast Guard officers.

Group Reserve officers are normally employed in festival staff positions with each officer being assigned a specific ceremony or duty. **LT Tom Gasser's** duties as public affairs officer included arranging a press conference for **ADM James Loy**, Commandant, **RADM James Hull**, 9th District Commander, and **RADM Carlton Moore**, Deputy Area Commander Mobilization and Reserve Component Affairs, LANTAREA. In a twist uncommon in most billet assignments, Gasser served as a commentator on live television for a regional networks' broadcast of the two-hour Coast Guard Festival Grand Parade.

**LT Paul Fawcett** had the unique task of preparing a ceremony conducted at an all hands muster in which ADM Loy, assisted by **MCPOCG Vince Patton** and Reserve Force **MCPO George Ingraham**, advanced four personnel and presented several awards.

**LTJG Paula Malone** was project officer for the National Coast Guard Memorial Service. This ceremony memorializes those who passed over the bar in the line of duty and is filled with emotion and symbolism. This requires coordination of an HH65 fly over, ceremonial rifle squad and myriad details. **LTJG John Jacobs** assisted with logistical support and protocol and augmented the Command Center watch rotation. **CWO4 Jack Wall** coordinated all duty watchstanders, providing schedule, communication plans, protocol and security briefings.

Enlisted reservists including **YN2 Craig Montgomery**, **GM3 Aaron Squires**, **FN Daniel Dahlke**, and **DC3**



**MK3 Brandon Davis, left, pauses during escort duty with Mr. Ray O'Malley. It was O'Malley's 58th straight year at the National Memorial Service.**

**Joey Bush** acted as JOOD or as drivers for flag officers. **MK3 Brandon Davis** assisted **Mr. Ray O'Malley**, the last survivor of the *CGC Escanaba*, as driver and aide for the third consecutive year. Reservists like **YN1 Tom Corle** were also backfilling at the Group and Station during the festival.

"The past three years have been a great honor being Mr. [Ray] O'Malley's escort," said Davis. "He is a good man with a wonderful family. I think I have the best duty during the festival."

Festival events greatly increase op tempo at Group Grand Haven and require long days and high public exposure for Coast Guard personnel. Most wouldn't have it any other way.

— By **LT Paul Fawcett, USCGR**,  
Group Grand Haven

## Naperville fest gives Coast Guard Reserve a big birthday salute

NAPERVILLE, Ill. — While the Coast Guard celebrated its 211th birthday in Grand Haven, Mich. there were some who couldn't make it to the festivities. So the U.S. Navy League Naperville Council made sure area reservists and their families and friends could be part of the party. Naperville is located in southwest suburban Chicago about three hours from Grand Haven.

More than 150 representatives from the Coast Guard, Navy, Merchant Marine and Marine Corps came to the Naperville Riverwalk's Grand Pavilion on Aug. 10 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Coast Guard Reserve and the Coast Guard's birthday. They enjoyed entertainment, games, picnic foods and sporting events along the Riverwalk, but organizers emphasized the main purpose was to raise awareness of the Coast Guard and its mission.

"This was the best festival of the five festivals I have been part of, regarding weather, scheduling and logistics," said LCDR Karl Willis, Deputy Group Commander at Grand Haven, who transferred in August to 9th District Headquarters in Cleveland.

ENS Jerry Stanek joined the Reserve last year and made the trip to Grand Haven with his wife and daughter for the second consecutive year. They plan on making the trip an annual event for two reasons.

"It gives me the opportunity of proudly representing my unit (MSO Chicago t-shirt and all) and it also gives me the opportunity to say 'thanks' to the residents who live there for establishing Grand Haven as Coast Guard City USA," said Stanek. "This year was special for me because it paid tribute to the members of the Coast Guard Reserve. I am very proud to wear the uniform and represent the United States Coast Guard, and I was also pleased to see some of my ROCI shipmates at the festival. Looking back on the crowds who have attended this year's festival, I can understand why the U.S. Coast Guard is America's finest seagoing service and I can proudly say that I am part of it."

Festival Director Jerry Smith gave kudos to the 400 community volunteers.

"If it weren't for the volunteers, we couldn't put this on," said Smith, who served five years on active duty in the 1950s and 27 years in the Reserve. "Then you go to the next step — we get donations from businesses and from private donors, and we have sponsors, and my hat's off to them. This isn't done anywhere else in the country," added Smith. "No other place has a festival for a branch of the military."

Perhaps the last words to sum up this year's festival fittingly come from one of the first to ever serve in the Coast Guard Reserve, SPAR Eleanor Fabyan. She had been travelling in Europe until Aug. 2 and never expected to make it to this year's festival. As it turned out, she carried the 60th banner in the parade and represented

ENS Jerry Stanek, a Coast Guard Reservist from Crown Point, Ind., and his wife, Lynn, were in Grand Haven, but they also took part in the Naperville festivities the following week.

"My dad was in the Guard and recommended I join," said Stanek, 31, who works with port operations and monitors transfers of material. "I wanted to be here to represent MSO Chicago and give this event our support."

Thomas Stump, Illinois president of the Navy League of the United States, said the Naperville planners "always do a good job in supporting the Guard's efforts." Stump called the Coast Guard "the most visible/invisible organization in the U.S."

— Excerpted from a *Chicago Tribune* article by David Sharos Aug. 15, 2001

the 1940s as part of the CGR 60th Banner Detail.

"Never did I dream I'd be in Grand Haven this year," said Fabyan. "I am still filled with pride and honor to have been here for such a celebration...my cup runneth over again."

*Ed's note: Festival dates for next year are July 26-Aug. 4, 2002. See the festival Web site for more info at: [www.gchgfest.org](http://www.gchgfest.org). Source for much of the info in this article came from The Grand Haven Tribune's Festival Edition insert, July 24, 2001.*



An award ceremony was part of the All Hands at Station Grand Haven on Aug. 3

Photo by PAC Edward J. Kruska, USCGR

# CITIZEN-SAILOR OF THE MONTH

## BM1 John R. Hersrud, USCGR Waterfront Supervisor, City of Grand Haven

BM1 John R. Hersrud is waterfront supervisor for the City of Grand Haven, Mich. where he has worked full time since June 1999.

"I manage the city municipal marina and city waterfront property on the Grand River," said Hersrud, who served 12 years on active duty, his last tour at Station Grand Haven where he currently drills. "I don't sit behind a desk — I do a variety of things like check on sprinklers and lawn mowers, manage a couple of buildings, and oversee the boat launch at nearby Harbor Island."

Hersrud supervises 13 full-time and seasonal employees. Grand Haven is home to the world's largest musical fountain (about a football field in length), and the personnel who operate it also work for Hersrud.

"It's a big maze of plumbing with some pumps," said Hersrud. "It's pretty much automated during the [summer] season, and most of the work involved is during spring start-up and in the fall preparing for winter."

During the Coast Guard Festival, it is a busy time for Hersrud, but he says it's interesting because he's on land and the Coast Guard is on the water.



Photo by PAC Edward J. Kruska, USCGR

### BM1 John R. Hersrud

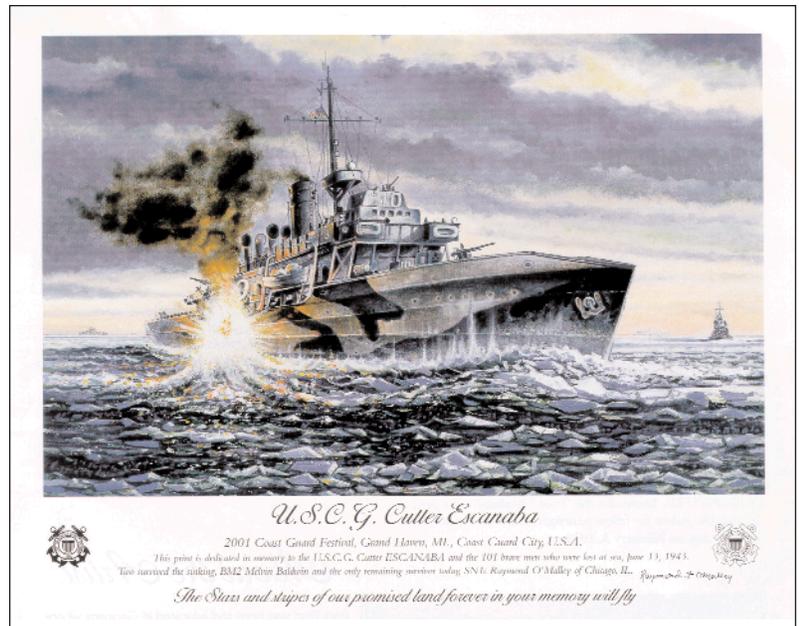
"This is a good job and I like it," said Hersrud.

## CGC *Escanaba* featured in commemorative print series

This year's official Coast Guard Festival Print features the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Escanaba* (WPG-77) just before it sank on June 13, 1943. Painted by renowned artist, Bert Petri, the print is the fifth in the Festival Commemorative Print series.

On the morning of June 13, 1943, *CGC Escanaba*, under the command of LCDR Carl Uno Peterson, was steaming in the North Atlantic as part of Task Unit 24.8.2, escorting Convoy GS24 from Greenland to the United States when an explosion struck. The cutter sank within three minutes. Just two crewmen of 103 on board, BM2 Melvin Baldwin and SN 1c Raymond F. O'Malley, were rescued. Baldwin passed away in September 1964, leaving O'Malley as the sole surviving crewman today. Petri has captured in his painting the *Escanaba* in her wartime colors and the explosion of that fateful morning.

The print is a limited edition signed by Petri and O'Malley. Image size is 21-1/2 inches by 14 inches (21-1/2x16-1/4 includes remarque). Cost is \$65 plus shipping and handling (major credit cards accepted). To order, contact Gallery of Frames, 1705 S. Beacon St., Grand Haven, MI 49417; Phone: 616-842-8878; E-mail: [galleriesofframes@hotmail.com](mailto:galleriesofframes@hotmail.com)



*Ed's note: The Coast Guard does not endorse this product. It is published as a news item and as a service to our readers.*



# COASTIES CONVERGE ON NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE

BY PAC EDWARD J. KRUSKA, USCGR

FORT A.P. HILL, Va. — Some call it the Olympics of Boy Scouting. Others see it as a chance to simply have fun in the outdoors. But the fact is, the Boy Scouts of America recently held their 15th National Scout Jamboree at this Army post near Richmond, Va. July 23-Aug. 1.

All 50 states and U.S. territories were represented, including 26 foreign countries. Among the 40,196 scouts, troop leaders and staff was a proud group of Coasties who volunteered for the quadrennial 10-day event. Finding them in what becomes Virginia's sixth largest community was challenging, but some logical things might tip off a visitor: check for tropical blue uniforms with Coast Guard ball caps at water-related venues.

And that's exactly how Coasties here were dressed and where they were located during this action-packed event. The Coast Guard's 75 volunteers (24 of whom are Eagle Scouts) worked hand-in-hand at the Sea Scout Exhibit

and also assisted at the Merit Badge Midway with life-saving, motor boating, rowing, and small boat sailing. The Coast Guard assisted nearly 700 scouts with their water-related merit badges — more than double the number assisted in 1997 (Motor boating, 426; Lifesaving, 117; Rowing, 72; Sailing, 63). Several hundred more scouts stopped by to talk during the course of each day. By comparison, in 1997, the USCG had 15 volunteers and assisted with two merit badges, sailing and motor boating.

An 18-member contingent of the Coast Guard Honor Guard also wowed the scouts with four performances spread over two days.

"It was a privilege to perform for these young men who may one day take our place, and we will continue to work so they will inherit a living, healthy Coast Guard, America and Earth," said ENS Bryan Markland, Honor Guard Operations Officer.

Meanwhile, Coast Guard recruiters were swamped at the Coast Guard Exhibit. A special USCG Jamboree patch, designed by retired Coastie LCDR Ed Swift and his team, had scouts lining up two and three deep at the recruiting booth. The 3-inch patch, which said “Be Prepared Today — Always Ready Tomorrow,” had a Coast Guard small boat and BSA/USCG logos printed on it. Recruiters gave out 10,000 patches, up from 6,000 distributed in 1997.

“We didn’t just give the kids a patch,” said CDR Mike Price of Headquarters, who helped out for several days. “First, scouts had to tie three knots and name two missions of the Coast Guard. I think the kids liked that because they were earning it.”

Price, attending his first Jamboree, was also very impressed by the helpfulness and integrity of the scouts.

“What really impressed me is how the older kids helped the younger, inexperienced kids with the knots — even complete strangers were helping one another,” added Price.

Price’s experience seemed to coincide with the Jamboree’s theme: Strong Values, Strong Leaders, Character Counts.

Other parts of the CG Exhibit included a Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat and PSU 305’s Transportable Port Security Boat. Reservists attached to PSUs 307 and 308 welcomed scouts aboard the TPSB, answered questions, and let them handle the M-60.

“Hello out there,” said scout Marcus Stewart of West Palm Beach, Fla. while pretending to be on the radio as he toured the TPSB with several friends.

“We’ve had hundreds of kids like this ‘on board’ every day,” said PSCS Larry Raymond of PSU 308.

Another visitor checking out the Coast Guard Exhibit with real interest was Robert Storey, Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 1902 from Rogers, Ark.

“I was in a jetski collision and broke my leg a few years ago,” said Storey. “After that, I took a boating safety course and ended up joining the Coast Guard Auxiliary.”

SK1 Michael Ash came as a scoutleader with Troop 2005 from Juneau, St. Petersburg, and Ketchikan, Alaska. He was wowed by the size of the Jamboree for the first few days.

“My troop stayed at sub-camp 20 which had troops from 23 different states,” said Ash, now stationed at Group Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. “So it gave my scouts a chance to meet other scouts from all over the U.S. My troop had a great time canoeing, rappelling, fishing, shooting pellet rifles, shotguns and black powder rifles to name a few activities. There was so much to do I never heard a scout say he was bored. Most of the scouts in my troop had never been on the East Coast before and saw the Atlantic Ocean for the first time. I also saw



Photo by PAC Edward J. Kruska, USCGR

### ***ENS Nelson Santiago, right, teaches Boy Scouts to tie knots at the CG Exhibit.***

Coasties that I had been stationed with over the years.”

Along the eight-mile Jamboree loop were thousands of tents accented by thematic state/region gateways. One Pennsylvania council built a miniature Independence Hall while some Michigan troops constructed twin light-houses that helped scouts navigate back to their camp site.

But another camp site centerpiece wowed everyone who saw it — especially the Coasties! It was a one-fifth size replica of the *CGC Eagle*. Built by adult leaders and members of Troop 212 (Connecticut Rivers Council), their work prompted visits by RADM Charles Wurster, USCG, an Eagle scout, and then by MCPOCG Vince Patton two days later. The troop hosted Patton along with about 25 Coasties for chow, photo ops, and evening colors July 27.

“I’m 46 years old and I can tell you that I use the skills I learned as a Boy Scout everyday,” the highest ranking enlisted Coast Guardsman told the scouts. Patton, also an Eagle Scout, was “piped ashore” by the scouts at the conclusion of his visit.

Troop 212 and the Coast Guard have a budding relationship. According the troop’s Scoutmaster John Stone and his assistant Marshall Berger, troop members were weekend visitors aboard the real *CGC Eagle* in New London, Conn. in April 2001. Berger’s father was a CG Auxiliariist in World War II and his father-in-law, LT Ken Cook, also served with the USCG during WWII. The *Eagle* replica was given by Troop 212 to the Coast Guard.

“Right now, we’re trying to figure out where to place the replica,” said SN Jason Brittingham, of *CGC Munro*, who worked in military protocol at the jamboree. “There’s been talk of giving it to the CG Academy but nothing has been decided yet. Wherever it ends up, we’d



Photo by PAC Edward J. Kraska, USCGR

*LT Tom Stewart, right, helps Boy Scouts with their motorboating merit badge test during the Jamboree.*

like to get Troop 212 members back for the rededication of the replica.”

The first national Jamboree was held in Washington, D.C. in 1937. Since then, Valley Forge, Pa., Irvine Ranch, Calif, Colorado Springs, Colo., Farragut State Park, Idaho and Moraine State Park, Pa. have been Jamboree sites until Fort A.P. Hill (named for Virginia native and Confederate Lt. General Ambrose Powell Hill) began hosting the event in 1981. Three Coast Guardsmen have attended each of the six Jamborees at A.P. Hill: LCDR Wayne Stacey, USCG(ret.); PSCS Doug Yeckley, USCGR(ret.); and PSC William Reisa, USCGR.

“This was a unique and fantastic opportunity to not only see a complete Team Coast Guard operation but also to work with all of our sister services as well,” said CWO Robin Ouellette, one of two Coast Guard Contingent Coordinators, who has attended six Jamborees. “I also want to thank all those who worked behind the scenes, those who weren’t even in attendance at the Jamboree, but who helped make this a huge success. PSCS Doug Yeckley, the other CG Contingent Coordinator, did so much work in establishing the Coast Guard here.”

Another CG Reservist and Eagle Scout who volunteered (for the Boy Scouts, not the Coast Guard this

time around) was PSC Rick Nygren. The chief, with about 20 years scouting experience, was part of the Jamboree staff working at Trading Post services.

“What is really amazing to me is to see the growth as far as the Coast Guard’s involvement since the 1977 Jamboree,” said Nygren, a civilian employee with the Coast Guard at MLCPAC and a veteran of four Jamborees. “Back in 1977, one CG auxiliariast participated, but SCPO Doug Yeckley and the other Coasties have done so much to promote this. And to have RADM Charles Wurster, MCPOCG Vince Patton, Reserve Force Master Chief George Ingraham visit this year was amazing. I’m really looking forward to 2005 — maybe the Coast Guard, Marines and Navy will really give the Army a run for its money.”

The Coast Guard has four years to “Be Prepared and Always Ready!” The next national Jamboree is set for Fort A.P. Hill during the summer of 2005. For more information, check out [www.BSA.Scouting.org](http://www.BSA.Scouting.org)

*Ed’s note: The 1997 Jamboree story can be found on-line at [www.uscg.mil](http://www.uscg.mil) (September 1997)*

# SIGHTS FROM THE BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE 2001

*Clockwise from right: A one-fifth size replica of CGC Eagle was the centerpiece of Troop 212's campsite. • Marcus Stewart of West Palm Beach, Fla. pretends to talk on the radio aboard a Transportable Port Security Boat. • PS1 Robley Langlinais of PSU 308 helps a Boy Scout try on some PSU equipment. • A scout holds an unloaded M-60 after trying on some PSU gear at the Coast Guard Exhibit.*



Photo by PAC Edward J. Kruska, USCGR

## RETIREMENT OF THE “ANCIENT RESERVIST”

After a career that lasted nearly 43 years, MCPO Joseph A. Zimmer retires.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — It’s very rare that a person who has served in the Coast Guard Reserve over a span of six decades retires, but that is exactly what happened earlier this summer. After nearly 43 years of continuous service, MKCM Joseph A. Zimmer, of Coast Guard Group Ohio Valley, retired July 2.

Zimmer first had thoughts of joining the Coast Guard Reserve in 1957 when he saw “guys in their whites rescuing people in 36-foot wooden motor surfboats off the coast of Long Island, N.Y. while fishing with his dad.” Enlisting in the Coast Guard Reserve on Nov. 23, 1958 at 17, Zimmer had the earliest Pay Base Date of any member currently serving in the Selected Reserve when he turned 60.

He first served with the ORTAUG (Organized Reserve Training Unit — Augmentation) Reserve unit at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, N.Y. He recalls that serving at the ORTAUG unit was like attending “a college course in marine engineering every Monday night.” Zimmer believes that he is “one of the few people still around that wore the 13 button Navy style uniform and later the CPO khakis uniform.”

In February 1969, he attained the rank of Chief Engineman (E-7). In 1972, he transferred to RU Shinnacock, N.Y. where he served as the weekend reserve officer-in-charge.

From there, he served at Station Fire Island, N.Y.



Photo courtesy of MCPO Joseph A. Zimmer, USCGR

where he continued his duties as weekend officer-in-charge and also became a qualified OOD. While there, he had his first brush with Coast Guard fame while standing watch one early February afternoon. A dredge operating in Fire Island Inlet reported that an explosion occurred on a pleasure boat some miles offshore. Realizing the potential life threatening situation, Zimmer took charge of the case and was instrumental in directing a Coast Guard helicopter to the scene. As a result of his quick thinking and decisiveness, the Coast Guard helicopter arrived on-scene within minutes of the explosion and three people were rescued from the icy waters of the North Atlantic.

In 1978, Zimmer and his family moved to Louisville, Ky. where he continued his Coast Guard career at RU Louisville and served in the Boating Safety Program (BOSDET). He also became a qualified boarding officer, served as the Reserve Engineering Chief Petty Officer and was in charge of the Reserve ATON group. While serving at RU Louisville, he was responsible for maintaining over 90 aids to navigation along the Ohio River. Zimmer recalls that he and his ATON crew had to “fight hornet nests and chiggers while working the aids,” and would often “work late at night to ensure that aids along the river were in service and working properly.”

Zimmer’s second brush with Coast Guard fame came on a rainy, foggy January night in 1986 on the Ohio River when two 10,000-barrel oil barges broke away from the *M/V Brimstone*. While standing Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) watch, he received a call that the two barges had broken away and gone over the McAlpine Dam. Due to foggy conditions, he directed the *M/V Stephen McBride* to search for the barges using its radar. Zimmer also directed two local state agencies to search for the barges. As a result of his actions, the barges were secured and personnel of the *M/V Stephen McBride* were able to rescue the *M/V Brimstone*’s barge and its captain and two deckhands that had gone over the dam. Only 300 of the 20,000 gallons of oil in the barges were released into the Ohio River. This was the first time in the history of VTS that a Reserve non-commissioned officer handled a case of this magnitude from start to finish.

Zimmer’s third brush with Coast Guard fame also came in 1986. While standing VTS watch, he received a distress call that a pleasure boat was disabled and on the verge of going over the McAlpine Dam only 150 feet away. He directed a nearby towboat to assist, and it was at the scene within minutes and able to rescue a family of six — a husband, wife and four children (the youngest of which was 16 months old) and prevented the boat from going over the dam.

In 1992, Zimmer attained the rank of Master Chief Machinery Technician, and in 1994 he was assigned to Group Ohio Valley where he currently served out his final days in the Coast Guard as a Reserve VTS Supervisor/Watch Officer. The master chief’s most notable accomplishment has been his contributions to the VTS initially implemented by MSO Louisville in 1973, and now coordinated by Group Ohio Valley. He is considered by active duty and reserve personnel to be the resident VTS expert. Always humble, he does not consider

himself an expert. He often tells people that “[he’s] not an expert, [he] just outlasted or outlived everyone else [his] senior.” During flooding conditions in March 1997, he stood 27 straight VTS midnight watches. He also developed daily report sheets, a user-friendly map board, and was instrumental in obtaining a local back-up radio and a consolidated list of chemicals to promote use of CHRIS Codes. This enabled watchstanders to more readily identify chemicals that could potentially be discharged in the river.

What Zimmer will miss most about the Coast Guard is “the camaraderie and the respect that’s been afforded him by men he respects, in a service that he loves and will most surely miss.” He has seen many changes in the Coast Guard over the course of his 43-year career, none bigger than Reserve integration in 1995. He believes that integration was “the best thing to happen to the Coast Guard since sliced bread, and that is why the Coast Guard is attracting the quality people that it is.” He also believes “the living conditions for Coast Guard personnel are far better than they were 43 years ago” and that “the regular Coast Guard has more respect and appreciation for reservists” than they did in 1958.

Zimmer has been married to his wife, Joyce (Joy), for 23 years. He met her in the chow line at RTC Yorktown on Coast Guard Day, Aug. 4, 1974. At that time he was a chief and she was a storekeeper second class assigned to the training center. He is the proud father of six children (three are his own, and three are Joyce’s). His stepson, ET3 Keith Wectawski, USCG, is deceased.

He served in the New York Police Department from 1966-1968 and in Engine Company 42 of the Fire Department of New York City in the South Bronx from 1968-1976 — at that time the busiest engine company in the world (almost 7,000 calls per year). Zimmer has been co-owner of a design build company (J. Zimmer, Inc.) with Joyce since 1978, and is also a Planner/Estimator for the Government Services Administration (GSA).

Zimmer plans to devote more time to his civilian job and wants to use the time he spent performing Coast Guard duty “floating around on the Ohio River in his 21-foot Chriscraft boat and, when needed, assisting the Coast Guard with an occasional SAR case or two.”

The master chief feels that the Coast Guard has given far more to him than he has been able to give back. Borrowing the words of the late President John F. Kennedy, Zimmer wants all Coast Guardsmen to remember, “It’s not what the Coast Guard can do for you, but what you can do for the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard won’t let you down. Always Semper Paratus.”

— By *LT John Combs, USCGR and LT Jerry Nauert, USCGR*

*Ed’s note: MCPO Zimmer’s retirement ceremony was June 29 at the Louisville Boat Club, and he turned 60 (RET-1) on July 2. Jefferson County Judge Executive Rebecca Jackson declared June 29, 2001 MCPO Joe Zimmer Day. Anyone wishing to contact Zimmer may do so via e-mail at: JZimmer@megsinet.net.*

# SELRES MEMBERS AND INVOLUNTARY RECALL TO ACTIVE DUTY

ALCOAST 189/01, dtg R 261817Z APR 01, outlines several important things reservists need to be aware of regarding involuntary recalls to active duty. Here is the text of ALCOAST 189/01:

Reference A: *Reserve Policy Manual (RPM)*, COMDTINST M1001.28, 4.A.5

Reference B: Coast Guard Manpower Mobilization and Support Plan (MMSP), COMDTINST M3061.1

1. The Coast Guard Reserve fills a crucial role in the security of our nation, particularly in support of Commanders in Chief (CINCS) requirements worldwide. Hence, Selected Reserve (SELRES) members must be ready for military contingencies and domestic emergencies on short notice. The Coast Guard recognizes the impact a recall places on the Selected Reservist and their personal situations outside of the Coast Guard, including civilian employment, family situations, business undertakings, and other hardship situations. In order to foster readiness, Selected Reservists should continually address their ability to deploy/mobilize and determine whether their availability becomes impaired due to employment, family, medical, or other conditions. When a situation precludes mobilization or deployment, the Selected Reservist has the responsibility to notify their commanding officer of the impediment.

2. SELRES members may request a hardship transfer to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) or a deferment in case of temporary hardship, subject to documented serious or emergent personal situations under Reference A and B. These are valuable options for striking a balance between Selected Reserve participation and personal needs. However, when these options are exercised in the planning stage of a Presidential Reserve Call-Up (PRC), a Secretarial Involuntary Recall under 14 U.S.C. 712 or a partial or full mobilization, they threaten our readiness.

3. Effective immediately, all members of the SELRES are required to sign a page 7 (CG-3307) which will include the following verbiage: "I am ready to deploy and be mobilized on short notice. If my deployability becomes impaired due to employment, family, medical, or other conditions, I shall notify my command about the impediment in writing immediately." This form is to be used upon initial check-in to the unit, and re-initiated by the member annually, on a schedule set by the individual unit (for instance to coincide with the unit All Hands).

4. The ability of the member to request transfer to the IRR or deferment will remain. However, once a PRC, Secretarial Involuntary Recall, or a partial or full mobilization has been signed by the President of the United States, the needs of the service will take precedence.

5. Upon activation or mobilization, all members shall report for active duty as ordered. Once on active duty, a member with a hardship situation may request relief via their chain of command. The reservist shall remain on active duty until relieved. A member who refuses to comply with orders for a recall to active duty is subject to penalties imposed by the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Among other situations, the member could receive a dismissal, a bad conduct discharge, a dishonorable discharge or an administrative discharge characterized as other than honorable.

6. Any SELRES member who requests removal or transfer from the SELRES shall repay his or her enlistment, reenlistment or affiliation bonus, or special pay, as provided in Title 37 United States Code.

7. The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) provides reservists with employment rights during periods of active duty service. While you must meet certain criteria, the law provides safeguards for reemployment upon return from active duty. Members recalled to active duty involuntarily are exempt from the five-year limit on duration of service. Information on USERRA can be found on the National Committee of Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve Web site at [www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org), and at [www.ncesgr.osd.mil/law.htm](http://www.ncesgr.osd.mil/law.htm) (includes questions and answers).

8. There is no federal law that provides special benefits to students recalled to active duty. States may provide limited benefits. Service members Opportunity Colleges are a resource for this information. You can call 1-800-368-5622 or go to [www.soc.aascu.org](http://www.soc.aascu.org)

9. This information will be incorporated into the next formal change of References A and B.

10. Internet release authorized.

Released by RADM R.D. Sirois, Director of Reserve & Training.

# SELECTED RESERVE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS PACKAGE

By LT Dave Roberts (G-WTR-1)

Have you seen or heard the other Armed Forces advertisements enticing potential recruits to “sign up” and earn \$25,000, \$30,000 or more toward their college education? Have you ever wondered what an Educational Benefits Package for someone in the Coast Guard Selected Reserve (SELRES) might look like? A person joining the CG SELRES and completing Basic Training before their freshman year of college could potentially earn over \$30,000 to offset college expenses. This package isn’t exactly the same as the other armed forces, but with some creativity and ambition, an individual in the SELRES has some significant earning power. A reservist interested in using all the benefits (e.g., Tuition Assistance) would need to be aggressive in applying to ensure they maximized use of those benefits.

Tuition Assistance and Montgomery GI Bill amounts are reviewed annually. If benefits increase in the future this will be an even more impressive package.

In addition to the financial package listed in the box, **SELRES personnel are eligible to participate, at no cost to the member, in the College Level Examination Program (CLEP).** CLEP tests are approved by the American Council on Education (ACE), recognized by the majority of colleges and universities, and can earn participants valuable semester hours toward their degree. **Some schools also give college credit for military training and experience.**

If you’re a college student in the SELRES, ensure you’re taking full advantage of all the financial and educational benefits available to you. See your Educational Services Officer (ESO) for additional guidance.

Do you know someone who may be interested in utilizing these benefits by joining the Coast Guard SELRES? If yes, pass this valuable information on and have them contact their local recruiting office (1-877-NOW-USCG). By joining the SELRES, they’ll gain assistance toward obtaining a college degree, and the Coast Guard will gain a valuable, educated individual in its workforce.

<u>DESCRIPTION OF DUTY</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Basic Training (Cape May — 8 weeks IADT)	\$1,930
IDT Drills — 1st year of college (48 drills)	\$1,872
“A” School (average of 8 weeks IADT) (after 1st year of college)	\$2,445
IDT Drills — 2nd year of college (48 drills)	\$2,064
ADT (2 wks) (summer after 2nd year of college)	\$569
IDT Drills — 3rd year of college (48 drills)	\$2,280
ADT (2 wks) (summer after 3rd year of college)	\$600
IDT Drills — 3rd year of college (48 drills)	\$2,400
Tuition Assistance (\$2,500 per year)	\$10,000
Montgomery GI Bill (\$263 x 36 months)	\$9,468
CG Mutual Assistance (\$300 yr)* Supplemental Education Grant (SEG)	<u>\$1,200</u>
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$34,828</u></b>

\* *CGMA: Anticipate reduction of SEG to \$100 per year beginning FY02.*

Several “assumptions” regarding the chart: The individual graduates Basic Training as an E-2, advances to E-3 in the minimum time, graduates from “A” school as a PO3/E-4 and completes the maximum allowable number of drills (48) per year. Even if the member does not advance in the minimal time possible or complete 48 drills per year, this can still be a significant financial package.

## IN BRIEF

### • ATTENTION! RESERVE

**SERVICEWIDE EXAM** — Is set for Saturday, Oct. 20. **Important Reminder: Reservists who were at or above the cut on their individual lists from last year's test do not need to retake the RSWE again this year.** They will be carried over to the top of the new list when it is established. They are guaranteed an advancement — just can't say when. If their individual list has no cut, then they must take the test again to remain competitive. Questions may be directed to MCPO George Ingraham, Reserve Force Master Chief; Phone: 202-267-6844; E-mail: [gingraham@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:gingraham@comdt.uscg.mil)

### • KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL —

Veterans who served in Korea between the outbreak of hostilities, June 25, 1950, and the date the armistice was signed, July 27, 1953, are eligible for the Korean War Service Medal. The veteran or relative must provide a copy of the veteran's discharge papers (DD Form-214), or a corrected version of that document (DD Form-215) along with the request to: HQ AFPC/DPPRA, 550 C Street West, Suite 12, Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714.

• **NEW IT & OS RATINGS** — You'll soon be hearing more about the new Information Technology (IT) and Operations Systems (OS) ratings. Solicitation for the new ratings will begin in February 2002 with stand-up slated for July 2003. For more info, check out the Joint Rating Review Web site:

<http://www.uscg.mil/HQ/G-W/JRR/>



### • SEEKING PS RATING BADGE

**HISTORY** — Over the years, the PS rating badge

has changed several times. However, dates of each PS rating badge are not well documented. If any one has any historical information on this, please contact CWO Don Allen at Training Center Yorktown, Port Ops School, Hamilton Hall #108, Yorktown, VA 23690-5000; Phone: 757-856-2541; E-mail: [dallen@tcyorktown.uscg.mil](mailto:dallen@tcyorktown.uscg.mil)

### • SPACE-REQUIRED MILITARY

**PROCEDURES** — As mentioned in the May 2001 issue, reservists can now fly space-required on government aircraft to and from their Reserve IDT sites worldwide. The Web site below has the procedures for use of SRMA for travel to and from Inactive Duty Training, the recommended format for written authorization, and the TRANSCOM 23 Dec 99 message. [http://raweb.osd.mil/publications/info\\_papers/spacerequired.htm](http://raweb.osd.mil/publications/info_papers/spacerequired.htm)

### • THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN PACKAGES —

Each active duty and reserve member of the Coast Guard will receive a Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) information package some time before Oct. 9, 2001. This package will contain a cover letter, sign-up form and booklet titled *Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan for the Uniformed Services*. When a member decides to participate in the TSP, all they need do is complete the TSP-U-1 form (in the package or at [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov)), mail the original to HRSIC(CST), 444 SE Quincy Street, Topeka, KS 66683 (keep a copy for yourself). HRSIC will notify the National Finance Center in New Orleans that the member is now a TSP participant and the NFC will send the member a "Welcome Aboard" package. At that point, the member can tell the NFC what specific fund(s) they want to invest in.

### • TUITION ASSISTANCE INCREASE —

The annual Tuition Assistance cap for Selected Reserve members has been increased from \$1,500 to \$2,500. There were also other changes. Check with your Educational Services Officer or see ALCOAST 297/01 for more information.

### • U.S. FLAG UPON RETIREMENT —

The entitlement to a U.S. flag upon retirement from the Coast Guard became effective Feb. 1, 2001. If you retired after that date, you are entitled to a flag; there is no grandfather provision with the flag legislation. For information, see ALCOAST 178/01 or contact LCDR Jim Brewster, Commandant (G-WPM-2); Phone: 202-267-1648; E-mail: [jbrewster@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:jbrewster@comdt.uscg.mil)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **COAST GUARD RESERVE 60TH BIRTHDAY** — Is being commemorated across the nation all year long! Send us stories and photos from your local event and we'll publish them in "Spirit of the Sixtieth" throughout 2001.

### OCTOBER 2001

- **USNI WARFARE EXPOSITION & SYMPOSIUM** — Oct. 3-4, Pavilion Convention Center, Virginia Beach, Va. For info, call 410-295-1067; Web: [www.navalinstitute.org](http://www.navalinstitute.org)
- **GREAT LAKES LIGHTHOUSE FESTIVAL** — Oct. 11-14, Alpena, Mich. Contact Alpena Chamber of Commerce, 1-800-4-ALPENa; Web: [www.alpenacvb.com](http://www.alpenacvb.com) (click on "Fall" button).
- **RESERVE SERVICEWIDE EXAM** — Is Saturday, Oct. 20. Mark your calendar if you plan on sitting for this year's exam! See March/April 2001 *Reservist* for an SWE article, page 32-33, and this issue for an article on "SWE Variable." Also see previous page.
- **CGC CUYAHOGA COMMEMORATION** — At TRACEN Yorktown, Va., Saturday, Oct. 20, at 11 a.m. This year's ceremony will mark 23 years since the Oct. 20, 1978, collision of *CGC Cuyahoga* and *M/V Santa Cruz II*. The incident took the lives of 10 Coast Guardsmen and one Indonesian Naval Officer. For more information, contact HSC Paul Battenfeld, 757-856-2282/2230, or e-mail: [pbattenfeld@tcyorktown.uscg.mil](mailto:pbattenfeld@tcyorktown.uscg.mil)

## REUNIONS

- **RESERVE UNIT ALTOONA** — Former members of Reserve Unit Altoona Pa. are interested in contacting all former members to form an association to promote the USCG and its missions. Contact: CDR William Erbeck, USCGR (ret.), RR 5 Box 186, Tyrone, PA 16686-9743; Phone: 814-684-1327; E-mail: [WilliamErbeck@msn.com](mailto:WilliamErbeck@msn.com)
- **RESERVE UNIT TRAVERSE CITY** — Is updating its roster for an upcoming reunion. Please contact HSC P.L. Scharf, USCGR(ret.), 4252 N. Five Mile Road, Williamsburg, MI 49690; E-mail: [hscpat@juno.com](mailto:hscpat@juno.com)

### SEPTEMBER 2001

- **USTRANSCOM JTRU** — Past and present members of the USCG element at JTRU, USTRANSCOM, Scott AFB, Ill. are invited to attend a Sept. 28-30 reunion at Scott to commemorate the 10th year since the JTRU's establishment. Whether you plan on attending or not, if you have *ever* served with TRANSCOM, please update your contact info so you may be invited to this fall's and future events. Contact: CDR Tim Aines, USCGR, Phone: 312-961-4338; E-mail: [taines@prodigy.net](mailto:taines@prodigy.net)

### OCTOBER 2001

- **USS PEORIA(PF 67)** — Oct. 4-7, Best Western

### NOVEMBER 2001

- **VETERANS DAY WREATHLAYING** — Fifth annual at Coast Guard Monument (Tampa Memorial) on Coast Guard Hill, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., Sunday, Nov. 11, 12:45 p.m. Contact John Thorne, Commandant (G-IPA-3); Phone: 202-267-0938; E-mail: [jthorne@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:jthorne@comdt.uscg.mil)
- **2001 COAST GUARD BALL** — Saturday, Nov. 17, 6 p.m., at the Crystal Gateway Marriott, 1700 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA 22202. For hotel reservations, call 703-920-3230. For more info, contact Wayne Rardon, Commandant(G-SCE-2); Phone: 202-267-1335; E-mail: [wardon@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:wardon@comdt.uscg.mil)
- **SPARS 59TH BIRTHDAY** — The Women's Reserve (SPARS) was formed Nov. 23, 1942. 2002 will mark the SPARs 60th anniversary year.

### DECEMBER 2001

- **PEARL HARBOR DAY 60TH CEREMONY** — Friday, Dec. 7, 11:55 a.m. aboard *CGC Taney*, at Pier 5, Pratt Street in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Sponsored by Baltimore's Maritime Museum at Living Classrooms Foundation. Contact Mr. Paul Cora, 802. S. Caroline St., Baltimore, MD 21231; Phone: 410-396-3453; E-mail: [national-historicseaport@erols.com](mailto:national-historicseaport@erols.com); Web: [www.baltomaritimemuseum.org](http://www.baltomaritimemuseum.org)
- **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.roat.org](http://www.roat.org)

### JANUARY 2002

- **USS CASCO AVP-12** — 9th reunion, Oct. 5-6, at the Holiday Inn Capitol Hotel, 550 C St., SW, Washington, DC 20024. For reservations, call 202-479-4000 (mention *USS Casco* reunion). For more info, contact Gary Wehrmann, P.O. Box 1263, Helotes, TX 78023-1263; Phone: 210-647-6376; E-mail: [gwehrmann@aol.com](mailto:gwehrmann@aol.com); Casco Reunion Web: [http://members.aol.com/gwehrmann/casco\\_reunion/casco.htm](http://members.aol.com/gwehrmann/casco_reunion/casco.htm)
- **USS SPENCER** — CG-W-36 Association and WMEC-905, Oct. 11-15, Williamsburg, Va. Anyone who served aboard the 327 or 270 is welcome. Contact: Jack Shampine, Secretary-Treasurer, 7398 Route 31, Cicero, NY 13039, Phone: 315-699-3127 or Hank Rogers, 32 Freedom Court, Baltimore, MD 21220, Phone: 410-335-6826.
- **USNS SAMUAL MOORE (DD-747)** — Oct. 17-21, LaQuinta Convention Center, San Antonio, Texas. Contact: Donald W. Rank, 17568 Frondell Court, Eden Prairie, MN 55347, Phone: 612-975-0374; E-mail: [dd747@juno.com](mailto:dd747@juno.com)

Oceanside Hotel, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., For reservations, call 1-800-367-1007 or contact CDR Nat Orr, USCGR(ret.) at 561-833-1661.

# RESERVE PROGRAM NEWS

— By CDR Dale Rausch, Commandant (G-WTR-2)

The intent of this section is to keep our readership apprised on the progress of significant studies and initiatives that will directly impact the future of the Reserve Program.

• **Family Guidebook for CG Reservists** —

This guidebook is in the final stages of review. It will be distributed to all reservists, and will provide information on preparing for recall including legal responsibilities, financial planning, family support points of contact, etc. It is the first time such a guide has been specifically written for members of the Coast Guard Reserve. For additional information, contact LT Tom Farrell, Commandant (G-WTR-1); Phone: 202-267-0569; E-mail: [tfarrell@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:tfarrell@comdt.uscg.mil)

• **Inactive Duty Reserve Officer Management Study (IROMS)** —

The IROMS Study was first chartered in the spring of 2000. The study group was comprised of members of the Selected Reserve, staff members from Reserve Affairs, as well as representatives from various program managers. The group studied the affect that integration has had on the Reserve officer corps and made suggestions about ways to improve career opportunities and force management. The study was very thorough as it looked at all factors that affect Reserve officers including skill development, employability, and maximizing opportunities for leadership and management under the current *Team Coast Guard* organization. Other issues include improving the opportunity for advancement of senior officers in order to enhance career potential. The study's final report was approved by the Director of Reserve and Training in January 2001. The recommendations in the final report will be phased in over the next few years. For detailed information, please contact

CAPT Frank Buckley, Chief of Reserve Affairs, Commandant (G-WTR); Phone: 202-267-0616; E-mail: [fbuckley@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:fbuckley@comdt.uscg.mil)

• **Performance Consultants Assist With PSU Readiness Study** — The Office of Training and Performance Consulting (G-WTT) is providing consulting assistance for the PSU Study initiated by the Office of Defense Operations (G-OPD). This study is analyzing the PSU Program and will recommend ways to increase PSU training and readiness. Study team members represent the PSU Training Detachment, the Office of Reserve and Training, (G-WTR), LANTAREA, PACAREA, and a number of field units. The study is slated for completion by October 2001.

• **Reserve Policy Board (RPB)** —

The Coast Guard RPB will reconvene in November at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas. It will consider items brought before the board at its last meeting, March 2-3, 2001. For an RPB review, see the June/July 2001 *Reservist*,

View from the Bridge, by RADM

Mary P. O'Donnell. The RPB will publish its report early next year.

• **Reserve Policy Manual (RPM) Revision**

— The RPM (COMDTINST M1001.28) is being rewritten to include the most up-to-date information on Reserve administrative processes. It is also being reformatted to make it easier to use. Editing is expected to be completed during October 2001 with publication and distribution (via hard copy and the Reserve Web site) to follow by early 2002. Questions or concerns can be directed to CWO4 James Roberts, Commandant (G-WTR-1); Phone: 202-267-1868; E-mail: [jroberts@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:jroberts@comdt.uscg.mil)



# It's TIME To Go...

**F**air winds and following seas. Those are dreaded words for devoted Coasties who must retire in the near future based on ALCOAST 090/01. Our fellow crew members who are over 30 years of service and over 60 years of age will be crossing the brow to retirement.

Most will go kicking and screaming. Others will welcome the respite called retirement. Others will fight the system to the bitter end simply because they don't want to leave. There will be 11th hour submissions for waivers, phone calls for extensions, and solicitations for endorsements. Fact of the matter is — it's time to go. You have been allowed to stay since integration because the Coast Guard Reserve needed you. Up and out has always been the business at hand.

Now that we are just below authorized strength, it's time to let those who follow take the helm. But when you do go, go in style. First of all, review the April/May 2000 issue of *The Reservist* that covered retirement. Next, tailor the retirement ceremony to fit you. Some prefer to leave quietly with little fanfare, others prefer an extravaganza. Having devoted 30 years of your life, you deserve the best.

Remember, you must request retirement utilizing Form 2055A. Question 11 asks if you want a retirement ceremony. Planning is the key to a successful retirement ceremony. You must be included in the entire planning process. Decide how big or small you want it as it is you who has to bear the financial costs for any food or drink at any social gathering after the ceremony. Pay close attention to the context of the formal ceremony. Make it meaningful. You must determine who to invite. The Coast Guard is not authorized to pay for the cost of printing and mailing invitations for retirement ceremonies. The point of contact for planning purposes is usually the master of ceremonies. A retirement package from HRSIC includes a retirement certificate, a retirement button, a Good Conduct award if applicable, and a Certificate of Appreciation for your spouse and retirement orders. Your unit is authorized to present a plaque using non-appropriated funds. Units are authorized to present a flag.

What attracted you to the Coast Guard? Was it the boats, ships, aircraft, pay, pension? What kept you here so long? Was it the nature of the mission, saving lives and property, law enforcement, protecting the

environment, the interesting assignments, the measure of value of your worth, the responsibility, the camaraderie? Or was it an intrinsic value of your moral fiber, patriotism? Devotion to God and duty?

Whatever the reason, your mission is complete. You have served your country, Coast Guard, and fellow crew members well. Be an integral part of planning your own recognition. Before the retirement ceremony, stroll the decks one last time. Walk to the focsle and scan the horizon. Take a good look, focus on those contacts. There are new assignments out there for you. They come in varied forms. The Auxiliary may need you. Get involved with their social event planning, charitable fund raising, or mentoring. Join or increase your involvement in the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association, Chief Petty Officer's Association, or the Top 3 Association. Become active in the local Fleet Reserve branch. Does your town need a Veteran's Agent? Focus on retirement issues, benefits, or health care. Now's the time to plan that station reunion, or write an article for Fred's Place.

As you cross the brow being piped ashore reminiscent of the words "We have the watch," smile from your heart sailor. You haven't left. You've merely gone ashore.

And from me, you'll never hear the words, "Fair winds and following seas." You will hear *Semper Paratus*.

*Ed's note: MCPO O'Neill is retiring March 13, 2002, and an official ceremony is set for April 13, 2002, 11 a.m. at ISC Boston. He can be reached by writing P.O. Box 521, Peabody, MA 01960. Phone: 781-593-6645; E-mail: tjoneilljr@prodigy.net*



**By MCPO Thomas J. O'Neill, USCGR  
Reserve Command Master Chief, First District**

**To the victims and the families, of the  
tragedies that occurred on Sept. 11, 2001.**



**We stand  
with you.**

Commanding Officer (mas)  
Human Resources Service & Information Center  
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Topeka, KS 66683-3591

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