



#### 4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS –

4.1 **Agenda** - The Proposed Agenda and supporting material were distributed and CDR Bruce Russell invited attendees to suggest changes. No changes were suggested, and without objection, the Agenda was approved as submitted.

4.1.1 **Comments by the Headquarters Support Command** - CAPT Jack Smith, reported that Headquarters will remain in its present location for at least another year. DHS aims to consolidate Headquarters Units at a single site – yet to be determined. Meanwhile efforts continue to enhance the present Headquarters site. Attention was directed to historical Coast Guard displays in the first floor main corridor. He also commented that the Personnel Services Center is considering the use of a “Global pay package” that would enable retired personnel to access and update their own personnel data files. He noted the recent increase in Coast Guard presence and SAR activities in the Arctic ocean off Alaska.

4.1.2 **Minutes of the 7 December, 2007 Retiree Council meeting** – were approved conditionally. Available copies of the minutes were not legible because of poor reproduction. CAPT Glass agreed to E-mail the minutes of the December 7, 2007 meeting to Council members for their review and consideration. The Minutes were approved subject to resolution of any objections to the E-mailed minutes from Council members.

4.1.3 **Future Meeting Schedule** - The Council agreed to the following schedule of future meetings:

Friday 27 June 2008  
Friday 26 September, 2008  
Friday 5 December 2008  
Friday 27 March 2009

#### 5. COUNCIL PROGRAM

##### 5.1 OLD BUSINESS

5.1.1 **Recruiting and Membership Outreach** – The Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council Newsletter, prepared by CAPT Norman Lemley: [nlemley2@comcast.net](mailto:nlemley2@comcast.net), and the Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council WEB site: <http://www.uscg.mil/ccs/carc>, operated by CAPT Bob Warakomsky: [bpwarakom@cox.net](mailto:bpwarakom@cox.net), are the primary outreach mechanisms for the Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council. The WEB site is broadly accessible and includes all issues of the Newsletter. Retirees are invited to contribute to the Newsletter which is disseminated to all Coast Guard retirees in the Washington DC area, and to submit E-mail suggestions regarding WEB site features to CAPT Warakomsky.

5.1.2 **Help Desk Utilization** – CDR Russell reported on behalf of CAPT Warakomsky, that CGHQ’s National Retiree Help Desk (NRHD) has handled hundreds of inquiries since the HELP DESK was started in July 2006, with an average response of less than 48 hours. Recent data shows the inquiry rate is steadily increasing to 3-4 inquiries per day. All USCG retirees or their family members are encouraged to contact the NRHD by voicemail: 202-475-5381 or 1-866-664-6245 or by e-mail, [NRHD@uscg.mil](mailto:NRHD@uscg.mil), if they have questions or problems that are not otherwise being addressed or resolved. Recurring issues handled by the Help Desk have been documented in the file of “Frequently Asked Questions” (FAQ) published in the Retiree Council WEB site listed in Section 5.1.1 above.

5.1.3 **WEB Site Update** – The Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council WEB site was updated in March. CAPT Warakomsky adds information of interest to Retirees to the WEB site as it becomes available. Retirees who wish to suggest additional information be added to the WEB site are encouraged to E-mail it to CAPT Warakomsky.

5.1.4 **Holiday Party : Lessons Learned & Worklist** – As reported in the minutes of the December 7, 2007 Retiree Council meeting, the worklist (Attachment 1) developed by CDR Bruce Russell served well for planning the 2007 holiday party and is recommended for consideration for planning future Retiree Council parties.

## 5.1 NEW BUSINESS

**5.2.1 Development of Caregivers Guide** – The Retiree Council’s Caregivers Guide Project is progressing. Project leaders are Bruce Russell and Bud Schneeweis. There is no single source of critical entitlement information for caregivers of aging Coast Guard retirees, dependents, and annuitants. The Caregivers Guide will be limited to retiree entitlements and those services provided by veterans and mutual organizations. This information will be helpful to children, social workers and others engaged who are supporting the retiree, annuitant, dependent. We intend to keep this simple and for the most part self-sustaining, that is refer/direct the user to other documents, websites and contacts. Comments and suggestions welcome.

Proposed topics include:

- Coast Guard pension (reading the Statement) (Deductions and allotments)
- RAS support (web site and Points of contact)
- Evening Colors
- Survivor benefit (annuitant pension),
- DEERS enrollment,
- ID cards ( explain why this is important for both retiree benefits but also for personal finance—often aging parents loose their drivers license and this ID card becomes there only ID).
- TRICARE pre-65
- TRICARE for LIFE Post 65
- Medicare and TRICARE
- 1-800-HBAHBA
- Military Treatment Facilities
- TRICARE Delta Dental
- Prescriptions
- VA benefits for retirees (Disability),
- VA hospital for financially strapped retirees
- Life insurance: SBP, VGLife, NMAA, others
- Long-term care options, OPM, NMAA life insurance policy conversions
- Veterans’ organizations (e.g., MOAA, FRA, NMA)
- Continuity of benefits and entitlements for survivors
- Powers of Attorney and retiree benefits

**5.2.2 Selection of Council Officers** – Discussions were opened on selection of Council Officers. CAPT Bud Schneeweis was nominated to replace CDR Russell as Council Chairman but all other Officers agreed to continue serving in their present positions. The following nominations were made and elected by unanimous vote of the Council members present:

Chairman	CAPT W.G. “Bud” Schneeweis
Co-Chairman	YNCS Dennis (Mike) M. White
Secretary	CAPT Charles Glass

Attachment 2 is the listing of the current membership of the Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council and supporting Staff:

**5.2.3 2008 Annual National Retiree Council Meeting** – Attendees and Agenda are included in Attachment 3

Minutes prepared by CAPT Charles Glass, Council Secretary  
Submitted: 1 May, 2008

CDR Bruce Russell



SCPO Dennis M. (Mike) White Mike White

Co-Chairs, Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council

Approved : \_\_\_\_\_  
CAPT Jack Smith, COCGHSC

## SEMPER PARTY WORKLIST

1. Design and send out a preliminary invitation/notice of the Semper Party. Be sure that the invitation list includes active duty and retired Flags and senior civilians (SES); retired civilians and retired enlisted. Determine estimated costs per head for the party.
2. Place a “teaser” announcement in the June and September Newsletter just to give a heads up and ask folks to mark their calendars (and await the final notice). Also place a notice on our Web site and keep updated.
3. Finalize and distribute the formal invitation via our Google list serve three weeks before the party, with payment due 1 week before the party (for the head count). Payments may be made at the party.
4. Design name tags to include CG racing strip, first name in large font, and last name in smaller font...no ranks.
5. Invite the Commandant and MCPOCG to attend as our guests; contact schedulers in September and follow up periodically with an updated attendees list. Note: 1 week before the party the protocol officers will contact the planning committee for logistics information. Depending on the COMDT and MCPOCG, no security and minimal pomp is necessary. Provide a reserved parking space for each. Provide the COMDT with thoughts on what the partyers would like to hear about the CG.
6. Choose CG-themed image for top of cake; a one or two layer cake should suffice.
7. Identify what is needed for piped in music and CDs of traditional holiday music. Note: once the party starts the music is barely audible.
8. Design and place CG-themed directional signs to guide people to parking, the special drop-off and regular entrance, and to the party room. Design layout of room to reduce congestion and lines. In the Vinson Hall penthouse lounge 100-125 party goers is comfortable.
9. Set up a two tables for the names tags in the reception area.
10. Set up a 6’ table for the beverage tickets and raffle tickets. Locate this table opposite the bar and past the reception table (on the same side of the room).
11. Get 3-5 sample menus from Vinson Hall staff and circulate for comment and approval by the planning committee. Two large roasts work well when accompanied by several h'orderves. Be sure that the food table has labels for the h'orderves. Provide water in pitchers on the table with the egg nog
12. Add suggestion to November-time frame email to bring cameras and request that participants share best of pictures via the Retirees Council via web site posting.
13. Policy on snow: will hold if roads are cleared; no refunds. (The planning committee should consult during the day of party as required)
14. Plan for ample parking and for close by parking for the less than able (but not disabled).
15. Organize Retiree Council to act as welcoming committee / hosts and station watch standers. At least 11 watch standers are necessary:
  - 2 to direct guests at the lobby;
  - 2 to escort the COMDT and the MCPOCG;
  - 2 at the reception desk (name tag) table, 4 for the drink tickets and raffle table, and 1 rover (the host).
  - The Chair of the Council will be the master of ceremonies.
  - Two people in addition to the hosts should be assigned to cleanup (e.g. retrieving of signs, etc.)
16. The Master of Ceremonies should speak about the Retiree Council activities in addition to thanking our hosts, the MCPOCG, others, and introducing the Retiree Council attendees and then the COMDT to speak.
17. Finance: collect payments and pay bills.
18. Organize raffle. Consider soliciting for potential prizes (Coast Guard memorabilia).

19. Hold after action report / lessons learned meeting.

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**AGENDA FOR THE 2008  
COAST GUARD NATIONAL RETIREE COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, 28 April 2008**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
1500	HOTEL CHECK-IN

**ATTENDEES**

RADM Fred Ames	CCGNRC Co-Chair
MCPOCG Vince Patton	CCGNRC Co-Chair
CAPT Dana Starkweather	Pacific Northwest
CAPT W. G. "Bud" Schneeweis	Capital Area
CAPT Bob Warakomsky	Capital Area
Ms. Susan Baicar, CIV(Ret)	Capital Area
CDR Bruce A. Russell	Capital Area
SCPO Mike White	Capital Area
CAPT Bill Wilkins	North Coast
MCPO Ib Andersen	Cape May
MCPO Douglas Squires	Tidewater
SCPO Thomas Dutton	Hawaii
CAPT Kenneth Harrison	Greater Miami
CWO Edward Weiss	Jacksonville
MCPO Larry Foster Conley	Yorktown
CDR Salvador Romo, Jr	Northern California
CWO Fred Siegel	Council-at-Large
Ms. Lois Dolliver-Ensrud	Annuitant
Mr. Jarvis Kolen (CG-1222)	CCGNRC Liaison

<b>Tuesday, 29 APR 2008</b>
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**Room 9-1419, JEMAL Building Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, DC**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Speaker(s)</u>
0730	Refreshments	
0800	Welcome and Introduction	<b>Council Co-Chairs</b>
0820	Administrative Announcements	<b>Mr. Jarvis Kolen</b> CCGNRC Coordinator
0830	Review 2007 Council Report	<b>Council Co-Chairs</b>
0930	Welcome & Update Personnel/Workforce Issues	<b>RADM Pearson CG-1</b>
0945	<b>BREAK</b>	
1000	Retiree Dental Program	<b>Mr. Patrick Henry/Tom McDavid</b>
1200	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>on your own; available at CGHQ</b>
1300	Armed Forces Retirement Home	<b>Ms. Sheila R. Abarr (PA AFRH)</b>
1400	CGKO access for Retiree Address	<b>Open MIC</b>
1530	<b>BREAK</b>	
1545	ID Card for Retired Civilian	<b>CWO Shirley Tennyson, CG-1222</b> <b>(Conference call)</b>
1600	Review & Preps for Next Day	<b>Co-Chairs</b>

1630 **SECURE**  
 1800 **Welcome Reception sponsored by Delta Dental at the Virginia Suites**

**Wednesday, 30 APR 2008**

**Room 9-1419, JEMAL Building, Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, DC**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Speakers</u>
0800	Medical Update (TRICARE, TFL, TRICARE Senior Pharmacy)	<b>RADM Robert Tedesco, USPHS (CG-11)</b> <b>CWO2 Rebecca Vinlove USCG</b>
0945	<b>BREAK</b>	
1000	Caregivers Guide	<b>CDR Bruce Russell, USCG,</b> <b>Capitol Area Council</b>
1045	<b>BREAK</b>	
1100	CG Mutual Assistance Support/Outreach	<b>CWO Boisvere, USCG, (Ret)</b> Executive Director, CGMA <b>CWO Ronald Wolf, USCG, (Ret)</b>
1200	MOAA LUNCHEON (Flag Mess)	<b>VADM Norb Ryan, USN (Ret), Pres</b> <b>MOAA</b>
1300	Military Coalition & Veterans Alliance Update	<b>Mr. John Davis (FRA)</b> <b>CDR Rene Campo, USN (Ret) (MOAA)</b>
1500	<b>BREAK</b>	
1515	CGHQ'S Retiree's Program Helpdesk	<b>CAPT Bob Warakomsky, USCGR (Ret.)</b>
1615	Review & Preps for Next Day	<b>Co-Chairs</b>
1630	<b>SECURE</b>	

**THURSDAY, 1 May 2008**

**Room 9-1419, JEMAL Building Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, DC**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Speakers</u>
0800	Morning discussions (Open MIC)	<b>ALL Attendees</b>
0900	Personnel Service Center (PSC)	<b>Ms. Debbie Farley</b> PSC (RAS)
1030	<b>BREAK</b>	
1045	Retiree Volunteers Support to Work-Life Program	<b>Mr. Robert Skewes, (CG-111)</b>
1200	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>on your own; available at CGHQ</b>
1300	Commandant's Perspective (COMDT Briefing Room 2610)	<b>Admiral Thad W. ALLEN (G-C)</b>
1400	Develop Topic List for Report	<b>All Attendees</b>
1445	<b>BREAK</b>	
1500	Administrative Details -- Complete travel claims -- Fill out Conference Evaluation Form -- Pack up materials for mailing home	<b>Mr. Jarvis Kolen</b>
1530	Closing Remarks	<b>Co-Chairs</b>
1600	<b>2008 MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	<b>for Regional Council Reps</b>
1615	Review 2008 Meeting, Outline Draft Report	<b>Co-Chairs</b>

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