

From: Co-Chairs, Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council
To: Council Members (via E-Mail)

Subject: Minutes of the Friday 25 March 2011 Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council Meeting

In accordance with the COMDTINST 1800.5e, Sec. 6.b. (6) the following minutes are submitted for your review and comment. Upon receipt of your comments, the minutes will be revised as recommended and will be distributed to Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council Members, to the National Retiree Council and to other Coast Guard Regional Retiree Councils. They will also be posted on our WEB site for access by Retiree Council affiliated Retirees in the Washington, DC Metro area, and others.

MINUTES OF THE FRIDAY, 25 March, 2011 MEETING OF THE CAPITAL AREA COAST GUARD RETIREE COUNCIL

Welcome and Introductions – Co-Chair SCPO Mike White convened the council meeting at 0900 on Friday 25 March 2011 in Room B718 of Coast Guard Headquarters.

Council Members: LCDR John Bagg III	CAPT Norman W. Lemley
In Attendance Mrs. Lula Carpenter	Mr. Norman Paulhus
Mr. Paul Cojeen	CDR Bruce Russell
LCDR David Du Pont	CAPT W.G. “Bud Schneeweis
CAPT Robert Gauvin	CDR Benjamin Stoppe
CAPT Stephen Goldhammer	SCPO Mike White

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Welcome and Introductions
Discuss and Approve Minutes of the 3 December, 2010 Council Meeting

2. COUNCIL PROGRAM

OLD BUSINESS

- 1.1 Status of Email Distribution List and Membership Outreach**
- 1.2 Help Desk Utilization – (email nrhdesk@gmail.com)**
- 1.3 Update on Newsletter**
- 1.4 Website Update**
- 1.5 Caregivers Guide**

NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Council Membership and Committees

- 2.2 National Council Meeting – Agenda Items and Presenters**
- 2.3 Treasurers Report**
- 2.4 Promotion of Retiree Participation in the USCG Related Events, i.e.; “Pump Primer List”/DC Area Events Calendar**
- 2.5 Contacts with Coast Guard Officers Spouses Club of Washington, DC and the Joint Base Fort Meyers Council**
- 2.6 2011 Meeting Schedule**
- 2.7 Suggestions for the Good of the Order**
- 2.8 New Security and Parking Passes**

AJOURNMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Welcome and Introductions - Co-Chair Mike White called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM in Rm B718 at CGHQ and welcomed the members.

2. Discuss and Approve 3 December, 2010 Minutes – The minutes were approved as amended, with a correction to the spelling of Norm Paulhus’ name and some pronoun changes to be more gender neutral.

COUNCIL PROGRAM

OLD BUSINESS

1.1 Status of Email Distribution List and Membership Outreach – The council’s email list is now up to date and in use. The council will also be utilizing the Headquarters email distribution list of retirees who are willing to have their contact and email information published in the annual Headquarters publication. Also discussed was the possibility of retirees retaining their uscg.mil email addresses after retirement as a way of maintaining continuity in communications. This subject will be brought up at the National Council meeting in May by SCPO White and CAPT Bernstein/CAPT Lemley. A suggestion was made to have a Council member man a table or booth at the Coast Guard Day Picnic to provide information and talk about the mission and activities of the Retiree Council. Norm Paulhus also volunteered to coordinate with HFC so that the Council can be informed as to when retirements occur and provide us a means to make contact.

1.2 Help Desk Utilization – David Du Pont reported that 11 of 13 weeks are covered by Watchstanders outside the DC area and all weeks are now covered. Four of these volunteers came from last year’s National Council meeting and are now fully qualified and standing watch.

1.3 Newsletter Update – Norm Lemley reported the Newsletter will be published within the next week. Norm Paulhus will be working with Norm Lemley to provide him with important upcoming events such as the

Coast Guard Day Picnic. Due to the recent passing of Larry Fowler, Decedent Affairs Officer and Coast Guard liaison to Arlington Cemetery, we will need the contact information from his replacement. Steve Goldhammer volunteered to send this information to Lula Carpenter, Susan Baicar, Norm Paulhus and Norm Lemley.

1.4 Website Update – Paul Cojeen reported that the Website is up and running. Discussion followed concerning the possibility of becoming a part of the Headquarters Website. A committee will need to be researched and will be discussed at the June meeting.

1.5 Caregivers Guide – After much discussion on the work of the USAA Foundation, Bruce Russell and Bud Schneeweis will arrange a conference call with the foundation about the possibility of funding and supporting the Caregivers Guide. A motion was made and seconded that Bruce will present this project to the National Council. Also presented was the possibility of partnering with Councils from other military organizations who could be invited to participate and provide input. This will be presented to the National Council in May.

NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Council Membership and Committees – Mike White, Council Co-Chair brought to the attention of the members, new Co-Chair David Bernstein's January email sent to members about concerns for more enlisted representation. Resources cited were the CG Enlisted Association and the CPO magazine which lists Chapters, names of their officers and point of contact information. Bud Schneeweis suggested a meeting with the Vice Commandant to ask for help in obtaining more enlisted representation on the Council. Bob Gauvin said he would talk with Skip Bowen and Jeff Smith. Mike reminded the members that this is his last year as Council Co-Chair and a successor will need to be identified and approached to run for the office. The Council also will be involved in working with our Headquarters command to accurately identify who our new sponsor will be and to meet with them prior to the June meeting. All members are asked to consider which Council Committee they would most like to serve on. This will be discussed in detail at the June meeting.

2.2 National Council Meeting - Agenda Items and Presenters – Mike White and David Bernstein will present DC Area CG Retiree Council activities, including relationship with Joint Base Retiree Association (Ft Myers) via COL Al Willner. Bruce Russell will present the Caregivers Guide project. Debbie Farley, Retiree Annuitant Services will give a briefing and discuss the follow up to the Reserve Gray Area Retiree issues brought forward last year.

2.3 Treasurers Report – The Treasurers Report was tabled until the June meeting due to the Treasurer being out of town.

2.4 Promotion of Retiree Participation in USCG related Events/DC Area Events Calendar– Norm Paulhus passed out flyers with upcoming events which Norm Lemley will publish in the Newsletter.

2.5 Contacts with Coast Guard Officers Spouses Club of WA DC and Joint Base Myers – Henderson Hall. Co-Chair David Bernstein has made contact with both to explore how the

council can interact and benefit from each other. David will provide an update on this outreach at the June meeting.

2.6 2011 Meeting Schedule

24 June 2011

30 September 2011

02 December 2011

2.7 Suggestions for the Good of the Order – The 2010 Coast Guard Authorization Act was signed by President Obama on October 15, 2010 giving authority for Coast Guard enlisted and warrant officers to fully participate in the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH), allowing them a safe and secure place of residence. The AFRH maintains locations in Washington, DC and Gulfport, MS. The CACG Retiree Council under the helm of CAPT Charles Glass was a leader in the legislative action needed to make this a reality. The first Coast Guardsman, CPO Rayford Keen has just recently been admitted. Steve Goldhammer advised members, who are within three months of turning age 65 and are currently receiving their medical care at Bethesda Naval Hospital or at other area military hospitals, they will need to request to continue to be seen in these facilities when they are enrolled in Medicare/TRICARE for Life. Without making this request, the facility may drop them as patients. All were cautioned that this is a request and the retiree may still be denied as these decisions are made on a case by case basis.

2.8 New Security/Parking Passes – After adjourning, Council members went to the Security Office to receive new Security/Parking Passes.

AJOURNMENT

Minutes Prepared by Lula Carpenter, Secretary
Submitted 30 March 2011

Co-Chairs, Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council

CAPT David Bernstein

SCPO Dennis M. (Mike) White