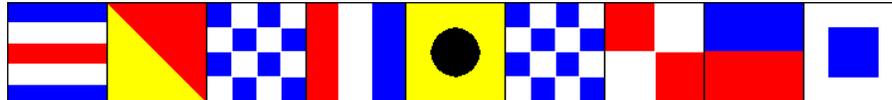
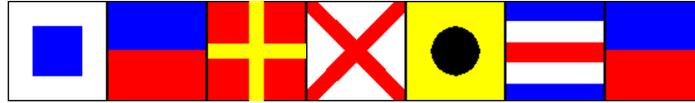




Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council Newsletter
SERVICE CONTINUES



Council co-chairs: CAPT David Bernstein and SCPO Mike White

MEMORIAL DAY Issue

MAY 30, 2011

MEMORIAL DAY, a time to Reflect

Your **Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council** on this Memorial Day weekend joins with the DC area Coast Guard Retirees in reflecting on the sacrifices by those in the US Armed Forces.

ADM Papp's Memorial Day Message

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FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CCG//
TO ALCOAST
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UNCLAS //N01000//
ALCOAST 270/11
COMDTNOTE 1000
SUBJ: MEMORIAL DAY 2011

1. SHIPMATES, MEMORIAL DAY IS A DAY OF REFLECTION AND REMEMBRANCE. IT IS A DAY TO HONOR THOSE WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE FOR FLAG AND COUNTRY AND WHOSE SELFLESS SERVICE, SACRIFICE, AND ETERNAL VIGILANCE HAVE KEPT OUR NATION SAFE, STRONG, AND VIBRANT.
2. AS COAST GUARDSMEN, WE HAVE ALWAYS SERVED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT OUR CHOSEN PROFESSION IS HAZARDOUS. OUR WORK IS DIFFICULT AND SOMETIMES DANGEROUS. SINCE 1790, COAST GUARDSMEN HAVE SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES FIGHTING OUR NATIONS WARS, RESCUING OTHERS FROM THE PERILS OF THE SEA, AND PERFORMING OUR MANY OTHER CHALLENGING MARITIME MISSIONS.
3. THE NAMES OF SOME OF OUR LOST HEROES ARE ETCHED ON THE COAST GUARD MEMORIAL IN ARLINGTON CEMETERY AND ON OTHER MEMORIALS THROUGHOUT OUR NATION - MANY IN LOCATIONS WHERE YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED TO FIND THEM. VISIT THE COAST GUARD HISTORIANS WEBSITE TO FIND THE MEMORIALS NEAREST YOU: [HTTP://WWW.USCG.MIL/HISTORY/FAQS/USCGMEMORIALS.ASP](http://www.uscg.mil/history/faqs/uscgmemorials.asp) (CUT AND PASTE INTO WEB BROWSER IN LOWERCASE). MAKE A POINT OF VISITING, AND CONSIDER TENDING ONE OF THESE MEMORIALS - AS A UNIT OR INDIVIDUALLY.
4. LINDA AND I, ALONG WITH MASTER CHIEF LEAVITT AND HIS WIFE, DEBORA, WILL SPEND MEMORIAL DAY AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY HONORING OUR FALLEN SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AIRMEN, MARINES AND COAST GUARDSMEN.
5. ADMIRAL BOB PAPP, COMMANDANT, SENDS.
6. INTERNET RELEASE AUTHORIZED.

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ADM Papp's Message in The Hill Tuesday, May 24, 2011

Honor the fallen Coast Guardsmen
By ADM Bob Papp

Each day, many of us who reside or work in our nation's capital walk by the many memorials honoring our fallen soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen. Memorial Day is the time to stop, read their names and thank them for their service. We must never forget that freedom is not free, but is only made possible by the thousands of patriots who stood the watch and selflessly made the greatest of earthly sacrifices to protect our homeland.

As one of the five armed services, the Coast Guard has proudly stood the watch for over 220 years. Whether in peace or wartime, Coast Guardsmen have always served with the knowledge that our chosen profession is hazardous. Our work is difficult, sometimes dangerous. Since 1790, Coast Guardsmen have sacrificed their lives while attempting to rescue others from the perils of the sea. Our heaviest losses were sustained when several of our cutters were torpedoed during wartime while conducting convoy escorts. The names of these Coast Guardsmen are etched on the Coast Guard memorial in Arlington Cemetery. Yet we will never know the names of many of our other lost heroes because prior to 1917, only the name of the lost ship was recorded. Nonetheless, will we never forget these shipmates.

Whether on cutters and boats, in the air or guarding the shore, these brave men and women have performed countless challenging maritime missions - many so dramatic that they surpass any fictional sea story. But these feats all have one common theme - the willingness of someone to take great personal risk to protect others. After all, that is what Coast Guardsmen do. We protect people on the sea. We protect against threats directed from the sea, and we even protect the sea itself.

In the past year, our citizens have witnessed the Coast Guard in action like never before. Coast Guardsmen conducting drug and migrant interdictions in the Caribbean instantly transitioned to respond to the devastating Haitian earthquake. Then, with the dust from Haiti still on their boots, they responded with agility to the unprecedented Deepwater Horizon oil rig explosion and spill. These "all-hands-on-deck" responses demonstrated the value of our unique, versatile and adaptable maritime, multi-mission and military capabilities. While we surged to meet these challenges, we continued to perform our many other persistent missions, just as thousands of Coast Guardsmen are doing today.

The 42,000 active-duty, 8,200 Reserve, 8,000 civilian and 31,000 volunteer Coast Guard Auxiliarists keep a tireless vigil over our nation's maritime domain, safeguarding our interests on our rivers, securing our ports, protecting our coasts and assuring our high-seas sovereignty. In the flood-ravaged Ohio and Mississippi river valleys, Coast Guard personnel are assisting federal, state and local officials to save our citizens and their homes. On the Great Lakes, Coast Guard icebreakers freed the flow of \$2 billion in job-sustaining commerce allowing stevedores, longshoremen, truckers and small businesses to get back to work. Deep in the eastern Pacific Ocean, Coast Guard cutters interdicted "drug subs" packed with tons of cocaine, bound for our shores and streets.

In the high latitudes of the Bering Sea, Coast Guardsmen are on patrol weathering some of the most challenging conditions imaginable to protect our fishermen and our fish stocks. Others are making preparations for summer operations in the increasingly accessible Arctic Ocean. In the Arabian Gulf, hundreds of Coast Guardsmen are protecting oil platforms that provide 85 percent

of the Iraqi people's revenue. Coast Guardsmen are also serving off the African coast as part of the joint anti-piracy taskforce, and in international ports throughout the world ensuring the safety of cargo before it ships to our ports. In short, you will find Coast Guardsmen operating everywhere you would expect them to be - and in many other places you would not.

Our service is well-aware of our nation's current economic and budget challenges. But we also know that we must continue to recapitalize our aging fleet of cutters, boats and aircraft, as well as our shore facilities, to ensure that we remain capable of performing our vital maritime missions and responding to national contingencies. Recapitalization is critical to ensuring that our service remains true to our motto – Semper Paratus - Always Ready - well into our third century of service.

So on this Memorial Day, before you resume the busy walk of life, pause at that memorial, participate in a community observance, or simply take time to

honor our servicemen and -women, including their families, whose selfless service, sacrifice and eternal vigilance keep our nation safe.

<http://thehill.com/news-by-subject/defense-homeland-security/163063-honor-the-fallen-coast-guardsmen>

The National Coast Guard Retiree Council Meeting at CGHQ May 10, 11 and 12.

Your Capital Area Coast Guard Retiree Council was very active in preparing for and participating in the 2011 National Coast Guard Retiree Council Meeting at CGHQ May 10, 11 and 12.

Mike White, Dave Bernstein, Bud Schneeweis, Lula Carpenter, Dave Du Pont, and Bruce Russell attended. Bud received an award for his outstanding service with CARC and support to National Council.

Mike White and Dave Bernstein presented information on CARC activities, CARC's newly established relationship with the Joint Ft Meyer/Henderson Hall Retiree Council and the Army's formal structure for taking care of its retirees.

Your Council made a number of proposals including a proposal to "Enhance Retiree Work/Life & Readiness through USCG e-mail" a "Proposal to Develop Caregivers Guide" and a reported one on the National Help Desk. The proposals were well-received and are mentioned in the attached Final Report. The National Help Desk, managed by your Council, was also officially recognized and acknowledged in the Report as an example of important, useful, needed work with national involvement.

The Commandant and Vice Commandant took well over 2 hours each discussing our issues and the internal CG issues with us. RADM Hewitt spent the better part of the 3 days in the sessions and was proactive in quickly beginning to address our proposals.

RADM Ronald Hewitt's follow up to RADM Silva and MCPOCG Vince Paton is given below.

Of special interest is the current self service features for retirees from MyPortalDirect

Note the request to add email addresses for retirees.

From: RADM Ronald Hewitt

To: RSAM Silva and MCPOCG Vince Paton

Subject: RE: CCGNRC 2011 Report

Admiral Silva and MCPOCG Patton, I want to express my thanks to you and all the Council members for your outstanding efforts during this year's annual report...it indeed was very productive and an honor for me to meet you all!

We are in the recruiting phase of bringing on a dedicated person to develop and manage a POA&M for improved CG Retiree Services and should have someone on within the next month or two. I will ensure that this person works closely with you to ensure we develop the best Service Delivery Model we can! I look forward to moving out with as many of your recommendations as we can so that the next time we meet we will have plenty to report out on our progress!

In the interim, PSC has been advertising the self service aspects of the portal heavily in our retired newsletters. You can check out the articles in the last few newsletters at the following link: <http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/retnews/> The most current issue of our Newsletter is located in a separate tab about ¾ of the way down on the left side of the web page.

Here are the current self service features for retirees from MyPortalDirect:



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

[My Page](#) [Self Service](#)

[Content](#) [Layout](#)

Welcome to Direct Access II Self Service for Retirees, Annuitants, and Former Spouses.

You can use Self-Service to: review your Pay Statements and IRS Form 1099R; update your mailing address and phone number(s); and opt out of receiving a Retiree Newsletter by mail. Over the next year, you will be able to perform other Self-Service functions, including: changing your taxes; updating your direct deposit; and starting/stopping allotments. As additional Self-Service functionality is rolled out, we will notify you through the Retirees' Newsletter.

If you encounter problems, contact PPC (RAS) at 1-800-772-8724.

Please note: Pay slips and 1099r forms will open in a NEW WINDOW. Turn off the pop-up blocker in your web browser to view pay slips and 1099r forms. In Internet Explorer, click on TOOLS to access the pop-up blocker options.

<p>View My Payslip This link will take you to a list of all available payslips to view and/or download.</p>	<p>View My 1099R This link will take you to a list of all available 1099R tax documents to view and/or download.</p>
<p>View/Change My Mailing Address This link will allow you to view and make changes to your mailing address.</p>	<p>View/Change My Phone Number(s) This link will allow you to view, add, or update their phone number(s).</p>
<p>Change My EFT/Direct Deposit This link will take you to view and/or change your EFT/Direct Deposit.</p>	<p>Change My Delivery Options This link will allow you to change delivery options for communications.</p>
<p>View/Change My Email Address This link will take you to view and/or change your email addresses stored in the Retired Payroll system.</p>	<p>Change My Password This link will allow you to change your password and set your Forgot Password security question/answer.</p>

As you can see, a retiree can view and change their e-mail address. We will continue to encourage retirees to enter their e-mail address but any assistance from Council members is greatly appreciated. Also any feedback on the Portal is much appreciated.

Currently only a small percentage of retirees have an e-mail address on file with us in our system. One would expect these numbers to go up all the time, and we were surprised they were so low. We heavily encourage retirees to provide this, and will continue to emphasize the need for them to provide it and keep it updated with us.

Again, thank you for your service! I look forward to making great strides toward implementing the Council's recommendations over the next year!

Respectfully,

Ron

RADM Ronald Hewitt
Assistant Commandant for
Human Resources (CG-1)

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