



RESERVIST



BM2 Lisa B. Miloue
1984



PS1 Maxine M. Cavanaugh
1985



PS1 Johannes N. Verhaeg
1986



MK1 Dennis F. Kelleher
1987



BM1 L. Todd Ross
1988



YN2 Thomas R. Kaufman
1989



DC1 Vernon R. Watkins, Jr.
1990



PS3 Donald M. Callier
1991



PS2 Michael E. Ragao
1992



BM2 R. Steven Cochran
1993



DC1 Ovid D. Harris
1994



HS2 Craig E. Munk
1995



MK1 Charles F. Wade
1996



BM2 Paul J. Kohl
1997



BM1 Timothy R. Sullivan
1998



PS3 Carol A. Mulline
1999



MST1 Naomi I. Broughton
2004



PS2 James K. Callea
2000



MK1 Rawlins D. Appenon
2001



PS1 Alexander A. Goyson
2002



YN1 Nathaniel P. Sargent
2003

20 YEARS OF REPOY



Honoring & Respecting Our Shipmates' Devotion to Duty...

This issue, we honor our Reserve Enlisted Persons of the Year, past and present. Congratulations to MST1 Naomi I. Broughton, USCGR, of MSO Charleston, S.C., who is this year's recipient. Started back in 1984 by the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, this award has been administered by the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard's Office since the mid-1990s. Hope you enjoy "20 Years of REPOYs" as each and every winner is featured. Congratulations also to this year's Active Duty Enlisted Person of the Year, BM2 Derrick E. Borel, of *CGC Walnut*.

Since the MCPOCG's office is so involved with the Enlisted Person of the Year program, I thought it appropriate to invite MCPOCG Frank Welch to be a guest columnist — see "On Deck" for his column on the inside back cover. Also, MCPOCG's wife, Mrs. Marie Welch, is interviewed about the Coast Guard's Ombudsman Program.

Bravo Zulu to YNC Tom Illich, Reserve Recruiter of the Year, and MSO New Orleans, this year's Sparks Award winner. See Reserve News for their stories.

Make sure you check out the book review section on Mike Walling's new book due out in June, *Bloodstained Sea: The U.S. Coast Guard in the Battle of the Atlantic, 1941-1944*. Great timing, too, as the nation celebrates the heritage of the World War II generation with the dedication of the memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Farewell to RADM Mary P. O'Donnell, USCGR, who will be honored at a retirement ceremony at Alameda, Calif. June 27. RADM O'Donnell was the first woman promoted within the Coast Guard Reserve to the rank of rear admiral, and we salute her many years of service to the Coast Guard. Her farewell View from the Bridge is on page 6. Congratulations to our newest Reserve Rear Admiral, John Acton, who was frocked O-7 at HQ May 7.

Fair winds to RADM Robert J. Papp, Jr., who departed HQ as Director of Reserve & Training for Cleveland, Ohio, where he will now serve as 9th District Commander. RADM James Van Sice will be transferring in during July as our new Director of Reserve & Training.

Finally, by now you've heard about DC3 Nathan Bruckenthal, who we lost in Iraq April 24. I have included photos and stories from his funeral, held at Arlington National Cemetery May 7. And "Taps" for RADM James Lipscomb, USCGR(Ret.) are also included in this issue. He served with distinction from 1951 until his retirement in 1985.

We honor and respect all our shipmates' devotion to duty!

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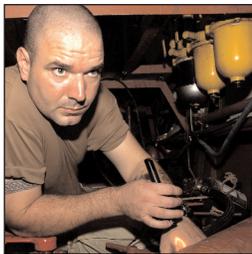
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18 REPOYS

20 Years of recognized Reserve
Enlisted Persons of the Year.



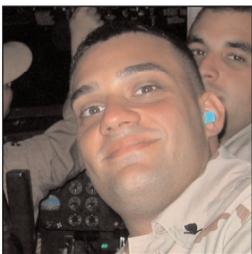
7 War on Terror

Brothers in Arms,
USMC/USCG MOU, Rolling
9/11 Memorial and PSU 313
weapons training.



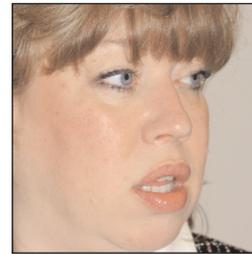
9 Reserve News

EPOY and Sparks Award
winners, Houston Readiness and
Reserve HAZMAT



14 Laid to Rest

The first Coast Guardsman
killed in time of war since
Vietnam is buried in Arlington.



28 Ombudsman

An interview with the Coast
Guard's National Ombudsman-
at-Large.



39 On Deck

Special Guest Columnist,
MCPOCG Franklin Welch,
USCG.

Also in this Issue:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 4 Letters | 35 Book Review |
| 6 The View | 36 Awards |
| 32 Bulletin Board | 38 Taps |

Career Development Issue

I read RADM Houck's article "15 Steps to Professional Development," with interest (April 2004). Though I found many of his ideas innovative and helpful, I did want to share my difference of opinion to his corollary to Rule 4, "Choose your enemies wisely." I find myself diametrically opposed to such a model of interaction, as my experiences have taught me to build bridges and seek common ground with those I work with. There are bound to be differences of opinion, but the vast majority of those need only be for today. We have too many people counting on us to allow today's disagreement to impact our ability to successfully interact tomorrow and the next day. I would offer that electing to make someone our enemy is a short-sighted approach to dealing with a difference of opinion.

Of course, there are always smarter people out there who have wrote and thought of this stuff before. Stephen Covey, in his book *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, spends time developing different paradigms of human interaction. He clearly sees the most promise in the win/win scenario. Covey states, "Win/win is a frame of mind and heart that constantly seeks mutual benefit in all human interactions. It's not your way or my way...it's a better way." Don't confuse this with being soft or rolling over. You must understand what is negotiable and what is non-negotiable, then with courage and maturity, approach these encounters with the shared goal of achieving what is best for the organization and the country.

In the end, let's let the President and Congress choose our enemies. The rest of us in the service of our nation need to develop an approach that drives us to work together. The leaders of today and tomorrow sell themselves short if they face the daily challenges that they are bound to encounter with such a confrontational approach. Perhaps the best guidance comes from Theodore Roosevelt who said, "The most important single ingredient in the formula of success is knowing how to get along with people."

— LCDR Pat Cook, USCGR
Boston, Mass.

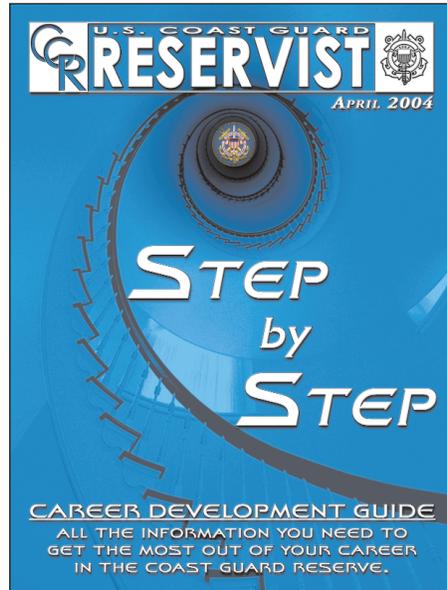
RSWE and Sea Duty

I just wanted to point out one correction on page 30 of the April issue. The Reserve SWE does not count sea time as a factor. Per the *Reserve Policy Manual (RPM)* 7.C.2, there are no sea service requirements for Reserve enlisted advancements. This has been a common question during my unit visits and I wanted to make sure the correct word is getting passed.

— MCPO Kirk Murphy, USCGR
D7 Reserve Command Master Chief
Miami, Fla.

Normandy Revisited?

Have you ever had that almost eerie feeling that although you have never been to a certain location, there is an inner sense that you have been there before? I had such a feeling back in the summer of 2000 when my wife and I visited Europe, and toured many of the different World War II museums and cemeteries at Normandy in France. Maybe I was not the only one that was emotionally moved and that others



might have been moved when they visited Normandy as well.

It was here I felt somehow, somewhere, at some other time, I had been here. As I walked down the various paths, I was continually looking over my shoulder only to find no one there. As I walked down the different paths between the thousands of white crosses and Stars of David grave markers, the only words I could muster and slide past the lump in my throat was, thanks, thank you men and women that enabled my children and me to live in freedom. I give thanks to my creator that there were people like you that were willing, and maybe not so willing, but you did it anyway, and gave it all you had — your lives.

As I looked out over the sea where the landings took place, the scenes became alive in my minds eye from all the films I had memorized. The more I thought about it, the more intense the feeling came over me, that somehow, someway, I had been here before.

As I walked amongst the grave markers along the cliffs overlooking the beaches of Normandy, it was approaching closing time for the cemetery. At closing time, they play the five American Services songs over the P.A. system. Now, I am sure they played all five American service songs, but the only one I heard was *Semper Paratus*. With tears streaming down my face, my heart quickening to the cadence of our hymn, it was then, and only then, I knew, without a doubt in my heart and in my mind, I had been here before.

— EN1 Richard Conant, USCGR (Ret.)
Ivyland, Pa.



REBI Push-Up Photo

I am sending this to request a clarification/ disclaimer be printed, reference a photo in the April 2004 *Reservist* (page 8). The photo of PS3 Testa being Incentively Trained (IT) was a staged photo, taken for his own amusement. IT is not part of the training process at Reserve Enlisted Basic Indoctrination (REBI) and the company commanders do not employ it under any circumstances. Reservists attending REBI are treated like the petty officers they are and the entire program is run very professionally by responsible and professional company



commanders.

There has been some negative feedback in response to the picture and I and my staff would like to have the photo placed in proper context. Your assistance in this matter is very much appreciated.

— MKCS Wayne H. Self, USCG
REBI School Chief
TRACEN Cape May, N.J.

Correspondence Courses

I am trying to get information on correspondence courses for Reserve members who want/need to either make up a good year (points) or are close to retirement and just want to possibly not do as many drills, etc., but still have enough points for a good year.

Not many active members know a lot about reserve issues. I know that the courses are still available according to the Coast Guard Institute Web site. What I would like to find out is how you get started on receiving the material, grading, and points added to the individual member. Can you lead me in the right direction?

PO1 Melody Rodgers, USCGR
Yankeetown, Fla.

Ed's note: We checked with CWO Marvin Mason at the Coast Guard Institute. He told us reservists have the same opportunity as active duty members to complete correspondence course and End-of-Course Tests. The only exception is classified exams. The Institute's Web site is: www.uscg.mil/hq/cgi. Go to "Correspondence Courses" under "Member" for more info, and/or contact CWO Mason at 405-954-7275; E-mail: mmason@cginstitute.uscg.mil

Commodore versus Rear Admiral (Lower Half)

In response to the letter to the editor written by LCDR Althoff (April 2004), I'd like to explain why the change from commodore to rear admiral lower half. Since I was employed as a senior civilian in the Navy Department at the time, I was pretty close to the issue and the players. First, commodore is an old and respected rank, and was used during World War II by the Navy and the Coast Guard for flag officers of one star rank. It was dropped after the war and replaced by the old two-star system. However, when the one-star rank was reinstated because the one stars in the Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps (brigadier generals, not brigadiers as in the British and other armies) could not determine precedence when they were dealing with a Navy or Coast Guard two star

who might have been "lower half."

That aside, there were two reasons for the change. The first was a very practical one. There is a very old tradition in the Navy of using the courtesy title of commodore for any officer commanding a squadron of ships, regardless of his/her rank — meaning that the commander of a squadron of minesweepers might be a lieutenant commander or commander, but is addressed as "commodore." The second reason is that the officers promoted to the one-star rank felt they should be addressed as "Admiral," much the same way that the one stars in the other services are addressed as "general." A suggestion was made at the time to change the rank to "commodore admiral," but that was too cumbersome and had no pizzazz, hence the system backed into the use of "rear admiral lower half" for one stars. It was a Navy decision approved by the Department of Defense, and the Coast Guard had to follow or else there would have been more confusion.

If you'll recall, that was during the time of closer cooperation between the Coast Guard and Navy, and a lot of the weapons systems upgrades in the Hamilton Class cutters were funded by Navy appropriations. But that's another story.

— CAPT Joseph N. Shrader, USCGR (Ret)
Walkersville, Md.

The decision to eliminate commodore was one of rank perception. A USCG commodore, possibly facing a group of other O-7s; Navy rear admirals (lower half), and Army, Air Force, and Marine brigadier generals, would be an unknown in the military officer hierarchy. Others would probably consider such an officer as somewhere between captain and rear admiral. Therefore, it was decided to do away with commodore (a temporary WWII rank, anyway) and replace it with the immediately identifiable rear admiral (lower half), the same as the Navy. A note of interest: For a few years after World War II, the Navy gave a promotion to commodore for retiring captains. It was called a deathbed promotion.

CAPT Bill Taylor, USCGR (Ret.)
San Diego, Calif.

9/11 Awards

I served during the initial emergency response to the World Trade Center (Sept. 13 to Oct. 13, 2001) after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. I served at both Coast Guard Activities New York and the New York City Police Department's 9-11 Command Center, participating in Homeland Security operations. Do you know how eligible recipients go about receiving the 9-11 medal? Any tid-bit of info you can provide will be appreciated. Thanks.

— John Rajkowski,
CGIS Special Agent
Philadelphia, Pa.



Ed's note: For the latest on 9/11 Awards, see RADM Ken Venuto's Flag Voice on page 34. It is also on-line at:

<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/flagvoice/0contents.htm>

Who Packs Your Parachute?



By
Rear Admiral
Mary P. O'Donnell,
USCGR

Deputy for
Mobilization
and Reserve
Component Affairs,
PACAREA

**“In my life,
you, my
shipmates
and friends,
have
packed my
parachute
and I want to
take this
opportunity
to thank you
from the
bottom of
my heart.”**

This month marks a milestone in a journey that was begun 31 years ago by a young ensign who was bright eyed, energetic, hopeful, full of idealism, and wanting so badly to make her contribution to the U.S. Coast Guard. That same officer is today, writing her last article for *The Reservist* as your Senior Reserve Flag Officer. Although my eyes may not be as bright as when I first put on my uniform, I am still energetic, hopeful and optimistic about the future of this most special of the uniformed services — the oldest continuous seagoing service — the United States Coast Guard.

As I look back over my career, I am amazed at the major transformations of the Reserve Program. Some of you may remember when we were organized into ORTUAMS and ORTUAGS, drilled in the evening during the week, and had virtually no interaction with the active duty personnel. Though we all wore blue uniforms, our training was separate but not equal, and we were considered a supplemental force who, by and large, performed 48 drills and two weeks active duty each year. We were organized into reserve Groups and Units, with strictly a reserve chain of command. Today, we stand side by side with the active duty — there are no longer active duty missions and reserve missions, only Coast Guard missions. Individual missions and roles continue to change to meet the challenges of the global War on Terrorism. But together, our purpose remains the same, to champion the cause of freedom.

I would like to share a true story with you about an Annapolis graduate who earned his Navy wings of gold in 1965. He was assigned to the Kitty Hawk and was shot down just south of Hanoi on the birthday of Ho Chi Minh, May 19, 1967. LTJG Charles Plumb's job was to keep the Russian built MIG fighters off the American bombers as they hit targets in south Hanoi, which was then the most heavily defended city on Earth. When a Soviet built missile slammed into the tail of his jet, he was too busy to notice the fireball that surrounded his F-4 Phantom. Thousands of feet over Hanoi, Plumb found himself upside down and riding 3,000 gallons of burning jet fuel.

It would be 2,103 days before LTJG Plumb returned to American soil.

A number of years after his return, he was sitting in a restaurant in Kansas City. A man a few tables away kept looking at him. He didn't recognize the man but after a few minutes the man stood up and walked over to Plumb's table.

“You're Captain Plumb” he said.

The former pilot looked up and said, “Yes sir, I'm Captain Plumb.”

He said, “You flew jet fighters in Vietnam. You were on the aircraft carrier *Kitty Hawk*. You were shot down. You parachuted into enemy hands and spent six years as a prisoner of war.”

“How in the world did you know all that?” Plumb responded.

“Because I packed your parachute.”

Plumb was speechless. He staggered to his feet and held out a very grateful hand of thanks. The man grabbed Plumb's hand and said “I guess it worked.”

“Yes sir, indeed it did, and I must tell you I've said a lot of prayers of thanks for your nimble fingers, but I never thought I'd have the opportunity to express my gratitude in person.”

He said, “Were all the panels there?”

Plumb said, “Well sir, I must shoot straight with you, of the 18 panels that were supposed to be in that parachute, I had 15 good ones. Three were torn, but it wasn't your fault, it was mine. I jumped out of that jet fighter at a high rate of speed, close to the ground. That's what tore the panels in the chute.”

“Let me ask you a question, do you keep track of all the parachutes you pack?”

“No,” he responded, “it's enough gratification for me just to know that I've served.”

Plumb didn't get much sleep that night. He kept thinking about that man. He kept wondering what he might have looked like in a Navy uniform — a Dixie cup hat, a bib in the back and bell bottom trousers. He wondered how many times he might have passed him on board the *Kitty Hawk*. Wondered how many times he might have seen him and not even said “good morning”, or “how are you,” or anything because, he was a fighter pilot and the other man was just a sailor. How many hours did he spend on that long wooden table in the bowels of that ship weaving the shrouds and folding the silks of those chutes? Plumb could have cared less...until one day his parachute came along and he packed it for him.

The philosophical question is: How's your parachute packing coming along? Who looks to you for guidance, support, inspiration, and leadership? Who are the special people in your life who provide you strength and encouragement?

In my life, you, my shipmates and friends, have packed my parachute and I want to take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

The challenges of this millennium will require a world class Coast Guard, one that is nimble and flexible, with the capability to respond quickly to national priorities and changing national security challenges. As the nation faces the ever-increasing threat to homeland security, it will be necessary to further rely on the Coast Guard Reserve for its unique capabilities to provide a ready, trained, surge force.

Today, tomorrow, as always, the Coast Guard will stand ready around the world, around the clock to assist those in distress.

It has been my honor and privilege to have served with each and every one of you.

May God continue to bless you and your families.

God Bless the Coast Guard.
Semper Paratus!

Brothers in Arms:

Massachusetts brothers serving in Coast Guard deployed to the Arabian Gulf

Story and Photo by PA1 Matthew Belson, USCGR

When Chuck Henckler, 33, and his younger brother Michael, 28, were growing up in Billerica, Mass., stories told by their family of their grandfather's experiences serving in the Coast Guard during World War II influenced their decision to join the service. Now the brothers, both reservists recalled to active duty, are serving in the Arabian Gulf as part of the Coast Guard's Patrol Forces Southwest Asia. Their job is to help maintain the engines of the four 110-foot patrol boats deployed to the Middle East in support of *Operation Iraqi Freedom*.

"This is an opportunity to be a part of history, even though it's a small part," said Michael, an MK2 who works as a police officer in Billerica. Not surprising, his older brother, Chuck, is a police officer with the Bedford, Mass., police department and is also an MK, although he outranks him as a 1st Class Petty Officer.

"It was a coincidence that we're both over here," said Michael. However, the brothers, who live and work together during the deployment, would not have it any other way.

"If I needed anybody to be my back-up it would be my brother," said Chuck, who previously served in the Army with the 1st Infantry Division in Iraq and Kuwait during *Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield*. "It feels good to serve my country for a second time in the Middle East."

The Coast Guard has deployed four 110-foot patrol boats to the Arabian Gulf to support the Navy's 5th Fleet operations to stop oil smugglers coming out of Iraq, protect oil terminals and enforce Iraq's territorial waters. This is the first time since the Vietnam War that the Coast Guard has deployed these boats to a war zone.

To keep them working at more than twice the operational tempo as those operating along U.S. shores requires a Herculean effort from more than 100 Coast Guardsmen attached to the shoreside support. When a boat returns from a patrol, as part of the engineering team, the Henckler brothers are responsible for getting the engines and ancillary equipment ready for the next patrol, often in a matter of days.

"There really is no down time," said Michael. "You work until the job gets done."

Besides maintenance on the boats, they are required to stand security watches aboard the vessels and the shoreside



MK1 Chuck Henckler, left, and his brother, MK2 Michael Henckler, both from Billerica, Mass., are currently serving in the Arabian Gulf with U.S. Coast Guard Patrol Forces Southwest Asia.

facilities every few days. Both believe their experience as police officers is a valuable asset when on duty.

"We keep ourselves in a higher state of awareness because of our police training," said Chuck who mentioned that their respective police departments have been supportive of their deployment overseas.

"You can get into the mindset that everything over here is fine, but the reality is that it's dangerous," added Michael.

The Henckler brothers have been overseas since December and they admit that even with e-mail and phone calls, the distance and time away from family can be difficult. Both are married and Mike's wife is expected to give birth to a baby girl. His commanding officer granted an emergency leave for him to travel back to the U.S. to be with his wife during the birth. Chuck has an eight-year-old son and a daughter who is 12.

"My daughter Katherine is worried about me, but at the same time she wants me to do my job well," said Chuck who mentioned that she is in the Sea Cadets and wants to go to the Coast Guard Academy to become an officer.

The brothers still have several months remaining of their tour of duty in the Arabian Gulf, but admit that the time will go by quickly with the long workdays and time spent together. However, for their father the time can't go by fast enough.

"Our father misses us because he lost his two best friends," said Chuck who mentioned their mother passed away three years ago. "Our mother always knew that as long as Mike and I were together, we would look out for each other."

USMC/USCG Memo of Understanding

Brig. Gen. Robert Dickerson, base commanding general, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, left, and RADM Robert Papp, Director of Reserve and Training, sign the memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the military construction of the Joint Maritime Special Missions Training Center at Courthouse Bay at Camp LeJeune, N.C. April 13. The MOU discusses the details behind the Coast Guard and the Marine Corps' responsibilities to the \$32-million joint project. The Joint Maritime Special Missions Training Center is designed to be the premier training complex for the Coast Guard, Navy and Marine Corps. Each entity will contribute skill sets to help teach the various maritime missions of the three services.



Official U.S. Coast Guard photo by PA2 Zachary A. Crawford

Rolling 9/11 Memorial

John and Amy Holmgren of Shafer, Minn. wanted to do something as a tribute to those Americans lost on 9/11. So they had their truck painted with artwork and all the names of those lost on 9/11. The Holmgren's paid for this entirely on their own.



Photo courtesy PSCM Robert A. Schultz, USCGR and PSCS John McGovern, USCGR (Ret.)

PSU 313 Undergoes Weapons Training



Photo courtesy
LT Andrew J. Niemann,
USCGR

BM2 Derrick E. Borel Named Enlisted Person of the Year

BM2 Derrick E. Borel has been selected the Active Duty Coast Guard Enlisted Person of the Year (EPOY). Borel is stationed aboard CGC Walnut (WLB-205). Borel, who graduated from boot camp in October 1997, was noted by his commanding officer for his "outstanding professional knowledge and leadership that played a key role in the outstanding success of Walnut's unprecedented 6-month short-notice war zone deployment in conjunction with Operation Iraqi Freedom." He will be honored at Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C. in the latter part of June along with this year's Reserve EPOY, MST1 Naomi I. Broughton of D7.



EPOY Nominees

BM2 Derrick E. Borel, CGC Walnut

- | | |
|--|--|
| YN1 Eneida Bull,
MSST91108, LANTAREA | AET1 William J. Minik,
Air Station Sitka |
| AMT3 Allan G. Campbell,
D8, Air Station New Orleans | MK1 Robert B. Olsen,
CG Academy |
| MST1 Jason R. Dellamaggiora,
MSO Wilmington, N.C. | FS1 Trevor E. Parra,
Group San Francisco |
| HS1 Todd A. Devore,
TRACEN Cape May | ET1 Colman M. Polvado III,
TRACEN Petaluma |
| BM1 Michael E. Farmer,
CGC Midgett, PACAREA | MST1 Vincent L. Rachal,
MSO/Group LA/LB |
| BM1 Jason L. Gale,
Group Detroit | HS1 Rodney W. Seifert,
ISC Kodiak |
| FS1 Gary A. Hills, Group
Portland, Maine | BM2 Terry D. Stinson,
Station Bellingham, Wash. |
| SK1 Ernesto R. Ingesta,
ISC Miami | SK3 Samantha Watts,
ELC Baltimore |
| YN1 Cheri K. Lott,
Air Station Miami | MK1 Micha A. Wisniewski,
TRACEN Yorktown |

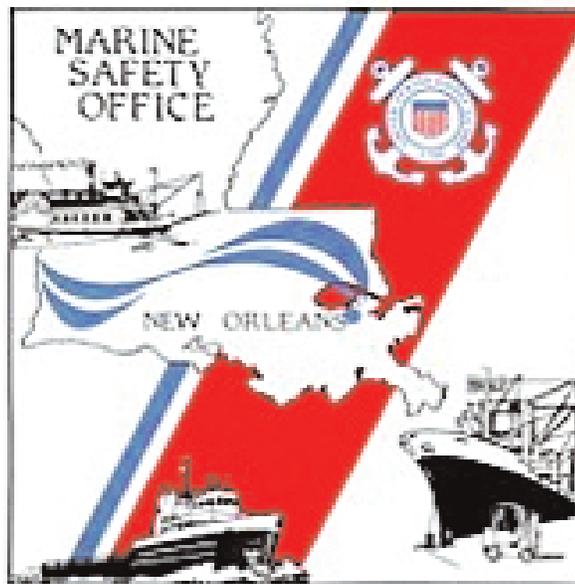
Ed's note; Please see page 18 for Reserve EPOY info.

MSO New Orleans takes Sparks Award

NEW ORLEANS — MSO New Orleans has been selected as the recipient of the 2003 RADM Bennett S. "Bud" Sparks Award. This award is presented annually by the Reserve Officers Association of the United States to the active command judged to be the most supportive of a totally integrated Coast Guard force.

MSO New Orleans demonstrated outstanding commitment to the integration of its active and reserve personnel to execute a wide range of routine and non-routine missions. For instance, a reservist led the mixed active-reserve team responsible for coordinating port, waterways and coastal security activities of four major commands. A reservist also led the integrated team that established procedures for screening arriving vessels, setting a standard adopted throughout the Eighth District, and a reservist took charge of the response to three security breaches involving a cruise ship, winning praise for the unit from the Commandant and District Commander.

Reservists also contributed significantly to mission accomplishment during IDT/ADT periods, conducting marine



casualty investigations, watchstanding duties, and participating in port state control boardings. To meet its mission, MSO New Orleans reservists received the same formal and informal training as their active duty counterparts and attended numerous formal schools. Particular effort was made to increase communications within the unit, including informal talks between the CO and unit reservists, all-hands meetings, bulletin boards, e-mails and the unit Web page. Other outstanding units nominated included: ISC Alameda, ELC Baltimore, MSO Boston, MSO Buffalo, MSO Charleston, Gulf Strike Team, MSO Honolulu, ISC New Orleans, MSST 91103, OSC Martinsburg, MSO Puget Sound,

MSO San Francisco, and MSO Wilmington.

Representatives of MSO New Orleans will be presented with the award at the Reserve Officers Association Annual Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah in June. See ALCOAST 189/04. MSO New Orleans Web site is: www.uscg.mil/d8/mso/nola/

Readiness Focus of Houston-Galveston Regional All Hands

HOUSTON — Over 50 reservists from MSO Houston-Galveston, MSU Galveston, and Group Galveston joined forces March 6-7 in their second and largest readiness training effort to date.

The Houston-Galveston region includes some of the busiest ports and the largest petrochemical complex in the nation, a growing cruise ship industry, and large population centers. After 9/11, both active duty and reserve leadership in the region recognized the necessity to maintain regional reserve readiness and joined forces to develop a regional reserve readiness training program.

CAPT Richard Kaser, MSO Houston-Galveston, CAPT Christine Balboni, Group Galveston, and CDR Paul Thomas, MSU Galveston, were on hand to provide opening remarks for the event. To help make the event more enjoyable, the USO provided movie passes, ball caps, t-shirts, and care packages to the attendees. Saturday's events were focused on Boarding Team Member (BTM) training for most of the reservists. In keeping with the regional approach, a pool of qualified active duty and reserve instructors from each of the units provided classroom and hands on defensive tactics training. Medical and dental staff were also available to conduct required dental exams and physicals throughout



Photo by PA2 Silvia Overa, USCGR

Instructor CWO Cliff Harder, center, helps PO Melissa Vaughn, left, apply proper handcuffing techniques on SN Laurie Stempien.

the day. Yeoman were given specialized training on Reserve mobilization procedures and other rate training, and the storekeepers received procurement training.

MCPO Paul Ladut, the Eighth District Reserve Command Master Chief, Coastal Region, was a guest of honor for the weekend. He took the opportunity to address the troops, observe the training, and visit individually with many members. After a demanding day of training, the reservists were treated to pizza while listening to the music of the astronaut band, MAX Q, featuring the Coast Guard's own astronaut, CDR Dan Burbank.

On Sunday, the emphasis on BTM training continued, and many were treated to PT fitness tests and OC pepper spray indoctrination. After the last training tasks were completed, it was evident that much more than readiness training had taken place over the weekend. Heightened morale, teamwork, and a sense of accomplishment were clearly part of the end result.

"You get to work with other reservists in a training environment and form a bond with them at the same time," said PS2 "AJ" Castaneda.

The Houston-Galveston region plans to keep moving forward with its readiness training program. They will be holding a one-week BTM course in late June. It is their vision to keep regional reservists Semper Paratus — Always Ready.

— By CWO2 Rich Arnold



Photo by CWO4 Michael Riley

After being doused with OC pepper spray, MST2 James Carew, left, maintains proper control of his weapon while fending off mock assailant PS2 Kevin Nail, right, as instructor CWO Cliff Harder looks on.

D5 Holds Readiness Seminar

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — The D5 Reserve Readiness Seminar was a great opportunity for many senior leaders of the Coast Guard to mentor and share their experiences with junior leaders. All in attendance were updated on the Coast Guard's current course and direction.

In attendance at the March 19-21 event was RADM Brice O'Hara, Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District, and Reserve RADM Duncan Smith, Deputy for Mobilization and Reserve Component Affairs, LANTAREA, as well as many senior representatives from Headquarters and various commands throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. It was a tremendous opportunity to share lessons learned and to gain a better understanding of both administrative and operational changes occurring within the Coast Guard.

— Story and photo by LT Rick Neiman, USCGR



CAPT John Welch, JRU Commander Joint Forces Command, Norfolk, left, presents LCDR Phillip F. Brookings with the Joint Service Achievement Medal at the D5 Reserve Readiness Seminar. The award was presented to Brookings, of ISC Portsmouth, for outstanding support of the Joint Forces Command.

Reservist Conducts HAZMAT Course

BALTIMORE — Coast Guard personnel from the Coast Guard Yard and members of Activities Baltimore recently completed a hazardous materials technician course conducted by a reservist, PS1 Dave Donohue. The nationally recognized program combines classroom and practical exercises. When completed, over 140 hours was conducted over several months at both the CG Yard and CG Training Center Cape May Fire Departments.

Topics of instruction included: chemistry, monitoring/sampling, protective equipment, offensive/defensive operations (including leak control), plugging/patching, and decontamination. The purpose of the training was to prepare members to mitigate hazardous materials emergencies. The program served as the capstone for a series of programs, including hazardous materials operations, weapons of mass destruction operations, hazardous materials incident management, and radiation emergency response.



Photos courtesy PS1 Dave Donohue, USCGR

Station Dedication!



Photo by Andy Klovorn, Ludington Daily News

BMC Trey Bennett of Station Ludington, Mich., opens the station commissioning ceremony in front of the new 4,200-square foot building April 16. Dignitaries seated include, left to right, the Rev. Richard Loerop, CDR Anthony Popiel, Group Grand Haven; Mr. John Henderson, Mayor of Ludington; RADM Ronald Silva, Ninth District Commander; and U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich. Construction started Sept. 8, 2003, and the cost was approximately \$950,000. The new station will house 17 personnel. The Coast Guard has had a station in Ludington since 1879.

Paying off in the “Long Run”



Photo courtesy CWO4 Dan Bradley, USCGR

CWO4 Dan Bradley, USCGR, shows off his stuff during the fifth annual 24-Hour Tour d’Esprit Fundraiser footrace held in Memphis, Tenn. last October. Bradley ran 52 miles in a 24-hour period, winning his age group. Proceeds benefit the Haiti Medical Missions (HMM) of Memphis and go toward providing medical attention at HMM’s health clinic in Croix des Boquets, Haiti. Bradley, attached to Group Lower Mississippi River, has completed 19 marathons and two ultra-marathons.



Photo courtesy CAPT Dale Rausch, USCGR

Repeat After Me...

LT Wade Gough of MSO Guam, right, administers the reenlistment oath to IT1 Jeff Caler of Electronic Support Detachment Guam, underwater at Gab-Gab Beach, Guam.

REBI Class Romeo 05/04



Photo courtesy YN3 Mark Johnson, USCGR

Reserve Enlisted Basic Indoctrination Class Romeo 05-04 graduated March 26 at TRACEN Cape May. Company Commanders, l to r: YNC Franklin Wright, AMT2 Chris Norton, MKCS Wayne Self. Front row, l to r: PS3 Brian White, PS3 Brandon Roth, YN3 Mark Johnson, PS3 Jorge Castro, BM3 Steven Ferguson, MK3 Aaron Partlow, PS2 Esteban Roche, SN Jesse Castro, PS3 Arturo Hernandez, PS3 Jorge Rodriguez, PS3 Juan Cortez, PS3 Robert Dosh, YN3 Edward Rogers, PS3 Kate

Allison. Middle row, l to r: PS3 Alexander Dorado, MK3 Greg Perrigo, PS3 Paul Koessel, IT3 Bradly Landis, PS3 Angelo Sciarra, PS3 Steve Rabinovich, BM3 William O'Shea, MST3 Scotty Shelton, SK3 Jesse King, PS3 Bryan Sergent. Back row, l to r: PS3 Anthony Medina, PS3 Jorge Salang, PS3 Gordon Grant, MK3 Joseph Eslava, MK3 Eduardo Perez, MK3 Christopher Farrell, PS2 Chris Graham, DC3 Robert Doerr, MK3 Peter Mihelis, PS3 Mark Poindexter.

Reservist's Racing Stripes

It's been a long-standing tradition to decorate the roofs of Mini Coopers with flags or emblems. YNC Ted Stacy wanted something unique so he decided on the Coast Guard racing stripe. He is a reservist stationed at Port Canaveral, Fla. where he works on USCG security for space shuttle launches. The Stacy family military heritage stretches back to the 1760s.



Photo courtesy YNC Ted Stacy and YNC Gail Owens, USCGR

A COAST GUARD HERO IS LAID TO REST...

DC³ NATHAN BRUCKENTHAL

1979-2004



“I am extremely saddened by the loss of Petty Officer Nathan Bruckenthal who was killed by terrorists while bravely serving his country in Iraq,”

— VADM James D. Hull,
Coast Guard Atlantic Area Commander.

A boat explosion in Iraq inflicted the U.S. Coast Guard's first wartime loss of life since the Vietnam War. One other Coast Guardsman was injured in the April 24 explosion at the Iraqi Khawr Al Amaya oil terminal in the early evening hours of that fateful day.

Friends say DC3 Nathan Bruckenthal, 24, dreamed of going to sea, serving his country and being in law enforcement.

Last month, he died in pursuit of that dream.

A member of Tactical Law Enforcement Team South in Miami, DC3 Bruckenthal was deployed as part of a detachment to Coast Guard Patrol Forces Southwest Asia. It was his second assignment in a year to the area. With more than half of his 90-day deployment behind him, Bruckenthal was scheduled to return home in June. Intrigued by a career in law enforcement, the Long Island, N.Y. native had followed his father's career path.

In the early evening hours of April 24, a dhow (a lateen-rigged Arabian vessel) approached an oil terminal in the Persian Gulf. Bruckenthal, trained as both a boarding team member and boarding officer, was accompanied by one other Coast Guardsman and five sailors from the United States Navy. The group boarded a rigid hull inflatable boat (RHIB), taking off in pursuit.

“This mission was considered routine enforcement of the security zone,” said TACLET South Commanding Officer Glenn F. Grahl. “Their job was to prevent any incursions into the security zone,” he

said.

As the crew was poised to board the dhow, an explosion was detonated. Two Navy petty officers also died as a result of the waterborne attack: PO1 Michael J. Pernaselli, 27, of Monroe, N.Y., and PO2 Christopher E. Watts, 28, of Knoxville, Tenn. Injured were three Navy sailors and BM3 Joseph T. Ruggiero, USCG, 23, from Revere, Mass., who received the Purple Heart.

Bruckenthal will be remembered for his easy, outgoing style, said Grahl. Though six-foot, two inches tall and 220 pounds, his affability belied his size.

“In the early days of the war last year, Nate boarded an Iraqi tug laying mines,” said Grahl. “His experience, his training and his people skills led to his selection for our training staff following this deployment,” he said.

“Nate was jovial, he was intense, and he was a dedicated professional.”

Bruckenthal's death has affected the Coast Guard family and those beyond the confines of the Coast Guard family, notes Grahl. Arriving early at Arlington National Cemetery for the funeral,

Grahl took in the solemn traditions as horse-drawn carriages and honor guards filed past. The numbers of those who came to honor Bruckenthal was meaningful, said Grahl.

“I watched as cars, vans and buses pulled up to pay tribute to Nate. There were “A” school formations, police departments forming up in rank, and more than 700 people in uniform and in civilian clothes, paying their respects. It was a fitting tribute,” he



Photo courtesy Coast Guard magazine

BY
PA² JUDY L. SILVERSTEIN, USCGR

“Nate was jovial, he was intense, and he was a dedicated professional.”

— CDR Glenn F. Grahl,
Commanding Officer, TACLET South

said, describing Bruckenthal as a “modern day hero.”

“I am extremely saddened by the loss of Petty Officer Nathan Bruckenthal who was killed by terrorists while bravely serving his country in Iraq,” said VADM James D. Hull, Coast Guard Atlantic Area Commander. “I sincerely hope that his family and friends can find a little comfort knowing that he died a hero.”

Grahl turns reflective.

“25 years ago, my wife and I would never have imagined my military career would call upon us to walk up somebody’s driveway with a chaplain and inform a wife their loved one had passed,” said Grahl.

His daily routine now includes daily contact with Bruckenthal’s widow, Patti, and encouraging members of his unit to discuss the impact of the tragedy and the dangers they face. The April 29 memorial service at Air Station Opa Locka, Fla. helped the unit with closure, as did the funeral and interment at Arlington National Cemetery May 7.

Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta offered condolences to the family following a 21-gun salute and the playing of Taps at Arlington National Cemetery. ADM Thomas H. Collins also gave Bruckenthal’s wife, Patti, the meticulously folded American flag that draped her husband’s coffin.

The couple met in Washington State while Patti

worked on an Indian reservation studying Native American culture. They were married two years ago. On the day of her husband’s service, she was also given an orange, yellow, turquoise and black blanket carried east by two Coast Guard officers from Neah Bay where the community is closely-knit. The blanket was a gift from the Makah Indian Tribe, transmitting

the communal sense of loss they feel.

Though new to the tribal tradition, Grahl said, the blanket was wrapped around Patti’s shoulders at another service May 6 in Herndon, Va.

“It symbolizes a coming together in protection and in warmth,” said Grahl. Patti remained wrapped in the blanket at the evening service. Grahl said his unit would continue daily contact with the widow who is expecting the couple’s first child in about six months.



Photo courtesy: Coast Guard magazine

Patti and Nathan Bruckenthal

Ed’s note: A memorial fund in honor of Petty Officer Nathan Bruckenthal has been established. Please make checks payable to the Nathan Bruckenthal Memorial Trust, P.O. Box 398, Northport, NY 11768. All checks, money orders and cards should be mailed to that address. Proceeds will be given to his widow and family.

Two Navy petty officers also died as a result of the waterborne attack:

PO¹ Michael J. Pernaselli, 27, of Monroe, N.Y., and PO² Christopher E. Watts, 28, of Knoxville, Tenn.

Injured were three Navy sailors and

BM³ Joseph T. Ruggiero, USCG, 23, from Revere, Mass., who received the Purple Heart.

Sister-in-arms Met Bruckenthal In Service's Small World

By PA^I Sarah Foster-Snell, USCG

Reprinted with permission, The Day, New London, Conn.

Editor's Note: PA^I Sarah Foster-Snell of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy attended and photographed a funeral for a friend and shipmate May 7 at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va. She met DC3 Nathan B. Bruckenthal when she went to school in Washington state, and was there when Bruckenthal met the woman who would later become his wife. Bruckenthal became the first Coast Guard combat casualty since the Vietnam War when a small boat exploded as he and six other U.S. sailors attempted to board it near the Iraqi Khawr Al Amaya Oil Terminal April 24. Here, she recounts her memories of Bruckenthal.

This was Bruckenthal's second deployment to the Arabian Gulf for Operation Iraqi Freedom. He received the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon following his first deployment and was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

Patti Bruckenthal (née Rombo) was my classmate at Pacific Lutheran University (PLU) when we met Nate on an annual 12-day cultural immersion class in Neah Bay, Wash., located on the Makah reservation in January 2001.

I was then attending PLU for my advanced education classes. Patti, often singled out, is from Sweden and towers a good six-feet tall. Nate gave me and the PLU students a nickel tour of the station and showed us the canoe he carved for the annual Makah Days festival, which would be around this time of the year.

He also took the time to pick us up from our quarters at the Tribal Center one evening to play volleyball in the station gym. Along with the station commanding officer, CWO Mike Tumulty, Nate offered us the hospitality of the station while we stayed at the reservation.

Before we left, Patti and Nate exchanged e-mail addresses and phone numbers. On our way home to Tacoma, Patti kept telling everyone in the van ride home to Tacoma how "hot" Nate was.

"Sarah, don't you think Nate is so cute?" I remember her asking me. "I mean, you guys, Nate is the bomb and he was so nice to us."

When I returned to Neah Bay that fall to give public affairs training, Nate approached me to let me know that he and Patti were dating and were traveling between Tacoma and Neah Bay. And the few times that I was in touch with Patti on campus, she told me she was exchanging e-mails with Nate.

The third time I went up to Neah Bay was to a wedding

party in March 2002 for the station's MK3, who married one of the women from the Makah tribe. While there, I bumped into a very happy and newly married Nate and Patti.

I could just see the exuberance in Nate's face as he told me of his wedding, over receiving orders to the Law Enforcement Detachment in Florida, and of meeting his Swedish in-laws for the first time. Although they didn't speak English, he told me that at least his father-in-law understood "beer," and they hit it off from there.

He was so happy in his marriage, considering how lonely he was in an isolated station like Neah Bay. I distinctly remember taking two photos of Nate and Patti cuddling each other, deeply in love.

A sideline story to this visit was Nate recounting how he and Patti tried to flag down the PLU van on its way to Neah Bay for the annual cultural immersion class. The driver and chair of the Anthropology Department, Dr. Dave Huelsbeck, didn't recognize them, and swerved all over the road to avoid the couple's car.

"Dave's crazy, Sarah," they both laughed. "I think that he (Dave) thought we were trying to run them off the road or something." Needless to say, they

halted their attempts to greet the PLU group because the single road to Neah Bay was perched on a treacherous cliff.

That was the last time I saw and talked to both Patti and Nate. The next communication I had with him was exchanging e-mail messages in Seattle before he and Patti left for Florida. I think about them every so often and last week, I had meant to e-mail him to check up on Patti.

I am shocked and saddened for what has happened to Nate. However, we know he didn't die in vain. And yes, he was a hero in every sense of the word. Nate sincerely loved his job, loved his Coast Guard family, and his lovely wife from Sweden.

He had a connection with people and wanted to make a difference in the world, evidenced by his volunteer work early in his career at Station Neah Bay. Despite Neah Bay's isolation, he enjoyed and deeply appreciated the small community and the struggle to maintain their values in a changing world.



PA1 Sarah Foster-Snell with Patti Bruckenthal at the funeral for her husband, DC3 Nathan Bruckenthal.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

20

YEARS

OF

REPOY

Last year, this magazine featured 20 years of Coast Guard Reserve Outstanding Junior Officers. This year, it's time for "20 Years of Reserve Enlisted Persons of the Year." The award, established by the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association in

1984, was originally called the NERA "Outstanding Enlisted Coast Guard

Reservist." In 1995, the Master Chief of the Coast Guard's Office became the award's administrator, and it was renamed the Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year (REPOY). We wanted to take a look back at all the previous winners, update our readers on what they've done and what they're currently doing, as well as give them an opportunity to share some of the memorable moments from the year they won the REPOY. The rank and units listed were current at the time the award was presented. NERA still honors the winner at their annual conference each fall.

2004 MST1 Naomi I. Broughton 7th District

MST1 Naomi I. Broughton is this year's national Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year. Broughton, from the 7th Coast Guard District, participated in *Operation Iraqi Freedom* in support of Military Outload Operations in Charleston. In July 2003, she was one of eight reservists selected to create the Redeployment Assistance and Inspection Detachment (RAID) Team, which deployed to Kuwait and then Iraq from Aug. 12 through Oct. 21, 2003 to



REPOY Nominees

(listed alphabetically by last name)

MST1 Oakley D. Baldwin,
MSO Wilmington, N.C.

YN1 Lena A. Boulanger,
ISC Boston

BM1 Robert C. Breaker,
Station Gloucester, Mass.

**MST1 Naomi I. Broughton,
MSO Charleston, S.C.**

SK2 Forrestine J. Cotton,
ESU Seattle

BM1 Marvin F. Hinga,
Group Grand Haven, Mich.

PS1 Arnulfo V. Martinez,
MSO Corpus Christi

PS1 Timothy A. Martinsen,
PSU 313

PS1 John Norsworthy,
PSU 305

PS1 Edward H. Poppe,
CG MARSEC Guam

PS1 Kenneth J. Reis,
MSO/Group Portland, Ore.

ET2 Christopher J. Rush,
MSO Memphis

MST2 Bryan Stachura,
MSO Valdez

support the U.S. Army in their groundbreaking operation.

As a RAID Team member, she was responsible for inspecting containers encompassing military equipment previously used in support of *Operation Iraqi Freedom*, and for advising the Army of proper cargo segregation and stowage procedures in accordance with regulations for its departure back to the U.S. She also provided assistance with U.S. Customs and Agricultural inspections for surface-shipped material. This included labeling, manifesting, cleaning, placarding, packaging, segregation, as well as blocking and bracing expertise of material from shipment from the CENTCOM theatre. MST1 Broughton's achievements were recognized by the Army and she was awarded the Army Commendation Medal.

During the past year at MSO Charleston, Broughton has been a leading petty officer in the Port Security and Operations Department on reserve drill weekends. Junior members under her tutelage have quickly become highly productive experts themselves. Also during 2003, MST1 Broughton received the following qualifications: Container Inspector, Harbor Safety Officer, Boarding Team Member, and Explosive Supervisor Handling. She also now qualifies for the Marine Safety Qualification insignia.

Broughton joined the Coast Guard Reserve in 1988, enlisting through the Direct Petty Officer program. A Precinct Commander in the Charleston, S.C. Police Department, Broughton represented the police department as an international emissary in Holland during April 2003. She was picked to study their policing system through the International Exchange Program.

As for community service, Broughton is a member of the Coast Guard Sea Partners program where she educates the public on the dangers and effects of marine pollution. She is an active member of Blessed Sacrament Church where she volunteers once a week at the Perpetual Adoration Chapel.

"I am extremely honored and thankful for this opportunity," said Broughton. "I'm thankful for all the people behind the scenes at MSO Charleston who deserve credit for me winning this award."

Broughton will be honored the latter part of June in Washington, D.C. along with the active duty Enlisted Person of the Year, BM2 Derrick E. Borel, of D14.

2003

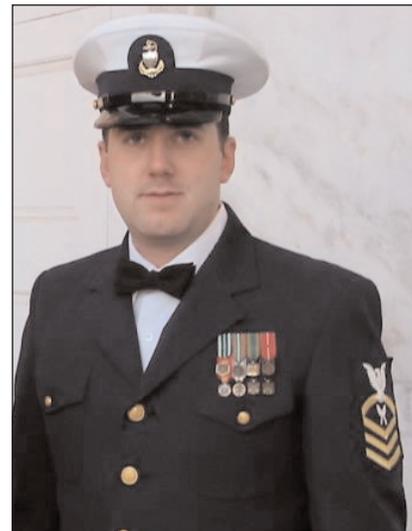
YN1 Nathaniel F. Sargent

1st District

Memorable REPOY Moment(s): First, having anchors pinned on by MCPOCG Frank Welch and his [then] fiancé during the EPOY Ceremony at Headquarters, in Washington, D.C. Number two was attending the NERA Convention in Buffalo, N.Y. which will forever have a lasting impression; especially getting to know fellow Chiefs. Finally, receiving the news of his selection from MCPO Jeff Creighton, Command Master Chief at the Coast Guard Academy.

Update: Recently married (wife, Nina), Nov. 15, 2003. He was selected for Officer Candidate School (Class 02-04); currently attending, expected graduation date July 14, 2004. He was sailing on *CGC Eagle* when this was submitted!

E-mail: nucc_98@yahoo.com



2002

PS1 Alexander A. Gayson

Pacific Area

Memorable REPOY Moment: Gayson's most memorable moments was the week he spent in Washington, D.C. receiving the award, and the honor given by the various groups while there.

Update: It's now Chief Gayson, and he is currently on EAD at ISC San Pedro, Calif. "After receiving my REPOY award, I accepted an EAD contract at the ISC's Port Services Chief," said Gayson.

E-mail: agayson@d11.uscg.mil

2001

MK1 Rawlins D. Apperson

17th District

Memorable REPOY Moment: When MK1 Apperson was picked for the 17th District REPOY and then the National REPOY in 2001, he had volunteered to sail on the Research Vessel *Alpha Helix* after the chief engineer resigned. "Because our Port Engineer had developed double pneumonia during the first week of the ship yard, I was sailing in this position to keep it open for MKC Bobby Dunno who was retiring from the Coast Guard off the *CGC Mustang* Jan. 1, 2002.

Update: Apperson has since retired from the CG Reserve as an MKC. He is taking care of a small six-building research campus and the support facility for the *R/V Alpha Helix*. It encompasses the same mechanical field that an MK1 or MKC would have or use in the Coast Guard. Apperson's daughter,



Heather, is now 18 and just graduated from Seward High, Alaska with plans to attend University of Alaska at Anchorage. He also has a son, David, who is 16. "My wife and I are slowly growing older together," said Apperson. "I have the white hair that she gave me, while she has not a single white hair on her head!"

E-mail: apperson@arctic.net

2000 PS2 James K. Cullen 1st District

Memorable REPOY Moment

Without question, Cullen's most memorable moment during his time as a REPOY was representing the USA and carrying the U.S. Coast Guard standard through the streets of several Australian cities in June 2001. "Whenever the Australian crowds saw the American flags and service members, they began cheering us at the top of their lungs," said Cullen. "The Australians have never forgotten how many Americans fought and died in the Pacific Theater to protect them during World War II, and their support was overwhelming. Seeing such patriotism and support for U.S. troops in the pre-9/11 world was amazing."

Update:

After his REPOY year in 2000, Cullen applied for a reserve commission through the SRDC program. "I was accepted, and was scheduled to attend ROCI in the summer of 2001," said now-LTJG Cullen. "In late June and early July of 2001, I joined several other REPOYs and Junior Officers of the Year to travel to Australia to represent the USCGR in the Australian Armed Forces Day and ANZUS Treaty celebration. The week after he returned, Cullen reported to the Coast Guard Academy and attended ROCI 1-01, graduating (26 pounds lighter) Aug. 3, 2001. He was scheduled to report for his first drill day at Activities New York in September 2001.

Cullen drilled at the D1 Command Center in Boston and at the ACTNY Command Center, then was recalled in March 2003 for the Western Rivers "River Marshal" program. After the Western Rivers deployment was canceled and they returned to New York, his group was attached to the Sea Marshals program at Activities New York. Though many have been demobilized, Cullen has remained on Title 10 active duty, assisting with the development of operations as his unit evolves and they become more involved in law enforcement operations ashore. In his civilian job, Cullen was promoted to Police Lieutenant during his time between activations, and he graduated from Rutgers Law School in May 2003 while on active duty. "My wife, Kathy, remains enormously supportive of my Coast Guard career, and has been behind me 100 percent throughout all of this," said Cullen. "She knows that there is no place else I would rather be, and nothing else I would rather be doing."

E-mail: jcullen@actny.uscg.mil



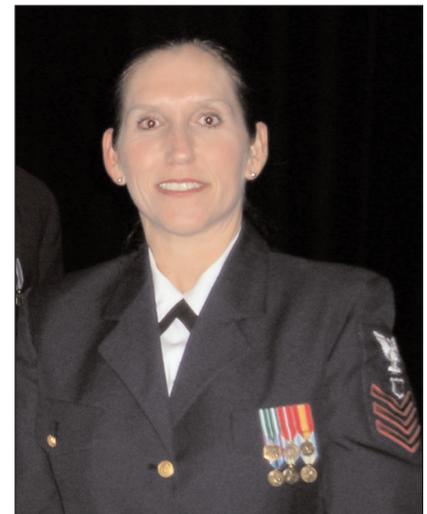
1999 PS3 Carol A. Mullins 7th District

Memorable REPOY Moment: Mullins' most memorable moment from her visit to Headquarters the REPOY was, without a doubt; the morning her husband and she were to visit with the Commandant in his office. "We had my then 5-year-old son, Zachary Buster, with us and we didn't want him to be a distraction during the time the Commandant had allotted for us," said Mullins. "The MCPOCG at the time was Vince Patton, and he was a really special person, anyone who ever met him knows this to be true. Anyhow, MCPOCG Patton offered to watch our son in his office, while we chatted with the Commandant. So, we left Buster with MCPOCG and enjoyed speaking to Commandant. I will never forget turning the corner back into MCPOCG's office and finding Buster and the MCPOCG laying on the floor, 'playing trucks!'" Here's the MCPOCG in Trops, crawling around with a 5-year-old in his Headquarters office making "vroom, vroom" sounds, pushing trucks around his desk on his hands and knees!"

Update: This year, now PS1 Mullins is serving her 17th year in the Coast Guard Reserve. She has been on Title 10 since the 9/11 recall at MSO Tampa. "Immediately after 9/11, I was recalled to serve on our boat crew, patrolling the Port of Tampa," said Mullins. "By 2002, I was an HL-qualified boarding officer

and acting LEPO of our unit. During 2003, that job evolved into a full time position as a sea marshal in our High Interest Vessel Program. This year, I have been assigned as the unit's training petty officer for all reserve and active duty members. With well over 100 members assigned to MSO Tampa, I keep busy." Since her year as the REPOY, Mullins says she has been blessed with so many wonderful opportunities and rewarding life experiences. In June 2000, she participated for the second time in OPSAIL 2000 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. In June 2001, she was selected as one of the representatives for the Coast Guard to attend Australia's Reserve Appreciation Celebration, a once in a lifetime event! Since, 1998, she and her husband finalized the adoption of their second son, Nicholas, who is a year younger than Buster. "They keep me busy as a Cub Scout and 4-H leader for them," said Mullins. "I try to balance my off time between the boys and raising horses on our farm."

E-mail: cmullins@msotampa.uscg.mil



1998

BM1 Timothy R. Sullivan

13th District

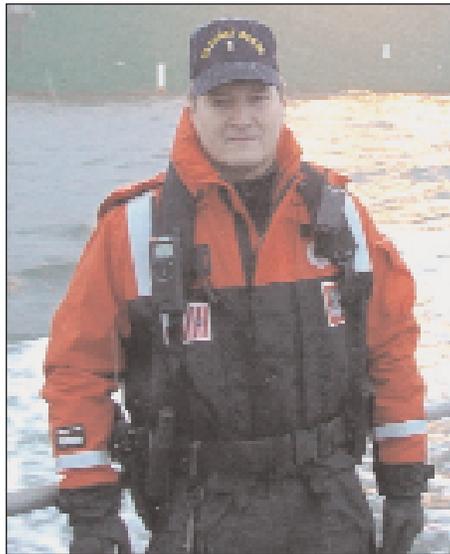


Memorable REPOY Moment: The Trip to Washington D.C to meet the Commandant and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard, then the five days of R & R in Washington to tour all of the monuments is most memorable. And then, the 10-day trip to Australia in 2001 to represent the USCGR in Sydney's Armed Forces Day celebration for the centennial of the Reserve Forces with other REPOYs and Outstanding Junior Officers, James Cullen, Carol Mullins, Brance McCune, and Ken Stefanisin.

recalled to active duty for one year and then fully integrated back into the active duty workforce and assigned to Group Southwest Harbor. He will be transferring to the *CGC Polar Sea* in July 2004.

Update: Sullivan is now the Command Senior Chief at Group Southwest Harbor Maine. On Sept. 11, 2001, he was

E-mail: Tsullivan@polarsea.uscg.mil (July 2004)



1997

BM2 Paul J. Kohl

1st District

Memorable REPOY

Moment: BM2 Kohl says his most memorable moment was meeting the Commandant of the Coast Guard, ADM Robert E. Kramek, and the MCPO of the Coast Guard, MCPOCG Rick Trent. "It was an incredible event," said Kohl. "A lot of planning went into it."

Update: He retired from the Bergen County, N.J. Police Department in December 2000. In April 2001, he went to the Republic of Georgia for six months to help train the Georgian Coast Guard and Border Protection. Sept. 11 occurred while he was in Georgia — tough being over there when New York is so close to his home. Since returning to the USA, he has been on Title 10 recall and will continue until October 2004. He will then transfer to the new PSU 301, at Cape Cod, Mass. He is currently at CWO2

E-mail: pkohl@grumsolis.uscg.mil

1996

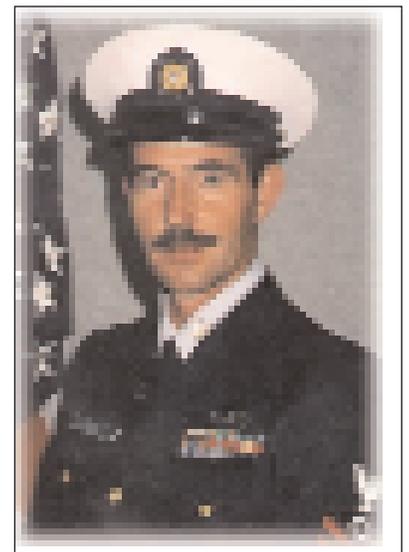
MK1 Charles F. Wade

7th District

Memorable REPOY Moment: Wade, now an MKC, recalls the most memorable moment was the recognition ceremony at the Fort Myer NCO Club and the service members present as one of the greatest moments of his career. It was such an honor to have the Vice Commandant and MCPOCG pin his anchors on in front of so many of his peers. The entire year was an incredible experience that will last a lifetime. The opportunity to participate in the NERA convention as the Coast Guard representative and to be part of the Chiefs' Needs Assessment Study group was an invaluable learning tool.

Update: Since winning the award, he has continued to drill at Station Port Canaveral, Fla. and qualified as 47-foot MLB coxswain and engineer. He was activated on Title 10 orders Sept. 11, 2001 and is currently on voluntary active duty at Station Canaveral serving as OOD, coxswain, boarding officer, and engineer in support of Station Port Canaveral's increased homeland security missions for Port Canaveral and NASA.

E-mail:
cfwade@bellsouth.net or
Charlie.Wade@cityoforlando.net



1995

HS2 Craig E. Monk

2nd District

Memorable REPOY Moment(s): There were many memorable moments for Monk, some of which include being able to have his Mom there to share the whole experience with him, seeing Washington, D.C., and meeting so many incredible coalition members of great organizations dedicated to military service members.

Update: Following the 1995 NERA National Convention in Tacoma, Wash. (at which Monk was sworn in on active duty), he then reported to Coast Guard Air Station Miami on Nov. 15, 1995, where he quickly integrated with the staff. “Within 12 days of my arrival, I found myself on a Coast Guard helo headed to *CGC Dauntless* and then *CGC Northland* to assist crews with medical care for more Haitian ops,” said Monk. “Although this trip was only one week in duration, it was ironically this very type of operation that had lead to my selection as REPOY and subsequently my choice to enter active duty. I was clinic watchstander and Medevac qualified within one month of my arrival at Air Station

Miami.” TAD orders to Independent Duty Medical Tech School at Sheppard Air Force Base from Feb. 21 to April 30, 1996 were followed by a brief one-month reunion with AIRSTA friends before a PCS transfer took me to ISC Miami Beach for independent duty aboard *CGC Valiant*. Following a three-year assignment there (96-99), Monk was most grateful to return to Air Station Miami for a full 4-year tour this time (99-03).

“I pinned on HS1 at the air station June 1, 2001,” said Monk. “I started my current assignment July 1, 2003, as an instructor for EMT “C” School at TRACEN Petaluma. I maintain my NREMT-Paramedic certification, I’m studying diligently for the SWE, and maintain the vision that someday the Coast Guard will see fit to select me to attend PA (Physician Assistant) School.



E-mail: emonk@d11.uscg.mil

1994

DC1 Ovid (Dale) Harris

13th District

Memorable REPOY Moment: Harris recalls his most memorable moment when he was notified at his civilian job by MCPO Bill Phillips, then Reserve Force Master Chief, who said, “You and your wife, Phyllis, pack your bags, you’re headed for the NERA Convention in Niagara Falls, N.Y. as our 1994 USCGR REPOY!” “I was totally in shock for a moment, as I was receiving such a great honor to represent the Coast Guard at the national level,” said Harris. “We were treated like royalty at the NERA Convention, and met many new friends there in Niagara Falls.

Update: Although the meritorious advancement for Coast Guard REPOY recipients was not invoked until 1995, Harris advanced to DCC in 1996, and that year became the Reserve Maintenance & Repair Team Leader at Group Port Angeles, Wash. In 2002, Chief Harris advanced to DCCS. His Reserve M & R team has fluctuated in size over the past eight years, with as many as three DCs and three EMs. The M & R Team at Port Angeles have been very multi-talented, and Harris and his crew have assisted with the new construction and wiring of several warehouses to serve the three new 87-foot cutters there, a new storage building for

the Medical Clinic, a new two-boat garage for the newer 25-foot Safe Boats, built additional storage rooms in the newly-renovated hangar at the oldest Coast Guard Air Station in the world (1935). They also provide heavy-equipment beach repairs for damage caused by heavy winter seas at the Point Wilson Light House in Port Townsend, Wash. Over the past several years, Harris’ crew have also constructed and wired warehouses, recreational buildings, and been involved in barracks renovations at Station Neah Bay, Wash. and Station Quilleyute River, Wash. “Our M & R Team has been very fortunate to have been given tremendous support by our command here at Port Angeles, by the Group Support Officers, and the Coast Guard Civilian M & R Supervisor, Mr. Shanon Ferrel, to be able to use our skills to contribute to the many missions of the U.S. Coast Guard,” said Harris.



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1993 BM2 R. Steven Cochran 5th District

Memorable REPOY Moment: Being awarded the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association (NERA) Outstanding Enlisted Reservist of the Year for 1993 (now known as the Reserve Enlisted Person Of the Year) was one of the high points of Cochran's Coast Guard career. "This was especially so since PS2 Michael Ragan, a member of my unit, won the award the year before," said Cochran. "I remember the information I had submitted to LT Cynthia Sparacino for Petty Officer Ragan's award nomination package. When I had heard she was preparing to submit me for the same award, I thought it almost unthinkable that two people from the same small unit could win this national award twice in a row. Then the congratulatory phone calls started coming in. Of the many wonderful things that came from this award was all those phone calls that meant the most. Coast Guard friends from all over the country called, including the officers with whom I had served during *Desert Shield/Storm*. The topper was the night my wife called me to the phone and said, 'Someone called The Commandant wants to talk to you.'" Attending the annual NERA conference and meeting MCPO Forrest Croom, the first Reserve Force Command Master Chief was inspiring for Cochran. "His enthusiasm for Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve was contagious," said Cochran. "Master Chief Croom said that the best way to repay this honor was to share my knowledge, my experience and my dedication with other members of the Coast Guard family, regular, reserve and auxiliary. Since then, I have tried to do just that."

Update: Since winning the NERA Outstanding Enlisted Reservist of the Year award in 1993, Cochran continued at Station Taylors Island, serving on both the 502001 and the 55105. In 1999, he was asked by the OinC of Station Cape Charles, Va. to transfer to help improve the Reserve participation, which he did. In 2003, Cochran was recalled to active duty for *Operation Iraqi Freedom* and assigned to Activities Baltimore. As a result of that, he transferred to Station Curtis Bay, Md. CAPT Curt Springer, Commander, Sector Baltimore, recently named Cochran as the Reserve Command Chief for Operational Units. "This past August, I retired from my civilian job with the Fairfax County Va. Fire & Rescue Department as a captain with 32 years of service," said now-BMC Cochran. "This allows me more time to spend with my wife, my two grown sons, and to indulge my passion for playing the bagpipes. It also gives me more time for the Coast Guard, including serving as the Pipe Sergeant with the U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band — come see us at Grand Haven's Coast Guard Festival in August."



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1992 PS2 Michael E. Ragan 5th District

Memorable REPOY Moment: Petty Officer Ragan recalls receiving the REPOY award was his most memorable moment during his entire military career. He expresses great gratitude to those who nominated him for this prestigious award, especially LT Cynthia Sparacino (then Training Officer at Station Washington), who was instrumental on researching and putting the paper work together. "It was amazing to have received the award and to receive so many nice phone calls and letters from Coast Guard personnel," said Ragan. "It is an award that will be cherished throughout my civilian and military career."

Update: Petty Officer Ragan retired from the Coast Guard in December 2002 at Station Cape Charles as a PS2. He had 32 years of Coast Guard and Army service (he was an E-7 in the Army before transferring to the USCG). It was a very difficult decision for him to retire due to his love of the Coast

Guard. At present, he is employed at the Department of Justice as an electrical project engineer designing and installing security and construction related projects. He serves on the Board of Directors for a power company and referees youth, school, and adult soccer. He has been married for 32 wonderful years, has four children of which one is still attending college. He wishes that the Coast Guard would utilize retirees as local recruiters in order to obtain additional points and to share enthusiasm and experiences with other potential recruits.



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1991 FS3 Donald M. Caillier 8th District

Memorable REPOY

Moment: Caillier says his most memorable moment was the phone call from MCPOCG Jay Lloyd. "I had NO idea I was up for the award," said Caillier. "As soon as I gained my composure, I accepted and listened to the details about the upcoming award. I left the house and went directly to Chief Al Parkers' home to inform him. Chief Parker was the one person that I did my best to model my career after. As soon as I got to work, I told my employer who immediately congratulated me and

gave me the week off to attend the NERA conference. It will be a day and a phone call that I will always remember."

Update: Caillier is employed by Lipsey's, Inc.-Sporting Goods Industry, and is married to Kathryn E. Jones. His daughter is attending LSU graduate school. He has three dogs, two lab's and one BAD Jack Russell Terrier. He loves to hunt, fish, collect fine guns and cook. He served in the 8th District from 1989-96 and currently lives in Clinton, La. He wanted to serve 20 years, but when the CGR downsized in the 1990s, he was discharged as an FS3. Still, he says he has no hard feelings, supports the CG/CGR 100 percent, and his discharge pin is proudly displayed on his desk at work.

E-mail: caillier@lipseys.com



1990 DC1 Vernon E. Watkins, Jr. 5th District

Memorable REPOY Moment:

DC1 Watkins' most memorable moment was when he received word from his master chief and commanding officer that he had been nominated and selected for this most prestigious award. "To be selected from so many worthy individuals was an honor that I will always remember," said Watkins. "My wife attended the ceremony with me in Reno, Nev. and we still talk about the great time we had at the ceremony and how we 'broke

even' at the casinos. The opportunity to represent the USCGR was a once in a lifetime event that will always be part of our lives."

Update: Retired from the Coast Guard Reserve in May 2003 as a CWO4. He is currently employed with the National Aeronautics & Space Administration as a team leader in the Advanced Models and Sensor Systems Group and Project Manager for the Controls Upset and Prevention Program using remotely piloted, sub-scale flight vehicles. He remains active in community service, and has been married for 35 years to his lovely wife, Darlene.

E-mail: v.e.watkins@larc.nasa.gov



1989 YN2 Thomas R. Kaufman 7th District

Memorable REPOY Moment:

YN2 Kaufman was notified while representing the City of Savannah during commissioning ceremonies of a new Coast Guard cutter, to be stationed at Tybee. "What a pleasant surprise, and of course an honor,"

said Kaufman. "The ceremony was short and sweet, with no speeches. I guess I was a little disappointed by that. But to represent my unit was the most important part of this occasion."

Update: Since Kaufman has reached the "magic age" of 60, he no longer wears the uniform. He retired as a YN2. At the present time, he works for a major airline, based in Minneapolis as Director of Regulatory/ Compliance Security-Dangerous Goods. He moved to the Twin Cities in 1998.

E-mail: retrk@aol.com or Kaufman_Tom@mesaba.com



1988

BM1 L. Todd Reed 9th District

Memorable REPOY Moment: Reed vividly remembers the kindness and hospitality extended to his wife Debbie, children Tad, Brad and Willie, and himself by the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association and Coast Guard representatives at the NERA convention in Green Bay, Wis. CAPT Fitzgerald and MCPO Zimmer of District Nine joined MCPOCG Allen Thiele in presenting the REPOY award. MCPOCG Thiele asked Reed (then a BM1) when he was going to advance to Chief Petty Officer. When Reed replied he would try when he knew he had acquired enough knowledge to be ready to be a Chief, Thiele responded with some Chiefly wisdom. He advised that you never know everything you need to know to do a new job until you actually are in it.

Update: Since 9-11, Chief Reed has served a year and a half of Title 10 active duty at Stations Holland and Manistee, Mich. Prior to that, he served nine consecutive seasons of Summerstock active duty at Coast Guard Stations Ludington and Holland, Mich. Reed has been a motor lifeboat coxswain

on Lake Michigan since 1975. He currently serves as Reserve section leader at Station Manistee. After a life-changing five weeks at the first active duty Chief Petty Officer Academy class held at the Coast Guard Academy in 1998, Reed acted on a longtime goal to publish a book of his outdoor photography. The book, *Ludington, Point to Point*, features the natural beauty of the Lake Michigan shoreline area where he lives, teaches photography at the local community college, and has recently opened his family's second photography gallery.



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Web site: www.toddreedphoto.com



1987

MK1 Dennis F. Kelleher 5th District

Memorable REPOY Moment:

Kelleher says the award ceremony at the NERA annual meeting in Allentown, Pa.

was a grand affair. "The high spot, and a surprise, for me was being presented with the Coast Guard Achievement Medal by RADM Paul A. Welling, then the Chief of Readiness and Reserve," said Kelleher.

Update: Kelleher continued to serve as a UTB coxswain in Reserve Unit York River and then was one of the founding members of PSU 305. He is now in the IRR (an MK1), and enjoying life with his bride of 35 years.

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1986

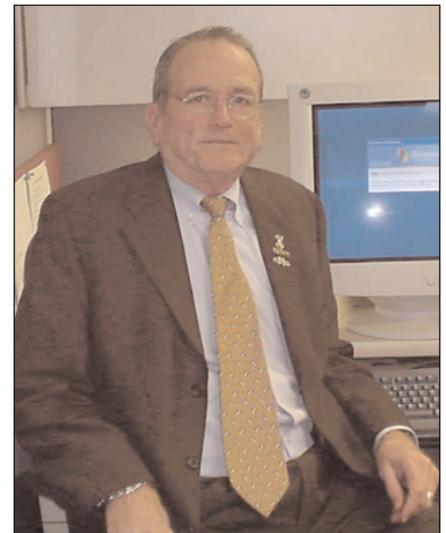
PS1 Johannes N. Verhaeg 3rd District

Memorable REPOY Moment: PS1 Verhaeg recalls the most memorable moment was the telephone call that he received from the District Commander. "I could not believe my ears," said Verhaeg. "I had no idea that my name had been submitted. The ceremony during the NERA convention in Mobile, Ala. was unforgettable. I remember that I had to give a short speech. All I said was 'not too bad for an immigrant.'"

Update: Since winning the award, he has retired as a PSCM from PSU 305 in July 2002. At present, he is a civilian

employee of the USCG in Norfolk, Va. He works for MLCA(kse) as a safety and occupational health specialist covering the 8th District area. He still says he has the type of job that he should pay the Coast Guard for what he does. Verhaeg will be celebrating 38 years of marriage in October 2004.

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1985 PS1 Maxine M. Cavanaugh 14th District

Memorable REPOY Moment: PS1

Cavanaugh's daughter, Grace, who was attending University of Colorado at that time, was able to join her at the NERA Conference in Albuquerque, N.M. in 1985 when she received the award. Ten years later, 1995, they went to the NERA Conference near Seattle when her daughter, now a Chief, was stationed at VTS Seattle.

Update: Cavanaugh advanced to PSC. She retired from the Coast Guard Reserve in December 1996, joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary in 1999 and continues to contribute articles to both active duty and Auxiliary publications, and produces programs on the Auxiliary for community television. She is also a member of Auxiliary Press corps. Since 1992, PSC Cavanaugh has worked as a Public Affairs Officer for FEMA, responding to federally declared disasters as needed. "I can't



image what my life would have been like if I hadn't joined the Coast Guard Reserve," said Cavanaugh. "I have enjoyed the people, the variety of work, the travel and being able to make a contribution."

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1984 BM2 Lisa B. Milone 1st District

Memorable REPOY Moment: This was the first time the award was given and when the Commander, Reserve Group Boston, CAPT Paul Keene selected BM2 Milone, she kept thinking there must be others more deserving. "I was honored to be nominated and never believed I would win," said Milone. "No one knew how to pay for my travel to receive the award so I ended up paying my own airfare. I did eventually get reimbursed! It was great fun to be the first recipient and I only wished I could have had my whole unit with me. The Coast Guard Reserve has provided me with wonderful mentors and I hope I have been able to pass some of that knowledge along."

Update: As a BM2 assigned to *Point Allerton*, Milone applied and received a Direct Commission and her first assignment was as the Assistant Training Officer at Reserve Group Boston. As a lieutenant junior grade, she was the Executive Officer of Reserve Unit *Point Allerton*. As a Lieutenant, Milone was an Operations Duty Officer at Group Boston and later the Reserve Operations Officer. After that,



she spent three years at D1 (ole) in the enforcement division as a lieutenant commander. Upon promotion to commander, she was assigned as the Senior Reserve Officer at Group Woods Hole, Mass. where she currently drills. In her civilian life, she is the Chief Operating Officer for Pediatric Gastroenterology Associates at the Floating Hospital in Boston.

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The Coast Guard Ombudsman Program



An Interview with Mrs. Marie Welch

Interview by CWO4 Jim “Doc” Roberts, USCGR

Photos by CWO2 Ed Kruska, USCGR

Ed’s note: Mrs. Marie Welch is the wife of the Coast Guard’s ninth Master Chief of the Coast Guard, Franklin A. Welch. Mrs. Welch was interviewed about the Coast Guard’s Ombudsman program recently by CWO4 Jim “Doc” Roberts, USCGR, who works in the Work-Life Division at Headquarters.

Can you tell us what an Ombudsman is and what they do? What is an Ombudsman’s responsibilities?

The Ombudsman serves as a conduit between the command, local community and families. They raise issues of concern to the command and pass information from the command and Work-Life to the member’s family.

What are the qualifications for becoming an Ombudsman?

You should be the spouse of an active duty member or reservist, but not the spouse of the commanding officer (CO), officer in charge (OinC) or executive officer (XO). You cannot have a record of family violence. You may not hold an elected position with a spouses club. You must have the time to fulfill the responsibilities of the position, including training,

maintain the ability to be confidential and impartial. You must have a positive view of the Coast Guard and the command, support and understand policy decisions, traditions and missions.

If I wanted to become an Ombudsman, what would I have to do?

Inform the command or Work-Life office of you desire to volunteer as an Ombudsman.

Who is it that appoints the selected Ombudsman to the program?

The CO or OinC of the command is responsible for choosing and appointing their Ombudsman.

Is any training required, and if so, is the training readily available?

Yes, there is training. Your location can determine if your training will be given by the Coast Guard ISC Work-Life staff and district Ombudsman Coordinator or through the Navy Ombudsman training program.

After I complete my training, to whom would I report?

You would report to your Commanding Officer or Officer in Charge.

Is an Ombudsman paid for their services? If so, who pays them?

No, an Ombudsman is a volunteer.

Since they are not paid and put in a lot of effort and time to the job, are they reimbursed in any way?

An Ombudsman is reimbursed for expenses incurred while performing their duties, such as, but not limited to, childcare, gas, phone calls and office supplies.

Would the Work-Life Program interact with the ombudsman and if so, in what way?

Yes. The Work-Life staff and their programs are an integral part of an "effective" Ombudsman program. The Ombudsman and Work-Life staff must work together with the individual commands to keep families informed of medical, dental, social, educational and crisis services available to them.

Does the Coast Guard have a Commandant Instruction for the Ombudsman program or does each command do its own thing?

Yes. COMDTINST 1750.4D

What does the command do to support and recognize the ombudsman and the program?

The best support a command can give their Ombudsman is training and communication. Too often, an Ombudsman is appointed and never trained. We are asking an awful lot of these volunteers so we need to give them the tools they need to perform the job well. Ombudsman Appreciation Day is the fourth Friday of March and commands choose how best to honor their Ombudsman. The new Ombudsman Program Manager, Mrs. Yvette Wright and CAPT Daniel Riehm are working on a new system of rewards for ombudsmen.

As an Ombudsman, would I work with only the Active component members or would I also work with the Reserve component members and the auxiliary?

As an Ombudsman, you would work mainly with your unit whether the personnel are on Active Duty, reservists, or combined — it really doesn't matter — the needs and solutions will be within the Ombudsman's training and life experiences. As far as the Auxiliary is concerned, Ombudsmen wouldn't





work with their families too much as they are not subject to Coast Guard Permanent Change of Station (PCS), pay, medical, dental, housing and deployment issues. The Auxiliary is a wonderful “volunteer” organization that does so much to help the Coast Guard but they are not dependent on our Work-life programs.

How effective has the Ombudsman Program been in the Coast Guard? What have been the greatest challenges and successes of the program?

That depends on the command. Because this program is administered by each command, the effectiveness varies. The latter is also one of the programs biggest challenges. Some commands feel the Ombudsman program is a very important program and do everything within their power to ensure it’s success such as training, communication, and honoring their Ombudsman for their service to the families of the command. On the other hand, we have commands that do little more than appoint someone to the Ombudsman position so they appear to comply with an MLC checklist. We also have some commands that steadfast “refuse” to have the program. The satisfaction level of the families within a command can be used to measure the success of the program, especially if their needs and concerns are being met and heard.

Do the other services also have an Ombudsman program?

Yes, the Navy has an excellent Ombudsman program which the Coast Guard has tried to mirror. The Coast Guard program is a little different because we

have different missions; we have also taken parts from other service programs like the Army “Family Readiness Group.”

As a reservist would the Ombudsman work with my family and myself during a deployment?

Absolutely! The first question asked after you’ve been activated should be, “May I have the name and phone number of the Ombudsman for that unit?”

With your experience, how effective do you feel the Ombudsman program is in reaching its goals?

The program for the most part is not reaching its goals. It has been underfunded and overlooked. Commands are overworked and not properly educated on the purpose and overwhelming benefit of having a “properly trained and well run” Ombudsman program.

Do we have any way of getting feedback from the field?

As an objective, CWO4 Roberts and I will be developing a mechanism for obtaining positive and negative comments from the field as pertains to the Ombudsman program.

Could I go to the Ombudsman to provide my family and myself with childcare, lodging, counseling, or loan us money when we are in need?

No, an Ombudsman is an information and referral expert. Ombudsmen are not childcare providers, loan officers, counselors or real estate agents

(although they may hold positions like these in their civilian lives). What an Ombudsman can do is get you in touch with the appropriate people for those services.

Is there a code of ethics that the Ombudsman must uphold?

Yes, an Ombudsman must be a positive person and have a desire to help Coast Guard families. You must also be able to maintain confidentiality and not gossip or spread rumors. Our families must be able to trust their Ombudsman with personal and sensitive information.

Does the Ombudsman ever refer members and/or their families to other resources?

Yes, the best Ombudsman will move heaven and earth to get what services the member or their family needs.

It sounds like a great program we have for the members and their families; the Ombudsman is for sure, a very special person. We have talked about the Ombudsman and the program. Now lets find out about you and your role as the Coast Guard Ombudsman-at-large.

First what is your role and responsibilities as the Ombudsman-at large and in what way does this differ from the regular Ombudsman?

My role is to be an advocate for the Ombudsman and Work-Life programs. I travel to units with my husband when appropriate, to meet with, get ideas, feedback and give information on programs to fellow Ombudsmen, Work-Life staffs and families. Ombudsman-at large is different because it's on a much larger scale and my field reports are given to the Commandant.

Were you ever an Ombudsman yourself?

Yes, I was the Ombudsman for the Galveston Island a 110-footer home ported in Guam. It was a very challenging location to say the least.

What do you find most rewarding about the job?

I love the families and Ombudsmen I meet. I love to hear stories of someone in our Coast Guard family who was at their whit's end that now has the service or information they needed. Also, that they are satisfied and have a sense of safety, that the Coast Guard is looking out for their well being while their active duty member is looking out for the well being of the rest of the world.

Are there any parts of the job that are really fun, and on the flip side, what is the hardest part of this position?

Again, I love meeting the Ombudsmen and families, listening to their concerns and stories of Coast Guard pride. The hardest part is knowing that there is a spouse some where right this very moment who has never spoken to an Ombudsman or fellow Coast Guard spouse that feels all alone.

As the wife of the Master Chief of the Coast Guard, that in itself is a full-time job. How will you find the time to take on such responsibilities?

You make time for what's important. We only have a few years left with the Coast Guard and the Ombudsman program is so important to me. I hope I can help make some positive changes.

Do you have any goals for the program as the new Ombudsman-at Large that you could share with us?

I became the OAL in January 2003, but at that time, we didn't have a program manager, so there was no promotion of the program. Also, the three years before my appointment, the position was vacant, so many bridges have to be rebuilt. I would love to see the Reserve and active duty Ombudsman programs join together and train together. I feel very strongly that this would ease the biggest bumps for families if the reservist were activated. The family would already be used to receiving the Work-Life programs information, TRICARE, United Concordia Dental, and understand the role of their Ombudsman. I would also love to see this program be given some attention in our leadership courses like it used to be.

Does the Master Chief support you in this position and your commitment to it?

Yes, Frank has been very supportive and understands how important this program is to our families.

Thank you for your time, Mrs. Welch.

For more information on the Ombudsman program, please see the Work-Life Web site at: www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wk/wkw/index.htm. For more info, contact CWO4 Jim Roberts, 202-267-2448, jroberts@comdt.uscg.mil



In Brief

• ADDITIONAL SPECIAL IDT PAY FOR PSU MEMBERS —

Effective Oct. 1, 2004, enlisted members assigned to any PSU shall receive additional special IDT pay of \$10 per drill, as authorized by 37 USC 308D. This special pay will be evaluated for continuation each fiscal year. Please see ALCOAST 171/04 for more information.

• RESERVE SERVICEWIDE DEADLINES —

Wednesday, June 30 is the cutoff for RSWE paperwork, including your End of Course Tests (EOCTs), EER in current rate & rank and Enlisted Performance qualifications (EPQ's). The Reserve Servicewide is held on the third Saturday of October (October 16th, 2004). For more information, contact YN2 David Lynch, PSC (adv); Phone: 785-339-3400; E-mail: dlynch@hrsic.uscg.mil

• **CGPC-RPM ON WEB** — Get the latest on your career, including OER requirements, selection boards, tax tips and a host of other essential information for drilling reservists and members of the IRR at the Coast Guard Personnel Command's Reserve Personnel Division's Web site at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cgpc/rpm/rpmhome.htm>. In the future, you can find this link under "HR Headquarters Units" in the box on the right-hand side of the Reserve Web site (www.uscg.mil/reserve).

• WEEKEND ASSISTANCE FOR RESERVISTS AT PSC —

Reservists at PSC are now "answering the call" one weekend a month to assist and answer questions from reservists nationwide! The weekend schedule for the remainder of 2004 is as follows: June 12-13, July 17-18, Aug. 21-22, Sept. 18-19, Oct. 16-17, Nov. 20-21, Dec. 11-12. Contact PSC at 1-866-772-8724; Web: www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/

• SALUTE AMERICA'S EMPLOYERS & TROOPS / AMERICA'S CAR —

Join the drive to gain and maintain active employer support for our guardsmen and reservists. Employer Support of Guard & Reserve (www.esgr.org) is saluting America's employers through a national employer outreach program. You can simultaneously demonstrate your support for the troops by signing banners traveling with America's Car. To allow an opportunity for everyone to participate, you can go to <http://www.esgr.org/americascar/> and sign the banner right on line!

• **WILLIAMS AWARD NOMINATIONS** — Nominations are now being accepted for the CAPT Edward R. Williams Coast Guard Reserve Award for Excellence. Deadline is July 1, 2004. For more info, please see ALCOAST 058/04.

• USAA USCG RESERVE ENLISTED FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM —

United Services Automobile Association is once again sponsoring scholarships for enlisted Coast Guard Reservists and their dependents. These four \$750 individual scholarships are for higher education for the 2004-05 academic year. Interested drilling reservists as well as their dependents should submit a one-page essay, "What my parents/my spouses participation in the Coast Guard Reserve means to me." Mail all applications to arrive no later than Thursday, July 1, 2004 to: Commandant (G-WTR-2), USCG Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW, Room 5100, Washington, D.C. 20593-0001, ATTN: USAA Scholarships. Please see ALCOAST /04 for more details or contact LTJG Jae-Won Kwon, 202-267-0192, jkwon@comdt.uscg.mil

CGR Historical Highlights

1940s

- Established by act of Congress on February 19, 1941
- By VJ Day, Reserve numbers over 7,000 officers, 160,000 enlisted, 125,000 Temporary Reservists including over 11,000 women (SPARs)

1950s

- Coast Guard Reserve Training budget tops \$1 million
- First issue of The Reservist magazine published in November 1953
- Reserve Program Administrator (RPA) specialty is created to manage CGR
- By the end of the 1950s, Selected Reserve has 11,498 members

1960s-1980s

- First flag officer appointed to oversee Reserve in 1963
- Augmentation adopted in 1971 to support peacetime missions

- Deployable port security program initiated in 1984
- Selected Reserve reaches post-World War II peak of 17,815 in 1969

1990s

- 1,650 reservists recalled for Gulf War – PSUs deploy to Middle East
- Reserve Integration begins in 1994
- Selected Reserve downsized from 12,000 to 8,000, dips as low as 7,200 in mid-1990s.
- PSU program realigned and expanded in 1995
- Selected Reserve reaches 8,000 in 1999

Today

- Over 70 percent of SELRES members recalled at least once since 9/11
- During peak of IRAQI FREEDOM combat operations, over half of Selected Reserve is on active duty
- Over 1,000 reservists on active duty at present
- FY 04 Reserve Training budget tops \$95 million

Upcoming Events

JUNE 2004

- **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY BIRTHDAY** — The 65th birthday of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is Wednesday, June 23. Auxiliary Web site: www.cgaux.org
- **RESERVE SERVICEWIDE EXAM DEADLINES** — Wednesday, June 30 is the deadline to have paperwork completed for the Reserve SWE, including End of Course Tests (EOCTs), EER in current rate and rank, and Enlisted Performance Qualifications (EPQs). For more info, contact YN2 David Lynch, PSC (adv); Phone: 785-339-3400; E-mail: dlynch@hrrsic.uscg.mil

JULY 2004

- **USCG VIETNAM MONUMENT DEDICATIONS** — Friday, July 16, 2 p.m., at TRACEN Cape May, N.J. Sponsored by Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association. A second USCG Vietnam Monument is also being dedicated at the Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn., weekend of Oct. 22, 2004. Contact Mr. Robert Macleod, 704-455-6868; E-mail: rgbysheast@aol.com
- **COAST GUARD FESTIVAL 2004** — Friday, July 30 through Sunday, Aug. 8, in Grand Haven, Mich. National Memorial Service, Friday, Aug. 6, 4 p.m. Parade and fireworks Saturday, Aug. 7. For info, contact: U.S. Coast Guard Festival, 113 N. Second St., Grand Haven, MI 49417; 1-888-207-2434; E-mail: contact@ghcgfest.org Web: www.gh*cgfest.org

AUGUST 2004

- **COAST GUARD DAY 2004** — Is Wednesday, Aug. 4! What is your unit planning for the USCG's 214 birthday?
- **CPOA NATIONAL CONVENTION** — 36th annual, Aug. 23-27, Imperial Palace Hotel/Casino, Las Vegas, Nev. For info,

contact CPO Association, 5520-G Hempstead Way, Springfield, VA 22151-4009; 703-941-0395; E-mail: cgcpoa@aol.com Web: www.uscgcpoa.org

SEPTEMBER 2004

- **OLD TIMERS PICNIC** — For over 25 years, the Mobile Chapter of the Chief Petty Officers Association has held an annual picnic in Mobile, Ala. The 2004 "Old Timers" picnic is set for Saturday, Sept. 4, beginning at 8 a.m. at Walters Park adjacent to the Coast Guard Aviation Training Center. The Mobile Chapter is holding a fundraiser to help with its community projects. The winner will receive a 2004 Yamaha ATV, \$500, or a \$200 U.S. Savings Bond. You need not be present to win. If you need any further information on the picnic or fundraiser, please contact BMCS Jack Crowley, USCG(Ret.), 2500 Melanie Court West, Semmes, AL 36575; Phone: 251-649-8800; E-mail: jjccc99@mchsi.com
- **COAST GUARDSMEN OF YESTERYEAR BREAKFAST** — 5th annual, Saturday, Sept. 4, doors open at 7 a.m. for coffee with breakfast to follow at 9 a.m. at Chincoteague, Va. High School gymnasium. Contact BMC Wayne Merritt, Station Chincoteague, 3823 Main St., Chincoteague, VA 23336-1809; Phone: 757-336-2874; E-mail: jtarr@stachincoteague.uscg.mil
- **FLEET WEEK SAN DIEGO** — Eighth annual, Sept. 25-Oct. 23. For info, call 619-858-1545; Web: www.fleetweeksandiego.org

OCTOBER 2004

- **RESERVE SERVICEWIDE EXAM** — This year's annual RSWE test date is Saturday, Oct. 16. Study hard and make your shipmates proud! For more information or if you have questions, contact YNC Pamela Harris, HRSIC (adv); Phone: 785-339-3410; E-mail: pharris@hrrsic.uscg.mil

Reunions

AUGUST 2004

- **USCG NATIONAL ASSOC. OF FORMER STEWARDS AND STEWARDMATES INC.** — 15th reunion, Aug. 5-8, 2004 at the Imperial Palace Hotel, Las Vegas, Nev. Contact: BMCM Robert E. Hammond, USCG(Ret.), 97 Curtis Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854; Phone: 732-752-2512; FAX: 732-752-1531; E-mail: reh004@aol.com

SEPTEMBER 2004

- **OLD TIMERS PICNIC** — For over 25 years, the Mobile Chapter of the Chief Petty Officers Association has held an annual picnic in Mobile, Ala. The 2004 "Old Timers" picnic is set for Saturday, Sept. 4, beginning at 8 a.m. at Walters Park adjacent to the Coast Guard Aviation Training Center. The Mobile Chapter is holding a fundraiser to help with its community projects. The winner will receive a 2004 Yamaha ATV, \$500, or a \$200 U.S. Savings Bond. You need not be present to win but the raffle will be held at 2 p.m. If you need any further information on the picnic or fundraiser, please contact BMCS Jack Crowley, USCG(Ret.), 2500 Melanie Court West, Semmes, AL 36575; Phone: 251-649-8800; E-mail: jjccc99@mchsi.com
- **CG ANDROSCOGGIN (WHEC-68), Vietnam Deployment 1967-68** — Sept. 15-19, 2004, Charleston Riverview Hotel, Charleston, SC. Contact MKCM James Bridges, USCG(Ret.), 6 Dunvegan Drive, Charleston, SC 29414-6938; Phone: 843-766-1060
- **CGC WESTWIND ASSOCIATION** — Third annual reunion, Sept. 17-19, 2004, Wyndham Hotel, 101 West Fayette St., Baltimore, MD 21201; Phone: 410-385-6700; Special room rate \$99 per night (mention

Westwind Association when reserving your room with reservation deadline of Aug. 18, 2004). For more info, contact Alex Mavica, Chairman, Phone: 845-352-7040; E-mail: amavica@optonline.net

OCTOBER 2004

- **USS CENTAURUS AKA-17** — 13th Annual Reunion, Oct. 7-10, 2004, World War II Coast Guard-Manned Attack Transport, six Battle Stars and two Kamikaze Splashes, Sheraton Westport, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Kent Price, 837 Orpington Ct., St. Louis, MO 63131; Phone: 314-822-4637; E-mail: kent_p@sbcglobal.net or George E. McCabe, Jr., 116 Knotty Pine Trail, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082; Phone: 904-280-3013; E-mail: congem@bellsouth.net
- **USS LST 767 (WWII)** — Fourth reunion, Oct. 10-13, 2004, Mobile, Ala. Contact Dave Ramsay, One Utah St., Beverly Hills, FL 34465-4378; Phone: 352-527-2869; E-mail: ramshorn@xtalwind.net
- **USCGC BIBB (W-31)** — All crews 1937-1985, 11th reunion, Oct. 14-16, 2004, at Holiday Inn-Mt Pleasant, Charleston, S.C. Contact Bibb Shipmates, c/o Mike Johnson, 277 Brandon, GA 30265-1499; Web site: www.cutterbibb31.com
- **NOVEMBER 2004**
- **NAVAL SMALL GROUPS REUNION FESTIVAL** — Nov. 8-12, 2004, Charleston, S.C. Contact A.J. James, Phone: 843-572-2200; e-mail: doscha@lodgian.com

DOT 9/11 Awards Update

Ed's note: Flag Voice 212, by RADM Ken Venuto, Assistant Commandant for Human Resources (G-W), addresses the many questions regarding the DOT 9/11 Awards. To view Flag Voice on-line, go to: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/flagvoice/0contents.htm>

This Flag Voice contains information on a wide range of issues related to the DOT 9-11 Medal and the DOT 9-11 Ribbon. I recognize that there's a considerable amount of disappointment and frustration associated with not having a sufficient supply of medals and ribbons to provide the timely recognition our hardworking people certainly deserve. This Flag Voice should help explain how we got where we're at and what we're doing about it.

In recognition of the actions taken by many DOT/Coast Guard employees and private citizens in response to the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, the Secretary of Transportation approved a series of DOT personal awards in early 2003. Based on the criterion approved by the Secretary, the Coast Guard provided DOT with a preliminary estimate of several thousand for what was then regarded to be a likely quantity of initial-issue medals and ribbons. However, once the final eligibility lists were assembled by the Areas in January 2004, it became apparent that the Coast Guard's overall need was more than 10 times the available supply provided by DOT. All totaled, the Coast Guard will ultimately distribute more than 35,000 9-11 Medals/Ribbons. Needless to say, this poses a significant challenge.

Under normal circumstances, the Coast Guard would simply requisition the additional Medals and Ribbons from the military stock system. However, because the design and procurement of these awards were managed by DOT outside the normal military procurement process as a one-time procurement without a provision for the long-term maintenance needs of a military organization, there is no current supplier for the Coast Guard. Additionally, even if there were a commercial supplier available, continuing to operate outside the military awards systems would preclude these awards from being integrated into the larger military awards hierarchy, and being readily available through the federal stock system and private companies specializing in ribbon and medal mounting. The bottom line is that we must integrate these awards into the military system.

The first step in the integration process is to develop a military-quality specification and to produce sample award sets to be used in the follow-on contracting phases. As is customary in cases like this, we have contracted the services of the Institute of Heraldry and have already evaluated the preliminary samples. We expect to evaluate and approve the final samples and specification in the coming weeks. Once these samples are approved and the specification is in hand, we'll begin the contracting phase. In an effort to expedite production, we are exploring the possibility of using DoD contracting services that are routinely involved in award procurement. Otherwise, we will contract for these awards independently.

Creating a new military award is a significant undertaking that is seldom initiated by the Coast Guard because most new medals and ribbons are sponsored by DoD. All considered, this process is expected to take at least six additional months.

Because of the unique circumstances surrounding the creation of these awards, we are waiving some of the normal requirements associated with personal awards as indicated below.

Based on feedback from the field, I know that many qualified members are concerned by the earlier classification of this award as a personal award and the impact that this may have on their eligibility for another personal award predicated in part on their actions following 9-11. The issuance of these 9-11 awards will not preclude the issuance of another personal award for the same time period.

While the original 9-11 Ribbon did not include a lapel pin, we have incorporated suitable lapel pins into the military specification for both the 9-11 Medal and Ribbon. This is particularly important for our civilian employees who were involved in 9-11 actions.

Standardized DOT certificates will ultimately be provided to each award recipient. Effective immediately, copies of the standardized award certificate need not be included in officer OERs. However, the award shall be annotated in the OER as is customary for all personal awards. For enlisted personnel, there are no advancement points associated with either award.

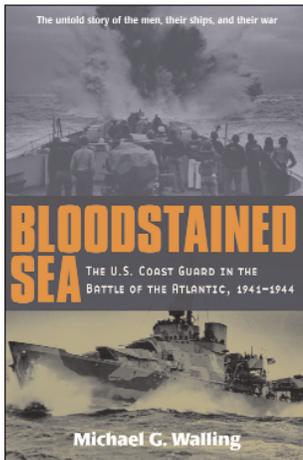
The Areas continue to judiciously manage the distribution of their limited supplies and to maintain an accurate listing of all eligible members, along with those who have already received their award. Prior to shipping additional supplies to the Areas, my staff will contact the Areas for an up-to-date requirements count/list. Should operational tempo at the time preclude Area management of the distribution effort, I will explore other alternatives for direct shipment.

It goes without saying that the introduction of these awards into our military inventory would have been much smoother if we had been in a position from the beginning to follow the standard military procedures. However, because that was not the case, we are making every effort to take the appropriate steps consistent with the long-term needs of the Coast Guard and qualified award recipients. I will provide updates on this issue from time to time as we reach critical milestones.

Many of you have requested Coast Guard specific eligibility information regarding the new Global War on Terrorism Medals. We are working closely with our DoD counterparts, and will provide policy in the coming weeks.

**Regards,
Ken Venuto
Rear Admiral, USCG
Assistant Comandant for Human Resources**





Bloodstained Sea: The U.S. Coast Guard in the Battle of the Atlantic, 1941-1944

By
Michael G. Walling

Michael G. Walling has written a book about the Coast Guard's role in guarding the convoys of merchant ships carrying vital materiel to our allies during World War II.

In November 1941, under orders from President Franklin Roosevelt, and even though America was not yet officially at war, officers and crews of the U.S. Coast Guard painted their gleaming white cutters battleship gray and steamed into action against the menacing U-boats of the Third Reich. Over the next four years, these men — normally dedicated to saving lives and rescuing ships in distress — would be locked in one of the longest and bloodiest running sea battles in history. *Bloodstained Sea* tells their powerful and inspiring story.

Americans called it Torpedo Junction; to the Germans, it was Devil's Gorge. By any name, the North Atlantic of the early 1940s was one of the most dangerous fronts in a catastrophic war. Called upon in desperate times, seven of the Coast Guard's finest ships — the sleek, efficient, tough 327-foot Secretary Class cutters — plied these unforgiving waters to protect convoys of troops and much-needed supplies. Hunting

U-boats, rescuing survivors from frigid waters, they met every challenge and undertook any task necessary to ensure that the Atlantic remained open to Allied shipping. Here, for the first time ever, author and former Coast Guardsman Michael Walling relates the full saga of these vessels and their intrepid crews in vivid detail.

Through eyewitness accounts based on hundreds of interviews with crew members, personal diaries, notes, and letters; and each cutter's logbooks and patrol reports, Walling plunges you into the thick of the battle, re-creating some of the most desperate encounters, heroic rescues, and harrowing missions of the Second World War.

Walling served six years in the Coast Guard as a commissioned officer and a senior petty officer. He has spent more than 40 years collecting stories from hundreds of World War II veterans. He can be reached at www.mikewalling.com.

Bloodstained Sea - The U.S. Coast Guard in the Battle of the Atlantic, 1941-1944, published by McGraw-Hill, 320 pages, 24 photos and illustrations; will be available in bookstores June 4.

Advancements

Effective May 1, 2004

From Enlisted Reserve
Advancement Announcement
(ERAA) No. 05-04

BMCS P JAKLITSCH
BMC W LUX
BMC E BENDER
BMC S FEY
BM1 R REBMAN
BM1 D MILLER
BM1 M SMITH
BM1 R LARSON
BM1 J PINSKY
BM2 B PINGER
BM2 J DOUGLAS
BM2 W DAVIS
BM2 S SEMLER
BM3 K JONES
BM3 I BAIRD
DCC E LOESCHE
ETC J HERBST
FSCS W BALDWIN
FSC A PADAVAN
GMC D DAVIS
GM2 L KENNEDY
MKC D VEISS
MKC M FERREIRA
MKC J JOHNSON
MKC W PRUITT
MK1 B SMITH
MK1 N HILARCZY

MK2 W RODRIGUE
MK2 T HESS
MK2 J DEC
MK2 V KIGER
MST1 D HAGER
MST1 C KING
MST1 K BROCKHOU
MST2 E HARROD
MST2 J KRAUSE
MST2 N TAONUS
MST2 R CANALES
MST2 N KING
OS2 S WATKINS
OS2 G WELCH
PSC M PETERS
PS3 J GLEN
PS3 K BRILES
PS3 L STEMPIEN
PS3 D MURRIA
SKC G SISSON
SKC M TAHTINEN
YNCS P DUFFIN
YN2 R HUGHES
YN2 D FOSTER

This list is taken directly from ERAA No. 05-04, ALCGPERSCOM 028/04 (R 221920Z APR 04). Questions should be directed to YNC P. Harris, pharris@hrcsic.uscg.mil or 785-339-3410.

Promotions

From OPAL No. 05-04

ALCGPERSCOM 029/04 (R 231516Z APR 04)

Promotion To LT:

WALLACE, AARON P., RESERVE,
12 MAY 2004, CG SECTOR BOSTON
MURPHY, SEAN A., RESERVE,
12 MAY 2004, CG MSO NEW ORLEANS
FILASKI, CRAIG M., RESERVE,
13 MAY 2004, CG SECTOR PHILADELPHIA
CHOE, PATRICK Y., RESERVE,
13 MAY 2004, CG PC
MCGUIRE, AUSTIN J., RESERVE,
22 MAY 2004, CG SECTOR PHILADELPHIA
ARTS, PETER A., RESERVE,
24 MAY 2004, CG LANTAREA
DIKE, OKECHUKWU K., RESERVE,
24 MAY 2004, CG SECTOR HONO
From OPAL No. 04-04
ALCGPERSCOM 022/04 (R 261502Z MAR 04)

Promotion To CWO3:

NEHRING, UWE, RESERVE,
1 APR 2004, GP GALVESTON
HETZEL, HARRY F., RESERVE,
1 APR 2004, CG LANTAREA

Medals and Awards

Defense Superior Service Medal

CAPT Timothy M. Butler,
USTRANSCOM

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

LCDR Kenneth B. Hines,
USTRANSCOM

Meritorious Service Medal

CAPT Martin Hyman, DHS National
Ops Ctr
CDR Michael Milkovich, PSU 309, CO

Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal

LCDR Michael K. Hart, PSU 309
IT1 Paul C. Bostwick, HDC 205

Coast Guard Commendation Medal

CWO4 Ronald J. Raczka, PSU 309

Joint Service Achievement Medal

LCDR Phillip F. Brookings, D5

Coast Guard Achievement Medal

CDR Robert Cunningham,
USTRANSCOM
LT Scott R. Benson, PSU 309
LT Timothy W. Decker, PSU 309
LT Paula J. Malone, PSU 309
LTJG Jeffery A. Drzewiecki, PSU 309
LTJG William W. Suter, PSU 309
ETCS Charles S. VonHout, PSU 309

FSCS Norman A. Krumpke, PSU 309
MKCS Jerry M. Saunders, PSU 309
MKCS Thomas E. Zaborski, PSU 309
PSCS Jane E. Akers, D9
YNCS Marc Casado, ISC San Pedro
BMC Deborah C. Marsh, PSU 309
OSC Paul D. Hughes, PSU 309
PSC Michael A. Corfman, PSU 309
PSC Scott T. Wilke, PSU 309
BM1 Howard C. Marshall, PSU 309
GM1 Christian N. Torres, Group Boston
GM1 Adam S. Weimerskirch, PSU 309
HS1 Kimberly A. Francis, PSU 309
PS1 Kevin L. Hollenbacher, PSU 309
PS1 Christine M. Mangan, PSU 309
SK1 John M. Heinz Jr., MSO Chicago
DC2 Jason P. Severs, PSU 309
DC2 Terry S. Wilton, PSU 309
ET2 William J. Klich, PSU 309
FS3 Craig D. Olszewski, PSU 309
IT3 Ian W. Jolin, ESD Cape Cod

Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon

BM1 Paul A. Cormier, PSU 309
EM1 James M. Haag, PSU 309
MK1 Charles Eisenhart II, PSU 309
MK1 Eric T. Harding, PSU 309
MK1 Leo J. Trahan, PSU 309
PS1 Steven R. Hornyak, PSU 309
ET2 Michael H. Barcia, PSU 309
PS2 Michael J. Fink, PSU 309
BM3 Kerry A. Stoppiello,
MSO Jacksonville
MK3 Christopher Cruz, PSU 309
MK3 Thomas A. Gray, PSU 309
SK3 Matthew J. Kowalski, PSU 309
SN Daniel L. Helle, PSU 309

Coast Guard Unit Commendation

PSU 313, Tacoma, Wash.

(See photo in May 2004 issue, page 27)

CG Meritorious Unit Commendation

PSU 309, Port Clinton, Ohio

CG Meritorious Team Commendation

2003 Fair St. Louis Team, MSO St. Louis
Sector Baltimore Positive Control
Boarding Team
MSO Jacksonville Military Outload
Safety Team

Reserve Good Conduct Medal

YNCS Marc Casado,
ISC San Pedro (8th)
FS1 Ana Solis,
ISC San Pedro (5th)
PA1 Spring de Haviland,
ISC San Pedro (7th)
YN1 Tom Doney,
ISC San Pedro (4th)
DC2 Paxton Bowman,
ISC San Pedro (3rd)
DC3 Desmond Thomas,
ISC San Pedro (1st)

Armed Forces Reserve Medal

LTJG Bobby Lindsay,
USTRANSCOM, w/"M"
TC3 Michael Klopenstein,
USTRANSCOM, w/"M"

If you received an award recently and would like to see it published, send a copy of your award citation to the editor. Address and e-mail are on page 2.

Photos by CAPT Paul Crissy, USCGR



CAPT Martin Hyman, left, was presented the Meritorious Service Medal by RADM Jeffrey Hathaway, right, for outstanding performance while assigned to the Department of Homeland Security's National Operations Center during 2003.



CDR Joe Dumas, left, was presented the Meritorious Service Medal by RADM Jeffrey Hathaway, right, for duty at U.S. Joint Forces Command during an involuntary recall from March 2003 to December 2003 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Dumas is currently serving at HQ's Directorate of Operations Policy.

Senior's "Good Conduct" Bears Fruit!



Photo by PA1 Spring de Haviland, USCGR

YNCS Marc Casado, USCGR, left, receives his eighth Reserve Good Conduct Medal from ISC San Pedro's Commanding Officer, CAPT Ron Hoffmann, at an awards ceremony April 17. Casado, who was also awarded a CG Achievement Medal at the ceremony, has served 27 years in the Coast Guard and Reserve.

Vancouver, Wash. Police Dept. Gets ESGR Award



Photo by PA1 Spring de Haviland, USCGR

Brian Martinek, Vancouver, Wash. Police Chief, left, receives a certificate from Employer Support of Guard and Reserve's Joel Scott, right, for the police department's support of its reservists. PSCS Rex Gunderson applied for the award for the City Manager, Chief of Police, and other city employees. There are five Coast Guard Reservists who work for the Vancouver P.D.

Retirement List

RET-1 (Retired With Pay)

MAY 2004

CDR David W. Boyle, D9
 CDR Colon E. Durrell, D1
 CDR Arthur D. Fried, D5
 CDR Charles N. Green, D9
 LCDR Lowell W. Coffin, D7
 LCDR Thomas G. Lueck, D9
 LCDR William J. Smith, D11
 LT Tom P. Wilson, D11
 CWO4 James J. Landye, D11
 IVCM Robert F. Ladd, D13
 PSCM John R. Horney, D5
 BMCS Larry C. Woolsey, D11
 DPC Dennis E. Acker, D7
 EMC Edward E. Horton, D8

EMC Robert F. Reinecker, D2
 MKC Roy L. Rodgers, D5
 MSTC James E. Borders, D7
 PSC Phillip J. Cavaco, D14
 PSC Thomas J. Kowalski, D9
 HS1 Charles F. McNaughton, D5
 MK1 Tom N. Shuey, D5
 MK1 Robert K. Simons, D13
 BM2 Ronald E. Lebel, D1
 YN3 Marina L. Perez, D7

RET-2 (Retired Awaiting Pay)

MAY 2004

CDR Diane L. Coleman, D11
 CWO3 Pamela Lynette, D11
 DCCS Ovid Harris, D13

BMC Michael Jackson, D7
 HSC Marilyn B. Brown, D5
 IVC Jerald T. Sumida, D14
 OSC Donald T. Eberhardt, D1
 PSC James S. Cooney, D1
 PSC Samuel Villani, D7
 YNC Daniel S. Swanson, D8
 MK1 Clifford J. Appel, D13
 MK1 Alan Morelli, D11
 MK1 Dale Seivert, D9
 BM2 Paul J. Byrd, D5
 BM2 Lothrop Hedge, D1
 MK2 Kevin P. Dowd, D1
 MK2 Michael P. Ebinger, D8
 MST2 Thomas Hirzel, D11

Source: YN2 Kelli Gonzales, Personnel Service Center (ras)

Taps

• **ADM James Horace Lipscomb III**, USCGR(Ret.), 75, April 30, 2004, in Jacksonville, Fla. Born in Jacksonville, Fla. July 5, 1928, to James and Flo Lipscomb, he graduated from Woodberry Forest in 1946, Princeton University in 1950, and attended the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania. He attended Coast Guard Officer Candidate School in Connecticut, and was commissioned ensign in January 1951. During the Korean War, he served on the CGC



Androscoquin and CGC Sweetgum. He was affiliated with Coast Guard Reserve units in the 7th Coast Guard District including: Port Security Reserve Unit Jacksonville, Vessel Augmentation Unit and Volunteer Training Unit Jacksonville, Reserve Unit Savannah, Reserve Group Mayport, and was Reserve 7th District Inspector. He was promoted to the rank of rear admiral in 1981, and was the first Reserve Flag officer to be a member of the Reserve Forces Policy Board. He served as Senior Reserve Officer PAC and LANT Area, and was a strong proponent of enhancing the Coast Guard's military readiness through a variety of exercises and joint service maneuvers. At his retirement ceremony June 30, 1985, he received the Legion of Merit, the first Coast Guard Reservist to receive this honor. He was a pension consultant for the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company of Boston. He became a hereditary member of the Society of Cincinnati in the state of Virginia in 1953 through direct descent of his great, great, great, great grandfather, ENS Thomas Lipscomb, 7th Regiment, Virginia Continental Line. He was a member of the St. Augustine Chapter, Sons of the Revolution, member of the Kirby Smith Camp Sons of the Confederate Veteran, Honorary Life Florida Yacht Club member, and was a member of the Rotary of Jacksonville. He is survived by his sister, Flo Hope Lipscomb Mason; brother-in-law, William M. Mason, Jr.; two nieces Flo Hope L. Mason and Scarlett Mason Nestler; and her husband, Peter; two nephews, William Marcy Mason, III and James Demere Mason and his wife, Teresa; 12 grand nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held at St. Johns Episcopal Cathedral, Jacksonville, May 3, 2004. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. Johns Cathedral, 256 E. Church St., Jacksonville, FL 32202-3132 or a charity of your choice.

• **CAPT Paul Lemargie**, USCGR(Ret.), April 8, 2004, in Moses Lake, Wash. Survived by his wife, Harriett Lemargie.

• **CDR William M. Abernethy**, USCGR(Ret.), April 2, 2004, in Jacksonville, Fla. Interment Jacksonville Beach, Fla.

• **CWO4 Robert W. Reuss**, USCGR(Ret.), April 15, 2004, in Snohomish, Wash. Survived by his widow, Lois Reuss.

• **CWO3 Thomas Bielecke**, USCGR(Ret.), April 19, 2004, in Jackson, N.J. Interment Jackson, N.J.

• **CWO2 John W. Smith**, USCGR(Ret.), April 23, 2004, in Raleigh, N.C. Survived by his widow, Mary Christine Smith.

• **BMC Roy A. Mckeithan**, USCGR(Ret.), April 15, 2004, in Loris, S.C. Survived by his wife, Nancy Mckeithan.

• **EMC Charles A. Bell**, USCGR(Ret.), April 11, 2004, in Rocky Mountain, N.C. Survived by his widow, Dolena Bell. Interment Beaufort, N.C.

• **ETC Michael W. Wasiejko**, USCGR(Ret.), April 25, 2004, in Manchester, N.H. Interment Salem, N.H.



• **BM1 Robert W. Coombs**, USCG(Ret.), 47, March 17, 2004, in Waldorf, Md., husband of LTJG Katy Coombs, USCGR. Born March 26, 1956, in Derry, N.H., he enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1973. Following boot camp, he was assigned to CGC Campbell (WHEC 32) during her homeport shift from Portland, Maine to Port Angeles, Wash. and during the cadet cruise to Japan in 1976. He also served at Station Castle Hill and participated in the Mariel Boatlift operation while serving aboard CGC Cape Cross. From

1981 to 1984, he was assigned to the Reserve BM School at RTC Yorktown where he taught seamanship to numerous BM Basic, BM Advanced and REBI classes. This is also where he met and married his wife. He was also assigned to Station Port Canaveral where he was active in training and qualifying reservists as crewmen and coxswains. During the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster, he worked tirelessly alongside active and reserve unit personnel in the recovery efforts. Following a tour aboard CGC Diligence, he was assigned to Group Miami Beach where he retired as the Senior SAR Controller in 1995. Following retirement from the Coast Guard, he worked as an A.B. and 200-Ton Mate for Coastal Tug and Barge in Miami. In 2000, he left the sea to begin a career as a certified Chrysler auto mechanic. In addition to working on cars, he loved music, Civil War history, skiing and his cat, Tigger. Interment was held March 26, 2004 at Holy Cross Cemetery in Akron, Ohio. Condolences may be sent to LTJG Katy Coombs, 2308 Avalon Court, Waldorf, MD 20603 or kcoombs@att.net.

• **DC3 Nathan B. Bruckenthal**, USCG, 24, originally from Smithtown, N.Y., from injuries sustained when a small boat exploded as he and six other coalition sailors attempted to board it near the Iraqi Khawr Al Amaya Oil Terminal April 24, 2004. He was assigned to Law Enforcement Detachment 403 from Tactical Law Enforcement Team South in Miami, and was deployed to Coast Guard Patrol Forces Southwest Asia at the time of the incident. He enlisted in 1999, and attended boot camp at TRACEN Cape May in May 1999. He is survived by his wife, Patricia; father Ric Bruckenthal; mother Laurie Bullock; brothers Mathew and Michael; a sister Noa Beth. Interment was held May 7, 2004, at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., with full military honors.

Joint Coast Guard, "2004"

One quick scan of the local paper or a few moments watching nationally televised news media, and it is readily apparent that the 21st century has arrived with a hell-bent fury. It's a fury that often causes me to contemplate what the men and women of our Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve of today will be remembered for as our children and their children read of our efforts.

From my perspective as your Master Chief of the Coast Guard, I continually and correctly categorize our services as honorable, devoted, noble and courageous. However, the ultimate measurement of the Coast Guard's success in this new and dangerous world lies within the much anticipated ability of our nation's future children to enjoy childhood in a country that is free, prosperous, and full of hope and opportunity. With special "thanks" to our dedicated men and women of our Coast Guard Reserve force, we have jointly reaffirmed to our nation and to the entire world that failure is not an alternative our great Coast Guard will ever consider regardless of the sacrifices involved; to include, as we were recently reminded, the potential for the ultimate personal sacrifice. I am very grateful for your services and I am equally proud to serve alongside each and every one of you with unparalleled pride and the utmost of admiration for your tireless dedication in support of our Coast Guard and our homeland.

Our Coast Guard, just like our exemplary forces of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force, is a service full of men and women who volunteer their time and talents, and, at times, their lives in pursuit of a safer nation. And nobody knows that better than the men and women of our Reserve force! Many people ask me, "How in the world do you do it?" This question refers of course, to the very small size of our work force as it relates to the host of peace and wartime responsibilities we have. Those same people usually don't have any awareness at all that the Coast Guard has been involved in the war-fighting trade since 1798, and has been engaged in every major conflict since, including the war

against Iraq, the war against terrorism, the war against drugs, our efforts to guard against economic depletion, and our more publicly known resolve to reduce marine fatalities...all at the same time! These are all wars of national security and of the highest order of importance to the future of our children, our country and our world. There has simply been no greater calling for a mission-set such as ours to be found anywhere in the history of our proud country.

As we all know, these wars take their tolls — tolls most-often measured by the losses of our comrades in arms. As sad as our losses are, they are losses that are not in vain, but rather, losses in pursuit of the most noble of causes; the safety and security of our country we proudly and together refer to as "home!" Wars also take their toll on those of us, and our families, that are left behind to "stand the watch" to ensure our future is worthy of our children's inheritance.

Many of us find ourselves doing more with less than ever before, and life itself has become a constant struggle that never seems to balance with the demands of our military service of choice. As demanding and challenging as these times are for our reservists, there is no greater responsibility than to persevere during such a critical time for our country. In fact, perseverance and personal sacrifice by those who have so proudly gone before us permit me simple liberties such as writing this article to our men and women of the Coast Guard Reserve today. We must collectively keep our chins up, our spirits high, and our sights aimed toward the horizon in order to meet our responsibilities to the proud history of our veterans, and to the promising future of those who will surely follow us into tomorrow.

I thank you for wearing your uniform with pride, intent and confidence. We are all in this together, and thanks to the dedication and commitment of each and every one of you, we have collectively demonstrated to the world that the United States Coast Guard remains, "Always Ready!"



" I am very grateful for your services and I am equally proud to serve alongside each and every one of you with unparalleled pride and the utmost of admiration for your tireless dedication in support of our Coast Guard and our homeland."

**By MCPOCG Franklin A. Welch, USCG
Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard
www.uscg.mil/hq/mcpocg.default.htm**



Final Honors

Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Thomas H. Collins presents the national ensign to Patti Bruckenthal, DC3 Nathan Bruckenthal's widow, at his funeral in Arlington National Cemetery.

USCG photo by PA1 Sarah Foster-Snell

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