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US COAST GUARD

Volume 3 Number 7

NUMBERS

41.3 million – Number of people who have some level of disability. They represent 15 percent of the civilian non-institutionalized population age 5 and older.

COAST GUARD HISTORY



African-American Stewards Mate First Class Charles Walter David, Jr., was a true Coast Guard hero who served on board the cutter Comanche during World War II. When Comanche came to the aid of the torpedoed army transport SS Dorchester in the cold waters off Greenland, David repeatedly dived overboard in the icy water to save its survivors. He even saved fellow crewman and Comanche executive officer, LT Langford Anderson, when exposure prevented Anderson from extracting himself from the water. A few days later, David died of hypothermia contracted as a result of his rescue work and left behind a wife and young son. The navy posthumously awarded him the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for his bravery. *Source:* CG History Website

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2008 SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

DISTRICT 8, HEADQUARTERS AND NEWSPAPER PARTNER WITH EDUCATORS



Seventy-five teachers and school administrators from ten Louisiana parishes participated in a Summer Symposium jointly sponsored by the 8th Coast Guard District, Sector New Orleans, The Advocate (Baton Rouge) newspaper and Coast Guard Headquarters. This day long program provided a first-hand opportunity for educators to learn about Coast Guard missions and

its commitment to promote excellence in education by helping local school systems, especially in communities with large minority populations. This event marks the first time Coast Guard has joined with a local newspaper to support educational partnership opportunities.

Throughout the day, educators rotated through various programs designed to familiarize them with Coast Guard mission areas. Presentations included a briefing on the Coast Guard Sea Partners, tours of Sector New Orleans, familiarization aboard a patrol boat, and viewing Coast Guard mission



videos. Following the well attended group presentations, everyone gathered to watch a HH-65A helicopter from Air Station New Orleans perform a Search and Rescue (SAR) demonstration that included a simulated water recovery. The Advocate hosted a luncheon where Rear Admiral Joel Whitehead, 8th Coast Guard District Commander, delivered the keynote. For information, contact Gwendolyn White, Partnership in Education Program Manager, at (202) 372-4519, gwendolyn.e.white@uscg.mil. or Willow Wilson, 8th District Civil Rights Officer, at (504) 671-2011, willow.m.wilson@uscg.mil.

COMPLAINTS CORNER! Training is key to preventing complaints of discrimination. When Coast Guard Non-Appropriated (NAF) senior management requested EEO training for its managers, the Office of Civil Rights eagerly accepted! During two conferences, the office conducted EEO training for 20 NAF Childcare Development Center directors and 50 NAF Exchange managers. Assigned to NAF facilities throughout the country, the two groups participated in “What Managers Need to Know” sessions covering the complaint process, acceptable bases, management’s responsibility and alternate dispute resolution. Please contact Ms. Francine Blyther at (202) 372-4520 for additional information.

33RD ANNUAL NAACP ARMED SERVICES AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AWARDS DINNER



The 33rd Annual NAACP Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Awards Dinner was held July 15th in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award was presented to 8 personnel who distinguished themselves by contributing to military equal opportunity policies and programs. Mr. Peter Flanagan, 7th Coast Guard District, was the Coast Guard recipient. Pictured (bottom right): Mr. Flanagan with all service award honorees.

COAST GUARD MEMBERS RECEIVE FAPAC AWARDS

The Federal Asian Pacific American Council (FAPAC) held award ceremonies on July 26, 2008 in Brooklyn, NY honoring military and civilian personnel. FAPAC President Mr. Charles Fan presented LCDR Eva VanCamp (Coast Guard Headquarters) and Ms. Maria Shepherd (Coast Guard Pacific Area) the Military and Civilian Meritorious Service Awards, respectively. The citations commended LCDR VanCamp for active participation on the Commandant's Diversity Advisory Council and Ms Shepherd for her inspiration and leadership, particularly among Asian-Americans. Coast Guard salutes LCDR VanCamp and Ms. Shepherd for outstanding performance of duty and a job well done!



Pictured left to right: CAPT Joseph B. Kolb, Office of Civil Rights, award winners LCDR Eva VanCamp, Ms. Maria Shepherd, and CDR Robert E. McFarland, Coast Guard Pacific Area.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

AUGUST

11th-15th; Blacks in Government Conference; New Orleans, LA; This Year's Theme: "Rising Above the Storm: Navigating New Challenges with High Professional Competency and Dedication to Public Service."

SEPTEMBER

5th; 2008 LATINA Style Magazine – Fifth Annual National LATINA Symposium; Capital Hilton, Washington, DC; **ODEMO point of contact: Ms. Aida Muccio**, (703) 571-9357 or aida.muccio@osd.mil.

DHS Hosts 2008 National Association of African Americans Conference

The National Association of African-Americans in the Department of Homeland Security (NAADHS) hosted its 3rd annual training conference July 14-18 in San Diego, California. NAADHS is a non-profit organization that supports and enhances DHS missions through training, mentoring and coaching its members to achieve success at work, and in their local communities.

In recognition of this year's theme, "*Building and Maintaining Relationships Within DHS*," the conference featured a variety of training and professional development sessions, including a DHS EEO Director's Panel. The panel was comprised of component representatives presented an overview of workforce demographics and provided executive level career development information. As a testimony to NAADHS's community outreach mission, members partnered with a local YMCA alternative school to mentor teenage students and help refurbish three YMCA classrooms. NAADHS is actively recruiting new members to its organization. To learn more about the organization and its membership, go to www.naadhs.org.