

Subject: CPC CyberFlash  
From: "Director CPC" <Director.CPC@noaa.gov>  
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### **From the Director's Desk**

The 107th Basic Officer Training Class reported for duty on Thursday March 3, 2005 at the Marine Operations Center, Atlantic. Fourteen temporarily appointed ensigns have now joined the NOAA Corps. This brings the overall strength of the NOAA Corps to 280 officers. The 107th BOTC will be spending next week in Silver Spring, MD and they are scheduled to receive briefings from the representatives of NOAA headquarters and Line Offices.

This increase in overall strength allows us to promote officers based on 280 and creates eighteen vacancies on the lineal list. CPC will forward a promotion package to the Secretary next week requesting he sign eighteen commissions for the following vacancies: one captain, two commanders, four lieutenant commanders, seven lieutenants, and four lieutenants (junior grade). After the package leaves CPC it will take approximately two weeks getting the commissions signed by the Secretary. <>

The Officer Personnel Board (OPB) will convene on March 23, 24 and 25, 2005 to select officers for promotion to the grades of commander (select 9 officers) and lieutenant commander (select 13 officers). The OPB recommendations will then be forwarded to the Secretary for his approval.

On Wednesday of this week I had the opportunity to attend a Leadership/Motivational lecture given by Dr. Stephen Covey. The FAA sponsored Dr. Covey and the Franklin Covey Group extended three invitations to my office to attend the session. If you have not read two of Covey's books, the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People or the 8th Habit, I highly recommend that you do so. What makes Covey so effective in my opinion, is that he helps individuals understand the genesis of the issue(s) and problem(s). He provides insight as to the why before focusing on the how to fix response(s). Covey freely admits that the concepts he describes and prescribes to in his books are not new and he did not make them up. They are common sense ideas, but his talent is articulating and arranging ideas to get the light to go off in our heads.

In Covey's book the 8th Habit, Covey devotes a chapter to what he refers to as "The Problem." To understand the core problem, Dr. Covey draws from a statement made by one of the greatest management thinkers of our time, Peter Drucker who said: "In a few hundred years, when history of our time is written from a long-term perspective, it is likely that the most important event those historians will see is not technology, not the Internet, not e-commerce. It is an unprecedented change in the human condition. For the first time- literally- substantial and rapidly growing numbers of people have choices. For the first time, they will have to manage themselves. And society is totally unprepared for it."

We find ourselves in an information/knowledge age progressing toward an age of wisdom. We have the ability (choice) to communicate via voice and e-mail 24/7; today's technology allows us to communicate at any time (choice) to one or many by typing a message and pushing the send button. I think Drucker hit the nail on the head but I believe that it is the combination of choice and technology that we are unprepared to handle. Several studies have been conducted and articles written providing insight into why people say things in an e-mail message that they normally would not in person. Communication experts estimate that only 10 percent of our communication is represented by words we say. Another 30 percent is represented by our sounds and 60 percent by our body language. Perhaps that 60 percent is given back to the recipient of the e-mail message to interpret or perhaps that 60 percent loss of communicative ability lessens our inhibition allowing for a more curt message to be written.

Think before you write, read it, and re-read it before you hit the send button. An e-mail message is a chain letter which can be distributed widely and also printed and placed in someone's file.

Here are two articles on the subject that you may find interesting.

<http://www.library.yale.edu/training/netiquette/flames.html> and

<http://www.govexec.com/features/0105-01/0105-01s4.htm>

Captain Jonathan W. Bailey, NOAA  
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

### **TRAVEL INFORMATION:**

#### **TSA Adds Lighters to List of Items Prohibited Beyond Airport Checkpoints**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) on February 28th announced that all lighters will be prohibited from sterile areas of airports and onboard aircraft. This action is in response to a provision in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, which was signed into law by the President on December 17, 2004, and requires that "butane" lighters be added to TSA's Prohibited Items List.

After carefully evaluating the security threat, Congressional intent and operational considerations, TSA determined that passengers should be prohibited from carrying all lighters on their person or in carry-on luggage in the sterile areas of airports or onboard an airplane. The policy will be fully enforced beginning April 14, 2005.

The Department of Transportation classifies lighters as hazardous materials, and prohibits them from being stowed in checked baggage. TSA will dispose of lighters brought to checkpoints. Passengers at some airports may be able to ship them via a private company for a fee, but TSA strongly urges passengers to thoroughly inspect their carry-on and checked baggage for these items before going to the airport.

For more information regarding TSA's banned items, please visit their Web site at [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov).

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS DURING PCS:**

NOAA Corps officers must submit a change of mailing address to CPC and payroll, especially during PCS transfers. Change of Address forms are provided as part of the package sent out with PCS orders. Change of address for delivery of the monthly Leave and Earnings Statements (LES), and Form W-2, may be submitted anytime to the NOAA Corps Payroll Unit either by completing a change of address form, or via e-mail. Those purchasing U. S. Savings Bonds should indicate change of delivery address for bonds, if applicable. Change of address processing, for the LES, is bound by the income tax processing schedule. A data capture is performed once a month, usually by the fifth day of each month. Address changes submitted later than that will not effect the current-month LES, but become effective the following month. Change of address forms may be mailed or faxed to the Payroll Unit, or e-mailed to Carol Holley or J. Thompson: NOAA Corps Payroll Unit, PO BOX 397, Topeka KS 66601. FAX: 785 339-3773. [Carol.Holley@noaa.gov](mailto:Carol.Holley@noaa.gov); [Jerome.Thompson@noaa.gov](mailto:Jerome.Thompson@noaa.gov).

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