



November 09, 2007

## Director's Message

In order to better serve the NOAA Corps family, CPC will be processing all Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders at least 120 days prior to the officers' scheduled rotation date. This will allow ample time for the officers to make arrangements with GSA for any transportation of household goods and POVs (if authorized). To make this process work, we need to receive the NOAA form 56-26 at least 150 days prior to the officers' scheduled rotation date. Once orders are processed, officers will receive an email indicating the orders are available in their online OPF. Please remember that GSA is the only authorized agent to arrange household goods and POV shipments. Also, ADTRAV is the only authorized agent for scheduling commercial flights. The GSA points of contact are listed below, if you have any questions on PCS, please contact Greg Raymond at 301-713-7728.

Angela Jones	<a href="mailto:angela.jones@gsa.gov">angela.jones@gsa.gov</a>	(703) 605-2896
Sheila Bryd	<a href="mailto:sheila.byrd@gsa.gov">sheila.byrd@gsa.gov</a>	(703) 605-9207
Norman Bryan	<a href="mailto:normana.bryan@gsa.gov">normana.bryan@gsa.gov</a>	(703) 605-9201

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. B. Kearse".

CDR William B. Kearse, NOAA  
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

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## Announcements

### Promotion Update

During an Executive Session of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, nominations were passed and forwarded to the Secretary of the Senate and placed on the Executive Calendar. When the calendar is cleared they will be forwarded to the President for approval. Then, CPC will prepare and submit the package to promote officers based on vacancies back to NOAA and DOC.

## Important Information for Officers Eligible for Promotion Year 2008

All NOAA Corps officers are required to have a current (annual or 5 year periodic) physical examination and a current dental exam (class I or class II) on file with the Medical Administration Branch at CPC. The deadline for the submission of medical records for the 2008 promotion year is January 31, 2008. Documentation submitted after the deadline will not be considered for the 2008 promotion year. This may require you to plan and get your physical or dental exams completed before they expire.

Officers should contact LCDR Hobson-Powell in the Medical Administration Branch via E-mail ([Elizabeth.hobson-powell@noaa.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.hobson-powell@noaa.gov)) over the next few weeks to ensure that you have a current periodic physical examination and all required medical documents are on file.

*PLEASE NOTE:* Upon review of your medical documents, the Medical Administration Branch will notify you via E-mail if additional documents are required.

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## Pre-Retirement Seminars available for NOAA Corps officers in the Seattle Area

It is recommended that any officer within eighteen months of retirement attend a Pre-Retirement Seminar.

Seminar Dates	Location
December 10 - 13, 2007	Coast Guard Base Seattle Pier 36 - Bear Room Seattle, Washington
March 3 - 6, 2008	Naval Sub Base Bangor FFIC TAP Classroom Silverdale, Washington

For additional information go to <http://uscg.mil/mlcpac/iscseattle/pw/tapsched.htm> and to register, call or email the Work-Life Staff's Transition Manager, **David Sweeney**, at (206) 217-6615 or [david.j.sweeney@uscg.mil](mailto:david.j.sweeney@uscg.mil).

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## Approved Retirements

The following officers have approved retirements. Be sure to thank them for their service to NOAA and nation and wish them the best the next time you see them!

CAPT Richard S. Brown	December 1, 2007
CAPT George E. White	January 1, 2008
CAPT Gary D. Petrae	January 1, 2008
CAPT Jon E. Rix	February 1, 2008
CAPT Stephen A. Kozak	March 1, 2008
CAPT Sean R. White	July 1, 2008
CAPT John W. Humphrey, Jr.	August 1, 2008

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### **USPHS Dental Office Closure (Rockville, MD)**

On December 31, 2007, the Commissioned Officers Dental Clinic is scheduled to be closed permanently. Please make arrangements to pick up your patient dental records. It is recommended that the patient dental charts be picked up before November 30th. Please call the clinic at 301-496-2485 at least one week in advance to inform them that you will be coming by to pick up your record. When leaving a message, please spell your name and include the last 4 digits of your SSN. Please pick up your records between 2:30 and 4:00 if possible to minimize clinic disruption.

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### **TRICARE Retiree Dental Program**

On April 16, 2007 a final ruling regarding the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program to overseas locations was published in the Federal Register by the Department of Defense. The current TRDP is only applicable authorized providers in the 50 United States and District of Columbia, Canada, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Expansion of the geographic scope will ensure that all TRICARE eligible retirees are eligible for the same dental benefits, regardless of their location.

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## **On the Horizon**

November 13-14	Corps Values/Leadership Training (Tampa, FL)
November 30	OER end of reporting period for LCDR/ LT
December 10-14	XO Seminar (Norfolk, VA)
December 15	OERs due at CPC for CAPT/CDR
January 3-4 (tentative)	Corps Values/Leadership Training (Seattle, WA)
January 5, 2008	Seattle ACO Dining In
January 7-11, 2008	Command Conference (Easton, MD)

January 15, 2008	OERs due at CPC for LCDR/LT
January 15, 2008	Documents for OPF due at CPC for officers in selection zones
February 1, 2008	ODU becomes the prescribed uniform to wear aboard ships, marine centers, and small boat assignments.
February 11, 2008	Start date for BOTC 112
January-May, 2008	Billet Review
March 3-7, 2008	Selection Boards for O-6 to O-2

Please see NOAA Corps website for additional information:

Assignments: <http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/assignments.html>

Evaluations: <http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/evaluation.html>

Training: <http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/training.html>

Uniforms & Awards:

<http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/awards.html>

ODU: <http://www.noaa Corps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/awards.html>