



December 09, 2007

Director's Message

Many, many thanks go out to all officers who have provided support to the NOAA Corps recruiting effort. Field recruiters play an important role in NOAA Corps Recruitment. With only one recruiter, it is impossible to attend all career fairs or public relations events and to conduct interviews in various locations. Without the help of field recruiters, many interested and successful candidates might have been missed. Your assistance in the recruiting effort is appreciated and is evident by the strong candidates coming into the Corps.

Every officer has an opportunity and a vested interest in participating in the recruitment of future NOAA Corps officers. Many of these future officers will be working side by side with you. Thus, it is essential for each of you to be actively engaged, when possible, in the recruitment of your future coworkers. There are numerous opportunities for you to be engaged as a field recruiter. Especially, if you are stationed in a particularly high volume area (near a lot of schools, at a port office, marine center or aviation center). In fact, you are often the first contact, and role model, that individuals have when they begin their research into a career in the NOAA Corps.

Please do not hesitate to contact the NOAA Corps Recruiter at NOAACorps.Recruiting@noaa.gov or 1-800-299-6622, to obtain NOAA Corps promotional material for a special event or just to have on hand. Also, if you desire to volunteer for a career fair in your area or to interview prospective candidates, please let the recruiting office know. Thanks!

Mr. Roger D. Mason, Acting Director, CPC, for

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

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

Announcements

Promotion Ceremony

There will be a pinning on ceremony for all of the Silver Spring area promoted officers plus their friends and family, on December 17th at 1100 in the large conference room at OMAO. RADM Bailey will preside and pin on the new insignia for the area's officers. Details to follow.

Seattle ACO Dining In

The website for the Seattle area's officers to RSVP for the ACO Dining In event is: www.acoseattle.org. The website is not complete, but does allow officers to RSVP correctly.

REFTRA 64

The start date for REFTRA 64 is February 25, 2008.

Approved Awards

Commander James R. Meigs received the NOAA Corps Commendation Medal for Outstanding Service to the NOAA Ships of the East and Gulf Coasts and the Marine Operations Center-Atlantic

Lieutenant Commander Geoffrey S. Sandorf received the NOAA Corps Achievement Medal for outstanding guidance, direction, and oversight for the implementation of a 10-year moratorium of the issuance of federal Gulf of Mexico shrimp vessel permits.

Lieutenant Richard E. Hester, Jr. received the NOAA Corps Achievement Medal for Outstanding Performance as Operations Officer NOAA Ship KA'IMIMOANA

Ensign Mary A. Barber received the NOAA Corps Achievement Medal for Sustained Superior Performance as Navigation, Damage Control and Medical Officer, NOAA Ship McARTHUR II

Lieutenant Kristie J. Twining received the NOAA Corps Achievement Medal Exceptional Professionalism and Dedication While Serving as DHC-6 Aircraft Commander, Instructor Pilot and ORM Team Leader

Initial Flight Training Opportunities

The NOAA Corps will be selecting two officers from the fleet to transition into Aviation during the 2009 calendar year. Start dates for flight training will be approximately January 2009 and June 2009 with some flexibility to accommodate rotation dates. Flight experience is not required to be considered for this opportunity. Only candidates that will begin flight training with less than 6 years of TOTAL service toward retirement will be considered during this selection.

As part of the application process, officers desiring to be candidates for selection into the aviation program must produce or accomplish the following:

1. Complete all sections of NOAA Form 56-43: Application for NOAA Corp Aviation Program http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/forms/pdfforms/noaaform_56_43.pdf
2. Complete a USCG Class I flight physical
3. Complete ASTB through a Department of Defense recruiting center. For general information on the test go to the following site:
<http://www.nomi.med.navy.mil/NAMI/astb/astbwebsitewriteup.htm>
4. Provide a recommendation for aviation selection in Section 10 (Potential) of the applicant's Officer Evaluation Report (NOAA Form 56-6A)

Completed aviation application packets must arrive at the Commissioned Personnel Center (CPC) by COB, March 3, 2008. AOC will be responsible for conducting interviews between March and May for all applicants that meet the application requirements. Once the interview process is completed, AOC will be responsible for forwarding the completed interview results to CPC. An Officer Assignment Board will convene on June 5, 2008 to select officers for initial flight and navigator training.

Please contact CDR Jeffrey Hagan prior to starting this process for specific instructions and to answer any questions that you may have. CDR Hagan can be reached at (813) 828-3310 x3102 or jeff.hagan@noaa.gov

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) 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.

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

December 10 - 13,
2007

March 3 - 6, 2008

Location

Coast Guard Base
Seattle
Pier 36 - Bear Room
Seattle, Washington
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.

Approved Retirements

The following officers have approved retirements. Be sure to thank them for their service to NOAA and the nation.

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
CDR Julia N. Neander	May 1, 2008
CAPT Sean R. White	July 1, 2008
LCDR Stephen J. Thumm	July 1, 2008
CDR Thomas E. Strong	July 1, 2008
CAPT John W. Humphrey, Jr.	August 1, 2008

Operational Dress Uniform (ODU)

The ODU becomes the prescribed uniform for all locations outside the National Capitol Region starting February 1, 2008. Information regarding the ODU can be found at the following link, by selecting "NOAA Corps ODU" or "How to Wear the NOAA Corps ODU".

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

Instructions on how to order the uniform:

1. Click on the following USCG Uniform Distribution Center website:

<https://webstore2.techgap.com/uscgudc/login.jsp?client=uscgudc>

2. Click on "Request/Change Login & Password" and complete Login form.

NOTE: You will need to have your 7-digit Employee ID (EMPLID) number available in order to generate an account.

Status: Select Other (You will need to type in NOAA Corps Active in the Mailing Address and Comments box).

Rank

Name

EMPLID #: 7-digit number located on LES

Password

Mailing Address and Comments: (This is the address the UDC will mail your uniforms. Be sure to include "NOAA Corps Active")

E-mail Address

Contact Phone Number

3. After submitting the form, you will receive a confirmation e-mail (usually within 24-hours) that contains your User Name and Password.

4. Once you have your User Name and Password, you will need to return to the USCG Uniform Distribution Center website to place your order.

5. Click on the following links to order ODU items:

ODU Uniforms (i.e., trousers, coat, t-shirts)

ODU Accessories and attachments (i.e., black belt, buckle, name tape (Comments: Type your last name), ODUNOAA, trouser blouser, sew-on collar device). NOTE: It is cheaper and easier (one stop shopping) to order your Name and NOAA Corps tapes from the USCG UDC vs. the ACO.

Shoes/Socks (i.e., socks).

Super Boot II (NOTE: Equivalent black boots that meet ANSI Z41-1999 requirements may be purchased in place of Super Boot II)

NOAA Corps ball caps are in stock and will need to be ordered from the ACO Custodian using the 2008 ACO Insignia Order Form located on the following website:

<http://www.noaa.gov/cpc/forms/pdfforms/insignia.pdf>

6. Once you submit your order, you will receive a confirmation e-mail providing order acknowledgment information.

On the Horizon

December 10-14 XO Seminar (Norfolk, VA)

December 15 OERs due at CPC for CAPT/CDR

January 3-4 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 The ODU becomes the prescribed uniform for all locations outside the National Capitol Region

February 17, 2008 Start date for BOTC 112

February 25, 2008 Start date for REFTRA 64

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/index.html>