

Commissioned Personnel Center CYBERFLASH



May 9, 2008

Director's Message

As explained in a previous Cyberflash, the NOAA Corps Achievement Medal (NCAM) and the NOAA Corps Commendation Medal (NCCM) were redesigned in an effort to improve the quality of the NOAA Corps Awards Program. These medals have been approved and replace the current NCAM and NCCM. The new medal sets will be issued only once and will be sent out by Friday. This is just in time for officers to wear the new medals to the upcoming Anniversary Ball events. Officers in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area must pick-up their medal sets from CPC. As part of the new NOAA Corps Awards Program, two awards were created, the award for Meritorious Service and one for Volunteer Service. Additionally, the dive insignia was redesigned to include levels of diver certification. Guidance on the criteria for these awards and insignia will be passed along in the next few months.

I had the pleasure of traveling to King's Point this week to present the ship assignments to the BOTC members. The officers are excited to join the fleet after graduation on June 9th.

With the officer assignment boards starting next week, make sure you correspond with CPC and the Line Office liaisons to discuss career opportunities.

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

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

Announcements

Recently Awarded Officers

The following officers recently received the listed awards on the dates shown. Congratulations to the officers listed below.

NOAA Corps Commendation Medal

Commander Harris Halverson -- Outstanding program management leadership of the G-IV Tail Doppler Radar Program. 31-DEC-2007

Commander Michele Finn -- Exceptional performance during the acquisition of NOAA's newest Twin Otter aircraft (N56RF) and for superior leadership while preparing the AOC for the 2007 Interagency Committee for Aviation Policy Aviation Resource Management Survey. 10-JAN-2008

Commander Joseph Pica -- Outstanding achievement in the NOAA Leadership Competencies Development Program and for outstanding performance of duty while serving as Chief, Officer Career Management Division, Commissioned Personnel Center. 15-JAN-2008

Commander James Verlaque -- Exceptional leadership and exemplary support to NOAA's scientific programs while serving as Commanding Officer, NOAA Ship NANCY FOSTER. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant Commander John Caskey-- Outstanding performance of duty and service to your fellow NOAA Corps Officers and the Nation, while serving as Chief, Assignment Branch, Commissioned Personnel Center. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant John Crofts -- Outstanding performance and demonstrated excellence while attending the NAVAL Postgraduate School. 15-JAN-2008

Commander David Neander -- Sustained superior performance in the NOAA Emergency Response and Navigation Services Divisions. 26-FEB-2008

Commander Julia Neander -- Superior leadership and managerial expertise as well as technical and scientific support to the Office of Response and Restoration, the NOAA Ship RAINIER, the NOAA Fisheries Service, and the National Ocean Service in vital positions. 14-APR-2008

Lieutenant Jeffrey Taylor -- Outstanding Performance of Duty while Serving as Executive Officer, NOAA Ship DELAWARE 14-APR-2008 II.

NOAA Corps Achievement Medal

LTJG Andrew Halbach -- Sustained superior performance and demonstrating an exceptional knowledge of the mission and executing complex procedures. 17-DEC-2007

Lieutenant Commander Stephen Meador - Exemplary performance while serving as Executive Officer, NOAA Ship NANCY FOSTER by using outstanding management skills to maintain the ship's budget and for demonstrating strong leadership skills during periods as Acting Commanding Officer. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant Commander Alexandra Von Saunder -- Outstanding performance while serving as Commanding Officer, NOAA Ship DAVID STARR JORDAN. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant Commander Kurt Zegowitz -- Sustained superior performance as Executive Officer, NOAA Ship ALBATROSS IV. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant Commander Frank Dreflak -- Sustained superior performance while serving as Operations Officer, NOAA Ship OSCAR ELTON SETTE. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant Commander Timothy Gallagher -- Sustained superior performance as Assistant Chief, Maintenance Branch, Aircraft Operations Center. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant Jennifer Pralgo -- Outstanding leadership and performance of duties while assigned to the

National Hurricane Center. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant Abigail Higgins -- Superior achievement as Hydrographic Team Lead while assigned to the Pacific Hydrographic Branch. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant (junior grade) Francisco Fuenmayor -- Sustained superior performance as Junior Officer, NOAA Ship DELAWARE II. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant (junior grade) Stephen Kroening -- Sustained superior performance while serving at the NOAA Aircraft Operations Center and exceptional professionalism as an AC-500S Shrike Aircraft Commander during the August 2007 Alaska Harbor Seals project. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant (junior grade) William Winner -- Outstanding performance of duties as Junior Officer, Damage Control Officer, and Hydrographer In Charge/Hydrographer Survey Sheet Manager aboard the NOAA Ship THOMAS JEFFERSON. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant (junior grade) Rebecca Waddington -- Sustained superior performance as Junior and Navigation Officer, NOAA Ship KA'IMIMOANA. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant (junior grade) Richard Edmundson -- Accomplishments on complex projects of multiple programs within the Products Implementation Branch. 15-JAN-2008

Ensign Matthew Burton-- Outstanding service to NOAA, OMAO, MAOC, and the NOAA Ship RONALD H. BROWN in ensuring the efficient and successful execution of mission objective while serving as Navigation Officer, Acting FOO, and Acting Damage Control Officer. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant (junior grade) William Wells -- Outstanding achievement on several projects supporting the National Data Buoy Center 26-FEB-2008

Lieutenant Chad Cary --Sustained Superior Performance while Serving as Executive Officer and Acting Commanding Officer, NOAA Ship JOHN N. COBB. 14-APR-2008

Ensign James Falkner -- Sustained Superior Achievement while Serving as Junior Officer, NOAA Ship HI'IALAKAI. 14-APR-2008

NOAA Corps Director's Ribbon

Commander Barry Choy -- Applying an innovative strategy toward aircraft maintenance management, increasing both short term and long term productivity and safety. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant Commander Bradley Fritzler -- Distinguished achievement while serving as the Acting Administrative Officer for the Aviation Weather Center. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant Jennifer Pralgo -- Outstanding initiative and dedication to duty while championing the NOAA Corps executive nomination packages through NOAA, DOC, the White House and the Senate while serving

as the NOAA Corps' representative to the NOAA Program Coordination Office. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant Jason Mansour -- Exceptional professionalism and dedication while serving as DHC-6 Pilot and ORM team member. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant (junior grade) Rebecca Almeida -- Outstanding service to NOAA, OMAO, MAOC, and the NOAA Ship RONALD H. BROWN in ensuring the safe and successful execution of Navigation Officer duties through creation of an outstanding reference compendium of pass-along instructions, notes, and documents. 15-JAN-2008

Lieutenant (junior grade) Ryan Wattam -- Sustained superior performance as Junior Officer, NOAA Ship GORDON GUNTER. 15-JAN-2008

Ensign Andrew Colegrove -- Significant achievement in masterfully designing, creating, and developing two robust MS Access databases in a effort to improve the standardization of the fleet. 26-FEB-2008

Ensign Mary Barber --Professional Initiative and Outstanding Performance while Serving as Medical Officer, NOAA Ship McARTHUR II. 14-APR-2008

Assignment Process

CPC has rescheduled this year's Officer Assignment Boards for O-6s (May vs.July), O-5s (June vs. August), and O-4s (July vs. September) to provide officers with as much lead time as possible to properly plan for their upcoming PCS move. If you happen to be one detaching from your present assignment in the next 18 months, I encourage you to review the latest Billet List, talk to your Line Office Liaison and the Chief of the Officer Career Management Division (OCMD), and update your OPF on-line preference list. If you should have any questions regarding the assignment process or need career guidance, please feel free to contact LCDR John Caskey at 301-713-7748 or john.caskey@noaa.gov.

ACO Insignia

On April 26, the ACO insignia inventory, currently stored at CPC headquarters and disseminated by the NOAA Corps recruiter, will be permanently transferred to a private on-line vender.

A web store will be the new method for obtaining NOAA Corps insignia through on-line purchase capability. The NOAA Corps Web Store is currently under development with an expected launch date for May 5th, 2008. Once the site is functional, additional information will be posted. LT Nicole Manning will continue to be the point of contact for insignia during this transition period.

Send Your BAH Form to Payroll Now!

Verification of BAH/Dependency CG-4170 Forms were sent to each NOAA Officer 9 January 2008 and were to be returned to the Payroll Unit in Topeka, KS by 29 February 2008. To date we have received approx 60% of these verification forms. If you have gotten married, divorced, additional dependents, etc., we need to know this information so that you'll not be in an over paid/under paid status. If you have not returned this form please do so ASAP. If you did not receive this form please contact me (ronald.a.cunningham@uscg.mil). If you have any corrections to be made please make the corrections on the

form and mail or fax the form back to the Payroll Unit. If adding a dependent please provide a copy of any supporting documentation, ie. Marriage certificate, birth certificate, divorce decree, just to name a few. Please sign at the bottom of the form even if there are no changes and mail to the below address:

Ron Cunningham
NOAA Corps Payroll Unit
P. O. Box 397
Topeka, KS 66601-0397

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 these officers!

LCDR Stephen J. Thumm	July 1, 2008
CDR Thomas E. Strong	July 1, 2008
CAPT Stephen A. Kozak	January 1, 2009
CAPT John W. Humphrey, Jr.	January 1, 2009
CAPT Sean R. White	July 1, 2009

On the Horizon

January-May, 2008	Billet Review
May 14	O-6 OAB
June 6, 2008	Aviation Selection and O-5 OAB
June 9, 2008	BOTC 112 Graduation
July 10, 2008	O-4 OAB
July 31, 2008	End of OER Reporting Period for O-1s and O-2s
August 4, 2008	Start of BOTC 113
October 6-31, 2008	REFTRA 65

Please see NOAA Corps website for additional information:

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

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

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

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