

Commissioned Personnel Center CYBERFLASH



June 26, 2009

Director's Message

Congratulations to the 2008 ACO Awards recipients: Junior Officer of the Year, LT Amanda Goeller; Engineering Award, LTJG Sam Greenaway, LCDR Adam Dunbar, and LT Charles Yoos. The citations for their awards which highlight their significant contributions are shown below.

I also want to remind all officer about submitting information regarding the untucked version of the ODU. Information is due today -- please see the explanation below. Also, remember to comment on the proposed uniform change to the US Army's model using SDB uniform components, by July 3 (more information is shown below and on the CPC website).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond C. Slagle".

CAPT Raymond C. Slagle, NOAA
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

Announcements

Proposed Change to New Uniform -- Comment Period is Two Weeks

The Uniform and Awards Board (UAB) has recommended a uniform change to RADM Bailey that entails switching to the US Army and Air Force Service Uniform model using Service Dress Blues components, and decreasing the size and cost of the NOAA Corps sea bag.

A web site has been created to explain the purpose of the change, to provide Officers with a visual representation of what the new uniform configurations will look like, to demonstrate cost savings, and to be a mechanism to receive feedback on the new NOAA Corps Service Uniform. The comment section will remain open for two weeks starting today, at which time the comments will be reviewed and suggestions and concerns will be addressed. Please review this web site to get more information and to provide comments on this recommendation:

http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/perservices/new_uniform_change.html

Ship Augmentation Needs

There are a few near-term augmentation needs starting in the next two weeks Specifically the following:

Start date: 7/12 for Gloria Michelle

Start date: 7/13 for Miller Freeman

Start date: 7/14 for McArthur II

Please see the updated Ship Augmentation Needs spreadsheet posted on

<http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/cpchome/augmentation.html>

Uniforms - Untucked ODUs

In preparation for the transition to the Untucked Operational Dress Uniform (ODU), we need all officers to send in their required sizes and quantities needed. The sizing is a little different than the Tucked ODU so please refer to <http://www.uscg.mil/uniform/ODUUntuckedUniforms.asp#> to properly measure yourself. We are anticipating the transition to start in January 2010. Please send in the required sizes and quantities to Director.CPC@noaa.gov NLT Friday June 26th. If you have any questions, please contact Greg Raymond. Thank you for your cooperation.

NOFA

The NOAA Officers' Family Association www.nofaweb.org is affiliated with the National Military Family Association (NMFA). This year NMFA is celebrating their 40th Anniversary by honoring the strength of military families. The association will select one family from each of the seven Uniformed Services to represent their community. For details about this award and how to nominate a NOAA family for this honor please visit <http://www.militaryfamilyaward.org/>

If you haven't joined NMFA already, please visit NMFA's website <http://www.nmfa.org> to learn more about how this association provides advocacy, education, support, and programs that may enhance the lives of NOAA Corps Officers and the dynamic social network that NOAA Corps families establish with new assignments/relocation.

Receipt of Awards

While CPC staff were conducting a purge of files last Friday, some originals of awards were found that had not been sent in a timely manner. These awards have been mailed out since then, so that is why you may have received an older award in the last few days. CPC apologizes for this delay in getting the awards originals to the officers.

DOC Random Drug Testing Policy

The Department of Commerce is reissuing its policy regarding random drug testing which continues to include officers and wage mariners. A letter will be sent to all impacted employees within the coming weeks which provides notice to positions subject to testing and requires an employee signature to show acknowledgment. Please keep an eye out for this explanatory letter.

NOAA National ACO Awards for 2008

NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers Junior Officer of the Year

As the Officer-in-Charge, NOAA Research Vessel Nauvoo, LT Amanda Goeller led the rescue of three people in distress on a capsized vessel in the vicinity of Sandy Hook, NJ. Additionally, LT Goeller led the recovery of the vessel by directing the hoisting of this vessel onboard the Nauvoo, thus removing this hazard to navigation in an area of heavy marine traffic. To ensure maximum operational capability of the Nauvoo, LT Goeller personally conducted shipyard work, alongside her chief mate, including disconnecting and removing rudders and bearings, replacing parts and

reassembling the system, and ensuing functionality of all systems. LT Goeller also drained, removed, serviced, replaced, and refilled the generator and starboard side keel coolers. In addition to leading by example, LT Goeller applied for and was awarded an education grant for the marine lab which was used to create a program where adults and students from the Monmouth County Big Brothers Big Sisters Organization had the opportunity to be a "Scientist for a Day". Finally, LT Goeller increased the number of organizations utilizing the Nauvoo by developing a brochure highlighting the vessel characteristics and completed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the New Jersey Marine Science Consortium. LT Goeller's efforts in the shipyard, winning and executing the education grant, and developing the MOA resulted in a combined cost benefit of \$34,000 to the James J. Howard Marine Lab.

[NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers Engineering Award](#)

As Project Manager, Small Boat Engineer, and COTR, LTJG Sam Greenaway successfully executed a \$2.4 million annual budget for the launch replacement acquisition project for NOAA Ships Rainier and Fairweather. LTJG Greenaway demonstrated leadership to facilitate collaboration amongst technical experts from NOAA's Marine and Aviation Operations Centers (MAOC). In addition to this display of leadership, LTJG Greenaway showed technical expertise and professional commitment by working long hours to personally connect transducers, cabling, and propellers. In order to ensure the new launches were available to Rainier at the beginning of its field season, LTJG Greenaway made numerous visits to Rainier to address engineering and mission system issues and coordinate visits of multibeam system manufacturer personnel to train ship survey personnel. The acquisition and operations of these replacement launches greatly reduced maintenance and repairs associated with operating the previous launches, and provided safer operational platforms for NOAA's employees.

[NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers Engineering Award](#)

As Chief of NGS Remote Sensing Division (RSD), LCDR Adam Dunbar directly coordinated the transition from film to digital photography used as his division's method to accomplish Near-Infrared (NIR) geo-referenced imagery required to accurately chart the National Shoreline. RSD was no longer able to rely upon its film-based imagery because a vendor abruptly announced the discontinuation of supplying a required component in the film-based imagery process. LCDR Dunbar quickly responded by first identifying viable digital imagery alternatives that would allow RSD to meet its imagery requirements. Once LCDR Dunbar identified the best alternative, he developed and presented the proposal, including a detailed test plan, for NOAA to make a major procurement (\$1.4M) of a digital aerial camera. As a result of LCDR Dunbar's engineering research, the new sensor (DSS439 Dual Cam) entered service in 2008, and has become NOAA's primary sensor for shoreline mapping.

[NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers Engineering Award](#)

As Operations Officer onboard NOAA Ship Rainier, LT Charles Yoos implemented a number of advances in survey methodology which have increased overall productivity, data quality, and safety. First, Lieutenant Yoos' use of the tilted sonar ultimately increased the coverage of a survey, while simultaneously keeping the survey launch further offshore than before, increasing the safety of small

boat operations. Secondly, Lieutenant Yoos, transitioned the ship's survey department from line planning to polygon planning, which has greatly reduced the number of gaps during data acquisition, thus saving boat transit time and additional data acquisition time. Finally, Lieutenant Yoos transitioned Rainier to Hypack acquisition software, which required less training for personnel, reduced acquisition down time due to software failures, a costs savings of over \$10,000 per year in maintenance fees. Collectively, these accomplishments will help Rainier achieve its part of the Office of Coast Survey's goal of decreasing the time from hydrologic survey to publishing on a nautical chart within 90 days.

Assignment Opportunity - Associate Director, Earth System Research Laboratory

Want to be at the center of the universe for weather and climate research in NOAA? Looking to engage some of the most challenging problems of our times? Want to see how OAR works from top to bottom, and make a substantial contribution to the NOAA mission? Come to beautiful Boulder, CO!

Together the Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) divisions compose one lab with a spectrum of capacity and expertise for weather and climate research that is unmatched in the federal system. The Associate Director billet offers the opportunity to both support the operations of a world class research center, and to glimpse how innovative programs play out in the NOAA executive decision making process from origination to implementation. ESRL is composed of 4 divisions, each with world class capabilities. The Global Monitoring Division (GMD) is familiar to many officers for their atmospheric baseline observatories, including the South Pole Station among others, using worldwide in cooperative flask sampling to track atmospheric composition. The Physical Sciences Division (PSD) conducts cutting edge process studies to advance our understanding of weather and climate and the connections between them, such as extreme weather events and trends, management of the National Integrated Drought Information System, and ocean atmosphere interactions. The Chemical Sciences Division (CSD) advances our understanding of stratospheric ozone, aerosols, carbon dioxide and other trace gasses, including their climate forcing role, their chemical life cycle and interactions, and their role in air quality forecasts, and plays a significant role in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The Global Systems Division (GSD) uses modeling to advance weather forecasting in the National Weather Service operational forecast centers and leads research in next generation aviation weather support, a new breed of high resolution global weather model, and advancing toward seasonal climate modeling.

ESRL is looking for a highly competent and enthusiastic officer at the O-4 level, or an exceptional O-3, to fill the position commencing 01JUN2010. Earlier arrival would be preferred to allow overlap with the incumbent. For a current billet description and other questions, please contact the incumbent, LT Rick Hester at Richard.E.Hester@noaa.gov. A decision for this billet will be made at the 23JUL2009 assignment board. Requests for the assignment should be sent by COB 17JUL to both the incumbent and Chief, Officer Assignment Branch, LCDR Nathan Hancock, at 301-713-7694 or assignmentbranch.cpc@noaa.gov.

Approved Retirements/Resignations/Separations

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

ENS Nathan Parker	June 29, 2009
CAPT Emily B. Christman	July 1, 2009
CAPT Sean R. White	July 1, 2009
LT Andrew P. Halbach	July 5, 2009
LCDR Alan C. Hilton	August 1, 2009
LT Leah A. Harman	August 26, 2009
LCDR James A. Bunn II	September 1, 2009
LCDR Geoffrey S. Sandorf	December 1, 2009
CAPT Steven R. Barnum	January 1, 2010

On the Horizon

July 23, 2009	O4 and O5 Assignment Board
July 31, 2009	End of OER Reporting Period for ENS and LTJG
August 18, 2009	Deadline for "Special OERs" for consideration by October Promotion Boards
August 27, 2009	BOTC-A School 114 Graduation
August 31, 2009	Start of BOTC-A School 115
September 15, 2009	Deadline for ENS and LTJG OERs for consideration by October Promotion Boards
October 5-9, 2009	Officer Promotion Boards

Please see CPC website for additional information:

Ship Augmentation Needs: <http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/cpchome/augmentation.html>

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

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

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

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