

# Commissioned Personnel Center CYBERFLASH



**September 4, 2009**

## **Director's Message**

In the last Cyberflash, I talked about a proposed change to BOTC, separating A-School (technical training) from BOTC. The proposed curriculum areas are Leadership Studies, Professional Knowledge, Communication Skills, NOAA and the Federal Executive Branch, and Leadership Application. With Leadership Studies, the new officers will receive instruction on the fundamentals of leadership and team building; leadership styles, management principles, time management, goal setting, scientific problem solving, group dynamics, counseling skills, accountability, and ethics.

Threaded throughout the course are lectures and exercises that introduce and reinforce the principles of officership, authority and responsibility of officers, the Honor Code, standards of conduct, and NOAA Corps Core Values. Under Professional Knowledge the curriculum emphasizes the skills and knowledge unique to commissioned service. Topics include dress and appearance, customs and courtesies, special and additional duties, military law, professional and unprofessional relationships, education opportunities, pay and allowances, survivor and retirement benefits, officer evaluations and career progression, and such social actions issues as managing diversity, equal opportunity and treatment, sexual harassment/assault, and substance abuse. Communication Skills classes are designed to develop the prospective officer's ability to speak more effectively, write more clearly, and listen more efficiently. The communication curriculum includes communication skills foundations, writing for results, and briefing techniques.

Every officer is expected and required to have a broad knowledge of NOAA. The NOAA and the Federal Executive Branch portion is designed to provide students with a basic knowledge of NOAA and NOAA Corps history and heritage, the nature and laws concerning the environment, major science policy issues affecting NOAA, the organization and function of the Department of Commerce and NOAA, and strategic issues of the 21st century. Under Leadership Application each officer is given the opportunity to apply leadership theory and techniques throughout the program. This is accomplished through team-building exercises including a specialized obstacle/high-ropes course where small groups of students practice handling stress in situations that test their ability to reason quickly and lead effectively, regular participation in drill and ceremonies, and emphasis on uniform standards, plus military customs and courtesies. Regular participation in physical fitness training and assessment tests would be part of this curriculum area. The new BOTC will enable the Corps to establish and reinforce a culture of leadership excellence, engender increased pride in the heritage and history of NOAA and the Corps, and place additional emphasis on the privileges and obligations of wearing the uniform of the United States.

I have a few exciting things to congratulate officers on for this week's message. Congratulations to all the members of BOTC 114, who graduated on August 27, last Thursday. Welcome to the fleet! May you have a wonderful career ahead of you.

In addition, I'd like to send a warm welcome aboard to all the new members of BOTC 115 that started on August 30.

Floyd, Brett E.	BS - Geology, U of Charleston
Geiger, Brandy E.,	MS - Geographic & Cartographic Science, George Mason U
Imberi, Anthony J. M.	BS - Physics & Math, High Point U
Kennedy, Brian R. C.	BS - Marine Biology, U of Charleston
Mitchell, Robert J.	BS - Aeronautics, BS - Science in Atmospheric Sciences, U of North Dakota
Nguyen, Linh K.	MS - Oceanography, Coastal Zone, Florida Institute of Technology
Parrish, Alise N.	BS - Marine & Environment, Hampton U
Payne, Amber M.	BS - Marine Science, Eckerd College
Pfundt, Adam C.	BS - Fisheries, U of WA
Reul, Tamera J.	BS - Marine Transportation & Technology, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
Schill, Kelly M.	BS - Environmental Science, Christopher Newport U
Silagi, Michael S.	BS - Aviation Management, U of Oklahoma
Sims, Tanner A.	MS-Aerospace Engineering, Oklahoma State U
Tucker, Keith E.	BS - Aviation Arts & Sciences, Ohio State U
Vejar, David O.	BA - Marine Science & Earth Systems, U of San Diego
Wilson, Jason P. R.	BS - Information Technology, Macon State College

Also, congratulations to the following officers who were promoted to these ranks on September 1.

TO CAPTAIN

Mark H. Pickett

TO COMMANDER

Robert A. Kamphaus

TO LIEUTENANT, (JUNIOR GRADE)

Megan R. Guberski

Nathan E. Witherly

I wish you all a safe and happy Labor Day weekend.



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

## **Announcements**

### **Reminder: USE OR LOSE LEAVE**

All NOAA officers should avoid losing leave for FY09. All annual leave must be taken prior to 1 October, 2009 or anything excess of 75 days will be lost. If you are in a use or lose status you should request and take the leave before the deadline date.

In accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2008. U. S. Code, Title 10, Section 701 and sections 551 and 552 of the NDAA 2008. Annual leave accrual is temporarily increased from 60 to 75 days beginning 1 October 2008 through 31 December 2010. This temporary entitlement authorizes all service members, on 1 October 2008, 1 October 2009, and 1 October 2010 to accrue up to 75 days leave into the new fiscal year. Payments of unused accrued leave not to exceed 60 days in a career remains in effect.

### **Increase in Sea Pay**

Good news: for all seagoing officers currently on sea duty, you'll notice an increase in your pay. The sea pay has been increased to the Tier 3 (maximum) level, effective October 1, 2009.

### **Increase in Uniform Allowance**

FYI: The initial uniform allowance for new officers has been increased to \$800 (up from \$600), to help defray the costs of uniform purchases at the beginning of BOTC, effective for BOTC 115. This is useful information for officers speaking with potential NOAA Corps candidates.

### **Augmentor Needed on HA**

The Hi'ialakai is in need of an augmenting OOD. The cruise is from 9/17/2009 to 10/21/2009 and from Honolulu, HI to Honolulu, HI. There are NO specific skills (SWO, XO, etc., required) just a watch standing OOD. This is the high tempo Coral Reef assessment cruise. Opportunities to see Midway atoll, the Northwest Hawaiian Islands, and for divers, possibly a chance to get in the water as well. This is your opportunity to complete your augmentation requirement in the warm sunny waters of the tropical Pacific while visiting one of the largest marine conservation areas in the world.

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### **Billet of the Week #9312, Staff Assistant, Program Coordination Office**

If you are interested in the PCO billet available in June of 2010, stationed in Washington, D.C., please contact LCDR William Mowitt to discuss opportunities associated with the position.

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### **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!

CAPT John W. Humphrey, Jr.	September 30, 2009
LT Earl M. Spencer	September 30, 2009
LTJG Jennifer L. King, NOAA	October 1, 2009
ENS Lindsay H. Clovis	December 31, 2009
CAPT Steven R. Barnum	January 1, 2010
LCDR Andrew A. Hall	May 1, 2010
LCDR James A. Bunn, II	June 1, 2010
LCDR Geoffrey S. Sandorf	July 1, 2010

### **On the Horizon**

September 15, 2009	Deadline for ENS and LTJG OERs for consideration by October Promotion
October 05-9, 2009	Officer Promotion Boards
October 05-30, 2009	D-School/REFTRA, Kings Point, NY
Nov 30-Dec 19, 2009	B-School for BOTC 113, Kings Point, NY
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2009	C-School for BOTC 112, Seattle, WA
Jan 04-23, 2010	B-School for BOTC 114, Session 1, Kings Point, NY
Jan 14-Feb 3, 2010	B-School for BOTC 114, Session 2, Kings Point, NY

**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>