

Commissioned Personnel Center CYBERFLASH



July 23, 2010

Director's Message

Bravo Zulu to Field Recruiters!

The Officer Recruiting Branch would like to thank all of the officers who have volunteered their time to assist with recruiting efforts so far this year. BOTC 117 will commence on August 8th, bringing 14 officer candidates onboard. These prospective officers were selected from a pool of 95 qualified applicants, the most competitive board in over a decade! Without your dedication, it would not have been possible to recruit, process, and interview that many applicants.

The Fall 2010 recruiting season is right around the corner, and applications for BOTC 118 are starting to arrive. We hope you will continue to provide the much needed support that helps us recruit the best qualified applicants for our unique service. You are making a difference... you are helping to shape the future of the NOAA Corps! These efforts affect all of NOAA as well.

Any officers who are willing and available to assist with future recruiting efforts, should contact the Officer Recruiting Branch at noaacorps.recruiting@noaa.gov.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Raymond C. Slagle".

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

Announcements

CY11 Aviators Needed: Aviation Selection Process

The NOAA Corps will select two officers from the fleet who are interested in transitioning into aviation during the 2011 calendar year. Start dates for flight training will be determined based on the needs of the service and current rotation of the officers selected. Flight experience is encouraged but is not required for this opportunity. Candidates must have less than 6 years of commissioned officer service prior to the start of flight training.

Requirements for the NOAA Corps Aviation Selection Process

Officers desiring to be candidates for selection into the aviation program must complete each of the requirements in the application process, as follows:

1. Complete all sections of NOAA Form 56-43: Application for NOAA Corps Aviation Program http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/forms/pdfforms/noaaform_56_43.pdf
2. Complete a USCG Class I flight physical
3. Complete the Aviation Selection Test Battery (ASTB) exam through a Department of Defense recruiting center

4. A recommendation for aviation selection shall be included 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, October 29, 2010**. AOC will be responsible for conducting interviews between November and January for all applicants that meet the application requirements. Once the interview process is complete, AOC will forward the interview results to CPC. An Officer Assignment Board will convene March 2011 to select officers for initial flight training. Contact LCDR Joe Bishop with any questions that you have, he can be reached at (813) 828-3310 x3123 or Joe.C.Bishop@noaa.gov.

Your Input Needed for Uniform Plans

Interest has been expressed to the Uniform and Awards Board (UAB) to consider options toward reducing the number of uniforms utilized by the NOAA Corps. To accurately assess the extent of this interest, it is only fair that the UAB consider the general preference of the NOAA Corps as a whole. Each of us is directly affected by the disadvantageous higher cost of purchasing and maintaining a number of uniforms, and the advantageous flexibility of having a number of uniforms to select from for the occasion you are attending.

The least painful method the UAB could devise to obtain this information was to utilize a short survey, the link to which is <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/J69LVJQ>. The UAB members fully recognize each of you are extremely busy and with that in mind, we purposefully designed this survey to take only a minute or two of your time.

This survey will close Friday, July 30. If you wish your preference to be considered, please respond by then.

I have been asked by a number of people about the UAB's priorities. The Priorities for this UAB are:

- 1) Ensure Award Nominations are processed quickly and efficiently.
- 2) Update Chapter 12 of the Directives. The uniforms that are authorized and required are part of this.

- 3) Address misc. award and uniform issues as they arise. Improvements to the present award nomination process is high on this list and any suggestions/recommendations are always welcomed. Thank you for your time in reviewing and responding to this request.

CDR Brian Parker, Chair, UAB

Best Way to Contact the NOAA Corps Payroll Unit

First and foremost, it is our pleasure to service the men and women of NOAA Corps with pay and personnel issues, needs, and requests.

In order to provide you with the very best service, we do ask that if at all possible, please send your request to us via email message. Putting your request in writing does a couple of things: it allows your request to pop up on our computer monitors no matter what we are doing or which payroll processing mode we are in, and it gives us the opportunity to track all requests coming in and out of our office--allowing us to provide you with an immediate response of its receipt. We respectfully remind you that

it will always be our intention to respond to your requests for service within 72 hours. Often within that timeframe, we'll be able to provide you with a complete resolution, however, when issues are more complicated, we promise to keep you advised of the status of your issue. Thank you, Carol and Ron

Oklahoma Residents

If you are an Oklahoma state resident and a NOAA Officer, your wages for State Tax is now exempt. The Payroll Unit has received a few calls concerning the new tax exclusion for the state of Oklahoma for military members. The ALSPO message at the website below announces the implementation of exemption from state income tax withholding for members claiming Oklahoma as their state of legal residence. Per Oklahoma Statute, Title 68, § 2358 (2009), PPC stopped withholding of state income tax for members claiming Oklahoma as their state of legal residence, effective 1 July 2010. Members will need to file 2010 Oklahoma state income tax returns to obtain refunds of state income taxes withheld from military pay for the period 1 January 2010 through 30 June 2010 and must continue to file Oklahoma state income tax returns to claim the exclusion of military pay.

<http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/alspo/2010/E10OkStateTaxExemption.pdf>

Uniform Tip -- Wash New ODUs and Tapes Before Sewing on Insignia

As we begin to purchase our new untucked ODU's here is quick hint to help avoid some of the nasty bunching that takes place around your rank insignia and name tapes... Upon receiving your new set of ODU's wash them; your name tapes, service identification tapes, and your rank insignia (if they are the sew-on type) together before you have them attached to your uniform. This allows for any fabric shrinkage to occur before the tapes are added and assists in preventing bunching of the ODU fabric around the name tapes and rank.

Enjoy the new untucked ODU's and as always, stand tall, stand proud, and stay sharp!

Upcoming Uniform and Awards Board Meetings

August 3
September 7
October 5

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!

CDR Andrea M. Hrusovsky	August 1, 2010
LT Amelia A. Ebhardt	August 1, 2010
LT Jason R. Saxe	August 15, 2010
LTJG Allison R. Mahaney	August 15, 2010
CDR Michael S. Weaver	September 1, 2010

LT Amanda M. Hancock	September 15, 2010
CAPT James Verlaque	October 1, 2010
CDR Paul L. Schattgen	October 1, 2010
LT David A. Strausz	October 31, 2010
LTJG William Wells	November 1, 2010
LT Lindsay Kurelja	December 1, 2010
CDR Stephen F. Beckwith	January 1, 2011
LT Katherine R. Peet	April 15, 2011
LT Jason M. Seifert	June 1, 2011
CDR Carl R. Groeneveld	June 1, 2011
LCDR James A. Illg	July 1, 2011
CAPT Michael D. Francisco	August 1, 2011

On the Horizon

August 8-December 16, 2010	BOTC 117
October 4-29, 2010	REFTRA (D-School), 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>

Wiki Fleet: <https://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/confluence/display/FleetWiki/Home>