

# NOAA Commissioned Personnel Center

## CYBERFLASH



25 May 2012

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### **Director's Message**

It has been a busy few weeks at CPC with sorting out assignments for the BOTC-119, selecting candidates for BOTC 120, attending the OMAO's Executive Leadership Council meeting, organizing and hosting the O-6 strategy/communication meeting, and preparing for the NOAA Corps Anniversary Dinner. There is plenty to write about for today's and future Cyberflash articles, including some of the topics brought up in the meetings that were held here at OMAO Headquarters. However, this week I attended an "Ethics in Action" course and I found some of the lessons and ideas worthy and appropriate to share. At its foundation, ethics is about making choices. These choices and decisions are made through reasoning, data and analysis, but always through the lens of values. We all have personal value – or “things we care about”, including relationships, health, duty, faith, fairness, etc., and use those values subconsciously to make daily decisions (i.e., “do I really need that ice cream sundae?”). Occasionally, we have conflicting values, like “should I be late to work to take care of my child's skinned knee?” and the decisions are not as automatic, but we use our values, and the relative ranking of those values, to make those hard choices.

Organizations have values too, and having these values defined allows for tough decisions to be made with more transparency and consistency. This was the first time I gave full consideration and understanding on why we publicize these values. But in thinking about it, I realized that having these values out there, and considering them in ethical situations, brings about coherent and consistent decisions, and builds the reputation of the organization. All of you know the Corps' Core Values (Honor, Respect, Commitment), but in case you haven't yet seen OMAO's Strategic Plan, I thought I would also list OMAO's values: Safety, Customer Focus and Collaboration, Integrity, Reliability, Innovation, and Stewardship. We should strive to use these values as the lens that enables us to make ethically professional decisions in support of our organization.

As you celebrate your Memorial Day weekend, please take a few minutes to think about those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation, and acknowledge their personal and professional values that enabled them to be in harm's way for us and the “things we care about”.

Have a safe and relaxing holiday.



**CAPT Anne K. Lynch, NOAA**  
**Director, Commissioned Personnel Center**

### **Your Input Is Needed**

OMAO is conducting an assessment and planning effort that will produce strategic guidance for the future of the NOAA fleet. Key parts of this plan are validated ocean observation requirements and a multi-year fleet and technology composition analysis. In other words, "what are the most important things we do and how can we do these most efficiently over the next 5, 10, & 15 years (2017,2022 and 2027)?" To assist in this effort, the working group is seeking your help as they are looking at different technology options and new ways of doing business.

If you have ideas on how to improve scientific and marine operations within the fleet, they want to hear from you! This is your chance to document and submit that great idea you've had about how we can do things better.

Please use the attached form to document and describe your project in as much detail as you can. Project descriptions and questions should be submitted to the technology working group Team Lead, Captain [John Adler](#), NOAA.

Project descriptions should be submitted by **Sunday, June 3, 2012**.

### **BAH Dependency Verification Forms**

The NOAA Corps Payroll Unit will be mailing out the BAH Dependency Verification Form, CG 4170, to officers with dependents, beginning today Friday, May 18, 2012. The form will be sent via regular mail to your current LES address. Please ensure your address is correct and if necessary, changes can be made via the USCG self service [payroll system](#).

Once you receive the form, please verify the information for each dependent is correct and make any necessary corrections on the form. If you have dependents that are not on the form, please provide a copy of the birth certificate and/or marriage certificate to add dependents. **No later than June 30, 2012, sign and date the completed form and mail to:**

NOAA CORPS Payroll Unit,  
P.O. Box 397,  
Topeka, KS 66601. .

If you have any questions, please contact the NOAA Corps Payroll Unit either by phone (Carol Holley at 785-339-9497, Ronald A.Cunningham at 785-339-9499), or via email [noaacorps.payrollunit@noaa.gov](mailto:noaacorps.payrollunit@noaa.gov).

### **Roth TSP**

The implementation of the Roth-TSP and Roth-TSP Catch-up programs originally scheduled to begin on May 6, 2012 has been moved to May 14, 2012. In accordance with this change, the new Roth-TSP plans election participation may begin no earlier than May 14, 2012

## Reviewing Your OPF

All officers are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure OPF's are up-to-date in advance of the upcoming promotion boards. Officers are encouraged to check their OPF online and verify that all information is up to date. Additionally, if officers who have submitted a special OER for the upcoming board, and have not received an email confirmation receipt from CPC, please contact Officer Career Management Division as soon as possible via email [OER.CPC@noaa.gov](mailto:OER.CPC@noaa.gov). **Deadline for Special OER's to be received by CPC is May 31, 2012**

## On the Horizon

7 June 2012	MOC-A Change of Command
22 June 2012	BOTC-119 Graduation
29 June 2012	OMAO Change of Command

## Approved Resignations, Separations, and Retirements

The following officers have approved retirements, resignations, or separations with in the **next three months**. Be sure to thank them for their service to NOAA and nation.

ENS Veronica J. Brieno Rankin	29 May 2012
CAPT John E. Lowell Jr.	01 June 2012
CAPT Christopher A. Beaverson	01 June 2012
LTJG Kurt S. Karpov	15 June 2012