

Commissioned Personnel Center

CYBERFLASH



24 May 2013

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Director's Message

I attended the NOAA Corps Dining Out in the DC area last week and had a wonderful time. Kudos to LCDR Wingate and the rest of the DC area ACO for planning and executing such a successful event. Like last year, a few of the brand new officers from BOTC attended. They were introduced as “ensigns from Kings Point,” which was quickly corrected to be “ensigns from the NOAA training center at the Coast Guard Academy.” In that moment I fully realized, “wow, we actually did move the training center!” And we did it in less than a year, successfully, without too many wrinkles, and it is proving to be a success.

At this time last year, we were in the beginning stages of discussion on what to do for training and where to send our new officers. We were just starting to build the relationship with the Coast Guard Academy and Officer Candidate School. Hopefully to those of you in the field the move was seamless, and you're reaping the benefits of this new training environment. The reality is that there was a lot of effort and behind the scenes work to get us to where we are today. Many, many people were involved in this move – leadership of both agencies, our liaison to the USCG, the Office of General Counsel, Health Services, the USCG Officer Candidate School, and of course, all of CPC. The change required updates to recruiting materials and web sites; clearance of policy; contracts, Service Level Agreements, and Memoranda of Understanding - more than CPC has seen in a long time. Additionally, this move required revamping of our training budget, constant interaction with OCS and contracted maritime training vendors, and coordination of various ship-training opportunities. And I am sure this is not an exhaustive list of efforts. I would like to once again thank everyone, especially my staff, for their contributions to this unexpected heavy lift, all while keeping up with their day jobs! We still have some hurdles to clear, but we are in a much better place than a year ago.

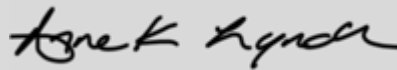
Next Friday, RADM Devany and RADM Stosz we will sign a 5-year inter-agency agreement with the USCG to continue this training partnership. On that same day, May 31, we will graduate our second class of officers from the new NCOTC at USCGA – 18 officers of [BOTC 121](#) who will be joining the fleet afloat and aloft in the next few weeks. Please join me in congratulating these new officers as they embark on their careers and wish them the luck and excitement that we have all enjoyed!

THE 121st CLASS OF NOAA COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

[Officer](#)

[Ship Assignment](#)

ENS Jason Baillio	NOAA Ship <i>Fairweather</i>
ENS Billy Bonner	NOAA Flight Training
ENS Shanae Coker	NOAA Flight Training
ENS Katherine Doster.	NOAA Ship <i>Henry B. Bigelow</i>
ENS Felicia Drummond	NOAA Marine Ops Center - Pacific
ENS Laura Dwyer	NOAA Ship <i>Oregon II</i>
ENS Erick Estela Gomez	NOAA Ship <i>Henry B. Bigelow</i>
ENS Hollis Johnson	NOAA Ship <i>Pisces</i>
ENS Abigail Kernan-Schloss	NOAA Ship <i>Oscar Dyson</i>
ENS Nikolai Pawlenko	NOAA Ship <i>Okeanos Explorer</i>
ENS Katrina Poremba	NOAA Marine Ops Center - Pacific
ENS Eileen Pye	NOAA Ship <i>Thomas Jefferson</i>
ENS Carina Ream	NOAA Ship <i>Rainier</i>
ENS Jessica Senzer	NOAA Ship <i>Ronald H. Brown</i>
ENS Steven Solari	NOAA Ship <i>Hi'ialakai</i>
ENS Benjamin VanDine	NOAA Ship <i>Oscar Dyson</i>
ENS Steven Wall	NOAA Ship <i>Rainier</i>
ENS David Wang	NOAA Ship <i>Gordon Gunter</i>



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

Letter of thanks and support from First Lady, Michelle Obama

At the Dining Out last week, NOFA president Melissa Ramos read a letter of support from First Lady Michelle Obama for the spouses and families of the NOAA Corps. The letter is posted on our website and can be found [here](#). Many thanks to the First Lady for her kind words and recognition, and to the office of U. S. Senator Mark Begich of Alaska

for assistance in requesting and obtaining this letter, thus promoting recognition of our service to the highest level.

Promotion Update

Effective June 1, 2013, General Counsel Cameron Kerry has agreed to serve as Acting Secretary of Commerce. Having someone with the designation of Acting Secretary allows our promotion and appointment packages to be on the move again. The permanent appointment packages for BOTC 119 and 120 are in final stages of clearing CPC. The promotion package for BOTC 117 to LTJG and 2 officers to LT are awaiting medical clearance of officers and by next week will be at OGC and WFMO for clearance en route to NOAA and DOC. The promotion approval package (from the April OPBs) will be routing for clearance the first week of June and then through DOC to the President. Once cleared by the President, we will be able to announce these selections for promotion, hopefully by mid-July.

Annual Medical Requirements Reminder

All NOAA Corps officers assigned to a shipboard, aviation billet or those officers embarking on a NOAA vessel for more than 24 hours (which includes all officers expected to augment!) are required to have an annual PPD or QuanteFeron blood test performed unless contraindicated. All other NOAA Corps officers assigned to shore billets are required to submit their results every 5 years. Documentation must be submitted to CPC's Medical Administration Branch via the medical OPF. This requirement must be met for medical clearance for promotion.

On the Horizon

BOTC 121 Graduation	31 May 2013
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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.

CAPT Mark P. Ablondi	01 June 2013
ENS Whitley Gilbert	30 June 2013
CAPT Scott E. Kuester	01 July 2013
LCDR David J. Demers	01 July 2013
LT John H. Petersen	01 July 2013
LT Sarah A. Harris	01 July 2013
LT Amy B. Cox	05 July 2013