The 109th Basic Officer Training Class reported for duty on Thursday February 9, 2006 at the Marine Operations Center, Atlantic. Fifteen temporarily appointed ensigns have now joined the NOAA Corps. The 109th BOTC will be spending next week in Silver Spring, MD and they are scheduled to receive briefings from the representatives of NOAA headquarters and Line Offices. This increase in overall strength allows us to promote officers based on 288 and creates twenty two vacancies on the lineal list. CPC will forward a promotion package to the Secretary next week requesting he sign twenty two commissions for the following vacancies: three captains, four commanders, six lieutenant commanders, three lieutenants, and six lieutenants (junior grade). After the package leaves CPC it will take approximately two weeks to get the commissions signed by the Secretary.

Oath of Office

A temporary appointment of an ensign, into the NOAA Corps is a multi-step process, here are four of the most important steps: (1) candidate must be nominated by the Officer Personnel Board; (2) candidate must satisfactorily pass the requisite physical examination; (3) the Secretary must approve the OPB recommendations and sign a letter stating such; and (4) the candidate must receive the oath of office. All steps must be completed before the candidate is commissioned in the NOAA Corps. Only those agents authorized by law may issue the oath of office, of which the Director, NOAA Corps, Director, Marine and Aviation Operations Centers, the Director, Commissioned Personnel Center, and the Deputy Director, Commissioned Personnel Center have been delegated that authority. We drafted legislation seeking a change to this law, allowing all commissioned officers authority to deliver the oath of office, but until such time, only those designated may do so.

Captain Jonathan W. Bailey, NOAA
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center
**Lineal List of Commissioned Officers**

The 2006 Lineal List of Commissioned Officers is posted and can be located on the following web page [http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/pubs.html](http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/pubs.html).

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**PROMOTIONS EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 6, 2006:**

**To Be Commander:**

Douglas D. Baird, Jr.

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**Retirement Seminar**

For officers in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, the U.S. Public Health Service has scheduled a Retirement Seminar to be held in Rockville, MD on March 14-15, 2006. The registration deadline is March 6. Please note that registering does not guarantee a slot at the seminar, as PHS Officers have first priority. Once the number of seats available to the NOAA Corps is established, officers will be given priority based on the date the registration form is received by PHS, in other words, first come, first served. NOAA Corps will have a representative at the seminar to address NOAA Corps versions of certain retirement issues. You may access the registration form at [http://dcp.psc.gov/PDF_docs/PSCRetirementMarch06.pdf](http://dcp.psc.gov/PDF_docs/PSCRetirementMarch06.pdf). Specific guidelines for completing the form are: 1. Leave “PHS Serial #” blank  2. Leave “Category” blank. 3. For “Operating Division” show “NOAA Corps”, and 4. Leave “Retirement Credit Date” blank. If you have any questions, please contact Katherine Raymond at 301-713-3453 or via e-mail katherine.raymond@noaa.gov.

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**2005 W-2 Information**

The 2005 W-2s were mailed from Topeka on January 24th. All W-2s were mailed to the same Mailing Address indicated in block 22 on the members December LES. Any early requests for a replacement W-2 will not be processed until after 15 February to allow for mail delivery delays.

Any questions regarding your W-2 should be directed to the NOAA Corps Payroll Unit at 785-339-3497.
Updating OPF Reminder

All Officer Evaluation Reports (OER), Certificates of Training for promotion, OOD letters for promotion, and any additional information you wish to include in your OPF must be received in this office not later than February 15, 2006. You are also required to review the entire contents of your OPF online prior to February 24, 2006.

This message was generated for the Director of Commissioned Personnel