



January 25, 2008

Director's Message

We've had some changes in staffing recently at CPC. Earlier this week, CDR Joseph Pica detached from the Commissioned Personnel Center, headed to Bellingham, WA where he will begin his next assignment as Commanding Officer, NOAA Ship OKEANOS EXPLORER. During his 5 months as Chief, Officer Career Management Division, CDR Pica oversaw the selection of BOTC-112 candidates, REFTRA-63, the assignment of more than 100 officers, and the processing of over 280 Officer Evaluation Reports (OERs). CDR Pica also worked to obtain approval and implementation of the NOAA Corps Leadership Development Framework. Congratulate CDR Pica on a job well-done if you see him, and wish him the best of luck aboard the EX.

LCDR John Caskey assumed the duties as the new Chief, Officer Career Management Division and is the POC for any OER, training, recruiting, and career development issues. LCDR Caskey will also continue to serve as the Assignment Coordinator until LCDR Scott Sirois reports in July 2008. In order to ensure continuity of operations, LT Nicole Manning will be assisting LCDR Caskey with some of the assignment duties and responsibilities. LCDR Caskey's phone number is the same as previously, 301-713-7748.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. B. Kearse".

CAPT William B. Kearse, NOAA
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

Announcements

Staffing Changes within Officer Career Management Division

Please see the staffing change noted above.

OPMD temporary loses Neavaly Touray

Ms. Neavaly Touray has been temporarily detailed to NOAA's Office of the Chief Administrative Office for six months. Please direct all inquires about PCS orders to Tracey Raymond at 301-713-7724.

Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Reminder

After you complete a PCS move the following items need to be completed.
Fax a copy of endorsed orders to the CPC and to the NOAA Corps Payroll Unit.
File a Travel Voucher within 5 days.
Update your address at the following locations:
OPF Online - <https://cpc.nmao.noaa.gov/opfonline/login.jsp>
DEERS - <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/address/index.jsp>
Direct Access Payroll
Submit an updated Record of Emergency data (NOAA form 56-14)

Watchstanders Needed for National Operations Center

The NOAA Homeland Security Program Office in Silver Spring, MD is seeking 0-2 and higher ranking officers on assignments within the National Capital Region to serve as part time watch standers at the DOC NOAA Desk at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Operations Center (NOC) in Washington, DC.

The mission of the NOC is to integrate DHS and interagency planning and operations coordination in order to prevent, deter, protect, and respond to terrorists threats/attacks or threats from other man-made or natural disasters. The NOC is a 24x7, multi-agency operations center that collects all-threats and all-hazards information across the spectrum of federal, state, local, tribal, private-sector, and other key sources. Its mission is to be the primary national-level hub for domestic situational awareness, common operating picture, information fusion, information sharing, communications, and operations coordination pertaining to the prevention of terrorist attacks and domestic incident management. The NOAA Desk is considered one of the critical department/agency desks within the NOC, providing a wide range of environmental information and forecasts from NOAA sources. The Desk is staffed by part-time watch standers from across line offices in the DC area, performed as a collateral duty, under the supervision of a senior desk officer on staff of the NOAA Homeland Security Program Office.

This opportunity provides an officer the chance to work in the Nation's premier interagency operational center where all federal departments and agencies are represented, to constantly maintain situational awareness of homeland security and all-hazards response across the nation. Exposure and visibility to senior officials in the Department of Homeland Security as well as other departments is provided. Volunteers are expected to be available for 1-2 eight hour day shifts per month, approved by their supervisor. Expansion beyond that availability is sought during times of crisis response at the NOC. Secret clearance is required. Training will be provided by the Senior Desk Officer.

Anyone interested in this opportunity should contact Captain Wade Blake at 301-713-3310 x214 or wade.blake@noaa.gov

Record of Emergency Data

CPC is unable to accept faxed or emailed copies of the Record of Emergency Data. Please submit only the original form and ensure that you sign in the upper right hand corner in addition to the bottom of the form. Thank you.

Assignment Preferences

All officers are encouraged to update their assignment preferences in their on-line OPF. CPC no longer manually enters "Next Assignment Preferences" from the End of Year Service Reports. If you should have any questions with assignments, please don't hesitate to contact LCDR John T. Caskey at 301-713-7748 or john.caskey@noaa.gov.

Looking for a Temporary Assignment?

Officer-In-Charge, National Marine Sanctuary Program

Small Research Vessel, Seattle, Washington

The NMSP is looking for an independent and confident officer that would like to spend 6-12 months developing a new research vessel. An Officer Assignment Board will be reviewing the draft billet description to see if it warrants a full-time billet in the future.

The NMSP Small Research Vessel, OMAO number R8501 named SRVx, will enter service next spring after an extensive refit. The NMSP acquired the SRVx, a virtually new \$4.5M 85' Guardian Marine built mono-hull, from the Navy in August 2007. NMSP is modifying this hull for oceanographic research and will operate it along the West Coast over an 18-24-month period.

We are looking for an officer to take command of this unique NOAA platform and operate it as a test and evaluation platform to define program-wide requirements. The SRVx has the potential to complete missions more demanding than those possible on a Type III boat, but not requiring the full capabilities of a Class 3 research vessel. The test and evaluation program will help define whether an SRV-class vessel can demonstrate significant advantages in speed, adaptability, and cost effectiveness for NMSP missions. The ability to work nearly autonomous is a must for this position; only personnel that can think and act

independently should express interest.

Contact the NMSP Small Boat Coordinator, Dana Wilkes, at 206-390-8073, or dana.wilkes@noaa.gov <<mailto:dana.wilkes@noaa.gov>> to find out more about this detail.

Still Have Questions About the ODU?

The manual for the Operational Dress Uniform (ODU) has been posted on-line and can be found at the following link:

http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/Operational_Dress_Uniform_Manual.pdf

This link, along with the ODU presentations located on the Commissioned Personnel Center (CPC) Home website, should help address some of the FAQ's about the ODU. In order to address some of the questions with the new uniform, officers from CPC have worn the ODU on recent trips to Kings Point, NY, MacDill AFB, FL, and Norfolk, VA. Reminder: The ODU becomes the prescribed uniform for all locations outside the National Capitol Region starting February 1, 2008.

Pre-Retirement Seminars available for NOAA Corps officers in the Seattle Area

It is recommended that any officer within eighteen months of retirement attend a Pre-Retirement Seminar.

Seminar Dates	Location
March 3 - 6, 2008	Naval Sub Base Bangor FFIC TAP Classroom Silverdale, Washington

For additional information go to <http://uscg.mil/mlcpac/iscseattle/pw/tapsched.htm> and to register, call or email the Work-Life Staff's Transition Manager, **David Sweeney**, at (206) 217-6615 or david.j.sweeney@uscg.mil.

Approved Retirements

The following officers have approved retirements. 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 Jon E. Rix	February 1, 2008
CAPT Stephen A. Kozak	March 1, 2008
CDR Julia N. Neander	May 1, 2008
CAPT Sean R. White	July 1, 2008
LCDR Stephen J. Thumm	July 1, 2008
CDR Thomas E. Strong	July 1, 2008
CAPT John W. Humphrey, Jr.	August 1, 2

On the Horizon

February 1, 2008 The ODU becomes the prescribed uniform for all locations outside the National Capitol Region

February 17, 2008 Start date for BOTC 112

February 25, 2008 Start date for REFTRA 64

January-May, 2008 Billet Review

March 3-7, 2008 Selection Boards for O-6 to O-2

Please see NOAA Corps website for additional information:

Assignments:

<http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/assignments.html>

Evaluations:

<http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/evaluation.html>

Training:

<http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/training.html>

Uniforms & Awards:

<http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/awards.html>