



February 8, 2008

Director's Message

First, let me apologize for CPC confusing the situation regarding authorized uniforms. Earlier, a Cyberflash message indicated that the ODU was going to replace the following uniforms: Winter Blue, Summer White, Tropical White, Service Khaki, Winter Working Blue, Working Khaki, Tropical Khaki and Working Coveralls. A more recent Cyberflash message removed the Summer White and Working Coveralls as being replaced. I would like to clarify what uniforms have been replaced by the Operation Dress Uniform (ODU) and are no longer authorized for wear. The uniforms listed below are no longer authorized for wear.

Winter Blue

Tropical White

Winter Working Blue

Working Khaki

Tropical Khaki

Working Coveralls

On a completely different subject, on Tuesday, February 5th, Lieutenants Jason Appler and John Crofts, and Lieutenants (JG) Sean Finney and Jamie Wasser represented the NOAA Corps at the funeral of Captain Raymond Stone, NOAA (Ret.), at Chapel of the Chimes in Oakland, CA.

Captain Stone's 32 year service career began in World War II, and was an integral part of the transition from the US Coast and Geodetic Survey to the NOAA Corps.

The officers present were honored to pay respects from NOAA with a eulogy, to bear the casket to the burial with military honors, and to present a flag flown over NOAA Ships THOMAS JEFFERSON, RUDE, RAINIER, and FAIRWEATHER to the family.

Thank you to the Lieutenants Appler and Crofts, and Lieutenants (JG) Finney and Wasser for assisting the Corps in honoring Captain Stone. Thanks also and a salute go out to all the officers from MOC-A and MOC-P who ensured the flag was properly flown, moved along quickly to all the hydrographic vessels, and arrived at the ceremony in time.

The eulogy delivered by LT Appler is shown below for those who would like to know more about CAPT Stone's significant contributions to the NOAA Corps.



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

Announcements

PCS Reminder

Submit your NOAA Form 56-26 at least 150 days prior to your Permanent Change of Station so CPC can have your orders processed 120 days prior to the actual PCS. Thank you.

National Operations Center - Watchstanders Needed (Note phone extension change)

The NOAA Homeland Security Program Office in Silver Spring, MD is seeking O-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 x129** or wade.blake@noaa.gov

Dental Appointment Information for Officers in the D.C. Area

Due to the recent deployments, Bethesda Naval Medical Center Dental Clinic currently has a shortage of staff. Therefore, they are often unable to provide follow-up dental services outside of the basic examination are currently referring patients to civilian dentists for follow-up care.

A Military Treatment facility (MTF) can refer NOAA Corps officers to a civilian dentist for specific procedures. Routine exams, cleanings and simple fillings do not require authorization. However, major dental services to include but not limited to; root canals, crowns, etc. require pre-authorization from LCDR Hobson-Powell prior to receiving services. Officers receiving dental care from a civilian dentist must present a copy of his/her uniformed services card to the provider. Please instruct the dental provider to submit billing information to: LCDR Hobson-Powell, NOAA/Medical Administration Branch, 8403 Colesville Road, Suite 500, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The provider may also contact the Medical Administration Branch via phone for payment by credit card at 301-713-7718.

Aviation Application Packets

Officers interested in applying for the NOAA Corps aviation program are reminded to have their completed application packets to CPC by March 1, 2008. Once the packets have been received, AOC will conduct interviews between March-May 2008 for all applicants that meet the application requirements. An Officer Assignment Board will convene on Thursday, June 5, 2008 to select officers for initial flight training. If anyone should have any questions regarding the aviation selection process, please contact LCDR John T. Caskey at 301-713-7748 or john.caskey@noaa.gov.

Billet of the Week

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Southwest Regional Office (SWR) in Long Beach, California is seeking an interested junior officer for the Science and Outreach Coordinator billet (#2340). Primary duties include acting as liaison between the Southwest Fisheries Science Center's research activities and the Regional Office's scientific needs for management activities; acting as the primary coordination point for dissemination of data and information internally and with external partners; chairing the Region's Public Outreach Committee, which has developed a Strategic Plan for Public Outreach with an overall mission of building and maintaining effective public and private partnerships in support of NOAA Fisheries' strategic goals; managing the Public Outreach budget; and, preparing data reports, summaries, and presentations for use by senior management and others.

The incumbent will continue developing and coordinating outreach efforts of NMFS offices throughout California. The officer will be working with NOAA and non-NOAA partners, including the Aquarium of the Pacific, National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and the Ocean Protection Council, along with other educational partners, to developing outreach programs and to seek funding through partnerships and grants. The position requires a high degree of both oral and written expression on a daily basis and will allow the incumbent to interact with upper management at the SWR, as well as with representatives from a large number of Federal, State, stakeholder groups, and the general public. This position provides a high degree of exposure to constituents and the general public, requiring the exercise of tact, diplomacy, patience, communication, planning and organization. There can be substantial travel involved, and some weekend work for high profile outreach events. The officer will represent the SWR on several Outreach and Education councils and committees both within and outside NOAA, and act as the Chairperson of the SWR's Public Outreach Committee. This assignment needs someone that is motivated to get NOAA's messages out to the public, is a team player, creative thinker, and multi-tasker.

If anyone should have any questions regarding this billet, please feel free to contact Scott Hill at 562-980-4029 or scott.hill@noaa.gov or the NMFS Liaison Officer, CAPT Michael Gallagher at 301-713-2239 or michael.s.gallagher@noaa.gov.

Eulogy for Captain Stone written and delivered by LT Jason Appler

Ladies, Gentlemen, Friends and Family of Captain Raymond Stone,

It is my honor to stand before you today, and share with you the importance of Captain Raymond Stone to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps - otherwise known as the NOAA Corps. The NOAA Corps is the seventh uniformed service of the United States of America.

Our modern history is intertwined with the life and service of Captain Stone, and our development directly benefits from the contributions he made during his 32-year career.

By definition, the mission of the NOAA Corps is to provide officers technically competent to assume positions of leadership and command in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Department of Commerce programs and in the Armed Forces during times of war or national emergency.

Further, it is to safely and efficiently operate NOAA ships and aircraft, incorporate emerging data acquisition technologies, and provide a specialized professional team responsive to NOAA programs.

These defining statements recall precisely the character and career of service of Captain Stone.

CAPT Stone's honorable, respectful character, technical expertise, commitment to our country, and his ability to lead contributed to our success as a service, and live on in the NOAA Corps today.

He was integral in guiding the NOAA Corps transition from the Coast and Geodetic Survey to the NOAA Corps, and I and the other officers present here today are deeply honored pay tribute to him.

As Raymond Stone graduated from the University of California at Berkley and joined the service in 1940, our country was on the brink of massive change. The effects of the great depression were still being felt by millions of unemployed Americans, eleven year old Martin Luther King Jr. had just begun to dream, and television was only an exhibit at the World's Fair in Coney Island.

The U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey that he joined, originally created by Thomas Jefferson in 1807 as "The Survey of the Coast", had been a part of American history for 133 years, and along with the rest of the country, was about to go through a period of rapid and major changes. Having signed on as a Deck Officer, young Officer Stone was working his way toward becoming a commissioned Ensign as bombs fell on Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941. On

December 16th, he received his commission, and immediately went to work on projects for the Navy.

He trained in Guantanamo Bay, then commenced his wartime service on the U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey Ship HYDROGRAPHER; a ship he would later command, as he would the MARMER. Aboard the HYDROGRAPHER, he surveyed ahead of Navy occupation in the West Indies, then joined several other ships to survey in advance of Naval operations in the mid-Atlantic and Gulf of Maine.

In the presence of continued Japanese occupation of Attu and Kiska, Raymond Stone led survey field parties on remote Aleutian Islands of from 1943 to 1945. He received a war-time certificate of service for Department of Navy projects in areas of immediate military hazard, the American Defense Service Ribbon with one Bronze Star, the Atlantic War Zone Ribbon, and the Pacific War Zone Ribbon.

The war effort brought forth rapid advances in many areas of American production, including advances in the methods and technology of navigation and hydrographic survey. From the 1940's through the 1960's, as he rose from Ensign to Captain, he served twelve ship assignments, and, as Assistant Chief of the Charts Division, Chief of Operations, and Associate Director of the Office of Hydrography and Oceanography, he helped the field of hydrography evolve from the age of laborious manual data collection, to the age of computerized data management.

During the same era, as the importance of exploring our air and nautical environments became more evident in the eyes of the public and the executive administrations of the time, the various, disparate organizations that studied and managed the marine zones of the United States began to consolidate. Through a number of reorganization plans begun by President Lyndon Johnson, and culminating with the creation of NOAA by President Nixon in 1970, the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey existed briefly as the Environmental Science Services Administration before ultimately becoming the NOAA Corps.

Having started the Basic Officer Training program in 1960, Captain Stone helped us through this change, as he did with hydrography, from the old ways to the new, while maintaining our core values, and the integrity of our defining mission. He left his mark on the Basic Officer Training Class system that has now produced over 1600 officers, developing in them the traits that Captain Stone exemplified: officers of honor, respect and commitment, having discipline and flexibility, ready for positions of leadership and command in the operation of ships, support of NOAA programs, and in the conduct of field projects at sea,

in the air, and on land.

In 2001, the NOAA Report ran an article on the 100th Basic Officer Training Class, and the history behind it. There, in a sepia toned snapshot in the photo spread, stands a proud Captain Raymond Stone, his service hat canted as ever to the right, and his sharp eyes trained confidently on the camera as he posed with members of that first training class in 1960. With each Officer Training Class, Captain Stone's legacy lives on.

He was our co-worker, our companion, and our teacher, as our service became what it is today.

We will remember his patriotism, his courage, his leadership, and his dedication to the NOAA Corps values of honor, respect, and commitment, and the NOAA Corps mission that defines him so well.

Thank you, Captain Stone! The NOAA Corps wishes you Godspeed, fair winds and calm seas behind you as you embark on your final voyage.

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	May 1, 2008
CAPT Stephen A. Kozak	May 1, 2008
CDR Julia N. Neander	May 1, 2008
LCDR Stephen J. Thumm	July 1, 2008
CDR Thomas E. Strong	July 1, 2008
CAPT John W. Humphrey, Jr.	August 1, 2008
CAPT Sean R. White	July 1, 2009

On the Horizon

February 17, 2008	Start date for BOTC 112
February 25, 2008	Start date for REFTRA 64
January-May, 2008	Billet Review
March 3, 2008	Selection Board for O-6
March 4, 2008	Selection Board for O-5
March 5, 2008	Selection Board for O-4

March 6, 2008

Selection Board for O-3

March 7, 2008

Selection Board for O-2

Please see NOAA Corps website for additional information:

Assignments:

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

Evaluations:

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

Training:

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

Uniforms & Awards:

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