



April 11, 2008

Director's Message

The promotion package is still moving through the clearance process. Only a couple of steps remain. Once it has been vetted through the system and receives the Secretary's approval, officers will be notified by their immediate supervisor.

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

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

Announcements

Assignment Process

CPC has rescheduled this year's Officer Assignment Boards for O-6s (May vs. July), O-5s (June vs. August), and O-4s (July vs. September) to provide officers with as much lead time as possible to properly plan for their upcoming PCS move. If you happen to be one detaching from your present assignment in the next 18 months, I encourage you to review the latest Billet List, talk to your Line Office Liaison and the Chief of the Officer Career Management Division (OCMD), and update your OPF on-line preference list. If you should have any questions regarding the assignment process or need career guidance, please feel free to contact LCDR John Caskey at 301-713-7748 or john.caskey@noaa.gov.

ODU Information

There are many rumors in the field about when the tucked version of the ODU will change. If the NOAA Corps does change it will be at least two years from now. Until such time, the tucked version of the ODU is the prescribed uniform for all operational units and officers outside of the D.C. Metropolitan Area.

ODU Sale

To pave the way for the un-tucked version of the ODU, the Uniform Distribution Center (UDC) is offering certain sizes of the current ODU at two for the price of one. Inventory levels of the aforementioned sizes must be liquidated to make it possible to stock the un-tucked ODU once development and manufacturing are complete. Please reference the ODU Uniforms page for sizing information!

NOTE: When you place an order for one of the sale sizes of ODU's, you will see

one on your invoice copy at the regular price, but will automatically be shipped two of that particular size (e.g., pay for one OC32L and be shipped two OC32L's). The non-invoiced ODU will have an identifying mark on the size tag to prevent erroneous returns.

Closed for Database Maintenance

CPC's Office's of Personnel and Career Management Divisions will be temporarily "closed for business" again on April 16-18, 2008. The closure is necessary to properly transfer officer data to some of our upgraded database forms. CPC is confident that these upgrades will 1) provide better customer support/service to officers in the field; 2) better allow CPC to provide "quick access" information to NOAA Corps' decision makers; and 3) streamline operations within CPC to make it operate more efficiently. Many officers have already seen and verified the data inputted from the previous closure. Starting April 19th, all officers need to review the following areas of their OPF to ensure accuracy (Assignment History, Security History, Dependents, Address, and Qualifications). If the fields within these tables are blank or missing information it is because CPC did not have supporting documentation in your OPF. Please submit supporting documentation

and we will update your file and the database. During the closure, the two Divisions will not be answering e-mails or phone calls. However, if an emergency should arise, individuals can contact CPC via the front desk at 301-713-4444 or via the Division Chief's cell phones: Gregory Raymond at 240-723-5249 or LCDR John Caskey at 301-873-2743. Thank you for your patience.

Payroll Office Needs Your BAH Form

Verification of BAH/Dependency CG-4170 Forms were sent to each NOAA Officer 9 January 2008 and were to be returned to the Payroll Unit in Topeka, KS by 29 February 2008. To date we have received approx 60% of these verification forms. If you have gotten married, divorced, additional dependents, etc., we need to know this information so that you'll not be in an over paid/under paid status. If you have not returned this form please do so ASAP. If you did not receive this form please contact me (ronald.a.cunningham@uscg.mil). If you have any corrections to be made please make the corrections on the form and mail or fax the form back to the Payroll Unit. If adding a dependent please provide a copy of any supporting documentation, ie. Marriage certificate, birth certificate, divorce decree, just to name a few. Please sign at the bottom of the form even if there are no changes and mail to the below address:

Ron Cunningham
NOAA Corps Payroll Unit
P. O. Box 397
Topeka, KS 66601-0397

Save the Date, Seattle Officers -- Anniversary Ball

The Seattle ACO will be holding the NOAA Corps Anniversary Ball on 10 May, 2008 at Naval Station Everett. The Seattle ACO will send out details soon.

Save the Date, Washington D.C. Area Officers -- Anniversary Ball

On May 17th, the NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers (ACO) and the NOAA Officers Family Association (NOFA) will host the 91st annual NOAA Corps Anniversary Ball. The ball will be held at the newly remodeled Minuteman Memorial Building, owned by the Reserve Officers Association (ROA). The link below describes the Banquet and Conference Center in the ROA building.

<http://www.roa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=topofthehill>

Dental Care

All NOAA Corps officers residing in a catchment area are required to schedule dental appointments through the Military Treatment Facilities. If the MTF is unable to provide you with full dental services and you are referred out, you are authorized to receive dental care from a civilian provider. Please instruct the provider to contact LCDR Hobson-Powell at 301-713-7718 for payment of the dental services. For those officers that were previously assigned to the National Naval Medical Center Dental Clinic, there are a number of MTF's in the Washington, DC Metropolitan area that can provide full dental services for active duty NOAA Corps officers. In order to receive care at these facilities you must bring a copy of your dental records, orders, and your government issued military identification card to your scheduled appointment. The following facilities may be used:

Fort Meyer: 703--696-3460

Walter Reed Army Medical Center: 202-782-6815

Bolling AFB: 202-404-5519

Navy Annex Dental Clinic: 703-614-1229

Fort Detrick: 301-619-7675

Fort Meade EPPS: 301-677-6078

Fort Belvoir: 703-696-3450 (*Walk-in appointments only)

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

On the Horizon

January-May, 2008	Billet Review
May 1, 2008	OAB
May TBD	O-6 OAB
June 5, 2008	Aviation Selection and O-5 Assignment Board
June 9, 2008	BOTC 112 Graduation
July 10, 2008	O-4 OAB
July 31, 2008	End of OER Reporting Period for O-1s and O-2s
October 6-31, 2008	REFTRA 65

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>