

Commissioned Personnel Center
CYBERFLASH



November 20, 2009

Director's Message

Once again it is time to reflect on all our blessings as we enter the holiday season. I looked to the past for this message. The following is a part of a proclamation by the 16th President of the United States of America.

"I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President:

Abraham Lincoln"

Please enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends, and keep in your hearts and minds the men and women in uniform who are away from their loved ones, putting their lives on the line for us all. We have much to be thankful for as Americans, and will only retain our freedoms by not taking them for granted.

Best wishes for a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Raymond C. Slagle".

**CAPT Raymond C. Slagle, NOAA
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center**

Announcements

Record Management

CPC is implementing a new system to improve officer record data management. This database is only populated with verifiable documentation on record. The Officer Personnel Management Division (OPMD) has completed a review of every officer's PCS Assignment History and has sent individual messages to those whose physical record, for whatever reason, was found incomplete. Please review the Assignment History portion of your OPF Online and contact ENS Prestcott with any issues. ENS Prestcott will start a review of the TDY section next week which will only include temporary assignments that effected pay and awards. Therefore, the TDY section may not reflect every temporary duty an officer has completed. Other TDYs, such as for training, recruiting, or operational support are documented elsewhere as appropriate (i.e. training folder, service report, or OER). TDY orders must have been endorsed with detach and report dates and signatures in order for it to be considered valid and included in the OPF. All officers must remember to obtain the detaching and reporting signature and date for each PCS and TDY completed. These must be submitted to CPC upon completion. We require that all officers who have submitted documents without the required endorsement have them signed and resubmitted. Patience and cooperation are greatly appreciated during this period of change and improvement.

Leadership and Management Training for Mid-Grade Officers

As part of implementing the NOAA Corps Leadership Development Education strategy, CPC has arranged for two groups of ~30 officers to attend a 5-day Leadership and Management class at the National Weather Service Training Center in Kansas City, MO. The intent of this training is to provide mid-grade officers, particularly ship Executive Officers and Aircraft Commanders, with leadership training and tools to assist with the demands of managing and leading people. The course includes self assessment exercises and covers topics such as communications, decision making, situational leadership, motivation, professional development, and leadership case study.

Officers selected for session 1 (Dec 14-18) have been notified by email. The list for session 2 (Feb 1-5) is still being finalized. Selections were based on a combination of: current/near future sea assignment, nomination by Line Office Liaison, lineal number, and past opportunity for formal training or developmental assignment at HQ. If this program is successful, CPC will pursue funding to provide this training to more officers in the future.

Please contact CDR Jon Swallow if you have any questions.

NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers Awards

The NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers administers the annual Junior Officer of the Year, Science, and Engineering awards. The ACO recognizes the wide range of accomplishments

and contributions of NOAA's uniformed personnel, and encourages all commands to consider nominating officers for these honors. Nominations for the 2009 awards are due on December 4, 2009.

Junior Officer of the Year

This award is presented annually to a single NOAA Corps officer, below the grade of lieutenant commander, for outstanding contributions to NOAA, outstanding performance, and/or the positive reflection cast upon the Corps. NOAA Corps officers who are promoted to lieutenant commander during the calendar year are eligible for the award.

Science Award

The ACO Science Award recognizes officers who make outstanding scientific contributions which distinguish them above their peers. All NOAA Corps officers and members of other uniformed services assigned, detailed, or attached to NOAA are eligible.

Engineering Award

The ACO Science Award recognizes officers who make outstanding engineering contributions which distinguish them above their peers. All NOAA Corps officers and members of other uniformed services assigned, detailed, or attached to NOAA are eligible.

Nomination Procedure

A nomination for a NOAA ACO award shall consist of at least two pages. The first page shall be a cover memo addressed to the National ACO, stating the name, grade, billet title, and job description of the nominated officer. The following page(s) shall be the personal comments of the nominator, which reflect the basis for the nomination. Nominations should include a detailed description of the officer's duties and accomplishments, and the positive impact of those achievements on the Agency and the Service.

All commands and field offices are encouraged to submit officer nominations for these awards. Candidates for Junior Officer of the Year must be nominated by a supervisor in their chain of command, while the Science and Engineering awards nominations may be made by the supervisor or any commissioned officer. Please submit nominations via e-mail to gregory.bass@noaa.gov and ricardo.ramos@noaa.gov, by COB December 4, 2009. In the nomination email please have the supporting files attached as .PDF or readable by Microsoft Word.

The subject line of the nomination email should be Junior Officer of the Year, Science Award, or Engineering Award, as appropriate. This will assist the selection committee with accurate tracking and sorting of the nominations.

Junior officers with civilian supervisors are encouraged to forward them this information.

For more information on the awards please refer to the NOAA Corps Directives on Awards (pages 20 through 22).

Upcoming Uniform Awards Board

December 08, 2009
January 12, 2010
February 09, 2010
March 09, 2010
April 13, 2010

Approved Retirements/Resignations/Separations

The following officers have approved retirements, resignations, or separations. 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 Steven R. Barnum	January 1, 2010
LCDR Geoffrey S. Sandorf	March 1, 2010
CDR Andrea M. Hrusovsky	April 1, 2010
LCDR Andrew A. Hall	May 1, 2010
LCDR James A. Bunn, II	June 1, 2010

On the Horizon

Nov 30-Dec 19, 2009	B-School for BOTC 113, Kings Point, NY
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2009	C-School for BOTC 112, Seattle, WA
Jan 4-23, 2010	B-School for BOTC 114, Session 1, Kings Point, NY
Jan 14 - Feb 3, 2010	B-School for BOTC 114, Session 2, Kings Point, NY

Please see CPC website for additional information:

Ship Augmentation Needs: <http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/cpchome/augmentation.html>

Assignments: <http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/careermgmt/assignments.html>

Evaluations: <http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/careermgmt/evaluation.html>

Training: <http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/careermgmt/training.html>

Uniforms & Awards: <http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/perservices/awards.html>