January 07, 2011

Director’s Message

As 2011 begins, I commend you for your professionalism and willingness to go the extra mile as we continue our work in support of NOAA and the Nation. I am most proud of how the officers responded to the needs of the Nation during MC-252 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Nearly half of the total strength of the NOAA Corps supported spill response activities. The new year will bring many challenges but also many opportunities. I am sure that the flexibility and adaptability that the NOAA Corps has demonstrated in the past will serve us well in the years to come. I look forward to working with you in 2011.

Congratulations to the following officers that were selected for promotion to the rank of LTJG:

To Be Lieutenant (junior grade):
Aaron D. Maggied
Marina O. Kosenko
Johannes A. Gebauer
David B. Cowan
Jasmine L. Cousins
Matthew H. O’Leary
Michael J. Marino
Lyndsey E. Keen
Kyle R. Jellison
Laura L. Gibson
Van T. Helker
Carmen M. Alex
Matthew R. Forrest
Bryan M. Begun
Albert E. Davison
Sara A. Slaughter
Reni L. Rydlewicz
Joseph K. Carrier, III
Robert J. Mitchell
Tanner A. Sims
Brian R. Kennedy
Tamera J. Reul
Kelly M. Schill
Anthony J. Imberi
David O. Vejar
Michael S. Silagi

Congratulations to the following officers that were selected for initial flight training:

LT David M. Gothan  
LTJG Matthew T. Burton  
LTJG Patrick M. Sweeney, III  
LTJG Matthew J. Nardi  
ENS Michael J. Marino

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

Announcements:

‘Ask CPC’ Webinar series
In an effort to increase communications with officers and provide a new forum for information exchange, the Commissioned Personnel Center is developing an ‘Ask CPC’ series of web-based seminars (webinars). The first webinar to be scheduled for February 2011 will focus on the promotion process. The planned format for these quarterly sessions will be a 30 minute presentation followed by an interactive question and answer period with the CPC Director, Deputy Director, Division Chiefs, and Policy and Workforce Planning Leads. Future webinars will focus on topics of most interest to you. The link below will take you to an online survey, we are requesting all active duty officers to respond. Please pick up to three topics you would like CPC to discuss in this forum. If a topic is not listed, please fill in the “Other” section with your suggestion. [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7YXPKQQ](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7YXPKQQ). More information on the first webinar will be sent in the coming weeks.

Service Reports and Record Updates
Reminder! Service Reports (NC Form 56-25A) are no longer authorized for submission to Officer Personnel Folders (OPF). It is recommended that officers maintain in their OPF a current resume and/or one-page biography. It is also recommend that all officers ensure that their NOAA Form 56-14 Record of Emergency Data, and any IRS, SGLI or other forms elective forms are current and up to date. All forms are available through the CPC [Forms link](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7YXPKQQ).

Active Duty Dental Plan Now in Effect
Beginning [01 Jan 2011](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7YXPKQQ), NOAA Corps’ dental care is provided under the Active Duty Dental Program (ADDP). The ADDP is administered by United Concordia Companies, Inc. (UCCI) for the TRICARE Management Activity.

Active duty NOAA Corps Officers qualify as “Remote ADDP.” This means that you are
permitted to seek care in the private sector from any United Concordia network dentist; however, you are still eligible to receive care from a military dental treatment facility, if space is available. You should have received an ADDP identification card, and a brochure at the end of December. The brochure is also available on the ADDP website. This site also includes other pertinent information, your covered benefits, finding a network dentist, how to make an appointment (including the difference between accessing routine vs. specialty care), and much more.

If you have any questions, please contact Captain Jane Powers, Director OMAO Health Services at jane.powers@noaa.gov.

**ACO Awards Recipients**

Congratulations to the following officers who were selected to receive the following awards from the Association of Commission Officers. In total there were a total of 18 nominations received this year, all nominees should be commended for their efforts.

**Junior Officer of the Year:**
- LT Abigail Higgins

**Science Award:**
- LT Michael Gonsalves

**Engineering Award**
- LT Brent Pounds
- LT Christian Sloan
- LTJG Timothy Smith

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**This Month in NOAA Corps History***:

**Through the Straits of Magellan on the PATTERSON**

1884-1885  (as told by former seaman, Thomas Ellingson to R.R. Lukens, 1950)

One day this summer an old gentleman came into the San Francisco Field Station and asked if we had a picture or drawing of the PATTERSON. He had the alert eyes and the unmistakable deep-sea roll of the sailor, and I asked him if he had ever been on the PATTERSON. "Yes", he said, "I came around on her through the Straits of Magellan in 1884 and 1885. That was fifty-five years ago." Mr. Ellingson stated that he was eighty-one years old and spent most of his time panning gold on the Feather River. When asked if he made much money at it, he replied, "No, but it's better than doing nothing."…

In the Straits of Magellan terrific winds were encountered and Captain Clover ordered the yards and topmasts struck. On one stretch the ship steamed six hours to make only five miles. At another time the vessel got the wind on the bow, and in order to keep her from running straight into the shore, her commander was compelled to back and wear short around and came near
losing both steam launches in doing so.

Beyond Sandy Point they ran into a fleet of one hundred and fifty canoes manned by Tierra del Fuegians all dolled up in war paint. The commander ordered up their six Gatling guns and passed out Springfield rifles and Colt pistols to the crew. In order to avoid running down the frail craft, the engines were slowed down to half speed. All the Tierra del Fuegians were equipped with small hooks on heaving lines, which they threw aboard and caught along the railing. In no time at all the whole fleet of canoes was fast to the ship… read more

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**Upcoming Uniform and Awards Board Meetings**

February 1  
March 7  
April 4

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**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!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officer</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENS Brett Floyd</td>
<td>January 14, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LT Laurel Jennings</td>
<td>April 1, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>LT Katherine Peet</td>
<td>April 15, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>LTJG James Falkner</td>
<td>May 31, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LT Jason Seifert</td>
<td>June 1, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDR Carl Groeneveld</td>
<td>June 1, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>LCDR James Illg</td>
<td>July 1, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAPT Michael Francisco</td>
<td>August 1, 2011</td>
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**On the Horizon**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 7, 2011</td>
<td>ACO Dining-In, DC Metro Area &amp; Seattle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 3 -17, 2011</td>
<td>C-School Session 2 (Seattle, WA):</td>
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Please see CPC website for additional information:


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

Wiki Fleet: https://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/confluence/display/FleetWiki/Home