

Commissioned Personnel Center CYBERFLASH



09 December 2011

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Director's Message

By now I am sure that a good portion of you have heard that the Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration (MARAD) has made the decision to restructure the Global Maritime and Transportation School (GMATS), the continuing education arm of U.S. Merchant Marine Academy that NOAA has worked with for years for the maritime training of officers. OMAO Leadership is aware of this fact, and we have been working on a solution. MARAD assures NOAA that GMATS commitments through July, 2012 will be met, so our planned February BOTC 119 and the spring REFTRA are not in question. The future of GMATS is unknown at this time, but possibilities include a transition to a non-profit (which would involve competing with other entities and is in no way guaranteed) or becoming a private vendor (much like other maritime training centers). We are, of course, concerned about our friends at GMATS and will miss the relationship that we have had through the years and the valuable training and support they provided. We are committed to continuing the Basic and Refresher Training to our officers and are working on a solution for BOTC 120 (July, 2012) and future classes. We will keep you posted on progress and decisions.

The other news from MARAD this week was that the T/V KINGS POINTER would be moved from USMMA to Texas A&M to replace their training vessel. This move will happen before the end of the year. BOTC 119 and REFTRA will use the Academy's smaller vessels (LIBERATOR, GROWLER) as in the past when KINGS POINTER was unavailable.

I look forward to visiting the west coast ships, and meeting with all commands during the Command Conference next week. I will be happy to answer any questions related to this issue or others, and listen to any input or feedback you might have.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne K. Lynch".

CAPT Anne K. Lynch, NOAA
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

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SAIC Credit Monitoring Service

CPC was recently notified that officers have been receiving letters in the mail from Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) offering free credit monitoring. Concerned this may be a fraudulent “phishing” attempt, CPC confirmed with TRICARE that SAIC is indeed the contractor ordered to provide this service. In September, computer tapes were stolen from an SAIC contractor working with TRICARE’s medical archives. To mitigate any potential loss of security of patient personally identifiable information (PII) and medical records, SAIC is offering the credit monitoring service. Please view this [article](#) explaining the situation and when submitting any forms, use the contact information in this article.

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Photocopying CAC Cards

Recent incidents regarding the photocopying of military identification cards and common access cards (CAC), by commercial establishments to verify military affiliation or provide government rates for service, have been reported.

Personnel are reminded that the photocopying of US Government Identification is a violation of **Title 18, US Code Part I, Chapter 33, Section 701** and punishable by both fine and/or imprisonment. Criminal elements and terrorist organizations place U.S. government identifications as a high value logistical element when planning acts against the U.S. military. Although commercial establishments are not prohibited from asking for military/government identification, many government personnel and commercial establishments are unaware of the prohibition on duplication of government identification. Unfortunately, there are no safeguards in place to ensure a government identification card won’t be counterfeited or “cloned” based on a photocopy by a commercial establishment. It is recommended that government personnel provide a state drivers license or other form of photo identification if an establishment insists on copying a traveler’s identification.

***NOTE:** This does not apply to medical establishments (i.e. doctor’s office, hospitals, etc..) who are allowed to make a photocopy for the purpose of filing insurance claims and other government agencies in the performance of official government business.

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Group Order for the NOAA Corps Sword

CPC is working on a group order for the new NOAA Corps sword announce in the November 10th Message from the Director, CPC. The deadline for submitting requests to [LCDR Eric Johnson](#) for the group order is December 16th. There will be a significant discount with the group order, however, officers can still order individually from the manufacturer.

General information for sizing and ordering:

Links below are for the Marlow-White website, to view available packages. The NOAA Corps sword is not yet pictured on the CPC website.

[Sword and cloth case](#) - \$390

[Sword, Sword Knot, Belt with buckle, Gloves](#) - includes Personalizing (name etched on blade), and Lined padded sword case \$495

Sizing: If officers intend to wear the swords, they should have a blade sized to their heights. If you have access to another sword, stand at attention holding the sword at port arms. Measure from the base of the blade to center mass of the eye. Round down to the nearest inch and it should be somewhere in the 26” - 34” range. Here is a reference to measure without having a sword available (see the info on USN or USCG swords):

<http://www.militarysabers.com/how-to-measure-military-sword-length.html>

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ACO Scholarship- Call for Applications

The Executive Committee of National ACO Scholarships, Inc. has issued its annual call to high school seniors and college undergrads for applications for scholarship awards for the 2012/2013 academic year. The two-page application form is available on the "Resources" page of the NOAA Officer Family Association website (www.nofaweb.org), under the heading "National ACO Scholarships, Inc." Application forms may also be obtained by contacting Secretary/Treasurer Captain Dave Peterson, NOAA (Ret), by phone (301-921-6357) or email (kmpdhp@comcast.net). Complete application packages should be sent to the corporation's post office address (provided on the application form) and should be postmarked this year no later than Friday, April 13, 2012.

ACO Annual Awards Nominations Due December 12, 2011

The NOAA Association of Commissioned Officers (ACO) 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 consider nominating officers for these honors. Nominations for the 2011 awards are due by December 12, 2011.

Junior Officer of the Year

Science Award

Engineering Award

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.

Candidates for Junior Officer of the Year must be nominated by a supervisor in their chain of command, while the Science and Engineering award nominations may be made by the supervisor or any commissioned officer. Please submit nominations via e-mail to matthew.glazewski@noaa.gov, by **COB December 12, 2011**. 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 Nomination," 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).

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NOAA Corps History -

“Man stands with bowed head in the presence of nature's visible grandeurs, such as towering mountains, precipices, or icebergs, forests of immense trees, grand rivers, or waterfalls. He realizes the force of waves that can sweep away light-houses or toss an ocean steamer about like a cork. In a vessel floating on the Gulf Stream one sees nothing of the current and knows nothing but what experience tells him; but to be anchored in its depths far out of the sight of land, and to see the mighty torrent rushing past at a speed of miles per hour, day after day and day after day, one begins to think that all the wonders of the earth combined cannot equal this one river in the ocean. “

Excerpt from THE GULF STREAM METHODS OF THE INVESTIGATION AND RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH written by John Elliot Pillsbury, is one of the classic works of modern oceanography. Originally published as an appendix to the “Superintendent of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey Report for 1890,” the book covers the history of the exploration and study of the Gulf Stream from the time of the early European explorers to the year 1884, and Pillsbury’s famous studies from the Coast and Geodetic Survey Steamer BLAKE. This work all preceded the first systematic oceanographic studies conducted by any nation, the Gulf Stream studies begun by the United States Coast Survey in 1844. Over the next 40 years, the Coast Survey continued pursuing knowledge of this great oceanic current. The efforts of the Coast Survey and the affiliated naval personnel associated with the early Gulf Stream studies did much to help lead the United States into the modern realm of oceanography



Coast and Geodetic Survey steamer BLAKE. In service 1874-1905. Conducted classic Gulf Stream studies under J. E. Pillsbury.

On the Horizon

12 December 2011 - 16 December 2011	CO Seminar
03 January 2012	UAB Meeting
06 February 2012 - 16 February 2012	Mid-Grade Leadership Training

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Approved Resignations, Separations, and Retirements

The following officers have approved retirements, resignations, or separations. Be sure to thank them for their service to NOAA and nation.

ENS Gillian L. Faustine	21 December 2011
ENS Sarah E. Lewis	13 January 2012
LT Matthew R. Ringel	01 February 2012
CDR John K. Longenecker	01 February 2012
ENS Felix A. Rivera-Perez	16 February 2012
CAPT John E. Lowell Jr.	01 June 2012
CAPT Christopher A. Beaverson	01 June 2012
CDR Karl F. Mangels	01 August 2012
CDR Michael J. Hoshlyk	01 October 2012

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