

Commissioned Personnel Center

CYBERFLASH



26 July 2013

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This week I had the pleasure of listening to three previous NOAA Corps Directors share stories and leadership lessons. Many thanks to LCDR Matt Wingate and the DC area ACO for arranging the session, and to the retired admirals for taking the time to talk with us. Many tidbits came out of the discussion...have a plan, prepare, be flexible, keep your eyes ears and heart open to opportunities. Remember that each assignment is an opportunity to grow, gain competencies and create partnerships which will help you in the future, not just something to "get through". And a good lesson for anyone - be polite to everyone, you never know when you're going to need them!

There was also a lot of discussion about the typical career decision points and when or how to make the decision to stay (for another sea tour, past 10 years, past 20 years, etc.). While all the admirals had a lot to say on the subject of what made them stay (or in one case – come back!), they focused on three factors to weigh – personal, professional and financial. Through their descriptions of why they stayed, they clearly indicated their dedication to the organization. These officers embody commitment...they've shown it throughout their personal lives and their professional lives, so it is second nature to them. The admirals passed all those decision points and stayed, not just because of the paycheck and healthcare, but because they were committed to the organization, the leadership and the people they served. They took the hardest job in the Corps because they wanted to help make changes, but they knew it would come with challenges. They faced those challenges with the support of their staff and with unwavering commitment to the Corps. Unfortunately, this sense of commitment is not second nature to everyone. As we face these decision points in our own careers, we should definitely weigh all three factors carefully. But once you make the decision to stay, you must also renew your commitment to work hard, to grow outside of your comfort zone, to serve and to lead. We need officers to stay in the Corps – we need ship drivers and pilots and technical experts and innovative thinkers and leaders. We need officers to be committed to the mission, not just to the paycheck, so that they are happy, productive, and valuable.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne K. Lynch".

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

[Uniform and Awards Board Update](#)

The Uniform and Awards Board (UAB) reviewed nine award nominations during the July 8, 2013 meeting in Silver Spring. The next board will be held on August 2, 2013. Award nominations are due by COB July 31, 2013. Additionally, the UAB discussed the option of having a SWO qualification stamp developed for embossing the leather name-tags worn on sweaters and jackets. A similar style already exists with aviator wings for NOAA Corps pilots. If you are interested in pursuing this option, please contact LT Perry (tony.perry.iii@noaa.gov) and the UAB will look into it further.

[OER Reminder](#)

This is a reminder that the reporting period for ENS and LTJG OERs ends on July 30, 2013. ENS and LTJGs must provide their input and template OER to their supervisor, per the OER Directive, (<http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/careermgmt/evaluation.html>)

allowing them time to complete and administer the OER. Paper signed originals of the OERs are due to CPC NLT Friday, September 13, 2013. Officers can check with their Liaison Officer for questions about routing chains and content. Additionally, officers can contact CDR Bridgeman or LT Cox at CPC for additional assistance. The LT and LCDR OER end period is November 30, 2013.

NOFA Dues Drive Coming Soon

From NOAA Officers Family Association: It is that time again when we start thinking about our annual dues drive. In order for our dues drive to be successful we are asking everyone to please go to the NOFA website and check your personal information page and update if needed. You can also e-mail us at atthedock@verizon.net with the updated information. This will allow us the ability to reach everyone at the correct address when we begin our mailing. Also this year you will notice the Annual Dues have gone up from \$20 to \$30. The reason for the increase is because we are currently in the process of revamping our website and the cost for hosting the website has gone up. We are excited about the new changes underway on our website and we think you will be also. The Annual Dues drive will begin August 1st. Thank you for your support in helping us to make our 2013 Annual Dues drive a success.

On the Horizon

31 July 2013	OPS Officer CAWG
8 August 2013	BOTC 122 begins at NOAA Corps Officer Training Center (NCOTC), New London, CT
15 October - November 2, 2013	REFTRA
19 December 2013	BOTC 122 Graduation

Approved Resignations, Separations and Retirements

The following officers have approved retirements, resignations, or separations within the **next three months**. Be sure to thank them for their service to NOAA and nation.

CAPT Scott Kuester	01 August 2013
LT Matthew Glazewski	01 August 2013
LTJG Kyle Sanders	01 August 2013
LT Benjamin Bloss	15 August 2013
CDR Ralph Rogers	01 September 2013
CAPT Randall TeBeest	01 October 2013
CAPT Michele Finn	01 October 2013
CAPT Michele Bullock	01 October 2013
LT Matthew Burton	01 October 2013