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Director's Message

I had the great pleasure of attending the graduation for BOTC 122 on December 19. This was the 3rd class that has graduated since we established joint training with USCG OCS and our partnership continues to grow stronger. The caliber of the graduates also continues to amaze. The speeches focused on the need for commitment, the trust and confidence placed in us as officers, and the importance of our service to NOAA and the nation. There was also a gentle reminder that we all volunteered freely to take the oath and serve the country – it is an honor, not an entitlement. Please join me in congratulating the officers of BOTC 122, as they join our operational fleet:

ENS Michael J. Ball	NOAA Ship <i>Oscar Elton Sette</i>	Honolulu, HI
ENS Jacob G. Barbaro	NOAA Ship <i>Pisces</i>	Pascagoula, MS
ENS Jacob H. Blaauboer	Initial Flight Training	Tampa, FL
ENS Joseph L. Brinkley	NOAA Ship <i>Fairweather</i>	Ketchikan, AK
ENS Calandria M. DeCastro	NOAA Ship <i>Rainier</i>	Newport, OR
ENS Alisha Friel	NOAA Ship <i>Fairweather</i>	Ketchikan, AK
ENS Nathaniel E. Gilman	NOAA Ship <i>Oscar Dyson</i>	Kodiak, AK
ENS Jon T. Karagiannakis	NOAA Ship <i>Henry B. Bigelow</i>	Woods Hole, MA
ENS Conor M. Maginn	NOAA Ship <i>Nancy Foster</i>	Charleston, SC
ENS Diane M. Perry	NOAA Ship <i>Thomas Jefferson</i>	Norfolk, VA
ENS Dustin R. Picard	NOAA Ship <i>Ronald H. Brown</i>	Charleston, SC

Earlier this week, the permanent appointments for BOTC 119 and 120 were effected, including two permanent appointments to a higher rank for prior service (LTJG Charles Wisotzkey and LTJG James Rosenberg). Congratulations to all! There is a lot of information in today's cyberflash – be sure to check it out. I wish all of you a safe and happy holiday, and great joy in the New Year, wherever it takes you!

Sincerely,

CAPT Anne K. Lynch, NOAA
Director, CPC



2014 Promotion Boards

CPC is pleased to announce the Director, NOAA Corps the 2014 Officer Career Management Plan ([OCMP](#)), which has been posted on the CPC website. Officers are encouraged to review their online OPF and Medical Record to ensure that requirements for promotion are complete and accurate.

For further guidance on "[How To: Prepare for Promotion](#)", which includes best practices, basic steps and checklists for the promotion process. Officers are reminded that the state of **your OPF is your responsibility**. The deadlines for OPF submissions are:

OERs - 28 February 2014

OPF Online and Medical Documentation - 15 March 2014

If you have questions pertaining to your OPF, please contact LT Wendy Lewis at 301-713-7712 or wendy.lewis@noaa.gov, questions pertaining to your OERs, LCDR Nicole Lambert, 301-713-7736 or nickie.lambert@noaa.gov and questions about your Medical Qualifications, CDR Hobson-Powell directly at 301-713-7718 or via email elizabeth.hobson-powell@noaa.gov.

New NOAA Corps Website

CPC is in the process of renewing the NOAA Corps website, and we are in need of photos from the field. We are looking to incorporate as many photos as possible including: operational, social NOAA Corps gatherings, historical, and all photos celebrating the awesome nature of being in the NOAA Corps. All photo submission will be archived on the OMAO servers with captions and credits. Please send photos, with descriptions, captions and credits to LCDR Sarah.Dunsford@noaa.gov The deadline for this round of submissions is 17 January 2014 and the revised website will be posted early in the new year.

REFTRA Update

Tentative dates for Spring REFTRA 76 at the NOAA Corps Officer Training Center at the USCG Academy in New London, CT are March 2 -22 (with the 2nd and 22nd being travel days). Officers in need of REFTRA are listed below. Additional information regarding this training will be available in the coming weeks. If you have questions regarding REFTRA attendance, or if you feel your name should be on this list, please contact LCDR Goeller at assignmentbranch.cpc@noaa.gov. If you have questions about the training curriculum or logistics, please contact cpc.training@noaa.gov.

Officers for Spring REFTRA 76:

CAPT Mike Hopkins

CDR Edward Van Den Ameele

CDR Brian Parker

LCDR Bill Mowitt

LCDR Colin Little

LCDR Amanda Goeller

LCDR Brianna Welton

LCDR Brent Pounds

LCDR Nicole Manning

LT Adrienne Hopper

LT Jasmine Cousins

LT Faith Knighton

LTJG Adam Pfundt

LTJG Larry Thomas

Now standardized, future REFTRA dates at the NOAA Corps Officer Training Center at the USCG Academy in New London, CT are anticipated as follows:

Fall REFTRA 77 October 2014

Spring REFTRA 78 March 2015

Fall REFTRA 79 October 2015

Spring REFTRA 80 March 2016

CPC Assignments Service

Please remember that CPC personnel are available to provide guidance on personnel issues, professional development, and career advice. As Chief, Officer Assignments Branch, LCDR Amanda Goeller is available to discuss the assignment process, available billets, and provide insight on timing and other factors involved in assignment decisions. CPC's role is to facilitate and manage the assignment process, explore options, and make recommendations to OAB members and NOAA Corps leadership that best balance the needs of the Service, programs, and the individual officer. It is important to remember that CPC personnel are non-voting members of the Assignment Board. Line Office Liaison Officers are voting member and therefore play a major role in the assignment process, whether it be on the Officer Assignment Board or making recommendations of assignments for O-3 and below. For O3 and below assignments most interactions are through the Technical Liaison Officer. The most recent Liaison Officer list can be found at <http://www.corpscpc.noaa.gov/careermgmt/pdf/LiaisonList.pdf>. Inquiries for future assignments should involve dialogue between the billet's rating chain, Line Office Liaison Officer, and Chief, Officer Assignments Branch. Feel free to contact LCDR Goeller (AssignmentBranch.CPC@noaa.gov) for more information on the assignment process.

From the Assignments Desk

Are you looking for a rewarding, highly visible, fast paced land assignment shaping the future of the NOAA Corps in the summer of 2015? If so, you should consider the Assistant Chief and/or Operations Officer assignment at NOAA Corps Officer Training Center (NCOTC) located at USCG Academy in New London, CT.

CPC Billet 0507 – Asst. School Chief, NOAA Corps Officer Training Center; New London, CT

Billet 0507 is an O3 billet with CPC at the Coast Guard Academy. This billet puts you at the forefront of the NOAA Corps officer training and development program. You will be responsible for instilling the NOAA Corps core values of HONOR, RESPECT and COMMITMENT into the new accessions of the NOAA Corps as a platoon officer. You will direct, coach and mentor both NOAA Corps and Coast Guard officer candidates. You will be working alongside Coast Guard Officer Candidate School staff officers in an integrated training environment. The opportunity to train new BOTC and CG OCS students in the barracks, classroom and during underway periods will also be charged to you. You will work closely with the Chief, NCOTC with regards to budgeting, purchasing, curriculum development and alternative training opportunities. This is a challenging and highly visible billet and you will be acting as ambassador for the NOAA Corps at the Coast Guard's service academy.

CPC Billet 0509 – Operations Officer, NOAA Corps Officer Training Center; New London, CT

Billet 0509 is an O2 billet with CPC at the Coast Guard Academy. This billet also puts you at the forefront of the NOAA Corps officer training and development. The opportunity to train and develop new NOAA Corps and Coast Guard officers into smartly disciplined, mentally ready, and basically trained officers will occur daily in the barracks, classroom and/or underway. As the NCOTC Operations Officer you will have many responsibilities that are integral to the smooth operations at NCOTC. You will be the master scheduler, planning officer, assistant platoon officer, and instructor. Like the Chief and Assistant Chief, NCOTC you will set the example and be an ambassador for the NOAA Corps at the Coast Guard's service academy.

Both of these billets are tremendous opportunities for a high performing NOAA Corps junior officer. If you are interested in learning more about these billets and want to observe the training environment during an integrated USCG-NOAA indoctrination week (Jan. 12-18, 2014 or Aug. 10-16, 2014), please contact the Chief, NCOTC, Commander John Caskey at 860-701-6630 or john.caskey@noaa.gov.

Command Advisory Working Group: CO and XO assignments

The CAWG will meet late January/early February to make recommendations for Command and Executive Officer assignments. All officers being considered should have received a separate email. If you did not receive an email and feel you should be considered, please contact LCDR Amanda Goeller at assignmentbranch.cpc@noaa.gov Assignment preferences need to be updated by January 10, 2013.

Uniform and Awards Board Update

The Uniform and Awards Board (UAB) reviewed twenty award nominations during the December 6, 2013 meeting in Silver Spring. The next board is scheduled for January 3, 2014. Award nominations are due to CPC by COB December 31, 2013. The UAB has been working with Cutter Agent to make the physical training (PT) gear worn by BOTC candidates available to all officers. Cutter Agent has created a section on their website where this gear is available for purchase. It is important to note that this is not an official uniform of the NOAA Corps, nor is it a required item. The clothing is being made available for officers wishing to proudly display the NOAA Corps logo and banner while engaged in physical activity, command athletic functions, or other leisure activities. Please visit the Cutter Agent website at: <http://www.noaastore.com/ptgear.html>

Call for National ACO Scholarship 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 2014/2015 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 (on the application form) and should be postmarked this year no later than Friday, April 15, 2014.

Awards Received In Month of November

NOAA Corps Commendation Medal

CAPT Richard R. Wingrove

In recognition of your exceptional service to the NOAA Homeland Security Program Office, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Nation.

LCDR Sarah K. Mrozek

For exemplary leadership and meritorious service as Deputy Chief of Staff for the National Ocean Service.

LT Ryan C. Wattam

For meritorious service while serving as Executive Officer, NOAA Diving Center from June 13, 2011 to July 25, 2013.

NOAA Corps Achievement Medal

LT Russell A. Quintero

For outstanding achievement during Full-Time University Training and subsequently while assigned to the Joint Airborne Lidar Bathymetry Technical Center of Expertise(JALBTCX) from 2010 to 2013

LT(jg) John R. Kidd

For sustained superior performance as a Junior Officer during your Assigned time aboard the NOAA Ship Rainier.

NOAA Corps Director's Ribbon

LT(jg) Tanner A. Sims
Unmanned

For superior performance as Pilot-in-Command of NOAA's First Puma Aerial System Mission in the United States National Airspace System

On The Horizon

January 2014	Command Advisory Working Group: CO/XO
9 January 2014	Newport Area ACO Dining-Out
25 January 2014	DC- ACO Dining- In
02 March- 22 March 2014	REFTRA
28 April – 09 May 2014	Mid-Grade Leadership Training

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.

LTJG Brian Adornato	15 January 2014
LTJG Michael Robbie	15 January 2014
CDR Mark Boland	01 February 2014
CDR Cecile R. Daniels	01 February 2014
LT Laura Gallant	15 February 2014
LTJG Matthew Griffin	01 March 2014
CAPT Mark Nelson	01 March 2014
LTJG John Adler	01 March 2014