



June 13, 2008

## Director's Message

On Monday, June 9th, the 112th Basic Officer Training Class graduated at the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York after completing a rigorous, four month training program to develop maritime and nautical skills while introducing NOAA's mission and vision as well as the customs and responsibilities as a commissioned officer in a uniformed service. The graduating class consisted of 13 men and six women. They will soon begin their first assignments aboard NOAA's research and survey ships as identified below.

Name	Ship
LT Beaucage, Donald	OPS, KA`IMIMOANA
ENS Adams, Kevin	JO, NANCY FOSTER
ENS Bloss, Benjamin	JO, OKEANOS EXPLORER
ENS Brown, Oliver	JO, MILLER FREEMAN
ENS Felkley, Charlene	JO, DELAWARE II
ENS Fitzgerald, Anna	JO, RAINIER
ENS Forney, Matthew	JO, FAIRWEATHER
ENS Hopper, Adrienne	JO, GORDON GUNTER
ENS Nardi, Matthew	JO, RAINIER
ENS Owen, Jonathan	JO, MCARTHUR II
ENS Petersen, John	JO, MCARTHUR II
ENS Raymond, Patricia	JO, FAIRWEATHER
ENS Reed, Adam	JO, RAINIER
ENS Rose, Emily	JO, KA`IMIMOANA
ENS Rossi, John	JO, RONALD H BROWN
ENS Ryan, Kyle	JO, HI`IALAKAI
ENS Sargent, Rachel	JO, OREGON II
ENS Schweitzer, Gregory	JO, HENRY B BIGELOW
ENS Wartick, Ryan	JO, THOMAS JEFFERSON

In attendance were several honored guests including Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., NOAA's Administrator and Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, as well as Joseph Klimavicz, NOAA's Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Director, High Performance Computing and Communications. In his remarks, Vice Admiral Lautenbacher welcomed these bright and inspired officers into the ranks of the NOAA Corps, and noted how their education, skills, and motivation are essential to serve the Nation and support NOAA's mission. The NOAA Corps

Recruiting Video was also debuted during the graduation exercises, and received positive feedback. A few minor edits are being made prior to the video going into production.

I'd like to extend my personal congratulations to the graduated class, and express my thanks to all those that guided and supported them during training. For photos and brief biographies of the graduates, visit our web site at <http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/botc/botc112/index.html>



CAPT William B. Kearse, NOAA  
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

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## **Announcements**

### **NOAA Corps Officer Augmentation Policy**

The Commissioned Personnel Center (CPC) has received several questions regarding the augmentation policy memo signed by Rear Admiral Bailey on June 6, 2008. In accordance with the new policy, officers recently assigned to shore duty will be expected to augment at sea for up to 30 days per year during their first two years on shore. This will ensure ships are staffed properly, and provide a means for officers to maintain their deck qualifications. The Marine Operations Centers are working to finalize their augmentation plans which will include schedules and criteria for augmentors, however, news of potential changes in the fleet may impact these plans. In the interim, LCDR John Caskey will begin compiling a Frequently Asked Questions record that can be placed on the CPC website so that questions and concerns can be addressed. Please look for the augmentation plans and access to the FAQ in a future Cyberflash announcement. The policy has been posted to the NOAA Corps home page under announcements at [www.noaacorps.noaa.gov](http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov). If you have any questions, please contact LCDR John Caskey, Chief, Career Management Division at 301-713-7748 or [john.caskey@noaa.gov](mailto:john.caskey@noaa.gov).

### **NOAA 200th Anniversary Coins**

The NOAA 200th Anniversary Coin was issued to recognize individual and team efforts that have helped sustain our scientific mission for two centuries. As the coins are part of NOAA's On-The-Spot Award Program, NC officers were precluded from receiving this award. CPC has obtained approval for a one-time exemption to NOAA Administrative Order 202-451. Coins will be distributed to those officers who meet the eligibility requirements. Guidance for Usage and Documentation of the NOAA 200th Anniversary Coin can be found at [http://www.wfm.noaa.gov/pdfs/awards/NOAA\\_200th\\_Coins\\_usage\\_guidance.pdf](http://www.wfm.noaa.gov/pdfs/awards/NOAA_200th_Coins_usage_guidance.pdf). Please direct any questions to Katherine Raymond at 301-713-7732 or

[katherine.raymond@noaa.gov](mailto:katherine.raymond@noaa.gov).

### **New NOAA Corps Policy Approved**

Chapter 2.A. of the NOAA Corps Personnel Manual, Commissioned Officers, has been approved by the Department. This policy addresses grades of officers, the lineal list, commencement of pay and allowances, and the precedence of NOAA Corps officers. This new policy will be incorporated into the update of the NOAA Corps Directives which is now being developed. You will be able to view the policy early next week under the publications section of the CPC website at [www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc](http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc).

### **Women's Leadership Organization and Conference**

The Women's Leadership Organization mentions NOAA Corps and is for women leaders. They are hosting a symposium in July for \$50 each. The web site is: <http://www.sealeader.org/>

1. THE 21ST ANNUAL WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM WILL BE HELD ON 10-11 JULY 2008 AT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER IN LANSDOWNE, VIRGINIA WHICH IS 12 MILES FROM DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND 45 MINUTES FROM WASHINGTON, DC. THIS YEAR'S THEME IS "INFORMED DECISIONS: MAKING A PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMITMENT TO YOURSELF". THE SYMPOSIUM WILL BE JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE NAVY OFFICE OF WOMEN'S POLICY, COAST GUARD WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATION (CGWLA) AND SEA SERVICES LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATION (SSLA).

2. REGISTRATION INFORMATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. REGISTRATION DETAILS ARE POSTED ON THE NAVY OFFICE OF WOMEN'S POLICY WEBSITE AT: [WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/ABOUTUS/BUPERS/WOMENSPOLICY/](http://WWW.NPC.NAVY.MIL/ABOUTUS/BUPERS/WOMENSPOLICY/) UNDER THE "WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM 2008" LINK. THERE WILL BE NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION; THE REGISTRATION CUT OFF DATE IS 18 JUNE 2008

3. DUE TO A GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP, THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE FEE FOR NAVY ATTENDEES IS LOWERED TO 50 DOLLARS AND SHOULD BE PAID ON-LINE VIA THE WOMEN'S POLICY WEBSITE LISTED ABOVE. PAYMENT IS DUE BY 18 JUNE 2008. CONFERENCE RESERVATIONS AFTER 18 JUNE 2008 CANNOT BE GUARANTEED.

### **NOAA Corps Insignia Purchases**

The NOAA Corps Web Store is open for business! NOAA Corps officers may now purchase their insignia on-line by accessing the following site address: [www.cutteragent.com/noaa.html](http://www.cutteragent.com/noaa.html). This is a new site and a new process for Corps Officers to acquire insignia. If there are any functionality issues with the website please email Rob Green at [rob@cutteragent.com](mailto:rob@cutteragent.com) and copy the email to the DC Area ACO Insignia Custodian, LT Nicole Manning, at [nicole.manning@noaa.gov](mailto:nicole.manning@noaa.gov).

## Approved Retirements

The following officers have approved retirements. Be sure to thank them for their service to NOAA and nation and wish them the best the next time you see these officers!

LCDR Stephen J. Thumm	July 1, 2008
CDR Thomas E. Strong	July 1, 2008
CDR Richard A. Fletcher	August 1, 2008
CDR Philip A. Gruccio	December 1, 2008
CAPT Stephen A. Kozak	January 1, 2009
CAPT John W. Humphrey, Jr.	January 1, 2009
CAPT Emily B. Christman	June 1, 2009
CAPT Sean R. White	July 1, 2009
CAPT Steven R. Barnum	July 1, 2009

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## On the Horizon

July 10, 2008	O-4 OAB
July 31, 2008	End of OER Reporting Period for O-1s and O-2s
August 4, 2008	Start of BOTC 113
October 6-31, 2008	REFTRA 65

### **Please see NOAA Corps website for additional information:**

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

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

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

Uniforms & Awards:

<http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/awards.html>