



The Retiree Newsletter

(USCG—PHS—NOAA)

“Semper Paratus”

January—April 2018

Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty

Issue 1 / 2018

The Retiree Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Director of Reserve and Military Personnel (CG-13), produced in support of the Coast Guard Retiree Services Program’s mission to: *Provide, support, and strengthen CG military retiree communications and information services, as well as helping to sustain the life-long connection & mutually beneficial relationship between the CG and its military retiree community, the Long Blue Line.* This publication shall not be considered authority and is non-record material.



Coast Guard Retiree Services Program Director

Rear Admiral Andrew S. McKinley, Acting Director, Reserve & Military Personnel (CG-13)

I sincerely hope all our Coast Guard retired military family had a safe and enjoyable holiday and Happy New Year! In the October 2017 issue of the newsletter, I highlighted the important role of the CG National Retiree Council (CGNRC) and Regional Retiree Councils (RRCs), as the *bridge* connecting our active duty and retired Coast Guard family. A CGNRC 2017-2018 priority is to standardize and strengthen our RRCs. In *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*, Malcolm Gladwell, says that *connectors* are the people who "link us up with the world... people with a special gift for bringing the world together." As we kick-off the new year, I encourage you to reach out to our CGNRC/RRC *connectors* (page four) and join me and these dedicated individuals in continued service to the CG and our active duty and retired CG family!

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Coast Guard National Retiree Council (CGNRC) Co-Chairs

RADM Ron Rábago, USCG (Ret), Rabago.CGNRC@yahoo.com
 MCPO Kevin Isherwood, USCG (Ret), Kevin.D.Isherwood@gmail.com

As was reported in the last newsletter, the Coast Guard National Retiree Council conducted our annual meeting on April 11-12, 2017 and included representatives from our Regional Retiree Councils, CG leadership (including the Commandant) and the CG Pay & Personnel Center. Using our newly signed Retiree Services Program (RSP) Instruction (COMDTINST 1800.5H) and great input from the Regional Retiree Councils, we continued our work throughout the summer on these 3 priorities: Development of a RSP Communication Strategy, Standard Procedures for our existing National Help Desk and a “Framework” for our Regional Retiree Councils. Our other 2017-2018 priorities include improved integration with the TAPS program, increasing retiree’s knowledge of benefits, identification of volunteer opportunities, recognition of retiree contributions and ensuring the “Caregivers Guide” remains up to date. On October 18, 2017, your co-chairs, RDML Kelly (CG -1), RDML McKinley (CG-13), Mr. Hinds (Retiree Services Program Manager) met with the Commandant, ADM Paul Zukunft to brief him on the status of the Retiree Services Program and specifically discussed our Annual Report at: <http://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Human-Resources-CG-1/Retiree-Services-Program/Program-Components/CCGNRC/>. The Commandant expressed his appreciation for the contributions of our Retirees/Annuitants, reiterated his continued strong support for the Retiree Services Program and concurred with our 2017-2018 priorities.

Up Ahead: The “new” newsletter went out in October and we received valuable feedback on how we can improve it going forward. We have already made changes and are committed to ensuring it provides you with the information you need and want as described in our Communications Strategy. Since many of you are “on line”, we will always post the newsletter on the RSP webpage www.dcms.uscg.mil/retiree and we are planning to reduce printing costs by sending it electronically to as many of you as possible. Please help us make YOUR newsletter even better with your continued feedback. Another 2017-2018 priority is standardizing and strengthening our Regional Retiree Councils (RRCs). Please provide your thoughts/ideas to your RRC Chairs on how to improve and strengthen YOUR RRC. The chairs are listed on page four by name and email. We are committed to continuing our work on all of the 2017-2018 priorities listed in the Annual Report and welcome your ideas and comments on how we can serve you better.

**SEMPER
PARATUS!**



CG Pay & Personnel Center, Retiree & Annuitant Services (PPC-RAS)
www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/ras/



**FISCAL YEAR 2018 ADJUSTMENTS TO RETIRED/RETAINER PAY,
SURVIVOR ANNUITIES AND PREMIUMS**

The following Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) are effective December 1, 2017, based on the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) through the third quarter calendar year 2017. The term "retired pay" includes retainer pay and the term "members" includes former members.

COLAs for Retired Pay

1. The retired pay COLA for those who first became a member of a Uniformed Service before September 8, 1980, is specified according to the effective date of their retirement, as follows:

Retired Pay Based on

<u>Rates of Pay Effective</u>	<u>Percent Increase</u>	<u>10 U.S.C. Authority</u>
Before January 1, 2017	2.0 percent	1401a(b)(2)
January 1 – December 31, 2017	1.8 percent	1401a(c)

2. The retired pay COLA for those who first became a member of a Uniformed Service on or after September 8, 1980, is specified according to the effective date of their retirement, as follows:

<u>Retirement Effective</u>	<u>Percent Increase</u>	<u>10 U.S.C. Authority</u>
Before January 1, 2017	2.0 percent	1401a(b)(2)
January 1 - March 31, 2017	1.8 percent	1401a(d)
April 1 - June 30, 2017	1.0 percent	1401a(d)
July 1 - September 30, 2017	0.4 percent	1401a(d)
October 1 - December 31, 2017	0.0 percent	1401a(d)

3. The retired pay COLA for those who first became a member of a Uniformed Service on or after August 1, 1986, and also elected to receive a career status bonus under the provisions of section 354 of title 37 United States Code is specified according to the date of their retirement, as follows:

<u>Retirement Effective</u>	<u>Percent Increase</u>	<u>10 U.S.C. Authority</u>
Before January 1, 2017	1.0 percent	1401a(e)
January 1 - March 31, 2017	1.0 percent	1401a(e)
April 1 - June 30, 2017	0.5 percent	1401a(e)
July 1 - September 30, 2017	0.2 percent	1401a(e)

COLAs for Survivor Annuities

4. Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan annuities payable on December 1, 2017, under the provisions of subchapter I of chapter 73, title 10, United States Code, to the spouse or child of a member who died on or before March 20, 1974 will be increased by **2.0 percent** (ref: 10 U.S.C. 1434 (e)).

5. Annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) and Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP) under the provisions of subchapter II of chapter 73, title 10, United States Code, will be increased by the same percentage specified in paragraphs 1, 2, or 3 above by which the retired pay of the person providing the annuity would have been increased at such time if the person were alive and otherwise entitled to such pay. (ref: 10 U.S.C. 1451 (g)).

6. COLAs for supplemental annuities paid to certain low income widows of members who were deceased before November 1, 1953 will be increased **2.0 percent** (ref: Public Law 100-456, section 653(c)).

7. Annuities for Certain Military Surviving Spouses (ACMSS) payable monthly under the provisions of section 644, Public Law 105-85, November 18, 1997, will be increased **2.0 percent** from \$250.78 to **\$255.80** effective December 1, 2017. (ref: P.L. 105-85, sec 644).

Increase in the SBP Low-Cost Premium Threshold

8. Previous amounts with respect to which the 2.5 percent factor of the SBP premium (cost) formula apply will be adjusted effective December 1, 2017, in conjunction with the adjustments in retired pay made under the provisions of section 1401a of title 10, United States Code (ref: 10 U.S.C. 1452(a)(4)(B)). The Defense Finance and Accounting Service will perform necessary calculations to determine actual premiums based on the individual circumstances of each case.

9. The amount with respect to which the 2.5 percent factor of the SBP premium (cost) is applied will be increased **2.4 percent effective January 1, 2018**, from \$803 to **\$822**. The threshold premium is **\$20.55**. Therefore, the Low-Cost Threshold premium is **\$20.55** plus 10% of the difference between retired pay and the threshold amount. The breakeven base amount is **\$1,761.43**. (ref: 10 U.S.C. 1452(a)(4)(A)).

CG Retiree Services Program Manager / The Retiree Newsletter EditorMr. Robert Hinds, 202-475-5451, Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil

THANK YOU to all those who provided timely, candid feedback and *course corrections* in response to the October 2017 edition of The Retiree Newsletter! There is clearly a strong demand for continued publication of TAPS/RETIREMENTS and you rightly observed that these notices are well aligned with the mission of the CG Retiree Services Program. I'm pleased to tell you that TAPS notices are back and, upon resolution of remaining legal issues, I expect a return of RETIREMENT notices in the April 2018 issue. In the future, **Directory Assistance, Phone Numbers & Websites** will **ONLY** appear in the October issue, but will be posted at: www.dems.uscg.mil/portals/10/cg-1/ppc/ras/rasdirectory.pdf. This will provide additional space for other items of interest to our retiree community, for which I ask your continued feedback. The deadline for submission of newsletter articles, notices, reunions, etc. is **six weeks prior** to each quarterly publication (1 Jan, 1 Apr, 1 Jul, & 1 Oct.)

TRICARE Changes—Effective 1 January 2018

See summary of changes at: <https://www.tricare.mil/About/Changes>
See Prime Beneficiary Newsletter - Issue: 4, checklist of "What You Need to Do" at:
<https://www.humanamilitary.com/beneficiary/resources/>

NEW EAST REGION (Current North & South Regions): <https://www.tricare-east.com>, **Humana Military, 800-444-5445**
The new East region will include the District of Columbia; Alabama; Arkansas; Connecticut; Delaware; Florida; Georgia; Illinois; Indiana; the Rock Island Arsenal area of Iowa; Kentucky; Louisiana; Maine; Maryland; Massachusetts; Michigan; Mississippi; the St. Louis, Missouri, area; New Hampshire; New Jersey; New York; North Carolina; Ohio; Oklahoma; Pennsylvania; Rhode Island; South Carolina; Tennessee; most of Texas; Vermont; Virginia; West Virginia and Wisconsin.

NEW WEST REGION: <https://tricare-west.com/>, **Health Net Federal Services, 844-866-WEST (9378)**

The new West region will include Alaska; Arizona; California; Colorado; Hawaii; Idaho; all of Iowa except the Rock Island Arsenal area; Kansas; Minnesota; all of Missouri except the St. Louis area; Montana; Nebraska; Nevada; New Mexico; North Dakota; Oregon; South Dakota; west Texas; Utah; Washington and Wyoming.

You must update your payment information with the new regional contractor. This applies if you pay Prime enrollment fees, or TRICARE Reserve Select, TRICARE Retired Reserve, or TRICARE Young Adult premiums by credit card, or electronic funds transfer (EFT) from your checking or savings account on or after November 21, 2017.

******For CG TRICARE beneficiaries, if you pay by ALLOTMENT, you don't need to do anything. The contractor will work with the Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center (CG-PPC) to transfer your payment.******

As a CG TRICARE beneficiary, you should have received a letter from your new regional contractor, your point of contact for any questions/issues you may have.

FEDERAL LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE PROGRAM (FLTCIP)

Officials with the Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program, or FLTCIP, believe some enrollees may occasionally question whether long-term insurance is worth the cost; however, they ultimately realize the emotional and financial reassurance this protection offers outweighs the cost of premiums. When assessing the FLTCIP's value, consider these benefits:

- FLTCIP pays up to 100 percent for home-based care, and it will pay for informal care services provided by a friend, relative, or private caregiver.
- Beneficiaries remain independent and in control by reducing reliance on loved ones.
- Enrollees have unlimited access to the FLTCIP's care coordinators, who are registered nurses experienced in long-term care.

Coordinators can help find high-quality care providers, arrange for discounted services, monitor care, and assist with changing care plans as needs change.

The program protects savings and assets by paying for continuing custodial care and assistance with bathing, dressing, eating, and other daily activities. The current national average for long-term care services for a home health aide is \$19 an hour, while a nursing home is \$227 a day for a semiprivate room, according to FLTCIP officials.

To learn more about the FLTCIP's comprehensive benefits and features, register for an upcoming webinar or view the webinar library at LTCFEDS.com/elearning.

For personalized assistance, call 1-800-LTC-FEDS (1-800-582-3337) or TTY 1-800-843-3557 to speak with a program consultant. They are available to help with decision-making, request a premium quote, or obtain general information about long-term care and the FLTCIP.

CWOA—2018 ANNUAL MEETING

The Chief Warrant & Warrant Officers Association will be hosting their annual meeting at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Ashburn, VA from April 26th - 28th 2018. We encourage CWOs to participate in this year's meeting as we celebrate the Association 89 years of fostering leadership and professional development of the CWO corps. You can obtain the registration form by contacting the Association at cwoauscg@cwoauscg.org or visit our website at cwoauscg.org.

NCCGRC—27th ALL SERVICES RETIREE SEMINAR

The Northern California Coast Guard Retiree Council announces the 27th All Services Retiree Seminar on April 28, 2017 from 0800-1200 in the Gresham Conference Center, CG Island, Alameda, CA. The latest info on TRICARE, current legislation, legal assistance, scams, fraud, Space-A travel, and more will be provided by speakers and information tables. Additional info is available at NCCGRC.org or from David.D.Swanson@Outlook.com, phone at 510-390-6312.

U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE SYMPOSIUM

53rd U.S. Public Health Service Symposium in Dallas: Join us in Dallas the week of 4 June 2018 for the 2018 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium. The Intercontinental Dallas will host this annual gathering of over 1,000 attendees. Reconnect with fellow retired members of the Public Health Service. Learn about the latest work of active duty members. Hear from 20th Surgeon General Dr. Jerome Adams and Assistant Secretary for Health Dr. Brett Groir. Speak directly with the Chief Professional Officers for each of the PHS professional categories. Do you have questions about retirement from the Public Health Service? A Retirement Seminar will be hosted on Monday, 4 June. Take your Dinner Dress White Jacket uniform out of the closet. Get a ticket to the formal Anchor and Caduceus Dinner. Find more details at: phscf.org/symposium

**CG Regional Retiree Council Chairs
(Connectors)**


RRC	Co-Chair	E-Mail
North East	Kevin Brown Tom Hall	kevinbrown@comcast.net tadahall@msn.com
Capital Area	David Bernstein John Milkiewisz	dberns01@gmail.com locke45@hotmail.com
Yorktown	Al Buechler Dave Bunch	abuechler1@cox.net dcbunch52@verizon.net
Jacksonville	Mike Rosecrans Bobby Wester	m.rosecrans@gmail.com bwester2549@aol.com
East Cent, FL	Barry Compagnoi Ted Stacy	barrycompagnoni@gmail.com cstacy@cfl.rr.com
Miami	Glen Grahl Marc Fagenbaum	gfgrahl@aol.com Marc.M.Fagenbaum@uscg.mil
San Juan, PR	Ignacio Rivera John Mast	captrivera42@hotmail.com john.a.mast@gmail.com
Tampa Bay	Don Goldstein LeRoy Dennison	DGoldstein1@tampabay.rr.com LeRoy@dennison.com
Mobile	Terry Gilbreath Charlie Womack	tgilbreath@asdd.com chwomack@gmail.com
New Orleans	Jim Montgomery Paul Siebenkittel	jamesmontgomery@usa.net psiebenkittel@netzero.com
St. Louis	Keith Livingstone Becky Livingstone	bassbolt@yahoo.com rebalivingstone@att.net
Cleveland Northern CA	Regis Cooney Salvador Romo	cgret@att.net sromojr40@yahoo.com
Northwest	David Swanson RADM Bert Kinghorn	ddswanson@msn.com CoChairs@cgretirenw.org
Kodiak	Phil Johnson Robert Lachowsky	CoChairs@cgretirenw.org roblachowsky@yahoo.com
Hawaii	John Whiddon Rod Schulz	jbwiddon52@gmail.com rschultz369@gmail.com

CG RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION—CELEBRATIONS & NATIONAL LEADERS MEETING

The CG Reserve Officer's Association will be celebrating CAPT Handy's 100th birthday as well as presenting him with an award for his work in originally getting the USCG Reserve program funded by Congress. WHEN: Monday, March 19th, 2018; TIME: 1730 Reception; 1800 Presentations; LOCATION: ROA Minuteman Building, One Constitution Ave, NE, Washington, DC 20002. This will be in conjunction with the ROA National Leaders Meeting and Celebration of the Minuteman building's 60th anniversary. This is a by invitation event. Those wishing to attend please contact CAPT Rafael A. Ortiz, USCGR (ret). Revitalizing the tradition that CAPT Handy started in 1940's, attendees are encouraged to invite their congressional representative to join them. The ROA includes all Chief Petty Officers and Petty Officers and all are encouraged to attend. Anyone in the DC Area, active, reserve, retired, CG, ROA members, and anyone interested in National Security and or Reserve issues are invited to meet the 4th Tuesday of each month at Harry's Smokehouse at the Pentagon City Mall 11:30. National Security, world hunger and peace to be solved as well as tales of old to be embellished. CAPT Rafael A. Ortiz, USCGR (ret), Chair, Coast Guard Affairs Committee, ROA. www.roa.org <<http://www.roa.org/>>, ffpmORTIZ@gmail.com <ffpmORTIZ@gmail.com>, Cell: (661) 810-2230, Fax: (707) 922-2408

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NATIONAL RETIREE HELP DESK

Volunteers are needed for the Coast Guard's National Retiree Help Desk. The Help Desk serves as a valuable resource for Coast Guard retirees and family members to get referrals or answers to questions about benefits and other matters of interest to retirees. Volunteers that stand the Help Desk "watch" are responsible for responding to telephone and e-mail inquiries. The watch is stood for one week, starting on Monday and ending on the following Sunday. It is not a "live" watch in the sense that the watchstander does not answer a telephone immediately, nor is the watchstander on line to perform a "chat" or instant messaging function. Instead, watchstanders: periodically check the NR Help Desk voicemail and e-mail accounts; research answers to inquiries; and reply by phone or e-mail. Training with an experienced watchstander, along with resource materials, are available to all new volunteers. Serving as a NR Help Desk volunteer will not take a lot of time, but it will allow you to help CG veterans and their families in need. For more information about volunteering, contact: CAPT Bob Warakomsky, USCG (Ret) at bopakom@verizon.net, or LCDR David Du Pont, USCG (Ret.) at David.A.DuPont@uscg.mil.



USCG TAPS



LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
ALEXANDER	RICHARD	BMC	20171028	S PORTLAND	ME
ALLEN	PAUL	SK1	20171004	LYONS	NY
ALLEN	GERALD	BTC	20171125	SEATTLE	WA
BAEHRLE	PHILIP	PS2	20171107	RIVERHEAD	NY
BAILEY	MARTIN	LCDR	20171122	HOUSTON	TX
BAJOWSKI	FRANCIS	BMCM	20171004	HAMPTON	NH
BARRIER	CARL	AT3	20171112	HAVELOCK	NC
BASHELOR	JAMES	CDR	20171004	BOZRAH	CT
BASSETT	MALCOLM	CWO4	20171120	CLAREMORE	OK
BATEMAN	LUTHER	FTCS	20171113	HERTFORD	NC
BAYBA	JOSEPH	ETCS	20171123	LYNNHAVEN	FL
BEAGAN	CHARLES	RD1	20171030	MAYS LANDING	NJ
BELISLE	JOSEPH	BM1	20171104	ORLANDO	FL
BENSON	LUKE	CDR	20171104	FRANKLIN	TN
BOMBASE	ROMEO	FSC	20171110	CHESAPEAKE	VA
BURNETTE	JOHN	SK3	20171106	FREDERICKSBURG	VA
CALNAN	JOHN	SK2	20171125	NEW BEDFORD	MA
CANFIELD	DON	CDR	20171002	SARASOTA	FL
CARMEL	BRUCE	MKC	20171130	SUMMERFIELD	FL
CAULDER	SHELTON	CWO4	20171025	CLINTON	NC
CLOUD	DONALD	RMCM	20171118	ELKHART	IN
COCHRAN	ADAM	LT	20171024	N CHARLESTON	SC
COLVIN	FLOYD	BMC	20171013	SAULT S MARIE	MI
COONEY	FREDERICK	LCDR	20171022	PINEDALE	WY
CULPEPPER	CHARLIE	SOCS	20171002	VIRGINIA BCH	VA
DAVIDSON	JOHN	BMC	20171012	GIBSON	LA
DAVISON	RICHARD	CAPT	20171121	ELIZABETH CITY	NC
DELORME	DAVID	CWO3	20171026	E FALMOUTH	MA
DENEVE	RONALD	ETCM	20171124	PICKFORD	MI
DILL	DANIEL	IT2	20171105	PORTSMOUTH	VA
DREHER	LANE	ELC4	20171007	BELLEVUE	WA
DRISCOLL	JAMES	LCDR	20171019	LARGO	FL
DUBELL	JAMES	HSCS	20171004	DULUTH	MN
EADDY	DONALD	FS1	20171117	SUMMERVILLE	SC
ELDRED	DAVID	QMCS	20171110	WILMINGTON	VT
ELSHOFF	RICHARD	SN	20171022	LOTHIAN	MD
EPPERSON	JACK	RM2	20171119	MIRAMAR	FL
EVANS	JOHN	RMC	20171122	ROCKY MOUNT	NC
EVANS	RICHARD	LCDR	20171022	HUMBOLDT	TN
FERRILL	MAXWELL	CWO4	20171115	PISGAH FOREST	NC
FREWIN	DOUGLAS	BM1	20171103	SCARBOROUGH	ME
GALLATIN	MAURICE	AEC	20171101	HEREFORD	AZ
GARDNER	CEPHUS	YNC	20171028	SUFFOLK	VA
GARRISH	PRESTON	BM1	20171007	BEAUFORT	NC
GARRITY	RICHARD	SA	20171024	HELLERTOWN	PA
GILLETTE	KARL	BMCM	20171018	TAMPA	FL
GORATOWSKI	MAXINE	YN2	20171113	SUSSEX	WI
HAMILTON	JON	CDR	20171108	SUN VALLEY	NV
HARRELL	JOYCE	YNC	20171122	GLENDALE	AZ
HAYES	LEE	LCDR	20171030	SCHREIEVER	LA

(TAPS continued from page 5)



LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
HOLEMAN	ANDREW	LCDR	20171030	ARDMORE	PA
HUBER	HENRY	HS1	20171023	LEOLA	PA
KEIFER	HERBERT	MK1	20171203	DAYTON	OH
KELLEY	PHILIP	YNC	20171126	RICHLANDS	NC
KELLY	KEVIN	EMCM	20171022	CARRIERE	MS
KENNEDY	JOHN	PS1	20171019	FORT MYERS	FL
KING	OWEN	MKC	20171012	ROANOKE	VA
KINNEY	GABRIEL	CAPT	20171116	ERIEVILLE	NY
KNIGHT	DOUGLAS	SKC	20171019	NEW YORK	NY
KOENIG	JEROME	CWO4	20171024	DEWEY	AZ
KRONLEIN	ROY	BT1	20171119	AMBOY	WA
KYLEN	RICHARD	MK2	20171114	SALT LAKE CITY	UT
LACSAMANA	MANUEL	FSC	20171005	JACKSONVILLE	FL
LANGE	TERRY	BMCM	20171013	FORT PIERCE	FL
LARDER	ROBERT	SK1	20171018	WATERFORD	CT
LEE	LOUIS	EM1	20171126	SEATTLE	WA
LEGGETT	KEVIN	OSS3	20170908	SUFFOLK	VA
LESSOR	LARRY	DCC	20171205	BREMERTON	WA
LIVERMORE	RUSSELL	YNCS	20171125	GROSS PNT WDS	MI
LOMAN	ROBERT	MST1	20171111	BALTIMORE	MD
LOPEZ	CIPRIAN	EM1	20171011	KINGSVILLE	TX
LOWE	EDWARD	CWO2	20171122	N STONINGTON	CT
MAGUIRE	JAMES	DC1	20171017	TITUSVILLE	FL
MANGUM	MARVIN	ENCS	20171022	WALNUT COVE	NC
MARTINEZ	ROBERT	FA	20171102	AURORA	CO
MARTINKE	PAUL	LCDR	20171030	PALM CITY	FL
MARVIN	JAMES	CDR	20171125	FORT COLLINS	CO
MCCALED	GEOFFREY	AT1	20171005	PORT ANGELES	WA
MCKEAN	JON	ADC	20171127	CITRUS HEIGHTS	CA
MEEHAN	LEON	MKC	20171004	DOVER	NH
MELCHER	WILLIAM	GMC	20171004	PRESTON	CT
MIDGETT	ARA	CAPT	20171106	STAFFORD	VA
MILLER	ROBERT	CAPT	20171003	HEDGEVILLE	WV
MILLER	JON	ENG3	20171106	ASTORIA	OR
MIMINOS	MARK	BM3	20171116	BELMONT	MA
MINSON	FREDERICK	CDR	20171030	VERONA	ME
NOLD	ROBERT	CDR	20171013	SAN MARCOS	CA
NOVELL	ANATOLE	EMCM	20171102	VALLEY STREAM	NY
OLSEN	CARL	CWO4	20171014	FLORENCE	SC
PARKER	LARRY	AMC	20171124	CUTLER BAY	FL
PARKER	TOMMY	RMC	20171110	TARRANT	AL
PASCIUTI	RICHARD	CAPT	20171019	BRIGHTWATERS	NY
PAULSEN	RICHARD	ETC	20171001	SAN JOSE	CA
PAVAO	MANUEL	BMC	20171125	SOMERSET	MA
PENINGTON	GREGORY	RADM	20171129	ISSAQUAH	WA
PERALES	DAN	BM1	20171108	HOUSTON	TX
PETERSON	MATTHEW	FSC	20171011	BEAUMONT	TX
PHELPS	ORVILLE	BMC	20171103	COLUMBIA	NC
PHILLIPS	MAURICE	RDCM	20171010	FIFE	WA
PITTMAN	BERTIE	BOSN2	20171022	STACY	NC
POJAR	MARTIN	BMCM	20171029	NIXA	MO
PUTMAN	ROGER	SKCS	20171029	SAULT S MARIE	MI

(TAPS continued from page 6)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
REAMS	CINDY	FS1	20171106	KILN	MS
RELLE	JOHN	CDR	20171107	NEWBURY PARK	CA
REMINGTON	ROBERT	ENC	20171123	EUGENE	OR
RICE	JAMES	ENC	20171017	DENHAM SPRNGS	LA
RICH	LEONARD	ENG2	20171008	CHESAPEAKE	VA
RIESZ	JAMES	CDR	20171104	SODDY DAISY	TN
RIVERA	RODOLFO	SK3	20171006	CAGUAS	PR
ROBBINS	LAURENCE	CWO4	20171128	CROOKED RIVER R	OR
ROBILLARD	SANDRA	F&S4	20171027	MONROE	WA
ROEBER	JOHN	CDR	20171016	CHARLOTTESVIL	VA
ROSIER	RAYMOND	ADC	20171001	ORMOND BEACH	FL
RUSSUM	HERMAN	BMC	20171121	MARYSVILLE	WA
SABA	ANDREW	PS2	20171017	HALIFAX	MA
SCHMUCKER	ANN	YNC	20171124	INDIALANTIC	FL
SEXTON	CHARLES	BM1	20171105	ABILENE	TX
SHEARER	DELBERT	ETCS	20171126	ALBION	PA
SHULAR	LOUIS	BM1	20170930	ANTIOCH	CA
SMITH	JOHN	BMC	20171025	PORT ORANGE	FL
SMITH	WILLIAM	AD1	20171013	STOCKBRIDGE	GA
SPYCHALA	STANLEY	BMC	20171108	ROCK ISLAND	IL
STEADING	LARRY	CS2	20171128	ARBUTUS	MD
STERBLING	PETER	CDR	20171121	BANNING	CA
STICKNEY	HERBERT	AECM	20171111	FAIRLEE	VT
TENBROOK	ROBERT	MK2	20171005	SIMI VALLEY	CA
THAYER	RALPH	MUCS	20171023	MOODUS	CT
THOMAS	LEON	CAPT	20171115	FAIRFAX STATION	VA
THOMAS	ERIC	FSC	20171101	BUXTON	ME
THURMOND	GARY	BMCM	20171029	PORTLAND	TX
TISUE	GERALD	ELC3	20171107	FALLON	NV
TRINANES	OSCAR	FS1	20171123	NORTH EASTON	MA
VANCAMP	RONALD	CWO4	20171126	NOTTINGHAM	MD
VANDERSLICE	PAUL	RMCM	20171016	WOODBIDGE	VA
VENNERI	DONALD	MKC	20171121	OREGON CITY	OR
WALDRON	ALVIN	CDR	20171122	ROSWELL	GA
WALLINGFORD	DIANE	MKC	20171125	LONGVIEW	WA
WALTHER	CARL	BMC	20171116	IRVINE	CA
WARMACK	CHARLES	ATC	20171103	THOMASVILLE	GA
WATSON	GEORGE	AECM	20171023	ELIZABETH CIT	NC
WATTERS	LARRY	YN1	20171117	EUGENE	OR
WEIDA	TERRY	SKC	20171013	ALLIANCE	OH
WEST	BILLY	FS1	20171116	FAYETTEVILLE	NC
WHIDDON	CHARLES	FSC	20171125	ZEPHYRHILLS	FL
WHITE	JOSEPH	MKC	20171025	NEWPORT NEWS	VA
WHITE	ROBERT	FS2	20171006	CHESAPEAKE	VA
WILLIAMS	DEWARD	QMC	20171015	SEVERN	MD
WILLIAMS	AARON	GM2	20171128	GLEN BURNIE	MD
WITKOWSKI	THOMAS	CDR	20171108	SEATTLE	WA
WOMACK	KENNETH	CWO4	20171028	WILLIAMSBURG	VA
WOODROW	WILLIAM	CWO4	20171128	CORTEZ	CO
WORTHINGTON	JACKIE	BMC	20171021	ROWLETT	TX
WUNDER	JOHN	BMC	20171125	NORFOLK	NY
ZEITZ	THOMAS	LCDR	20171017	CENTRALIA	IL


PHS TAPS


LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
BYRNE	CATHERINE	CAPT	20171128	APOPKA	FL
COWAN	J EDWARD	CAPT	20171114	MERCER ISLAND	WA
HAWLEY	WILLIAM	CAPT	20171017	HATTIESBURG	MS
HOLGUIN	ALFONSO	CAPT	20171006	SAN ANTONIO	TX
MONTGOMERY	CHARLES	CAPT	20171023	GROVE	OK
NORTON	ROBERT	CAPT	20171129	PORT ANGELES	WA
RAEL	MELISSA	CAPT	20171011	LAKEWOOD	CO
SMITH	MICHAEL	CAPT	20171122	GOODYEAR	AZ
SNYDER	MAURICE	CAPT	20171025	PONTE VEDRA BCH	FL
WALLACE	CRAIG	RADM	20171126	COLORADO SPRINGS	CO
WASHINGTON	EARL	CDR	20171115	LEXINGTON	KY


NOAA TAPS


LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	GRADE	DATE	CITY	STATE
TUCKER	FLOYD	CAPT	20171013	AVON PARK	FL


DEPENDENT TAPS


NAME OF DEPENDENT	RELATIONSHIP	DATE	CITY	STATE
MARIA L. COFFMAN	WIFE OF MCPO DAVID A. COFFMAN	20170706	NORTH PORT	FL
CHERI COOPER	WIFE OF CDR JAMES M. COOPER	20171026	SHERIDAN	OR
PEARL ANITA ROMEU	WIFE OF YNC NELSON ROMEU	20170202	MIAMI	FL
MARY E. ISHERWOOD	WIFE OF MKCM DAVID T. ISHERWOOD	20170511	OAKDALE	CT
EILEEN MARY MCDOWELL	WIFE OF CWO2 RICHARD MCDOWELL	20170927	GOODYEAR	AZ

REPORT OF DEATH

To report the death of a Coast Guard, PHS, or NOAA retiree/annuitant, call the Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center (PPC) at: Toll free: 1-800-772-8724; Commercial: (785) 339-3415; or Fax: (785) 339-3770. **Or write:**
 Commanding Officer (RAS)
 USCG Pay & Personnel Center
 444 SE Quincy St
 Topeka, KS 66683-3591

For CG/PHS/NOAA retirees wishing to have their **DEPENDENT'S TAPS** notice included in The Retiree Newsletter, please provide the dependent's name, relationship to retiree, date of death, and city and state of death to Mr. Robert Hinds by e-mail at: Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil or by phone at: 202-475-5451. **TAPS NOTICES ARE POSTED AT:** www.dcms.uscg.mil/retiree

VA ANNOUNCES DAILY ONLINE LISTING OF BURIAL SCHEDULES

Veterans Affairs officials have announced that there will be an online listing of burial times for all VA cemeteries. The move, which will cover the 168 facilities operated by National Cemetery Administration directly, will allow those who wish to attend funerals a more centralized location for information related to the funeral. Attendees will be able to search by either the location of the funeral or by the name of the veteran being buried, and updates will be provided hourly. To visit this website, go to <https://www.cem.va.gov/dailyburialschedule/>.

Pay & Personnel Center, Retiree & Annuitant Services (RAS) - Directory Assistance

FINAL REMINDER: Directory Assistance and Other Important Phone Numbers & Websites will now only be published in OCTOBER editions of the newsletter, but will be accessible at: www.dcms.uscg.mil/portals/10/cg-1/ppc/

RETIREE CUSTOMER SERVICE

1-800-PPC-USCG/1-800-772-8724

E-MAIL: PPC-DG-RAS@USCG.MIL

REPORT OF DEATH: To report the death of a Coast Guard, PHS, or NOAA retiree/annuitant, call the Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center (PPC) at: Toll free: 1-800-772-8724; Commercial: (785) 339-3415; or Fax: (785) 339-3770; **Or write:**
Commanding Officer (RAS)
USCG Pay & Personnel Center
444 SE Quincy St
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

Questions, Address or Direct-Deposit Changes

If you need information or have questions about:

- ◆ Your retired or survivor benefit plan (SBP) annuity payments
- ◆ Your retired/annuitant statement
- ◆ IRS Form 1099-R (reporting taxable income)

or you need to change:

- ◆ Your and your dependents' home mailing address (for retired/annuitant statement, newsletter, 1099-R, correspondence)
- ◆ Your financial institution or account number for your direct deposit
- ◆ Report a change to your designation of beneficiary for payment of unpaid retired pay (Note: use Form *CG PPC -3600 Designation of Beneficiary for Payment of Unpaid Retired Pay)

You may make the requests listed above by **telephone**, by **fax** or in **writing**. The telephone and fax numbers are:

Toll free: 1-800-772-8724
Commercial: (785) 339-3415
Fax: (785) 339-3770

Allotments, SBP Coverage and Beneficiary Changes

If you need to:

- ◆ Start, stop or change an allotment (you may use Form *CG PPC-7221 Retired Allotment Authorization Form, fax in the form or a written request, call us or send us an e-mail request).
- ◆ Report a change to your survivor benefit plan (SBP) coverage (must be in writing)

You may **fax** your request to (785) 339-3770 or mail to:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
USCG Pay & Personnel Center
444 SE Quincy St
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

Income Tax Withholding Changes

If you need to:

- ◆ Start or change the amount of state tax withholding (retirees can call, e-mail, fax or use *IRS Form W-4, or state form. **If using IRS form, indicate that the form is for state income tax withholding, not federal, which state it's for and the dollar amount to be withheld, (minimum amount is \$10.00, no cents).** We cannot withhold state tax for annuitants
- ◆ Change your federal income tax withholding (retirees use Form W-4, annuitants use Form W-4P)
- ◆ Change exemptions or additional withholding

Federal tax changes **must** be in writing. The original Form IRS W-4 or W-4P must be mailed to PPC (RAS) for action and filing, per IRS requirements. PPC (RAS) cannot accept a faxed W-4 or W-4P. Please mail to:

Commanding Officer (RAS)
USCG Pay & Personnel Center
444 SE Quincy St
Topeka, KS 66683-3591

(* Note: Forms are available from the PPC website at: www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/pd/forms/ or directly from the IRS.

Federal and State Income Tax - The 1099R's will be issued in January 2018. Please ensure your home mailing address is correct so the forms will be mailed to the correct address. The Affordable Care Act forms 1095-B will also be mailed out in January 2018. These forms will need to be filled with your federal income tax.

State Income Tax – Be sure to check your state tax withholding. If you move during a given period, be sure to also update your state tax information. It is not automatically changed when you change your home mailing address. If you are not withholding state tax, your state of residence is where the taxable gross will be reported. State tax cannot be refunded as it is paid out on a monthly basis and 1099R's will not be corrected to show a different state. To obtain any money that may be due, contact the local Department of Revenue.

Other Important Phone Numbers and Websites

Medical/Dental Benefits	Phone	Websites/Notes
Eligibility (DEERS)/ID Cards	1-800-538-9552 (TTY/TDD) 1-866-363-2883	www.tricare.mil/deers In CA: 1-800-334-4162; In AK & HI 1-800-527-5602
Mail-Order Pharmacy	1-877-363-1303	www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Prescriptions/Filling Prescriptions/TMOP
Retiree Dental Plan	1-888-838-8737	www.trdp.org
TRICARE Overseas	1-888-777-8343	www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/overview/Regions/RegionsNonUS
TRICARE United States	Phone numbers on their website	http://tricare.mil
TRICARE For Life	1-866-773-0404	www.tricare.mil/tfl/default.cfm www.tricare.mil/LifeEvents/Retiring
TRICARE Eligibility—Pharmacy (Medicare info)	1-877-363-1303	www.tricare.mil/ CoveredServices/Pharmacy/Eligibility.aspx
Federal Long-Term Health Insurance	1-800-582-3337	www.opm.gov/insure/ltc/
CG Health Benefits Advisor	1-800-942-2422	
Veterans Benefits	Phone	Websites/Notes
Department of Veterans Affairs	1-800-827-1000	www.va.gov
Insurance Information	1-800-669-8477	www.insurance.va.gov
Veteran's Group Life Insurance		www.insurance.va.gov/sglisite/vgli/vgli.htm
New VGLI Applications and VGLI Reinstatements: OSGLI PO Box 41618 Philadelphia, PA 19176-9913	1-800-419-1473 Overseas phone (973) 548-5699 Overseas fax# (973) 548-5300	Death and accelerated benefits claims only: Fax: 1-877-832-4943 All other fax inquiries: 1-800-236-6142 or e-mail: osgli.claims@prudential.com All other inquiries: osgli.osgli@prudential.com General Correspondence: Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance 80 Livingston Avenue Roseland, NJ 07068-1733
Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents	1-800-827-1000	www.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.asp VA Pamphlet 80-02-1
Headstones and Markers	1-800-697-6947	www.cem.va.gov/hm.htm
<p>To join the PPC mailing list to receive The Retiree Newsletter and other updates via email visit: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/subscriber/new?topic_id=USDHSCG_56 and enter your email address to subscribe.</p>		

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Other Important Phone Numbers and Websites

Other	Phone	Websites/Notes
Final Active Duty Pay	1-866-772-8724 Overseas (785) 339-2200	www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/separations/finalpay/ Commanding Officer (SEP) USCG Pay & Personnel Center 444 SE Quincy St Topeka, KS 66683-3591
Contact PPC (SEP) for information on Severance Pay, Separation Pay, Disability Severance Pay, LES's, IRS Form W-2.		
Travel Claims	1-866-772-8724 Overseas (785) 339-2200	www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/travel/ Send final travel claim to: Commanding Officer (TVL) USCG Pay & Personnel Center 444 SE Quincy St. Topeka, KS 66683-3591
Service Records	(314) 801-0800	www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/ Write to: National Personnel Records Center Military Personnel Records 1 Archives Drive St. Louis, MO 63138-1002
Veterans or next-of-kin of a deceased veteran can log on www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records and make requests. All others must write in and include complete name, rank/grade, SSN, dates of service and date of birth of the veteran. DD-214s are also available via the website.		
Social Security	1-800-772-1213	www.ssa.gov
WWII U.S. Merchant Marine Awards and Decorations	(202) 366-2646	www.marad.dot.gov/mariners/mariner Maritime Administration U.S. Department of Transportation 200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590
CG National Retiree Help Desk	(202) 475-5381 or toll free 1-833-224-6743	G-mail: NRHDesk@gmail.com Do NOT send Personally Identifiable Information (e.g. SSN, EMPID) to the CG NRHD. See: www.dcms.uscg.mil/Portals/10/CG-1/retiree/docs/pdf/NRHD_PII_NOTICE.pdf?ver=2017-08-07-083504-783

Coast Guard Connection Newsletter

Coast Guard Connection is a quarterly newsletter for retired senior leaders from the U. S. Coast Guard providing a focused sampling of current events and service initiatives, including updates on budget, Human Capital, Legislative, Public Affairs, and Outreach. A link to this publication is accessible at: www.dcms.uscg.mil/retiree

CG Social Media Sites

A list of Official USCG Social Media Sites, including all Social Media (Facebook & Twitter) is accessible at: <http://coastguard.dodlive.mil/official-sites/>

CG Distribution Lists

You can subscribe to Coast Guard Distribution Lists from the USCG Public Affairs News Room at: www.news.uscg.mil

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U. S. Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marines Retiree Newsletters

ARMY (*ECHOES*): <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/echoes>

AIR FORCE (*AFTERBURNER*): <http://www.retirees.af.mil/Library/Afterburner/>

NAVY (*SHIFT COLORS*): <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/reference/publications/shiftcolors/Pages/default.aspx>

MARINES (*SEMPER FIDELIS*): www.semperfiriders.org/sfr-newsletter.html

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

COMMANDANT, U. S. COAST GUARD
RETIREE SERVICES PROGRAM MANAGER (CG-13)
U.S. COAST GUARD STOP 7907
2703 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR AVE SE
WASHINGTON DC 20593-7907

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