



Coast Guard Concludes Barque EAGLE's In-Service Vessel Sustainment

Yard Completes 4-Year Service Life Extension of America's Tall Ship

Barque EAGLE undocked from the OAKRIDGE floating dry-dock on February 27, 2018 wrapping up a four-year phase Service Life Extension Project (SLEP) under the Coast Guard's In-Service Vessel Sustainment (ISVS) Program. America's Tall Ship arrived at the Yard on September 18, 2014 to begin a project designed for long term sustainability of the now 81-year-old Coast Guard training vessel. Dry-docked pier side, in the OAK RIDGE, and on the shiplift over the past four years, EAGLE received an additional decade of service life allowing it to continue training future Coast Guard officers as well as fulfill the role of a United States goodwill ambassador.

The Yard completed EAGLE's Phase I SLEP in May 2015. Upgrades included hull and mast inspections, habitability modernization, ballast renewal, mechanical systems and equipment inspections, and ventilation renewals. Work during Phase II in 2015-2016 involved berthing rehabilitation, structural repairs, and mainmast inspections. Throughout Phase III in 2016-2017, the Yard continued berthing area renovations, abatement of lead containing coatings, lead ballast encapsulation, hull plate and structural repairs, and mast inspections. Returning in August 2017 for the fourth and final phase, EAGLE received mechanical, electrical and structural repairs and inspections. The Yard completed EAGLE's SLEP in March 2018.

Built in Germany in 1936, the United States acquired EAGLE in 1946 at the end of World War II. The ship is 295 feet in length and can achieve speeds up to 17 knots in open oceans. The square rigger has more than 22,000 square feet of sail and five miles of rigging. Over 200 lines control the sails and yard arms.

The Yard has been EAGLE's homeport throughout the four-year SLEP and, upon the tall ship's departure, wishes its officers and crew "Fair Winds and Following Seas."



EAGLE departs OAKRIDGE as the Coast Guard's training vessel gets ready to conclude a 4-year modernization at the Yard and prepare for the 2018 summer ports of call. (Photo by Charles Wilson, Yard)

HAPPY 119TH BIRTHDAY, COAST GUARD YARD
APRIL 26, 1899 - APRIL 26, 2018

The Commanding Officer's Column by Captain Matthew W. Lake



Greetings family and friends of the Yard – and happy 119th Anniversary! It's been a busy springtime at the Yard with many great accomplishments by our workforce – and significant contributions to the operational readiness of our cutter fleet. First, a hearty congratulations to Ms. Diane White, who won the 2017 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Chief Financial Officer Supervisory Award for Exemplary Performance. Second, I want to recognize Mr. Adam Cole, who was hand-picked to deliver remarks on behalf of the entire Coast Guard at the DHS 15th Anniversary, presided over by Vice President Pence. I also had the distinct honor to recognize scores of Baltimore-area Vietnam War-era veterans at our recent Vietnam Veterans Ceremony. Without exception, it is truly humbling to serve alongside all of

the great Americans that form the Yard family – people who have dedicated their lives to serving our country as both civilian employees and military members.

In terms of stewardship, the Yard reduced its composite labor rate for the second year in a row on March 22, 2018. This labor rate reduction, in combination with last year's reduction, will save the Coast Guard \$6.6 million through 2019, and marks the first time in recorded history that the Yard reduced its labor rate pricing two years in a row. This has been made possible through the tremendous efforts of the entire Yard workforce – focused on reducing costs, increasing revenue, and ensuring we run as efficiently and effectively as possible.

In terms of operational impact, we've made tremendous advancements in delivering 87-foot Coastal Patrol Boats on schedule over the last several months, despite a significant increase in the scope of required repairs. For example, we're in the process of replacing 192 square feet of shell plate on CGC RAZORBILL, including repairs to the struts, which required fabrication of specialized support equipment. Through use of multiple shifts, well-sequenced work, and ingenuity on the part of the Yard workforce, we're likely going to deliver that cutter within six days of the

normally scheduled end date. For perspective, a job of this scope would have required a 3-5 week extension in a typical dry-dock availability. The service we are providing to the operational Coast Guard is unprecedented – and will have lasting impacts to the entire fleet.

The Yard also delivered EAGLE, completing the final phase of her Service Life Extension Project. This \$28 million project breathed new life into EAGLE, and is serving as a model to other countries that are embarking on service life extensions of their own sailing vessels, including Germany and Portugal. Importantly, EAGLE now remains capable of training generations of future Coast Guard and NOAA Officers.

Our security forces, MWR and other base support services provided outstanding support to a number of recent high profile events. Of particular note was the transfer of two ex-110-foot Coast Guard Island Class Patrol Boats to the Costa Rican Coast Guard. In a personal letter that I received from the U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica, the Honorable Sharon Day wrote, "... *Your efforts and those of your staff will have an immediate impact in fighting the war on drugs and helping Costa Rica control its waters.*" Bravo Zulu to the men and women of the Yard!

Structural Group General Foreman Represents U.S. Coast Guard at DHS 15th Anniversary

Yard Structural Group General Foreman Adam Cole, a 2017 U.S. Coast Guard Civilian of the Year, (pictured at podium at right) represented the U.S. Coast Guard during remarks made at the Department of Homeland Security 15th Anniversary ceremony. Festivities were held at the Ronald Reagan Building Amphitheater in Washington, DC on Thursday, 1 March. VIPs at the ceremony included the Vice President of the United States, current & past DHS Secretaries, and the heads of each DHS component, including the Commandant of the Coast Guard. The DHS opened its doors in 2003, combining the service of 22 different federal agencies into a single department with the common mission to protect the homeland security of the United States.



(Photo by Meagan Blake, DHS)

Baltimore APO Trains Costa Rica Coast Guard**Yard Holds Transfer Ceremony for Decommissioned 110' Patrol Boats**

The Yard hosted a Transfer Ceremony on February 13, 2018 for two decommissioned U.S. Coast Guard Island Class 110' patrol boats provided to the Coast Guard of Costa Rica through the U.S. Coast Guard Foreign Military Sales Program. The ships, originally Coast Guard Cutters LONG ISLAND and ROANOKE ISLAND, are now Costa Rica Libertador class vessels, Juan Rafael Mora Porras and General Jose Maria Canas Escamilla. Visiting dignitaries at the ceremony included Chairwoman of the U.S. House of Representatives Defense Subcommittee, Vice Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Assistant Commandant for Acquisition, U.S. Coast Guard Director of International Affairs, U.S. and Costa Rican Ambassadors, and Director of the Costa Rican Coast Guard.

The U.S. Coast Guard foreign military sales program helps build and sustain international partnerships in support of the U.S. Coast Guard's national maritime strategy promoting regional and global maritime safety and security. This includes a commitment to interdict narcotics, combat organized crime, and prevent illegal fishing, among other illegal activities.



U.S. Coast Guard instructors from APO Baltimore provide training to the Costa Rica crews of the Libertador class vessels Juan Rafael Mora Porras and General Jose Maria Canas Escamilla for 10 weeks during January, February and March before the decommissioned U.S. Coast Guard 110' patrol boats set sail for their new homeport in Costa Rica, Central America.

The 110' cutters' transfer saves U.S. Coast Guard funds in disposal costs. Each 110' patrol boat transferred saves the U.S. Coast Guard approximately \$400,000 in remediation and other disposal costs.

Commercially dry-docked due to Yard scheduling, the Yard provided outfitting for the two patrol boats upon their return. Among other items, the Yard accomplished fabrication of a canopy, inspection of fire main check

valves, replacement of bridge windows, replacement of main engine cooling lines, fabrication of antenna mounts, gun mount repairs, small boat cradle preservation, coatings applications, and paint.

Following the ceremony, Captain Lake commented, "These converted 110' WPBs will replace two Yard-built 82' patrol boats that the Costa Ricans have used for drug interdiction, search and rescue, and the protection of their exclusive economic zone. Costa Rica is an important U.S. partner in Central America and very important to U.S. efforts in stemming transnational crime in the region. Thanks to all who supported this effort. As you can see, our work at the Yard does not just impact Coast Guard operations, but also benefits broader U.S. interests."

In partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard Office of International Acquisition and the Excess Defense Articles program, Asset Project Office (APO) Baltimore provided 10 weeks of training for the prospective Costa Rica Coast Guard crews who arrived at the Yard on January 15th. Instruction



(USCG photo by PA3 Ronald Hodges, PADET Baltimore)

Yard Hosts Baltimore Region “National Vietnam War Veterans Day” Ceremony

The Yard held a National Vietnam War Veterans Day celebration for the Baltimore region on Thursday, March 29. The special event recognized veterans of all U.S. armed forces who served on active duty during the Vietnam War era (1955-1975). Rear Admiral Melvin Bouboulis, Assistant Commandant for Engineering & Logistics, USCG, presented each attending veteran with the Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin, a lasting memento of the nation’s gratitude and recognition of service among many heretofore unsung patriots. Over 60 Vietnam War era veterans from the Baltimore community attended.

The celebration included support from the U.S. Coast Guard Ceremonial Honor Guard and the U.S. Naval Academy Brass Quintet. Several collections of U.S. Coast Vietnam War era original artwork and artifacts were on display.

Attendees observed a moment of silence to pause and reflect on fellow service members who perished in the conflict, lost at sea, missing in action or still held as prisoners of war.

The ceremony concluded with presentation of the U.S. Service Song medley, challenging each veteran to stand during their respective service renditions as well as for respect and in honor of fallen comrades.

More than 8.7 million Americans served on active duty during the Vietnam period. The Department of Veterans Affairs estimates over 8 million Vietnam War era veterans who served on active duty are living today. The National Vietnam War commemorations are designed for local communities to join a grateful nation in thanking and honoring Vietnam veterans and their families.

Rear Admiral Bouboulis remarked, “We want to express appreciation and recognition of those who served during the Vietnam War era conflict as well as the families who supported them. I know many veterans felt a lack of appreciation by our country for the

many sacrifices they faced. On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to correct that injustice and recognize your service here today.”

Captain Lake commented, “Vietnam was the war that people were reluctant to speak about – a piece of our history that many wished to ignore. In doing so, I believe our Nation did a disservice to the service men and

women who sacrificed so much to serve their country. We have reached a point in American history at which no matter what political view a citizen may have on a war or armed conflict, most everyone appreciates and recognize the sacrifices of those who serve.

I believe it is an honor to serve my country – and I believe most

See Vietnam War, pg 7



A representative group of attending Vietnam War era veterans joined together for a photo at the conclusion of the National Remembrance Ceremony held at the Yard on March 29th.

Three Yard constructed 82’ patrol boats (left to right) - CG 82317, CG 82316, and CG 82315 - departed in June 1961 as part of Coast Guard Patrol Squadron One that served with distinction in the Vietnam War.



Overview of the U.S. Coast Guard Yard: Part II

By Captain Matthew Lake, Commanding Officer Yard

(This is the second of a two-part article published in anticipation of the Yard's 119th birthday on April 26, 2018. The narrative covers additional current initiatives and areas of focus. Part I was printed in the January/February 2018 "Yard News.")

Current Initiatives

Support to State of Maryland and Other Government Agencies

The Yard has developed strategic partnerships with local, state, city, federal and foreign governments to diversify the shipyard's work portfolio and bolster our nation's security. Recent efforts include:

- In 2015, the Yard completed major repairs to USS CONSTELLATION, a 163-year-old Navy "sloop of war," and the last surviving ship from the U.S. Civil War. This \$2 million project was funded by Maryland and Baltimore City. The work included replacement of 4,500 square feet of rotted hull planking to improve the ship's water tight integrity.
- The Yard established a long-term agreement with the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to perform renovations to NOAA's Atlantic Fleet. For example, in 2017, the Yard completed a two-month renovation project on FERDINAND R. HASSLER, a NOAA coastal mapping vessel.
- The Yard's Ordnance Shop overhauls foreign gun weapon systems through the Navy's Foreign Military Sales program, completing overhauls in 2016 on two Polish Navy weapon systems installed on their Guided Missile Frigates. The Yard is currently working on Saudi Navy weapons systems. The Yard and one of its tenant commands support Foreign Military Sale of decommissioned Coast Guard cutters (4-6 per year).
- The Yard recently began a \$40 million Service Life Extension for up to twelve Yard Patrol training vessels assigned to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD.

Areas of Focus

Workforce Growth & Hiring Opportunities

As a result of strong demand for its services, the Yard has expanded the size of its wage grade (blue collar) workforce by 10% per year since 2016; this trend is expected to continue through 2019. Wage Grade employees have a starting salary of approximately \$20/hr; experienced employees can earn double this rate, with ample opportunities for overtime. All wage grade employees are entitled to federal employee benefits including healthcare, retirement, paid leave, etc. Wage grade positions at the Yard include welders, ship-fitters, electricians, electronic technicians, sheet-metal workers, ordnance workers, machinists, mechanics, painters, blasters, riggers, shipwrights and other related trades.

Investment In Our Community

Nearly all of the Yard's 700 employees live within ten miles of the Yard. The Yard is committed to giving back and investing in our local region. Specific examples include:

- In 2017, the Yard established two new internship programs to improve recruitment efforts for the civilian workforce and improve workforce diversity. One of these programs was funded by the City of Baltimore through private donations. Both of these internship programs are focused on disadvantaged schools in Baltimore and Anne Arundel County. The Yard's newest paid internship program provides part-time jobs to high school and community college students (approximately 20 hrs/week) with a starting salary of \$16.38/hour, and the opportunity for full-time employment upon graduation.
- The Yard won the Coast Guard's Partnership in Education Award for two years in a row (2015 and 2016) for its extensive outreach to neighboring schools. The Yard and its tenant commands invest hundreds of man-hours each year providing tutoring services, mentoring, and job training to students in the region.
- Employees of the Yard donate tens of thousands of dollars in gifts and money donations to needy families in our community.

Infrastructure Investment & Plans

Through strong support from the Maryland Congressional Delegation and the Department of Homeland Security, \$26 million was provided in the 2016 *Homeland Security Appropriations Act* to replace the Yard's World War II-era floating dry-dock USS OAKRIDGE through extension of the shiplift transfer area. The project stabilizes the Yard's costs, improves efficiency, and enables the Yard to sustain its existing dry-dock capacity for the next 30 years in order to support the Coast Guard's operational fleet.

The Yard's near term plans include targeted infrastructure investment in order to support maintenance of new classes of Coast Guard cutters being delivered in the fleet, as well as sustainment of existing infrastructure.

Yard Performance Results in Average Industrial Labor Rate Reduction

By Tim Howard, Yard Financial Officer

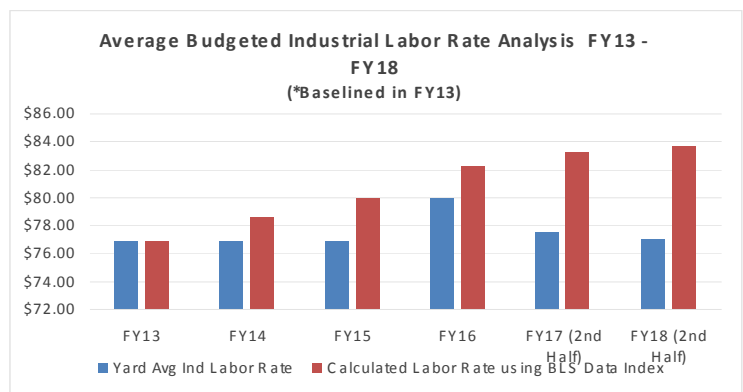
	Yard Avg Ind Labor Rate	Calculated Labor Rate using BLS Data Index
FY13	\$76.97	\$76.97
FY14	\$76.97	\$78.61
FY15	\$76.97	\$80.03
FY16	\$79.96	\$82.25
FY17 (2nd Half)	\$77.53	\$83.28
FY18 (2nd Half)	\$77.00	\$83.74
\$ Change	\$0.03	\$6.77
% Change	0.04%	8.79%

In the March/April 2017 edition of the “Yard News,” Mr. Bob Hayden (former Yard Chief Financial Officer) had the privilege of announcing an hourly industrial labor rate reduction for the first time in 11.5 years. In April 2018, the Yard was once again able to reduce the Yard Average Industrial Labor rate by \$0.53 (0.7%) to \$77.00/hr. This is the second time in the past year that the Yard has been able to reduce the rate.

When I first took this position, I was told that “production hours are king” as production hours drive the revenue of the Yard. With the correct focus on the right kind of work (ex. ISVS, RDAP) and maintaining overhead costs at an acceptable level, the Yard is able to provide greater value to its customers with lower labor rates.

Production across the Yard continues to be at an all-time high and continues to match our budgeted production hours. Our continued high levels of productivity and higher than budgeted levels of labor output directly contributed to the high levels of production hours we are seeing. Moreover, our forecasted overhead costs for this year have been lower than originally forecasted, leading to a savings in the Yard’s overhead costs. Since the Yard essentially operates as a non-profit business, we seek to return these cost savings to our customers in the form of a lower labor rate.

With the reduction to \$77.00/hr, the Yard’s Average Industrial Labor rate will only be \$.03 higher (0.04%) than it was in FY2013. Using the Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLS) Producer Price Index data for Ship Repair during the same time frame, the Yard’s labor rate would have increased \$6.77 (8.79%) since FY13. If we are able to maintain this rate as planned through FY19, this reduction, in conjunction with the FY17 reduction, translates to over \$6.6M dollars in savings to the Coast Guard’s OE and AC&I appropriations through the end of FY19.



Yard Enlisted Member of the Quarter



*ME3 James King, Security
FY 18, First Quarter*

Yard Civilian Employee of the Quarter



*Michael Cullings, Machine Shop
FY 18, First Quarter*

Milestones Retirements

James Mack
Painter
22 Years

Lawrence Johnson
Rigger
37 Years

Mousa Yagoub
Welder/Shipfitter
20 Years

Doug Smith
Marine Machinery Mechanical Leader
39 Years

Jerry Boggs
Production Controller
43 Years

Awards

Sarah Wickenheiser
The DC Council for Engineering and Architecture 2017 Young Engineer of the Year

Advancements/Promotions

Shawn Ruhling, Shop Planner (Sheetmetal), WD-6
Karoly Banlaki, Shop Planner (Electric), WD-6
Shawn Munshower, Electrician Helper, WG-5
David Clem, Electrician Helper, WG-5
James Cosar, Electrician Helper, WG-5
Cody Harris, Electrician Helper, WG-5
Darryl Heinle Jr., Electrician Helper, WG-5
Gregory Branch, Structural Helper, WG-5

Russell Peacock, Sheetmetal Joiner Leader, WL-10
Curtis McLain, Structural Leader, WL-10
Ty Fultonberger, Structural Worker, WG-8
Jacob Wagner, Sheetmetal/Joiner Worker, WG-8
Corey Burnezky, Sheetmetal/Joiner Worker, WG-8
Russell Belt, Mechanical Engineer Tech, GS-9
Dorothea Bannister, Engineering Tech (Drafting), GS-8

Costa Rica, from pg 3

included on-board and classroom training to improve operation and navigation skills. Six Coast Guard APO members provided instruction to 47 Costa Rican crew members of the Juan Rafael Mora Porras and General José Maria Cañas Escamilla throughout January, February and March. Costa Rica journalists covered the training sessions for broadcasting to their home media.

“The classroom portion lasted eight weeks and was focused on the 110’ systems and damage control,” remarked Aleshia Harding, a manager with the U.S. Coast Guard Foreign

Vietnam War, from pg 4

Americans today believe the same thing, and, at the very least, support those who choose to serve. During the Vietnam War, that was not always the case. As a result, a generation of young Americans were not adequately recognized for their sacrifices – in my opinion, that was a great injustice. This is the reason why we are here today – to honor those who have served.”

The Captain shared part of the Yard’s history during the Vietnam War era, highlighting construction of

Military Sales program. “Each Costa Rican 110’ patrol boat crew is participating in the training so they are fully ready to operate the vessels during their transit home.”

The Libertador class vessels, Juan Rafael Mora Porras and General Jose Maria Canas Escamilla, departed Baltimore on April 2nd for their new homeport in Caldera, Costa Rica. The U.S. Coast Guard will continue its Costa Rica Coast Guard partnership through training, port call engagements, and passing exercise and operations.

The U.S. Coast Guard 110’ patrol

twenty-six 82-foot patrol boats that made up “Coast Guard Squadron One” and participated in the Vietnam War Operation MARKET TIME. He pointed to a photo (see pg 4) that depicted the departure of three new boats leaving the Yard 57 years ago. Coast Guard patrol boats 82317, 82316 and 82315 left Baltimore on June 2, 1961 enroute to Long Beach, California and eventual deployment to Vietnam.

The 82-foot patrol boats joined five Coast Guard high endurance cutters,

boat fleet was constructed in the mid-1980s. Of the 49 original Island class vessels, 23 remain in service. The Yard prepared the former 110’ Cutters KEY BISCAYNE and GRAND ISLE for delivery to the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency in the spring of 2017 and the former 110’ patrol boats STATEN ISLAND and JEFFERSON ISLAND for transfer to the Republic of Georgia in July 2017.

The Coast Guard is replacing the Island Class 110’ patrol boat fleet with 58 new 154-foot Fast Response Cutters (FRC). To date, 27 FRCs are in service.

among other Coast Guard craft, in support of a variety of combat missions. The Coast Guard provided port security, Explosives Loading Detachments, installation and maintenance of aids-to-navigation, established LORAN stations in both Vietnam and Thailand, and conducted search and rescue missions throughout the war. Over eight thousand Coast Guardsmen served in Vietnam, supporting both combat and traditional service missions.

Yard Overview, from pg 5

Environmental Stewardship

The Yard demonstrates significant and continued commitment and leadership as an environmental steward throughout the U.S. Coast Guard. The Yard is located on waterways leading directly to the Chesapeake Bay and embraces its commitment to keep the Chesapeake Bay clean and healthy.

The Yard is a recent recipient of the Commandant's Sustainability, Energy & Environmental Readiness (SEER) Award (Large Unit Category) that recognizes significant contributions to the Coast Guard in the areas of energy and environmental management.

In 2017, the Yard completed \$7 million in energy efficiency upgrades throughout the Yard's buildings and infrastructure, including upgrades to its Renewable Energy Center (REC). The REC burns a mix of natural gas and landfill gas, supplied by the City of Baltimore through a long-term contract.

The Yard is an ISO 14001-Environmental Management System certified organization. This certification was first achieved in 2000, and has been annually re-certified over the past 17 years. The Yard is the only DHS organization where all entities and environmental aspects of the base are part of one ISO 14001 certification.

The 2018 Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA) fundraising campaign runs through April 30, 2018. As the official financial relief organization of the Coast Guard, the campaign offers a helping hand to shipmates and co-workers in need through direct financial aid and a wide range of programs and services. Last year, CGMA provided more than 5,200 loans and grants, totaling over \$6.3 million in assistance. Donations to CGMA are tax deductible. For further information, go to www.cgmahq.org.



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Captain Matthew Lake
Commanding Officer

Dottie Mitchell
Editor

Jennifer Walter
Collateral Duty Graphic Designer

**Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Coast Guard Yard**

Mail Stop #5
2401 Hawkins Point Road
Baltimore, MD 21226-1797

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