



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. COAST GUARD

**YARD
NEWS**
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

VOLUME 65 NUMBER 02 MARCH/APRIL-MAY/JUNE 2016



*The Assistant Commandant for Engineering and Logistics
Of the United States Coast Guard
Requests the pleasure of your company*

At the

Change of Command Ceremony

At which

Captain George A. Leshner, United States Coast Guard

Will be relieved by

Captain Matthew W. Lake, United States Coast Guard

On Friday, the first of July

At half after ten o'clock

United States Coast Guard Yard

Baltimore, Maryland

Military: Tropical Blue Long

Civilian: Informal Attire

Participants: Full Dress White

The Commanding Officer's Column

by Captain George A. Leshner



Greetings Shipmates!

This is my final CO's column in the Yard News as the change of command is right around the corner. So, it is with a heavy heart that I say farewell to all of you who work here, along with our Coast Guard and external partners.

We often talk about the ships that get worked on here, the infrastructure projects such as the OAKRIDGE capacity replacement, environmental projects, visiting dignitaries, etc. In this, my final issue, I want to highlight that not a single thing gets accomplished here without the skilled and dedicated

craftsmen, managers and support staff doing the work. In other words, a shipyard is nothing without the people who work here. My greatest source of pride is, and always has been, the dedication of our work force to put out the best possible product for the active duty men and women who sail our cutters and boats. I know that first hand, having sailed on six cutters; bringing two of those into the Yard for work. CGC DEPENDABLE was renovated twice here at the Yard, during MMA in the 90's and MEP in 2006. We brought her back here for a dry dock in 2010 when I was the CO. The short story is DEPENDABLE served those of us who sailed her very well completing missions from Canada to South America – never missing a day because she was not able to get underway. That is my very personal and direct connection with the work done by all of you here at the CG Yard.

These last few weeks, we were

honored to host the Commandant and Senator Mikulski who was presented a Distinguished Service Award for her support to the Coast Guard. It was fascinating to hear the Senator's story of passing the camouflaged main gate many years ago with her father during WWII and asking him - "What they do there, Dad?" His response to her was that they are taking care of our boys – referring to the war effort, building and repairing ships for the Coast Guardsmen who took to sea on those vessels. So, in retrospect, our mission and what we do here at the CG Yard hasn't changed a lot, 75 years or so later.

I close with thanking everyone for making the past 5 years the best of my CG career. Welcome back to Capt Lake and his family! Although I am sad to depart, I do so knowing that this place is in good hands.

Thanks for all you do,
Semper Paratus!

Yard Hosts Coast Guard Commandant; Bids Farewell to U.S. Senator Mikulski

The Yard hosted Admiral Paul Zukunft (center), Commandant of the Coast Guard, and U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland (left), for an all-hands ceremony held on the Yard parade field on May 31st. Captain Leshner (right) joined the Commandant who presented the Coast Guard Distinguished Public Service Award to the Senator for her support of the Coast Guard and the Yard over the past 30 years. The Senator relayed farewell wishes to a crowd of over 300 Yard military members and civilian employees as she prepares for retirement in January 2017 from her long-standing career in the United States Senate.



“We’re Working On It!”

Yard Completes EAGLE SLEP Phase II

Barque EAGLE departed the Yard at noon on Tuesday, March 8th after concluding 6 months of planned maintenance under the Coast Guard’s In-Service Vessel Sustainment (ISVS) Program. The Yard began repair of the Coast Guard’s training ship last September as the second phase of a four-phase Service Life Extension Project (SLEP) that assures long term sustainability of the historic, 78-year-old vessel. The Yard conducted this year’s work pier side and concentrated on berthing rehabilitation, structural repairs, and mainmast inspections, among other work items.

EAGLE’s training schedule for summer 2016 includes international ports of call in Ireland, England, Portugal, and Bermuda as well as visits to U.S. east coast ports in Virginia, Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut, Maryland, and South Carolina. EAGLE will return to the Yard in September 2016 to begin SLEP Phase III. *(Photo at right by BM3 Wesley Downey, Coast Guard Station Curtis Bay)*



Cutter PENOBSCOT BAY Sails to Homeport Second Completed 140’ ISVS Icebreaker Tug

The Coast Guard Cutter PENOBSCOT BAY departed the Yard on June 3rd after finishing an 8 week dockside period to make unanticipated repairs. In April 2016, the 140’ icebreaker tug was the second cutter to successfully complete a 14-month Service Life Extension Project on time and under budget as part of the Coast Guard’s In-Service Vessel Sustainment Program. The PENOBSCOT BAY is homeported in Bayonne, New Jersey where it conducts icebreaking operations and assists navigation of commercial ship and barge traffic during the winter months. *(Photo courtesy of Maryland State Highway Administration)*



Yard Welcomes Second NOAA Ship For Planned Maintenance

The Yard welcomed the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) ship THOMAS JEFFERSON (S-222) on March 1, 2016 for an anticipated 12-week planned maintenance and dry-dock availability. The 208-foot ship is a NOAA hydrographic survey vessel outfitted with advanced sonar technology to update NOAA nautical charts.

The Yard's work on THOMAS JEFFERSON is part of a five-year Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2014 between the Coast Guard and NOAA for the Yard to perform repairs on select vessels of the NOAA Atlantic fleet. In spring 2015, the Yard completed an 8-week availability of the FERDINAND R. HASSLER, the first NOAA vessel to enter the Yard under the Memorandum of Understanding. Work on the ship - a coastal mapping vessel - focused on engineering changes to improve functionality of targeted auxiliary systems including ventilation, remote valve operation, and anchor-

ing. The Yard completed the maintenance on time and under budget.

The THOMAS JEFFERSON is beginning the first stage of a three-year progressive maintenance plan at the Yard that will allow the ship to get needed upgrades in stages while staying operational for most of the year. While docked here, the vessel will undergo three months of maintenance, including replacing and upgrading mission sonars, reconfiguring discharge tanks, and switching to a more advanced electronic navigation system.

"We are pleased to return to the Coast Guard Yard at Curtis Bay, where NOAA Ship THOMAS JEFFERSON is undergoing maintenance," said Rear Admiral David A. Score, director of NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations. "The ship supports seafloor mapping vital to producing accurate nautical charts, including response to natural disasters when needed. We value the Yard's capabilities and are pleased to

continue to strengthen our long-term partnership with the USCG. This is but one example of leveraging capabilities across our agencies to deliver more value to the public."

The THOMAS JEFFERSON is the first NOAA vessel to operationalize new sonar technology that acquires data using echo sounders, multi-beam sonars, and side-scan sonars to map the sea floor. Resulting hydrographic surveys provide critical depth measurements. Updated nautical charts target positions of wrecks and other obstructions which can pose hazards to commercial shippers, commercial fishermen, and recreational boaters as they navigate the coastal waterways of the United States.

In early June, the THOMAS JEFFERSON will return to its homeport in Norfolk, Virginia to resume hydrographic charting duties along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. The ship's search of sea floors ranges from Maine to Texas, including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



Named after United States President Thomas Jefferson, the NOAA ship THOMAS JEFFERSON was built in 1992 and delivered to NOAA in 2003. In addition to NOAA personnel, the ship's crew is comprised of wage mariners, civilian scientists, and interns. The vessel is pictured as it enters the Yard's shiplift for planned maintenance on March 5th. (Photo by Charles Wilson)

Yard Continues Journey of Paint Process Improvement

An article published in the November-December 2013 issue of the “Yard News” referenced the continuous journey of improvement at the Yard with painting processes on cutters undergoing maintenance. The article opened by citing a paint failure that resulted in the return to the Yard in 2010 of two 270’ cutters who were experiencing erosion and paint peeling on the hull and superstructure. Upon arrival, the Yard initiated a quality assurance investigation and root cause failure analysis. The study showed an application failure of the white top-coat over a fully cured primer system caused the primer and paint not to bind and the top coat to flake off the hull. The Yard corrected the paint issues, and the cutters departed in 2011.

Recognizing the serious consequences of paint failures, the Yard Paint Shop and Quality Assurance staff put several steps in place to make corrections to paint applications and to assure future success of

painting cutters at the Yard. Among improvements were increased training sessions for all Paint Shop personnel, a change in paint scheduling to avoid last minute paint projects, improved paint facilities including the opening of a new paint complex, and an increased budget for the Paint Shop.

In addition, the Yard continues annual re-certification of its QP-1 quality paint certification. This was originally attained in 2006 for marine coatings. The Yard’s QP-1 certification covers systems and resource management, planning and communications, product ID traceability, purchase, training, and continual improvement. The certification is testimony to the high standards of products and practices of the Yard Paint Shop.

All of the above initiatives have achieved measureable success over the past few years along with an improved paint environment at the Yard. In fact, there have been no

paint failures on a vessel or project in the last five years. Since 2012, the Yard has received no non-conformances on document control pertaining to painting. Sixty-four Paint Shop tradesmen have received specialized training in painting and blasting resulting in certifications from a variety of professional paint associations. And Paint Shop leaders have emerged from the Yard’s Trades Training Program including one foreman and one work leader who have brought their education back to the Shop and offered current principles and practices of the painting trade.

Captain Leshar commented three years ago that “Painting cannot be an afterthought.” Today, he supportively remarks, “We have come far over the past few years with our Paint Shop training and certification. The Yard has changed its painting culture, and we are meeting with success.”

Lamont McCloud (left), Yard QA Coating Specialist, Shop 50, and Stacy Scott (right), Painter Worker, Shop 40, record profile readings on the superstructure of the Cutter FINBACK to determine the amount of epoxy to spray. (Photo by Lamont McCloud)



John Driscoll, Jr, Painter, Shop 40, performs a stripe coat before spraying a full coat of epoxy on the Cutter FINBACK. The patrol boat is the 17th vessel to undergo a 60-day planned maintenance under the 87’ Bow-to-Stern program. Work on FINBACK is accomplished under a plastic wrapped scaffold system that is climate controlled, permitting maintenance, such as painting, regardless of outside weather conditions. Upon completion of repairs, FINBACK will report to its new homeport in Fort Pierce, Florida, to perform assigned operational missions along the Atlantic coast. (Photo by Lamont McCloud)



Yard Receives U. S. Coast Guard SEER Award

The Commandant of the Coast Guard recently awarded the Yard Sustainability, Energy, & Environmental Readiness (SEER) Award for Fiscal Year 2015. The annual award recognizes significant contributions by Coast Guard units, individuals, and teams (afloat & ashore) in the areas of energy and environmental management. The Award highlighted specific accomplishments by the Yard Facilities Management Department in the Large Unit Category.

During FY15, the Yard successfully passed an unannounced EPA and Maryland Department of Environment multi-media inspection spanning three days. This was the first comprehensive inspection at the Yard in over a decade. Implementing energy efficiency in all aspects of buildings and infrastructure, the Yard converted over 11,000 square feet of poorly used storage to new office space for 75 personnel, incorporating several elements of Leadership In Energy and

Environmental Design (LEED) certification. In addition, the Yard hosted its most comprehensive Earth Day event in 20 years with a multi-stakeholder education convention and rain garden project eliminating storm water runoff for two buildings while educating over 1,000 visitors about environmental practices at the Yard.

CDR Stephen Roncone, Chief, Facilities Management Department, remarked, "This is a big accomplishment and one where there were more than a dozen units competing. Kudos to the environmental team for their work on our permits, specifically stormwater pollution prevention, and the Building #31 Lower-Level project team that built out over 11,000 square feet of office space using sustainable flooring, energy efficient HVAC and lighting, natural light tubes, and wall insulation to reduce mechanical system demands."

Founded in 1899, the Yard campus is the oldest, largest, and most complex

Coast Guard industrial site with over 2,400 personnel working on the 113-acre campus supporting prominent operational units with ten tenant commands. The Yard is ISO 14001 (Environmental Management System) certified, the only DHS organization where all entities and environmental aspects on base are part of one ISO 14001 certification. Fiscal year 2015 marked the 15th consecutive ISO certification.

Located on the Chesapeake Bay, one of the most regulated environmental zones in the U.S., the Yard is required to have compliance permits for Title V Air Operating, NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System), oil operations, wastewater discharge, swimming pool, and a scrap tire license.

The Yard has demonstrated continued commitment and leadership as an environmental steward throughout the U.S. Coast Guard. Congratulations from the Yard family on receipt of the CG FY 15 SEER Award!

Yard Facilities Completes Portal Crane Electrification

By LT Philip Constantino, Facilities Management Department

Yard Facilities Engineering recently completed another significant project: converting Portal Crane #4 from diesel engine and motor-generator controls to electric power via cable reels and AC drives and motors. This finishes a five year program to convert four of the Yard's five Industrial workhorses to a more reliable, energy efficient, and quiet operation. (Portal crane #2 was removed from Yard service in 2015.)

Portal Crane #4 was the most complicated and difficult to date due to the amount of design effort. CDR Roncone, Yard's Facility Engineer, said it best, "Think of it this way. Designing and constructing this project was like converting a 1980's Ford to a modern all-electric car. Everything under the hood was removed and replaced with electric motors and drives...AND doing so 60 feet above the pier."

The project design and construction

essentially spanned two and half years including an out of service period from December 2015 – June 2016. Crane #4 has updated operator controls (programmable logic controllers); eliminates the 500 gallon diesel fuel tank; replaces the gantry drives; main and aux hoist motors; uses a custom 350' cable reel system, and houses new shore side 600 amp switches, disconnects and control panels. This project enhances the Yard's industrial capability by standardizing crane operations across the industrial waterfront and reduces costs associated with managing different equipment. In addition, approximately \$75K per year in direct cost savings are realized by switching to low cost, Yard generated electric power from the existing diesel fuel operations.

Many thanks to contractor partners Island Contracting, Tissa Enterprises Inc., and Nidec-Avtron Corporation.

The Facilities Department would especially like to wish Mr. Pensen Chang a happy retirement. Mr. Chang was the Contracting Officer's Representative for the electrical upgrade work on Portal Cranes #1, #3, #4, and #5 responsible for the supervision and oversight of contractor activities. His hard work and dedication to the YARD are greatly appreciated and will be missed. The electrical conversion of Portal Crane #4 was Mr. Chang's final project at the Yard.



Mr. Pensen Chang

Yard Manufactures Prototype Anchor “Stinger” for Fast Response Cutters

The Yard completed prototype manufacturing and pre-operational testing/evaluation of an anchor “stinger” for the Fast Response Cutter (FRC) fleet. The new stinger is designed to help align the anchor with the hawse pipe resting plate as the crew weighs the anchor. Yard welders/fabricators manufactured the stinger from stock steel plate by cutting it to close tolerance on a CNC machine and fabricating the assembly, per specifications. Once the stinger was fabricated, the Yard built a test stand to provide the precise angle of the ship’s hull to simulate actual conditions.



The Sentinel-class Fast Response Cutter is the Coast Guard’s new 154-foot patrol boat fleet assigned the missions of drug and migrant interdiction; port, waterways and coastal security; fishery patrols, search and rescue and national defense. Named after Coast Guard heroes among the enlisted ranks, the FRCs are replacing the Coast Guard Island-class 110-foot patrol boats. The FRCs feature new command, control, communications computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance equipment; over the horizon cutter boat deployment to reach vessels of interest, and improved habitability and sea-keeping. There are currently 16 Fast Response Cutters in service with additional cutters slated for construction and commissioning.

An example of a Fast Response Cutter is pictured below. The Coast Guard Cutter KATHLEEN MOORE (WPC 1109) was the 9th FRC commissioned in May 2014 and is currently homeported in Key West, Florida. *(Photo courtesy of Coast Guard Office of Acquisition)*



Yard personnel observe during the testing phase of the prototype anchor stinger. All preliminary tests were satisfactory. (Photo by Adam Cole, Yard)

Yard Enlisted Member of the Quarter



*SN Alexandria Preston, MWR
FY 16, First Quarter*

Yard Civilian of the Quarter



*Harvey McRae, Heavy Mobile Equipment Shop
FY 16, First Quarter*

Seaman Stewart Selected "Yard Enlisted Person of the Year"

The Yard honored SN Brittani Stewart as the "Yard Enlisted Person of the Year" for 2015 during an all-hands ceremony at the shipyard on March 2, 2016. Competing among other nominees for the honor, SN Stewart was the Yard's Enlisted Member of the Quarter for the second quarter of fiscal year 2015. Both the quarterly and annual awards recognized SN Stewart's outstanding leadership, professional knowledge, and military bearing while assigned to the shipyard's MWR Division.

SN Stewart reported to the Yard in November 2014 upon graduation from the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center in Cape May, New Jersey in September 2014. Her current MWR duties include lead seaman responsible for coordinating operations of the Columbus Recreation Center. In this position,

SN Stewart created a first-of-its kind tracking system for functions and events that led to numerous process improvements in gym operations and increased revenue.

While stationed at the Yard, SN Stewart has devoted countless hours working with the Baltimore Coast Guard Partnership In Education (PIE) program to provide weekly tutoring of local elementary students and monthly mentoring of elementary and high school students in the Baltimore area. She is Assistant Team Lead for the Baltimore Area Coast Guard Color Guard and member of the Coast Guard Enlisted Association.

A native of Guthrie, Oklahoma, SN Stewart is a 2007 graduate of Guthrie High School and is a continuing education student at Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia, pursuing studies in



SN Brittani Stewart

criminal justice and strategic intelligence. SN Stewart is awaiting orders to attend the Coast Guard Intelligence Specialist "A" School in Yorktown, Virginia.

Congratulations from the Yard family!

Coast Guard Commandant Honors Yard Marine Machinery Mechanic Andrew Dove

Admiral Paul Zukunft, the Commandant of the Coast Guard, invited Yard Marine Machinery Mechanic Andrew Dove, Outside Machine Shop, to attend the 2016 State of the Coast Guard Address held on February 23, 2016 in Washington, DC. The Commandant formerly recognized Andrew as an exemplary civilian Coast Guard employee during roll-out of the Coast Guard Human Capital Strategy in December 2015. The Strategy highlighted outstanding civilian and military Coast Guard personnel who provide critical products and services that fulfill the missions of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Andrew's recognition included the invitation to be honored at the upcoming State of the Coast Guard Address. He joined other Coast Guard members to receive congratulations from the Commandant and hear the Admiral's focus on the Coast Guard strategic challenge to build a 21st century Coast Guard and invest in Duty to People.

Admiral Zukunft commented: "If you look in the eyes of our people, you will find this passion for Service before Self and Duty to People at each and every Coast Guard unit...Here with us

today is Mr. Andrew Dove, a civilian technician who works at our Coast Guard Yard in Curtis Bay. He is the equivalent of NASA employees back in the 1960s who when asked what they do would respond, "We are going to put a man on the Moon." Well that's already been accomplished, but Andrew can be found working in and around our 50-year-old cutters in

spaces that require a human contortionist. He can proudly say he is safely putting men and women to sea – attacking traffickers, saving lives, protecting the environment and securing our homeland! Yes, he is a vital part of the mission support network that stands strong behind every Coast Guard operation! Andrew, thank you for all that you do for our Coast Guard!"



Admiral Zukunft (left) thanks SA Cameron Elliott (center left), IT3 Anastasia Kemp (center right), and Andrew Dove (right) for their outstanding service during the 2016 State of the Coast Guard Address. (Photo by PACS Kyle Niemi)



The Baltimore Area Coast Guard (BACG) Commands held their traditional Memorial Day Service on Friday, May 27 at the Yard Veterans Monument. Captain Lonnie Harrison, Commander, Sector Maryland-National Capital Region, presided.

This year, the BACG honored Marine Corps Lance Corporal Jonathan Horn (left) who recently returned to work at the Yard from 4-years active duty in the Middle East.

Jonathan began his career at the Yard in 2010 in the Structural Shop and was selected as a Trades Training student in 2011. He departed the Yard in 2012 to assume active duty with the U.S. Marines. He recently returned to the Yard to continue his full time civil service career as a Yard Shipfitter. Jonathan completed his duty in the Marine Corps on May 28, 2016. Captain Harrison remarked, "Thank you for your service, Lance Corporal Horn. Semper Fidelis."

On behalf of the BACG military members and civilian employees, Jonathan laid a memorial wreath to honor all Service men and women who have sacrificed their lives in defense of our country.

"A Grateful Nation Remembers."

Earth Day 2016

The Yard celebrated the 46th anniversary of Earth Day on Wednesday, April 20th with a stormwater runoff reduction project and partner agency educational booths designed to educate Yard personnel and the community about environmental stewardship.

Yard volunteers installed a 25' wide, 215' long stormwater pollution prevention basin (below) to reduce water

pollution reaching nearby waterways and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay. Stormwater, defined as rain and snowmelt, is generally directed to storm water sewer systems that lead directly to surface waters. Contaminates, like residual oil, nutrients, and sediments, are combined with water during storm events and pollute the waterways. Stormwater infiltration basins or rain gardens collect rain

water and filter it through soil and mulch to remove contaminants, allowing the water to percolate through to ground water. Installation of stormwater controls on the Yard campus will help reduce pollution reaching nearby Curtis Creek and Arundel Cove. The Yard has two other rain gardens - one at the Main Administration and one at Berry Hall - that divert rainwater from the roofs to areas designed specifically to capture and allow percolation through the soils.

An Earth Day Educational Fair featured booths on the Yard parade field. Yard tenant commands, partner agencies and stakeholders offered literature and discussed energy efficiency, water pollution prevention, air pollution prevention, and recycling tips. Local school children from Frank Hebron-Harman Elementary School assisted with construction of the infiltration basin and shared a recent environmental project at the Educational Fair.

Additional Earth Day activities included an 'all hands' clean-up of the Yard's two acres of industrial waterfront, including piers and wharves, by Yard Earth Day volunteers.



Yard Hosts 2016 ASNE-MACC



The Yard provided base support for the 2016 American Society of Naval Engineers (ASNE) Multi-Agency Craft Conference (MACC) on Wed, June 8 and Thurs, June 9. The event was held in a temporary exhibit hall at Steinbock Grove. Nearly 1000 guests attended the two day conference along with 92 vendors from the naval engineering community. Coast Guard dignitaries included RADM Bruce Baffer, Assistant Commandant For Engineering and Logistics, USCG, and RDML Michael Haycock, Director of Acquisition Programs and Program Executive Officer, USCG. The Multi-Agency Craft Conference (MACC) provides an annual forum for open exchange and discussion about boats and craft between government agencies and the maritime community. This year's event was an open forum for the exchange of operational and technical information on small boats and craft between Government agencies and the maritime community. Information on new technologies and new product offerings as well as information on Army and Navy service craft, Navy and Coast Guard patrol boats, Navy and USMC expeditionary craft, and Naval Special Warfare craft were highlighted in chaired technical presentations, vendor and agency displays, and in-water demonstrations over the two-day conference. *(Photo by CWO Kristopher McGhee, Yard)*

**HAPPY
117TH BIRTHDAY,
COAST GUARD
YARD**

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