



Welcome Aboard, Queen of the Coast Guard Fleet!

The Coast Guard Cutter SMILAX (WLIC 315) with crane barge arrived at the Yard on May 4th to begin an anticipated 15-week repair availability focusing on underwater body preservation; overhauls of the crane, sea valve, main generator and spuds, and metal deterioration inspections. Built at Dubuque Boat & Boiler Works in Dubuque, Iowa, the 71-year-old cutter was commissioned in 1944 as World War II raged on. The 100-foot inland construction tender is the oldest cutter in active Coast Guard service and proudly carries the title Queen of the Fleet (and the privilege of a gold hull number). The Cutter is homeported in Atlantic Beach, North Carolina, where it maintains thousands of fixed aids to navigation such as lights and range markers and several dozen buoys throughout the North Carolina Outer Banks. SMILAX's missions prevent loss of life and property and damage to the environment while assuring safe navigation for mariners today as it has done for over seven decades.



CGC SMILAX

(Photo by Charles Wilson, Yard)

Farewell, Barque EAGLE



The Yard completed work on the Coast Guard Barque EAGLE on May 3rd. The historic sailing ship returned to the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, to prepare for this summer's training cruises & good will ports-of-call around the world.

The 7 1/2 month repair effort by the Yard was the first phase of a four phase Service Life Extension Project (SLEP) extending the service life of the Coast Guard's 79-year-old training vessel. In addition, the project performed life-cycle repairs to the barque as part of the Coast Guard's In-Service Vessel Sustainment Program, providing critical overhaul for the long term sustainability of the Coast Guard fleet.

See EAGLE, pg 3

Passing the historic New London Ledge Lighthouse on the Thames River, America's Tall Ship returns to the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT on May 8, 2015. The journey follows service-life extension repairs at the Yard from September 2014 to May 2015. (Photo reprinted with permission from Paul Flickner Photography)

The Commanding Officer's Column

by Captain George A. Lesher



Greetings, Shipmates!

We are well into the summer with the 4th of July come and gone as you read this. We bid farewell to many of our active duty members as the PCS assignment season moves on, and we celebrated five active duty retirements. A special thanks to all of those personnel for their service.

It is good to see most of the replacements have arrived bringing us back up to our full complement of personnel and restoring our ability to provide services at the gym, Drydock Club, etc. Our new Chief, Military Support Division, Command Senior Chief, and Chief of Planning, Estimating and Scheduling are featured in this issue. Welcome aboard to all the new folks!

It was a pleasure to host VADM Stosz, the new Deputy Commandant for Mission Support. She enjoyed meeting and talking with some of you as we made our way around the Yard, and it was a great opportunity to show off what we do here for the Coast Guard, our other government partners, and even international customers. Some of you may not be aware, the

Ordnance Shop is overhauling two MK-75 guns for the Polish Navy. Once the work is finished later this fall, we will ship these guns over to Poland along with an install crew and restore them to service.

Please be safe as many of us travel on summer leave, enjoy picnics or enjoy some summer recreation.

Thanks for all you do,
Semper Paratus!

VADM Sandra Stosz, Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, Makes Inaugural Visit to Yard

Vice Admiral Sandra Stosz, newly appointed Deputy Commandant for Mission Support (DCMS), U.S. Coast Guard, visited the Baltimore Area Coast Guard Commands on June 18th. RADM Bruce Baffer, Assistant Commandant for Engineering & Logistics, U.S. Coast Guard, accompanied the Vice Admiral. Among briefings on the Yard, Surface Forces Logistics Center (SFLC), and Asset Project Office Baltimore, Vice Admiral Stosz toured the Yard waterfront to view the In-Service Vessel Sustainment projects MORRO BAY and PENOBSCOT BAY, the RELIANCE in ex-USS OAK RIDGE, the 87' patrol boat Bow-to-Stern tents housing KINGFISHER and HERON, and the Yard Ordnance Shop. The visiting Admirals also toured the SFLC warehouse. In the photo, joined by CMC Shane Hooker (left)-DCMS, Vice Admiral Stosz (right) concluded her visit with videotaping the new film "The DCMS Intent," featuring the Yard shiplift with the Cutters NORTHLAND (left) and PENOBSCOT BAY (right) in the background.



“We’re Working On It!”



CGC MORAY (WPB 87331) - Jonesport, ME



CGC WILLIAM TATE (WLM 560) - Philadelphia, PA



*CGC POMPANO (WPB 87339) - Sabine Pass, TX
(USCG photo by CWO Kristopher McGhee)*



CGC HERON (WPB 87344) - Virginia Beach, VA

EAGLE, cont. from pg 1

Ship Superintendent LT Paul Alexander commented regarding EAGLE's departure, "The crew left very happy with the work that has been accomplished, and the CO and EO had great things to say about the effort that went into EAGLE's availability....I cannot express enough my personal appreciation for

everyone's determination, long hours, and initiative...especially within the past 4+ weeks. I know there are a lot of you, your leaders and workers, who have been here every day for 12-14+ hours each day....Thank you for the personal sacrifices you made, and your devotion to the project and each other."

Wrapping up EAGLE's Phase I

SLEP, CAPT Leshler commented, "Shipmates, EAGLE departed Sunday at 1400 as planned. This was due to a tremendous effort by many of you to complete an incredible amount of work in a relatively short period of time. Thank you for the incredible support and dedication. I am proud to be your Commanding Officer!"

The U.S. Coast Guard Yard
Since 1899, Servicing the fleet that Guards Our Coasts

Yard Concludes Maintenance of First NOAA Ship; Readies for Arrival of Next NOAA Vessel Under Joint Memo of Understanding

The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Ship FERDINAND R. HASSLER arrived at the Yard in March 2015 for an anticipated eight-week availability. The Yard concluded planned maintenance of the coastal mapping vessel on May 8, 2015. The Yard completed the approximately \$1 million repair project on time and under budget. The FERDINAND R. HASSLER is homeported in New Castle, New Hampshire. There, the vessel supports NOAA's nautical research and charting for navigation safety along the east coast.

The U.S. Coast Guard and NOAA signed a Memorandum of Understanding in October 2014 for, among other agreements, the Yard to potentially service the NOAA Atlantic fleet over the next five years. FERDINAND R.

HASSLER was the first NOAA vessel to arrive. The NOAA ship THOMAS JEFFERSON, a hydrographic survey vessel, is expected to enter the Yard in March 2016 for dry-dock maintenance. Outfitted with advanced sonar technology, THOMAS JEFFERSON conducts hydrographic surveys along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the United States. Survey data updates NOAA's nautical charts that are used by commercial ships and recreational boats for safe navigation.

The Yard's work on FERDINAND R. HASSLER focused primarily on accomplishing engineering changes that improved functionality of several auxiliary systems including ventilation, remote valve operation, and anchoring. Engineering support was provided ahead of the availability period to develop necessary detailed production

specifications. In addition, preliminary engineering studies of the vessel's ventilation and anchoring systems will be used to create detailed designs for future corrective alterations. After successful repairs, the Yard and NOAA will apply lessons learned from FERDINAND R. HASSLER's availability to benefit upcoming NOAA Atlantic fleet availabilities accomplished at the Yard.

"The Coast Guard Yard at Curtis Bay has provided first-class repair and maintenance support for NOAA Ship FERDINAND R. HASSLER, enabling the ship to stay on schedule and perform its vital mission to map the sea floor in support of safe navigation and commerce," said NOAA Rear Admiral David A. Score, Director of the NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations.



NOAA commissioned the 124-foot FERDINAND R. HASSLER in June 2012. The ship is named after its namesake, Ferdinand Rudolph Hassler (1770-1843) who served as the founding superintendent of the Coast Survey, the precursor to today's NOAA. Pictured moored at the Yard on March 17, 2015, the Small Waterplane Area Twin Hull (SWATH) ship detects and monitors changes to the sea floor. Data collected is used to update nautical charts, detect potential hazards to navigation, and enhance understanding of the ever-changing marine environment. The twin-hull vessel is equipped to deploy buoys and unmanned submersibles to support general oceanographic research. The NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations manages the NOAA Atlantic fleet. (Photo by CWO

Yard Welcomes New Managers

LT David Rott
Chief, Military Support Division



LT David Rott is a native of Point Pleasant, New Jersey and enlisted in the Coast Guard in May of 1996. He is currently serving as the Military Support Division Chief as an 0-3E. After departing boot camp in Cape May, NJ in August of 1996, his sea and shore assignments included CGC VALIANT Miami, FL; CG Activities New York, NY; CG Group St. Petersburg, FL; CGC RESOLUTE St. Petersburg, FL; CG Sector St. Petersburg, FL; Fifth Coast Guard District Portsmouth, VA & Coast Guard Headquarters Detached Portsmouth, VA, as Commanding Officer of Personnel Services and Support Unit San Pedro, San Pedro CA & as Personnel Support Department Head at CG Base Los Angeles/Long Beach.

LT Rott holds a Master of Arts Degree (Summa Cum Laude) in Industrial & Organizational Psychology w/Coaching & Consulting Concentration; a Bachelor of Science Degree (Summa Cum Laude) in Business Administration w/Human Resources "HR" Concentration, and an Associates of Arts (Magna Cum Laude) in General Studies. LT Rott attained his degrees from Touro University.

A member of the US Coast Guard for 19 years, he has experience in Leadership, Management, HR, Organization Development, Quality Systems

See **LT Rott**, pg 6

FSCS Robert Proctor
Command Senior Chief



FSCS Robert Proctor recently reported to the Yard as the Command Senior Chief. Senior Chief Proctor began his military career by joining the Army Reserves in February, 1990. He was a Unit Level Communications Maintainer, and Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Specialist.

The Senior Chief joined the Coast Guard in November, 1993 and reported to his first assignment on the Cutter FORWARD in Portsmouth, VA. In 1995, he attended Subsistence Specialist A School, today known as Food Service Specialist.

Senior Chief Proctor has served on seven Coast Guard vessels (FORWARD, DILIGENCE, RED BIRCH, JAMES RANKIN, DEPENDABLE, SHERMAN, and RUSH) and held five shore assignments including Coast Guard Stations Crisfield, New York, Barnegat Light, Group/Air Station Humboldt Bay, and TRACEN Petaluma. He had TDY deployments on the Cutters IDA LEWIS and EAGLE.

A native of Maryland, Senior Chief and his wife, Patricia, together have four children, and one "beautiful" granddaughter who entered the Proctor family on June 8, 2015! In his free time, FSCS enjoys bowling and martial arts.

Senior Chief Proctor comments, "This is my first out of rate position,

See **FSCS Proctor**, pg 6

Jim Hoehn
Chief, Planning & Estimating
& Scheduling



James Hoehn serves as the Yard's Chief of Planning & Estimating and Scheduling, Industrial Department. A 24 year civil service employee, Mr. Hoehn began his federal career with the Department of Defense as an Electronics Mechanic. He started his career with the Coast Guard in 1997 as a WG-08 Electronics Worker in the Electro Group of the Yard, progressing thru the ranks to WL-12 Work Leader. In 2006, he was promoted to Electronics Ship Superintendent for the Electronics and Ordnance Project Management Branch (EOPMB), overseeing electronic and ordnance projects for the shipyard.

Mr. Hoehn furthered his Coast Guard career in 2008, accepting the position of Electronics Equipment Specialist at the Engineering Logistics Center (ELC). During his tenure at the ELC, Mr. Hoehn served as a Contracting Officers Representative (COR) and Maintenance Analyst, providing Life Cycle Support for Coast Guard electronic systems. He participated in the modernization of ELC to the Surface Force Logistics Center (SFLC).

Mr. Hoehn continued to enhance his Coast Guard career in 2010 and accepted a Management and Program Analyst position supporting the Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence (C4ISR)

See **Hoehn**, pg 6

Milestones

Retirements

FSC Elbert McGougan
24 Years

LT Isaac Saenz
20 Years

CWO Timothy Fields
27 Years

CWO3 Paul Plocinik
29 Years

MEC William Lahey
20 Years

Dale Courville
Electrician
29 Years

James Meyers
Tool Room Equipment Repairer
34 Years

Advancements/Promotions

Fred Whitacre, Planner/Estimator (Electronics), WD-2604-8
Russell Cholewa, Machinist (CNC), WG-3414-12
Pat Vacchio, Machinist (CNC), WG-3414-12
Julian Arista, Painter, WG-4102-9

Cathy Cortright, Acct. Tech, GS-525-7
Kevin Grasson, Mech Engineer, GS-830-9
Chris LaPorte, Structural Inspector, WG-3801-11

LT Rott, cont. from pg 5

Design and Improvement, Organizational Assessments, and Performance Analysis.

LT Rott has acquired various certifications and completed trainings and projects related to Change Management, Strategic Planning, Facilitation, Assessments, Executive Coaching & Conflict Management. He has been recognized as an Organizational change agent at the executive and business unit levels under the direction of Coast Guard Headquarters.

LT Rott's professional military accomplishments include the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, four Coast Guard Achievement Medals, three Commandant's Letters of Commendation, four CG Good Conduct Medals, a Coast Guard Sea Service Ribbon, and various other unit and campaign awards. He is a graduate of the Chief Petty Officer Academy and the Chief Warrant Officer Professional Development Courses, receiving the Chief Petty Officer Academy Fitness Award, and the Chief Warrant Officer Professional Development Fitness and the CWO Distinguished Officer Awards.

LT Rott enjoys reading and running "while listening to electronic dance music so I can fulfill my favorite activity, eating!" Most importantly, he enjoys "helping people and serving in

the Coast Guard."

LT Rott has been married for fifteen years to his wife, Rebecca. They have three daughters; ages 13, 12, and 8.

Welcome Aboard!

FSCS Proctor, cont. from pg 5

and I'm eager to take on new challenges, learn new faces, but, most importantly, learn and educate. For no matter how much we think we know something, there could always be a simpler way. Share the knowledge you know; be willing to learn what you don't."

Welcome Aboard!



Hoehn, cont. from pg 6

project Coast Guard Logistics Information Management System (CG-LIMS) within the Acquisition Directorate (CG-9) at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Completing a Coast Guard 360 degree circle in June of 2015, Mr. Hoehn returned to the Coast Guard Yard as Chief of Planning & Estimating and Scheduling. His duties include, but are not limited to, supervising the creation of and ensuring the accuracy for detailed plans, workload analysis, estimates, and scheduling for all Yard plans and projects (over \$100M in annual production and 650,000 labor hours).

Mr. Hoehn is an Acquisition Program Manager Level II, Life Cycle Logistics Manager Level II, and Contracting Officers Representative (COR) Level II Department of Homeland Security Certified Acquisition Professional. He's earned Associates' Degrees in Electronics Technology and Business Administration and is a veteran of the United States Army and Maryland National Guard.

A resident of Millers Island, Mr. Hoehn and his wife, Tracy, have two daughters, ages 11 and 8. Outside of Coast Guard work, he enjoys golf, tennis, boating, and riding a motorcycle.

Welcome Aboard!

Congratulations, FEB Gold Medalists!

The Yard captured four gold medals in the 2015 Excellence In Federal Career Awards competition sponsored by the Baltimore Federal Executive Board (FEB). The special event, held at the Martin's West Banquet Center in Woodlawn, Maryland, is the annual FEB program that recognizes local federal civilian employees and military members for outstanding work in select job categories. Held for the past 48 years, the high profile recognition ceremony honored over 300 winners. The Yard took home top honors in Outstanding Supervisor-Trades & Crafts; Outstanding Trades & Crafts (Non-Supervisory); Rookie Employee of the Year-Trades & Crafts, and Distinguished Public Service Career.

John Driscoll, Outstanding Supervisor-Trades & Crafts Awardee, is an Equipment Mechanical Supervisor in the Yard Ordnance Shop. This past year, he was instrumental in the supervised completion of five MK75 installations, three of which were performed on the road and two that were accomplished as emergency repairs for the Coast Guard fleet. His leadership resulted in two MK53 antenna installations, 22 MK38 overhauls, and four M242 cannon overhauls for the Coast Guard, and 12 M242 ordnance overhauls for the U.S. Navy. He also assisted in international ordnance assistance for the Nigerian Navy at the request of the U.S. State Department.

Richard Cress, Outstanding Trades & Crafts (Non-Supervisory) Awardee, is a Sheetmetal Boat Joiner Work Leader in Group 10. Among other successful projects, he is credited for leading six 5-week road shows on six of the Coast Guard's 378' High Endurance Cutters (HEC) during which the Yard road team rehabilitated the WHEC galleys. Such a project directly impacted the cutters' food service and morale, improving the quality of meals for scores of Coast Guard active duty members. He was hand-selected to lead 10-member road teams of Yard tradesmen who replaced outdated steam-operated galley equipment with electric equipment, thus improving habitability standards for the 378' fleet.

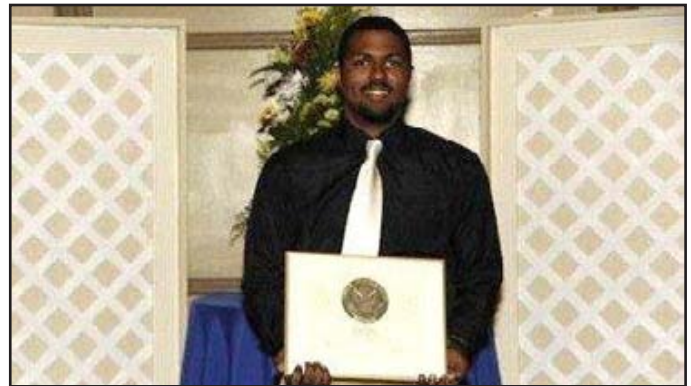
Andrew Dove, Rookie Employee of the Year-Trades & Crafts Awardee, is a Marine Mechanic Repairer in the Yard's Machine Shop. A current member of the Yard Trades Training Program, his work at the Yard has involved numerous engine overhauls and other successful marine mechanical projects in the Outside Machine Shop. He is a "go-to" tradesman for trouble shooting a variety of mechanical systems on various classes of cutters in the shipyard, receiving much recognition from his supervisors and Yard leadership.

Charlie Zerbe, Distinguished Public Service Career Awardee, retired in 2014 as the Yard's Production Manager. As the highest grade civilian employee, he worked at the Yard for 48 years. He was responsible for all shipyard planning and production, including new boat construction, ship repair and renovation, and cutter modernization. He led the Yard project management staff as well as four groups of marine-related trades that encompassed 19 shops and 450 personnel. For over four decades, his leadership had a direct impact on the Coast Guard's ability to execute a variety of missions, both within the United States and throughout the world. He also founded the Yard's Trades Training Program, assuring future leaders for the shipyard.

Congratulations from the Yard family!



John Driscoll



Andrew Dove



Richard Cress



Charlie Zerbe

Yard Celebrates 40th Anniversary of End of Vietnam War; Reads Vietnam War Era Honor Roll



Yard Veterans Monument on Memorial Day 2015

The Baltimore Area Coast Guard commands held the annual Memorial Day Service on Friday, May 22nd at the Yard Veterans Monument on the parade field. This year's all-hands event commemorated the theme of the 40th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War.

The following remarks were read by Captain Leshar. His comments included a reading of an "Honor Roll" of current employees of the Yard and its tenant commands who are veterans of the Vietnam War era. The Captain commented:

"This year's Memorial Day Service commemorates a special theme, the 40th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. Many members of the Armed Forces fought bravely on the battlefields of Vietnam – many survived; many did not. Other members of the Armed Forces served elsewhere in foreign lands while a war was being fought in Southeast Asia.

The Vietnam War and Vietnam War era spans the dates of 28 February 1961 to 7 May 1975. The Baltimore Area Coast Guard Command family thanks all veterans for your dedication to your country and proudly remembers your contributions and sacrifices during this era of conflict in our nation's history.

The following names are an Honor Roll of those employed by the Baltimore Area Coast Guard commands who served in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard during the Vietnam War era. We read their names aloud today to recognize and thank them for their service and to assure them that "A Grateful Nation Remembers."

Coast Guard Yard

John Downes
Warren Barr
James Meyers
Tim Sheppard
Lawrence Johnson
William Tyson
Mike Thomas
Elvert Curry
James Mack
Theodore Brown
Halsan Stafford
Logan Talley
Cecil Justice
Robert Hayden
John Bowerman

Thomas Burnham
David Hoffman
Rodger Pugh
Andre Harrington
James Coleman
Ben Carey
John Vranas
Henry Phillips
Ted Andrews
John Terzano
Louis Duckery
Melvin Dash
Jeff Moylan
John Regiec
Gary Ludwig
Terry Hafko

Murray Holmes
Stephen Furgerson
Marvin Payton
Halston Stafford
Al Moulton
Dave Darling
George Reed
Joe Kasian
Louis Yowell
James Scott
Patrick Cuffley
**Surface Forces Logistics
Center**
William Brown
Michael Lerie
Roman A. Puzkarczuk

Coast Guard Sector Baltimore

Rick Sparacino
Michael Steinberger
**Coast Guard Asset
Project Office Baltimore**
Mac McClosky
Joe Goddard
Alger Avestro
Gary Thompson
Larry Sharp
**Coast Guard Civil Rights
Directorate Region 1,
Zone 3**
Les Delney

Baltimore Area Coast Guard Commands Celebrate 2015 Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

The Baltimore Area Coast Guard Commands celebrated Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month with the performances of traditional Chinese dances on May 14th at the Yard Dry Dock Club. The special event celebrated the theme, "Many Cultures, One Voice: Promoting Equality and Inclusion."

Accomplished dancers Michelle Yu of the Phoenix Dancing Academy and Ziyuan Wang of the China Yihne Art Academy delighted the audience with the Lotus, Swan, and Hua Dan dances.

Dancer Michelle Yu performed the Lotus Dance that portrays the blooming features of the lotus flower, reminding all about the value of making good choices in life. Yu also danced the Swan, an Inner Mongolian dance expressing the emotions of returning to one's homeland.

Dancer Ziyuan Wang performed the Chinese Classical Dance Hua Dan, a feature of the Peking Opera, combining lively music, ingenious dance steps, surging movements, and elaborate costumes.

The diversity celebration concluded with visits to cultural displays and ethnic food samplings. *(Photos courtesy of Shek Kwan, SFLC)*



Dancer Ziyuan Wang



Dancer Michelle Yu

“Like Us” On Facebook!

The Yard introduced its first Facebook Page in November 2014. The Page achieved a milestone anniversary this June with its 50th post.

Readers can view the Page on www.facebook.com/uscoastguardyard. Social media presents the Coast Guard with increased opportunities to educate and engage internal and external audiences. Social media tools offer direct two-way engagement with the American public, allowing the Coast Guard to inform its constituents and listen to concerns through feedback.

The Yard's Facebook Page focuses on Yard mission accomplishments, military and civilian personnel news, workforce climate concerns, special emphasis programs, special events, VIP visits, etc. The Yard's Communications Office manages the Yard Facebook Page. YN2 Christopher White, Yard SPO, is the Yard's primary social media spokesperson. The POCs can be reached on dottie.e.mitchell@uscg.mil; 410-636-7238; christopher.e.white@uscg.mil; 410-636-4095.

Register with Facebook and “Like Us”!

With Sympathy

The Yard extends condolences to the family of Fritz Konopik, former Yard Business Manager. Mr. Konopik passed away on June 2, 2015. He retired from the Yard in 1990 with 38 years federal service.

Yard Continues Tradition of Annual Picnic

In the 1930s, modernization of the Arundel Cove Depot (today's Coast Guard Yard) took place. As production of facilities and craft increased, so did the comradery of the workforce. Destined to become an annual event, the Depot's employee picnic (pictured

below) started as a tradition and has continued for over 80 years. Although what picnic goers wear has certainly changed, the fun and enjoyment of the yearly summer Coast Guard Day picnic remains. Join us!



Coast Guard Yard Picnic 1932

2015
Coast Guard Day Picnic

Friday, July 31

Noon - 4 p.m.

Steinboch Grove

Commemorating the
U.S. Coast Guard's 225th Anniversary
August 4, 1790 - August 4, 2015

YARD NEWS

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