Yard Completes Mid-Life Maintenance On Cutter MAPLE

The Yard bids farewell to MAPLE on November 7th as the Cutter passes near the figurehead of Barque EAGLE, currently homeported at the Yard and recently completing a four-year phase Service Life Extension Project under the In-Service Vessel Sustainment Program.

The Coast Guard Cutter MAPLE departed the Yard two days ahead of schedule on November 7th after completing a 12-month mid-life maintenance under the Coast Guard's In-Service Vessel Sustainment (ISVS) project. MAPLE was the fourth 225' buoy tender to undergo the extensive overhaul of targeted hull, mechanical, electrical, and electronic systems. To date, the Yard has improved the long term sustainability of the 225' Cutters OAK, WILLOW, KUKUI, and MAPLE through the ISVS program that began at the Yard in 2015.

Renovation of MAPLE included installation of a new buoy crane, overhaul of deck equipment and weight handling gear, updates to the machinery control system and HVAC systems, topside preservation, and stability assessment. Routine maintenance included dry-docking, painting, plate renewal, and renewal of worn-out machinery parts and rusted steel. Upon completion, MAPLE reports to its new homeport in Atlantic Beach, North Carolina.

The 225' cutter class is equipped with a single controllable pitch propeller and a bow and stern thruster that gives the vessel the maneuverability it needs to tend buoys offshore and in restricted water. The cutters service floating aids to navigation; conduct homeland security operations; clear waterways impacted by natural disasters; assist oil spill clean-ups, and conduct Coast Guard search and rescue operations.

The 225' seagoing buoy tenders were commissioned between 1996 and 2004 and planned for 30 years of service. The Yard's mid-life maintenance allows the vessels to be fully mission capable and effectively operate for the rest of their service life.

Happy Holidays!
focused on expanding our portfolio of “roadshow” work, in response to strong demand from the Surface Forces Logistics Center and the Command, Control, and Communications Engineering Center for ship systems installations and upgrades at cutter homeports across the country.

In November, Congress passed The Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018, which included modifications to the Yard’s working capital fund statute – last updated in 1949. This updated law enables the Yard to use new Cost Plus Incentive Fee (CPIF) project orders. Specifically, the Yard may enter into CPIF project orders with our customers for certain types of repeatable projects (such as RDAP or cutter renovations), where opportunity exists to reduce the cost of a project through the efficiencies that may arise from repetition and continuous innovation. If the Yard delivers savings on a given CPIF project (completing a project under a target cost set by a customer), a portion of the savings are paid directly to the wage grade employees that worked on the project as an incentive, and a portion of the savings are returned to the customer. The Yard will make use of this new authority over the next year after implementing and testing the requisite policies and internal controls necessary to ensure program success. We anticipate this new authority will ultimately bolster Yard cost and schedule performance – benefitting the operational Coast Guard and our other government agency partners.

I’ll close my column with a note of thanks to all our military veterans. On November 11th, our Nation celebrated Veteran’s Day. To me, it is incredibly humbling to contemplate the sacrifices made by the men and women who have served in our Armed Forces. Veteran’s Day is particularly important to the Yard given that nearly 40% of our workforce have served (or are currently serving) in the U.S. military. Within the Yard workforce today, we have veterans from each of the five Armed Services, and veterans who served in every armed conflict the U.S. has been involved with since the Vietnam War. Our large veteran workforce is very much part of our workforce culture - and helps define us as an organization that is committed to service of the operational Coast Guard and our Nation.

Greetings family and friends of the Yard! Work at the Yard continues at a “flank bell” on a wide range of vessel renovation and repair projects, serving the operational Coast Guard fleet, the U.S. Navy and allied nations. These projects include 87-foot Recurring Depot Availability Program (RDAP) work on CGC IBIS and CGC BLUEFIN; service life extensions of CGC MOBILE BAY, CGC THUNDER BAY, and U.S. Navy Yard Patrol Craft YP-695; Midlife Maintenance Availabilities of CGC FIR and CGC ELM; a dockside availability aboard CGC EAGLE, and weapons systems overhauls for several Coast Guard Cutters and U.S. Navy ships. The Yard is also making preparations to renovate two former Coast Guard 110-foot patrol boats recently transferred to Ukraine.

The Yard continues to hire additional craftspeople to meet the increased demand for Yard services. Over the past 18 months, we increased the number of shipyard “producers” by 16%. This enabled us to improve schedule performance and consistently deliver cutters on time despite a 17% workload increase over the past two years. We expect demand to continue to rise over the next year, level off for 1-2 years, and then increase again at the start of the 270-foot Medium Endurance Cutter Service Life Extension program, where we intend to run the shipyard with two full shifts. In addition to supporting RDAP and cutter renovation projects, we are also

Season’s Greetings!

Yard Ordnance Shop employee Ian Turner captures the serenity of Arundel Cove at sunrise prior to Thanksgiving 2018. Yard customers THUNDER BAY (left), a 140’ icebreaker tug, and YP #695 (right), a U.S. Navy 108’ wooden hull patrol boat, wait for the work day to begin repair by the skilled hands of the Yard.
Two Yard Employees Among Honorees at Annual DHS Secretary’s Award Ceremony

The Honorable Kirstjen Nielsen, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), held the DHS Annual Secretary's Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, November 7th in Constitution Hall in Washington, DC. Two Yard employees, John Bragaw, Yard Production Manager, and Teresa Byrd, Yard Command Administrative Assistant, were among this year's honorees.

The award event recognizes outstanding men and women of the Department who have made significant contributions to the DHS missions that safeguard the American public. The Secretary commented, "They and their stories - full of honor, courage, and ingenuity - represent the very best of our Department. Their actions represent the heroic efforts carried out by the more than 240,000 dedicated professionals who serve our Department across the country and around the world each and every day. I thank each of you for your continued support of our homeland security mission."

John Bragaw received the second highest DHS award, the Meritorious Service Silver Award, for outstanding leadership, superior public service, and significant contributions to strengthening the country's homeland security. Among other achievements, he managed the Yard’s efforts to expand and restructure its workforce by 16%, the first such expansion in more than two decades. This required complex workforce planning, large-scope policy changes, and new recruiting programs that will ultimately support a full second shift in the shipyard. The effort enabled the Yard to meet increasing demand for critical cutter renovations, such as the 225' WLB Midlife Maintenance Availability (MMA) and 140' WTGB Service Life Extension Project (SLEP), ensuring these vessels were delivered on-schedule to meet operational commitments - keeping waterways open in support of $4.6 trillion/year in maritime economic commerce.

His work also enabled the Yard to increase the ratio of junior to senior personnel, and decreased the proportion of overhead positions in the Yard to improve career progression opportunities, reduce workforce stagnation, and lower taxpayer costs. As a direct result of his efforts, the Yard lowered its pricing charged to customers by more than 4% through FY18, saving more than $6.6 million.

Teresa Byrd received the DHS Secretary's Award for Exemplary Service for exceptional administrative support including extensive coordination of dignitaries for command level visits. This award recognizes exemplary individual service by DHS.

See DHS Awards, pg 4
Captain John Lobkovich, USCG (Retired), passed away on July 5, 2018. He served as the Yard Commanding Officer from June 1977 to June 1980. A native of Detroit, Michigan, CAPT Lobkovich graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 1952. His sea duty included assignments aboard the DURANT, IROQUOIS, KUKUI, and WESTWIND, progressing from Deck Watch Officer to Engineer Officer. After receiving a degree as a Naval Engineer from MIT in 1958, he was assigned to the Yard as a Ship Superintendent until 1959.

CAPT Lobkovich's shore duty assignments were varied. In the Third Coast Guard District, he was assigned to the Contract and Repair Administration-Small Boats. He then reported to Coast Guard Headquarters as Project Officer for design and construction of 378' high endurance cutters. From 1967 to 1971, he was Commanding Officer and Group Commander of Base Seattle, followed by Chief, Personnel Division and Commanding Officer of Enlisted Personnel in the Thirteenth District. In 1971, he moved to the Ninth District as Chief, Naval Engineering Branch and then Chief, Engineering Division.

Captain Lobkovich came to the Yard from the Third Coast Guard District where he served as Chief, Engineering Division for two years.

CAPT Lobkovich was a member of the American Society of Naval Engineers and the U.S. Naval Institute. He was awarded the Coast Guard Commendation Medal and held the Korean War, National Defense and United Nations campaign ribbons.

Teresa Byrd coordinated award recognition for all 700 members of the Yard, resulting in back-to-back sweeps of the Coast Guard Civilian of the Year awards, a Coast Guard CFO award winner, and winner of the 2017 DHS Management Award for Green Innovation. In addition, she coordinated and executed a highly successful Diversity Day program that was attended by members of 14 different Coast Guard commands and featured the Administrative Director for the Maryland Commission on Native American Affairs as the keynote speaker.

Beyond these activities, she coordinated civilian time and attendance, purchasing activities, assisted with Office of Workers' Compensation activities for the command staff, and served as a registered Notary Public for all Yard members and their dependents.

Captain Lake commented, "Through her dedicated efforts and tireless work ethic, she has improved the standing of the Yard with key stake holders both inside and outside the Department of Homeland Security."

Well-deserved congratulations from the Yard family to John Bragaw and Teresa Byrd on receipt of these prestigious DHS Awards for 2018!
Cutter MAPLE Says “Thank-You” To Yard Workforce

In the photo at left, CAPT Lake proudly joins the Commanding Officer and crew of the Cutter MAPLE on November 2nd to express appreciation to the Yard workers who performed overhaul of the 225’ buoy tender during the past year. Twenty Yard trade employees received a commemorative MAPLE t-shirt for accomplishing a successful 12-month mid-life maintenance availability of the cutter under the Coast Guard's In-Service Vessel Sustainment (ISVS) Program.

MAPLE was the 4th 225' buoy tender to undergo ISVS since the program began at the Yard in 2015. The Yard renovated targeted hull, mechanical, electrical and electronic systems on board MAPLE in order for the buoy tender to effectively operate for the rest of its service life. MAPLE departed the Yard for its new homeport in Atlantic Beach, NC on November 7th. In the below photo, LCDR Kellee Nolan, (center right), Commanding Officer of the Cutter MAPLE, gratefully shakes the hand of David Herbert, (center left), X30, during the MAPLE appreciation ceremony.
We’re Working On It!

The Yard works on the patrol boat IBIS during a 60-day planned maintenance of the cutter under the 87' Recurring Depot Availability Project (RDAP). IBIS is the third Phase II RDAP vessel to undergo repair for improved fleet readiness. Upon completion, IBIS will report to its new homeport in Fort Pierce, Florida.

The Yard continues modernization of the U.S. Navy patrol boat YP #695 to provide an additional 10 years of service life. The 30-year-old, 108' wooden hull boat supports the U.S. Naval Academy’s seamanship and nautical science training programs.

The 225' ELM is pictured in right foreground while on the shiplift undergoing the Coast Guard’s In-Service Vessel Sustainment (ISVS) program. ISVS enables the Coast Guard to extend and maintain cutter service lives. ELM is the 5th 225’ cutter to receive ISVS mid-life repair at the Yard. Upon work completion in early 2019, the buoy tender will report to its new homeport in Astoria, Oregon.
"We’re Working On It!" (continued)

The patrol boat POMPANO undergoes painting during its 60-day planned maintenance under the Coast Guard’s 87' Recurring Depot Availability Project (RDAP). POMPANO is the 4th Phase II RDAP vessel and will report to its new homeport in Tybee Island, GA upon completion of work at the Yard.

The Yard delivered the THUNDER BAY (left), a 140' ice breaking tug, in mid-November after completing a 12-month Service Life Extension Project (SLEP) under the Coast Guard's In-Service Vessel Sustainment Program. Work was completed on time and under budget and involved replacement of major hull, mechanical, electrical and electronic systems. THUNDER BAY's new homeport is Rockland, Maine.

The Yard prepares the 87' patrol boat BLUEFIN for blasting as it undergoes a 60-day planned maintenance under the Recurring Depot Availability Project (RDAP). BLUEFIN is the 5th Phase II RDAP vessel and will report to its new homeport in Virginia Beach, Virginia after completing RDAP.
Members of the Baltimore Area Partnership in Education (PIE) Program participated in Career Day with 7th and 8th grade students of the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Program at Perry Hall Middle School in Perry Hall, Maryland on November 30th. Over 100 students attended. The Yard sponsors the Baltimore Area Coast Guard PIE Program that is supported by both Coast Guard civilian employees and active duty members. Pictured in the above photo are: (left to right) front: YN1 Michael Lora, LT Alicia Flanagan, SN Valeree Sanchez, DC1 Christopher Stevenson. back: CWO Scott Sheriff, HS1 Jose Madera, SN Danielle Nelson, MK1 Travis Chapman, EM3 Josh LaVenia.

**Department of Homeland Security**

**U.S. Coast Guard Yard**

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

Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use $300