



U.S. COAST GUARD PIPE BAND NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the United States Coast Guard Pipe Band

www.uscpipeband.org

* Active * Reserve * Retired * CG Veterans * Auxiliary *

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U.S Coast Guard Pipe Band Led from Auxiliary District 7

By Kerry Eakins, ADSO-PB, District 7

Article originally published in THE BREEZE:
(excerpts reprinted here for information of all hands):

When you think of bagpipes, you don't normally think "Coast Guard." But the USCG can boast of a ceremonial bagpipe band, operating as a non-profit charitable organization, since 2002. While they are not an official part of the Coast Guard, the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary do recognize them as an affiliate.

Although its headquarters is in the 7th District's main office in Miami, the band boasts over 100 members nationwide, ranging in age from 22 to 73. A majority of its members live in the Atlanta and nearby areas.

There are five ways to qualify as a member, in addition to being able to play the bagpipes or drums. Band members must be part of Team Coast Guard, either on active duty, retired, in the reserves or in the Auxiliary, or be an honorably discharged Coast Guard war veteran. Then you have to audition.

Members are extremely dedicated. While the organization has a small budget, most expenses for travel, uniforms, etc., are paid for by the members themselves. Uniforms can cost as much as \$1,500; the kilts alone run around \$500 each. Then comes the cost of the pipes, themselves.

Because members of the band are spread out all over the country, they find unique ways to practice, including passing CDs, DVDs and using SKYPE. The Atlanta group meets every Sunday for several hours. Members need regular practice to develop stamina and build lung strength. As Pipe Major M.L. Loudermilk explains, playing bagpipes is like blowing through "reeds on steroids." Because the notes have to be sustained, once a bagpiper starts playing, he/she has to keep consistent airflow going on all pipes.

The primary mission of the Coast Guard Bagpipe Band is to raise awareness of, and generate support for, the Coast Guard and Auxiliary.

See full article at:

<http://www.uscga-district-7.org/PDF/Breeze%202014%20Spring%20Issue.pdf>



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Letter from the President

Greetings Pipe Band:

The 70th anniversary of D-Day is June 6, 2014. Today I will do something for a veteran, specifically, taking a 91 year old World War II veteran to lunch. I am excited to be able to do this. In addition, I am also taking my Commanding Officer, CDR Lindsay Weaver and a young Coast Guard Lieutenant, LT Arianna Mohnke; what a day this will be! Seventy years later I can, in a very small way, pay down some of the debt we owe these individuals. I wish I would have been wise enough to do this sooner in my life.

The Pipe Band events are certainly an excellent opportunity to not only honor all veterans, but to honor our own personal service to our nation, whether it be active, reserve or auxiliary. Without your individual contributions our motto, Honor Respect and Devotion to Duty, would be a little less significant. Of course, probably more important, is to remember all those veterans who gave their lives for this country.

I would also like for you to reflect on those wounded while serving this nation. These individuals have to live with the pain every day, but I can promise you that when they see us marching down the street in their honor, they silently say, "My pain was worth it." Representing the U.S. Military by participating in these events, will hopefully in some way inspire the next generation of Americans to serve, for without them we will be lost.

So with that being said, I urge all of you to stay active in the band, participate in the local and regional events as well as the national ones. I think you can see we have a lot of responsibility and an opportunity to make a huge impact on a lot of people. It's amazing to think that just playing in a "little old parade" could have such an impact on the citizens of our great country. Please take this mission seriously and come prepared to give our nation the grandest tribute ever.

"The Nation that forgets it defenders will itself be forgotten"
Calvin Coolidge



My best to all of you,

Dave Morgan, CWO2, USCG (Ret)
President, USCGPB

Newsletter Staff Changes

By M. Goodwin, CG AUX, Senior Editor

It is with mixed emotions that I make the following announcement. While I am sad to lose a member of my staff, I am very happy with his replacement. In order to prepare for retirement from the U.S. Coast Guard next year, John Eudy, YNC, is departing our USCGPB Newsletter Staff after this issue. John has been my "right hand man" in putting together the last eight newsletters, including the two special editions. His positive, can-do attitude and skills with Microsoft Publisher and Adobe will certainly be missed.

On the upside, Mr. Bill Elliott, CG AUX, will be joining the Newsletter Staff. I have worked with Bill on past projects and look forward to the fresh perspective he will bring to our publication. Bill has extensive writing and publication experience, as well as new ideas for the newsletter. So I am very excited to begin working with him.

I also want to thank Ms. Jeanne Audino for all her contributions. She has saved our bacon more times than I can count, especially when it comes to grammar and spelling. Happily, Jeanne will remain on staff.



Letter from the Pipe Major

Shipmates,

My sincere thanks and congratulations go to all U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band members who participated in the 2014, Washington, DC, National Law Enforcement festivities. Not only did we have excellent weather and the opportunity to play at a new venue, the WWII memorial, we also raised our standards and turned heads by placing 3rd in the F.O.P. National Pipe Band Competition. That is the best showing we have had thus far. We were also able to perform at our usual venues, the FOP Tent City, the Emerald Society's parade as well as at the Memorial Service.

The week prior to DC, twelve of us also participated in the annual services at the British War Graves at Buxton and Ocracoke, NC. These two small, but very moving services honor a few British and Canadian sailors who lost their lives helping protect our shores in WWII. My thanks to the following participants: Bob Miller, John Quinn, Jack Pierce, Dawn Vornholt, Greg McKellar, Harry Dudley, Zoe Ann Dudley, Chet Strait, Jim Mulligan, Larry Story and Warren Whitley. These performers represented us extremely well and were warmly received and appreciated by the organizers, participants and local residents.

It's hard to believe, but our annual Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival performances are rapidly approaching. After receiving the great recognition last year of being honored with a bronze marker and being added on the Walk of History, I certainly hope we can help repay the city and festival with a great showing this year. To those who have already committed, thank you. To those who haven't, please do your best to join us for a great time. Additionally, as the band grows larger we need more members to attend the AGM so we can conduct business.

Congratulations also go to several of our members. Piper Joe O'Leary received his Piper ID Badge and James Warner and Jeremy Cook were promoted to Piper status.

I encourage all of you to visit (and "Like") our Facebook page to watch our videos to refresh yourselves on how our music is played. Also try to visit our USCGPB website to keep up on events and what is happening in the band.

While we continue to grow in numbers, we must also focus on maintaining the highest musical standards possible to represent the US Coast Guard/Aux. Please rededicate yourself to improving your musical skills.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Semper!



With Warmest Regards,

M. L. Loudermilk, USCG Combat Veteran
Pipe Major, USCG Pipe Band





Letter from the Board of Directors

By Kenneth Hines, CDR, USCGR (Ret), Band Secretary

The 2013 USCGPB Board of Director (BOD) elections may have had the largest number of candidates qualified and interested in serving on your governing board. As I commented in my last newsletter piece, this interest is a direct reflection on the number of high caliber and participating members of the pipe band.

The 2013 BOD election also revealed a shortcoming in having a forum for persons seeking to be a board member to inform and educate the electorate on why they should receive our vote. With that in mind, your BOD produced a sheet that any member seeking a BOD position through the election can complete and Webmaster Extraordinaire CWO Mike Henry, will post to the USCGPB webpage via a link so that we can all read and make an informed electoral decision. The form will be available from the member section of the webpage beginning in June to allow anyone seeking to run for the Board an opportunity to craft their submission in a timely manner.

Some members are more active nationally with the band and become known as a good choice for a candidate, while others are less well known, but may be active regionally. This puts the latter at a disadvantage because the general membership isn't aware of their ability. The information form that will be available for download from the webpage will, hopefully, give all members the same opportunity to garner votes and serve.

In the coming weeks, the USCGPB Election Committee will be validating the active participants and compiling the BOD election slate. Our election committee of BJ Ferguson and Bob Miller work extremely hard to get the accurate list of eligible members for election from the Mission Request Forms identifying the pipers and drummers. Once the candidate slate is released and voting opens, emailed ballots to BJ and Bob are preferred. The 2013 ballot had numerous candidates, as I previously discussed, and those ballots took a great deal of time to count and tabulate... especially when filling eight elected spots each year. Please consider voting by email in 2014.



Finally, thank you for your continued interest in our pipe band. As the Band Secretary I review all applications for membership and the depth and variety of the band continues to grow. If you know someone who is piping, drumming or has color guard experience and would be a good addition to the band, recruit them. See you in Grand Haven!

Ken Hines, CDR, USCGR (Ret)
Secretary, USCG Pipe Band



Voting and the Bi-Laws

By J. McBain Eudy, YNC, USCG

The following excerpts are from the USCG Pipe Band Bi-laws:

Election of Directors. The Directors shall be elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). All members of the Band who have been active for at least two years and attended at least one AGM are eligible to serve as a director of the corporation as set forth in Section 6.02.

Nominations. Not less than 30 days before the AGM of the corporation, any member of the corporation may submit a nomination, in writing, of any qualified member to the Chair of the Nominating Committee as appointed by the President. The Chair of the Nominating Committee may not seek election or re-election to any office in the pending election. The names of those nominees, together with the names of any other qualified members nominated by the committee, will be circulated to the membership not less than twenty days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Nominations from the floor will not be permitted. No voting by proxy will be permitted. Members who are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting in person may cast an Absentee Ballot as set forth in Section 4.03. The election of directors will be held by secret written ballot or Absentee Ballot at the Annual General Meeting. The votes will be counted by an Election Committee appointed by the President whose members who are not candidates in the pending election. The results will be given to the Secretary who will publish them to the membership

Voting. Voting will be by secret written ballot or by Absentee Ballot. All current active members as defined in Section 6.02 will be eligible to cast a ballot. Absentee Ballots will be authorized for pre-publicized nominees and pre-publicized agenda items and motions only. Anyone wishing to vote by Absentee Ballot for a specific candidate(s), agenda item or motion shall provide the written ballot by surface mail, fax or e-mail to the Chair of the Election Committee not later than 1700 of the day prior to the AGM. Any Absentee Ballot not received by the deadline shall be a nullity. The Chair of the Election Committee shall keep all such ballots cast in confidence until after the ballots are cast at the AGM on the relevant agenda item at which time the Absentee Ballots shall be incorporated in the ballot totals reported to the Secretary by the Election Committee.



The Band's Secretary has created a Candidate Information Form (see following page) and worked with the Band's Webmaster to craft a page in the 'Member's Area' of the USCG Pipe Band website. Anyone interested in submitting their qualifications so Band members can view candidates should submit the form to the Webmaster.

Voting and Candidate information can be found at the following link:
<http://www.uscgpipeband.org/members/agm.php>





**U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band
Board of Directors Election 2014 Candidate Information**

Directions - answer the questions below and provide any additional information in the space allotted. Application shall not exceed one sheet of paper.

Name: _____

Position in the CGPB: _____ Date joined USCGPB: _____

What events have you participated in during the past 12 months (national and/or regional)?

What positions have you held in the CGPB or similar organizations?

What knowledge, skills, and abilities do you bring to the band?

Why do you want to be a USCGPB Board Member:

Other:

Return this completed and legible form to Webmaster Mike Henry at cgpiper1@wowway.com.



U.S. COAST GUARD PIPE BAND NEWSLETTER

National Law Enforcement Memorial

By M.L. Loudermilk, Pipe Major, USCG

For the third consecutive year, the U. S. Coast Guard Pipe Band competed in the Fraternal Order of Police's National Pipe Band Competitions in Washington DC, during the 2014 National Law Enforcement Week events. This year their performance earned them a 3rd place award, an exceptional showing for a band whose members are only able to rehearse together a few times each year.

Seventeen of the band's members traveled from diverse locations such as California, Washington, Missouri, New York, Arizona, Georgia and Florida to perform. In addition to the competition, the band also performed at the National WWII Memorial, the Fraternal Order of Police's "Tent City", the Emerald Society Parade and Annual Memorial Service.



Top: USCG Pipe Band stepping off for FOP National Pipe Band Competition

Bottom: U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band Assembles for Photo
Washington, D.C. May 2014 / Photos by Mr. Jeff Burton





Memorial Day in Roswell, GA

By M.L. Loudermilk, Pipe Major, USCG

On May 22, several Atlanta area members of the U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band performed at the “Roswell Remembers Memorial Day” for the City of Roswell Rotary Club. The event is the annual kick-off for the city’s Memorial Day events and was attended by approximately 300, with news media coverage. The event’s special guest was Jonna Doolittle Hoppes, the granddaughter of Jimmy Doolittle, who spoke about her grandfather.



Pictured from left to right are P/M M.L. Loudermilk, Dawn Vornholt, Bob Miller, Greg McKellar, John Quinn and Billy Ferguson.
Roswell Remembers Memorial Day, Roswell, GA 2014

British War Graves Memorial

By M.L. Loudermilk, Pipe Major, USCG

On May 8th and 9th, twelve U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band members gathered on the Outer Banks of North Carolina to perform at the memorial services at the British War Graves in Buxton and Ocracoke, NC. These two services honor British and Canadian sailors who lost their lives in World War II while helping guard our shores from German U-boats. In keeping with naval military tradition, the U.S. Coast Guard maintains the cemeteries.



USCG Pipers and Drummers pose for group photo.
British War Graves Memorial, Ocracoke, NC 2014
Photo by Mrs. Zoe Ann Dudley

Master of Ceremony for the events was CDR Karrie Trebbe, CG Sector North Carolina, Logistics Department Head, with invocation by LCDR Edward Bass, Chaplin, USN. Also representing the Coast Guard was CDR Joseph DuFresne, Deputy Sector Commander, CG Sector North Carolina. The British and Canadian representatives were CDR David Trudeau, Canadian Naval Attaché and Colonel Al Lister, British Royal Marine Attaché.





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Gold and Silver: A 75 Year Partnership

By J. McBain Eudy, YNC, USCG

While the occasional, good humor 'jab' is exchanged in between Active Duty/ Reserve/Retired members (**GOLD**) and Auxiliary members (**SILVER**), I've learned there is no disparity between these precious metals. I have heard it said that Auxiliarists have not had the *pleasure* of attending Basic Training and will never truly understand some of the Coast Guard's traditions. In my experience, CG Auxiliarists nearly always strive to meet the Coast Guard's standards even though they have NOT had the basic training so many of us have. Even more impressive is the fact that Auxiliarists accomplish all they do with their own time and treasure in the service of our country.

From its inception just prior to World War II, the USCG Auxiliary has been a truly valuable part of the team. During WWII they patrolled harbors, factories, bridges, and docks; they fought fires; they provided emergency and disaster assistance; they conducted search and rescue and anti-submarine warfare; they gave blood, sold war bonds and recruited SPARs. Since then, the Coast Guard Auxiliary has been integrated into everyday operations: Auxiliarists inspect commercial fishing vessels, fly as air observers in C-130 aircraft, qualify as Coast Guard Boat Crewmen and even work in Coast Guard offices. The Coast Guard Auxiliary was in New York City and Washington, D.C., on September 11 too; lending major operational support to the Coast Guard. They continue protecting U.S. cities, coastlines, ports, and citizens against terrorist attacks. Truly, in its entire history, the Coast Guard Auxiliary has never let the Coast Guard down.

It has been a pleasure to work with so many professional Auxiliarists; to grow from their perspectives and experience. I look forward to our continued partnership in the USCG Pipe Band for years to come.

As they make up a significant portion of our Band's membership, please join me in wishing all our **SILVER** members a very happy diamond anniversary on Monday, June 23rd, 2014!





Color Guard Team Performs at New York City Tattoo

By J. McBain Eudy, YNC, USCG

USCGPB Color Guard assembled in New York City during Tartan Week to present colors for the NY Tattoo. Color Guard team presented colors to a packed house of about 400. Drum cadence for entrance into the Mason Hall was provided by a Sergeant First Class of the U.S. Army West Point "Hellcats." National Anthem was sung by Ms. Leslie Craigie.

Color Guard team returned with colors prior to the curtain call to be front and center for final tribute with the entire Tattoo cast. Post show, the USCGPB Color Guard Team posed for several photos.



Color Guard Team Poses with Dignitaries from Scotland and the West Point "Hellcats"
New York, NY 2014
Photo by Mrs. Mone



Color Guard Team Presents Colors at NYC Tattoo
Mason Hall Theater, New York, NY 2014
Unknown Photographer



Details of entire Tattoo can be found at:
<http://www.tartanweek.com/tattoo/>

CPO Sean Lynch Retires

Article and Photo By Amy Di Leo

On Saturday, December 7, 2013, Chief Sean Lynch, of Freeport, NY, was honored by the U.S. Coast Guard for his nearly 32 years of dedicated service. Dozens of people, including Chief Lynch's family, friends, shipmates, and bandmates were on hand for the military ceremony held at the USCG Atlantic Strike Team's unit hangar at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in NJ.

Chief Lynch is pictured in front row, middle.





U.S. COAST GUARD PIPE BAND NEWSLETTER

Future Events

As of 1 JUN 2014

Event	Location	Date
CAPT Warren Whitley Retirement Ceremony	MacArthur Museum, Norfolk, VA	12 JUN 2014
AMTCM Ruppert Retirement Ceremony	CG AIRSTA Elizabeth City, NC	13 JUN 2014
NSA Texas Change of Command	NSA Texas	13 JUN 2014
CGC SMLAX Change of Command	Atlantic Beach, NC	13 JUN 2014
CAPT Nye Retirement Ceremony	CG Headquarters, Washington, DC	30 JUN 2014
BMCS Thompson Change of Command/Retirement	St. Clair Shores, MI	11 JUL 2014
Coast Guard Walk of History Dedication	Grand Haven, MI	1 AUG 2014
Coast Guard Auxiliary National Memorial Service	Grand Haven, MI	1 AUG 2014
Coast Guard National Memorial Service	Grand Haven, MI	1 AUG 2014
American Legion Enlistedman's Dinner	Grand Haven, MI	1 AUG 2014
Coast Guard Festival Grand Parade	Grand Haven, MI	2 AUG 2014



USCGC Pipe Band Memorial
Grand Haven, MI 2013

Past Events

As of 1 JUN 2014



National Law Enforcement Memorial Parade
Washington D.C. May 2013
Photo by Band Photographer Nicole Tuminello

- * Funeral Service for Active Duty Member, San Antonio, TX
- * Memorial Day Kickoff, Roswell, GA
- * National Law Enforcement Memorial, Washington, DC
- * British War Graves Memorial, Buxton, NC
- * British War Graves Memorial, Ocracoke, NC
- * Coast Guard Reserve Force Master Chief Change of Watch, Station Washigton
- * National Law Enforcement Memorial, Washington, DC
- * Pilgrimage to the Alamo, San Antonio, TX
- * RADM Steven Ratti CoC / Retirement, Portsmouth, VA
- * University of West GA Multicultural Festival, Carrollton, GA
- * Texas Military Honors Team Banquet, Beaumont, TX
- * Dedication of the USCG Monument, Sarasota National Cemetery
- * Navy Veteran, McEvoy Funeral, Christ the King Cathedral, Atlanta GA
- * Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron Change of Watch, Dunwoddy Country Club
- * American Legion Four Chaplains Ceremony, Wolcott, NY
- * CGC Blackthorn Memorial, St. Petersburg, FL
- * Warriors Welcome Home, Albany, NY
- * Obendorf Memorial Service, Alameda, CA

Welcome to New Members / Fair Winds to Departing Members

- * Welcome Aboard Mr. **Edwin Torres**. Edwin a USCG Auxiliarist who comes to us from Pembroke Pines, FL and will be a member of the Color Guard Team.
- * Fair Winds and Following Seas to Sean Hourigan.



Bulletin Board - Band Awards & Recognition

As of 1 JUN 2014

USCGPB Participants

Crystal Award
FOP National Pipe Band Competition
National LE Memorial
Washington, DC



Regional Coordinator Challenge Coin Recipients



None this quarter.

USCGPB Participants

Meritorious Team Commendation
Multiple Services from
January 2012 to December 2013



Submitting of Nominations for Awards and special recognition shall be submitted to the Chairman of the Awards Board
LT Michael Doria - michael.j.doria@uscgpipeband.org.
Please visit our section on the website for further information: <http://www.uscgpipeband.org/awards.php>

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USCG

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The *USCGPB Newsletter* is published by the U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band. It is intended for information only and is not authority for official action. The editor reserves the right to select and edit all materials for publication.

The Mission of the U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band is to promote greater public recognition and appreciation of the history, traditions, contributions, sacrifices, roles and missions of the men and women of the Coast Guard. Including, but not limited to, participation in Memorial Services, Military Balls, Highland Games, Military Parades, Commissioning, Change of Command, and Retirement Ceremonies, Funerals, or similar ceremonies and events in which any active, reserve or auxiliary component of the Coast Guard or U.S. Armed Forces are participating. We also support the public relations, recognition and recruiting activities of the U. S. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary.

