



U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the United States Coast Guard Pipe Band

www.uscgpipeband.org

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

In this Issue

- Letter from the Pipe Major
- British War Graves
- National LE Week
- Disabled Veterans Memorial
- Commodore's Banquet
- Featured Shipmate
- New OPS Boss
- Crossing the Bar
- LT Doria Retires
- Awards and Recognition
- Welcome Aboard / Fair Winds
- Updated "For Sale" Board
- And more...

Declaration of Independence

Many of you will be busy in the coming week with Independence Day celebrations all around the nation. As you take part in the festivities, don't forget what we're truly celebrating; it's more than a date on a calendar. As you stand proudly this weekend, let the Declaration of Independence ring in your mind:

"When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the Earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation."



"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness - That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these

ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness... But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security..."



"We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great-Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."



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Have a brilliant and safe Holiday!



USCG PIPE BAND

Letter from the Pipe Major

Shipmates,

We had a good turn-out of performers for the British War Graves and DC National Law Enforcement events in May. I believe we had more performers at the BWG events than ever before to celebrate the 75th anniversary of these ceremonies. It was a huge success as they had the largest turn-out of spectators that I've seen.

At DC's NLEW we had 15 performers doing 5 events including the Pipe Band Competition where we brought home the Dress and Department trophy (see page four). A big thank you to all who participated.

All eyes should now be on the Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival in August. We currently have 27 members signed-up and it looks to be a great event. I want to encourage each of you to, as our by-laws require, "...make [your] best, good faith effort to attend the Annual General Meeting and to participate... at the Coast Guard Festival." This is our annual "homecoming," Annual General Meeting and main social event, so please do your best to attend.

Most importantly, whether you are planning on attending Grand Haven or not, you must let us know your status on our website sign-up sheet for all listed events. ALL USCGPB MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO INDICATE THEIR STATUS ON THE BAND'S WEBSITE SIGN-UP PAGE FOR ALL LISTED EVENTS. Currently, 39 of our 103 members have not done so. Those who do not may be considered as non-participants. Please go to www.uscgpipeband.org, "Member's Area," and then "Event Signup Page," which will take you to the "USCGPB Events Sign-Up & Results" page. (The password is the same as for the Member's Page.) The direct link is www.uscgpbevents.com. Then follow the directions under "Sign Up Sheet" to let us know which events you will be at, may be able to attend or cannot participate in.

I know I have posted this before but, apparently, it needs repeating: We have specific procedures for representing the USCG Pipe Band in local performances:

1. Only those members approved by the Pipe Major and designated as a Piper (on our website) are authorized to perform solo or with non-USCGPB performers, especially when representing us in our uniform. Similarly, only those approved by the Drum Major or a Drum Sergeant can represent us in our uniform as drummers or color guard.
2. ALL performances by any band member, representing us in uniform, must be approved by the Pipe Major prior to the event through our Mission Request Form (MRF) process. (Form can be found on our website.)
3. For short notice events (such as funerals) where there is insufficient time for the MRF process, temporary approval can be given by a phone call to the Pipe Major, with an MRF submitted after the event. If you can't reach the PM, contact one of the Pipe Sergeants for approval.

Finally, thanks to each of you for your involvement and support of the band. As always, if you have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to contact me. Hope to see you in Grand Haven.

Semper,
M. L. Loudermilk, PM



With Warmest Regards,

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



USCG PIPE BAND

British War Graves Memorial in Buxton, NC



May 11, 2017: From, left to right, Pipe Major M.L. Loudermilk , Jack Pierce, John Quinn, Warren Whitley, Zoe Ann Dudley, Chet Strait, Larry Story, Bob Miller, Andy Burgoa, Ken Hines, Bill Tubbs, Pipe Sergeant Steve Cochran, Drum Sergeant/Acting Drum Major Harry Dudley and Mr. Richard Eagle, Royal Naval Patrol Service.



The British War Graves Memorial services are conducted on the Thursday and Friday closest to May 11 each year at Buxton and Ocracoke on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. These services honor sailors from Canada, Newfoundland and Great Britain who were killed in the line of duty while guarding merchant supply vessels supporting the war effort in its early days. In April 1942, torpedoes from German U-Boat U203 sank the armed tanker SAN DELFINO. The remains of two crew members washed up on the beach at Buxton and were buried with full military honors by

members of the Hatteras Coast Guard Station. In May 1942, HMT BEDFORDSHIRE was sunk by torpedoes from U-558 with the loss of all hands. The remains of four crew members washed ashore at Ocracoke where they were buried with full military honors provided by the Coast Guard. These grave sites are maintained by the local Coast Guard Stations, the Museum of the Graveyard of the Atlantic and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Pipers from the Coast Guard began taking part in these ceremonies in the 1990's and the USCG Pipe Band began participating in 2003. Attending the 75th Anniversary memorial services were attaches from both the Royal Navy, the Canadian Navy; representatives of the Royal Naval Patrol Service, Commander Javier Delgado, USCG Sector North Carolina, along with other military and civilian dignitaries. The USCG Pipe Band provided eight pipers and five drummers as part of the ceremonies.

Photos by Larry Story





USCG PIPE BAND

National Law Enforcement Week in Washington, D.C.



The U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band participated in a number of events commemorating National Law Enforcement Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day in Washington, DC.



President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation in 1962 designating May 15th of each year as Peace Officers Memorial Day. It wasn't until 1982 that an actual memorial service began. Later a memorial wall was erected in Judiciary Square and was formally dedicated in 1991. The Walls at the Law Enforcement Memorial bear the names of more than 21,000 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, including members of the U.S. Coast Guard. At present, events honoring fallen law enforcement officers now span a week and draw between 25 and 40,000 attendees annually.



This year the USCG Pipe Band participated in the Pipe Band Competition held in conjunction with Honor Guard Competition alongside the Reflecting Pool, west of the U.S. Capitol. The USCG Pipe Band placed fourth out eleven public safety bands from all over the country in piping and drumming, and first overall in dress in department. The first place trophy is pictured at left.



The Band went on from there to give a performance at the World War II Memorial, followed by a performance at the National Fraternal Order of Police's Tent City. This very busy day ended with an evening parade up to the Law Enforcement Memorial and participation in Memorial Service sponsored by the National Conference of Law Enforcement Emerald Societies.





USCG PIPE BAND

Disabled Veterans Memorial Dedication in Union, MO

By Michael Henry, CW03, USCG (Ret)

The City of Union, MO dedicated its new Disabled Veterans Memorial Park on Sunday, May 7th. Ken Hines, CDR, USCG (Ret) piped for the ceremonies.



Union is situated about 50 miles SW of St. Louis and as a retired St. Louis County firefighter, CDR Hines is well acquainted with the area. CDR Hines has piped with the St. Louis Highland Guard since its inception.



Photo courtesy of *The Missourian*

John Eudy, YNC, USCG (Ret) resides very near the park and was invited to take photos and represent the USCG Pipe Band with CDR Hines.



At left: CDR Hines presents arms after piping.

At Right: Congressman Luetkemeyer poses with CDR Hines and YNC Eudy



District Training Conference and Commodore's Banquet in Newport, RI

By Mr. Stephen Bogiages, USCG AUX

In February, the First Northern and First Southern District Training Conference (D-Train) and Commodore's Banquet was held on Goat Island, Newport, RI. The annual training conference offers sessions in AUXAIR, AUXFS, RBS, VE Telecommunications, Marine Safety, and Mandated Training



Mr. Stephen Bogiages represented the USCG Pipe Band during the opening ceremony of the Commodore's Banquet. In attendance was Captain Kevin C. Kiefer, Chief of Staff to Rear Admiral Poulin who oversees all Coast Guard missions across eight Northeast states.



Photos Taken by Auxiliarist Steven White

On a related note, Mr. Bogiages completed his AuxFS Quals and is looking forward to cooking for the Band in Grand Haven this year.



USCG PIPE BAND

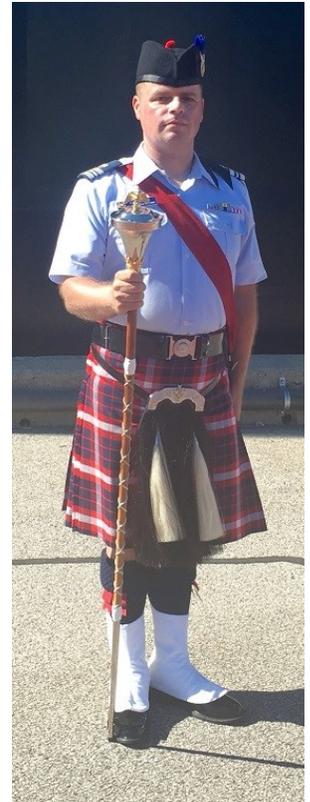
Featured Shipmate: Kevin Conquest, USCG Auxiliary, Drum Major

Kevin Conquest, our featured shipmate, accepted the appointment of Drum Major of the USCG Pipe Band in 2016. He is a lifelong musician and has been involved with Scottish arts since 1991. Kevin is both a piper and drummer, having played in Grade 1 with the Los Angeles Scots and the 78th Fraser Highlanders from Toronto. He currently plays with Dowco Triumph Street Grade 1 from Vancouver, and Mesa Caledonian in Arizona, where he makes his home port.

Some of Kevin's favorite pipe band accomplishments include winning the North American Championships both as a Drum Major and Grade 1 bandsman; numerous championships in Scotland including several World Championship Finals; Senior Drum Major for Tattoo Hebrides at Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, Scotland that aired on BBC; and winning the Canadian Invitational Championship at Victoria in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Andrew, the Duke of York. He is also one of a very few American drum majors to lead a British Army pipes & drums on official duties for Her Majesty the Queen of England, that being the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards.

But... he will tell you that receiving a salute back from Admiral Zukunft at the Grand Haven parade last summer tops the list! Kevin's love of Scottish culture runs deeper than just pipe band. His community outreach over two decades has greatly promoted Scotland's modern diaspora. To note his achievements, Kevin Conquest is to be awarded a personal grant of arms from Lord Lyon, King of Arms, in summer 2017. Kevin also received investiture in the Scottish Knights Templar earlier this month, re-linking a family legacy dating back seven centuries.

When not wearing a kilt, Kevin works in field of cyber security. He is the Division Chief - Cyber for the USCG Auxiliary and manages global technical risk assessment for Marsh & McLennan Companies. Kevin resides in Gilbert, Arizona with his son Carlyle.



New OPS Boss - IT1 Brian Shajari, USCGR

Congratulations are in order for IT1 Brian Shajari on his appointment as the USCG Pipe Band Operations Officer. Brian has served as the Assistant Operations Officer for the last four years and the Board of Directors has every confidence in his abilities. IT1 Shajari is hard-working and dedicated to our mission; please congratulate and support our new OPS Boss as he goes forward.

On a related note, IT1 Shajari relieved LT Andrew Bacon in February so LT Bacon could focus on his new family and vital Coast Guard missions. Thanks go out to LT Bacon for all he has done for the USCG Pipe Band. Bravo Zulu!



USCG PIPE BAND

Crossing the Bar

By Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.



It is with heavy heart I must report the passing of two of our shipmates and a beloved family member since our last publication. CDR Andy Anderson, USCG (ret) and former Drum Major passed away peacefully at his home in December after a long battle with Cancer. Mr. Scott Grest, USCG AUX, passed away in May from a heart attack. Also in December, CDR Whit Irwin lost his son. Our deepest sympathies go out to the families and loved ones of our fallen shipmates. Please keep them all in your thoughts and prayers.

Until we meet again on those distant, white shores... requiem in pacem.

LT, Dr. Michael Doria Retires



After 17 happy and productive years, LT, Dr. Michael Doria has retired from the U.S. Coast Guard. His official retirement was April 14th, 2017. LT Doria has served in many roles with the USCG Pipe Band: Piper, Operations Officer, and Drum Major. He has coordinated and performed in events from the St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York City to the Coast Guard Parade in Grand Haven, MI and many other events in between.

LT Doria is returning to his first duty station, USCG Station Eaton's Neck, for his retirement ceremony in late July. Although he will likely remain our USCG Pipe Band shipmate, please join us in wishing him fair winds and following seas as he begins his next great, fully civilian, adventure.





USCG PIPE BAND

USCG Pipe Band Awards and Recognition

| Event | Award | Date | Citation | Recipients |
|---|---|---------|---|---------------|
| Civil Air Patrol 2017 Awards Banquet | Coin presented to BMCS Steve Cochran | 3/8/17 |  | Steve Cochran |
| USCG Pipe Band Presidents Award | Award Plaque presented to LT Drew Bacon | 2016 |  | Drew Bacon |
| 2016 NYC Mayors Veterans Breakfast | Letter of Appreciation from Mayor Blasio | 1/25/17 |  | Michael Doria |

Welcome New Members / Fair Winds and Following Seas for Departing Members

3/12/17 - Welcome aboard **Jessie Bouley**. Jessie is an Auxiliarist who comes to us from Rosharon, Texas. He retired from the U.S. Navy and has over a decade of drumming experience.

2/27/17 - Welcome aboard **Brendan Fitzpatrick** and **Don Saba**. Brendan is a retired IVC who comes to us from New York. Chief Fitzpatrick will be in the Color Guard while he learns to play Side or Tenor drum with a local Pipe Band. Don is an Auxiliarist who comes to us from Florida and will also be in the Color Guard. Mr. Saba aspires to lean the Pipes.

12/29/16 - Welcome aboard to **Barry Berg**. Mr. Berg is an Auxiliarist who comes to us from Apple Valley, MN.

12/23/16 - Welcome aboard to **James "Jim" Losi**. Mr. Losi is an Auxiliarist who comes to us from the 11th Coast Guard District.



USCG PIPE BAND

USCGPB EQUIPMENT / UNIFORM ITEMS FOR SALE

Our USCG Pipe Band Quartermaster, Mr. John Quinn, has various equipment and uniform items for sale. New items are sold at band cost and all proceeds for used items go to the Band. Here is a list of items:

- Bag Covers: New - \$45.00 / Used - \$25.00
- Bag Cover Patches: \$20.00
- Belt Buckles (Silver or Gold): \$25.00
- Blue Half Hackles: \$15.00
- Challenge Coins: Members - \$8.00 / Non-members - \$10.00
- Kilt Hose: \$25.00
- Pipe Cords: \$25.00
- Sgian Dubh (Silver or Gold): \$30.00
- Sporrans: New - \$130.00 / Used - \$85.00

Please contact Mr. John Quinn at jquinn@cwa-union.org for more information or to order equipment and uniform items.



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<http://www.uscgpipeband.org>

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.

