



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 *

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Auld Lang Syne

From the website: www.scotland.org

In 1788 Robert Burns sent the poem 'Auld Lang Syne' to the Scots Musical Museum, indicating that it was an ancient song but that he'd been the first to record it on paper. The phrase 'auld lang syne' roughly translates as 'for old times' sake', and the song is all about preserving old friendships and looking back over the events of the year. Now it's sung all over the world, evoking a sense of belonging and fellowship, tinged with nostalgia.

It has long been a much-loved Scottish tradition to sing the song just before midnight. Everyone stands in a circle holding hands, then at the beginning of the final verse ('And there's a hand my trusty friend') they cross their arms across their bodies so that their left hand is holding the hand of the person on their right, and their right hand holds that of the person on their left. When the song ends, everyone rushes to the middle, still holding hands, and probably giggling.

Most Scots know the first verse and the chorus but if you don't, here's the full version:

Gaelic

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne.

For auld lang syne, my jo,
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne,

And surely ye'll be your pint-stowp!
And surely I'll be mine!
And we'll take a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

We twa hae run about the braes
And pu'd the gowans fine;
But we've wander'd mony a weary foot
Sin auld lang syne.

We twa hae paidl'd i' the burn,
Frae mornin' sun till dine;
But seas between us braid hae roar'd
Sin auld lang syne.

And there's a hand, my trusty fiere!
And gie's a hand o' thine!
And we'll tak a right guid willy waught,
For auld lang syne.

English

Should old acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should old acquaintance be forgot,
And long, long ago.

For long, long ago, my dear
For long, long ago,
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For long, long ago

And surely you'll buy your pint-jug!
And surely I'll buy mine!
And we'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For long, long ago.

We two have run about the hills
And pulled the daisies fine;
But we've wandered many a weary foot
Since long, long ago.

We two have paddled in the stream,
From morning sun till dine;
But seas between us broad have roared
Since long, long ago.

And there's a hand, my trusty friend!
And give us a hand of yours!
And we'll take a deep draught of good-will
For long, long ago.





USCG PIPE BAND

Letter from the Pipe Major



Shipmates,

Thanks to everyone who helped make the 2017 Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival the best one yet. We had 27 members performing and gave the Festival Organization numerous memorable performances. While the weather was the worst we have ever experienced for the USCG Memorial Service, it provided an experience that will be talked about for years. Thanks to Steve Cochran and Larry Story for weathering the storm to play with me on the cramped (and rocking) decks of the USCGC MACKINAW (WLBB-30).

As bad as the weather was on Friday, Saturday provided the best weather we've ever seen for the Grand Parade and Boyden House performances. The crowds at the parade were thick, loud and, obviously, very pleased with our being there and our playing, as was the Commandant. At the Boyden House, the hosts were thankful and gracious and the band had a fun time unwinding from the parade and giving our week-end closing performances for them.

Among many notable Grand Haven events was the band's presentation of a Coast Guard themed Hawaiian shirt (a USCGPB "Blue Shirt") to Commandant Zukunft, which he is seen wearing on his Thanksgiving dinner twitter post. Several of our members also gave impromptu lessons on piping and drumming to his wife, Fran, and son, Brett.



Bravo Zulu to Dave Linder for his time and talents in planning and coordinating the Grand Haven events again this year and for his years of service on the Board of Directors.

Since our last newsletter we have welcomed several new USCGPB members including: Leonard Calabro, Leon Dame, Matthew Fann, Jean Gould, Lara Neville and Dan Wilson. Welcome aboard!

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) special recognition and a moment of silence was given for USCGPB members Andy Anderson and Scott Grest who "crossed the bar" this past year. They will be remembered.

I would like to recognize Jacqueline Bethel as our new Operations Officer and thank her for accepting the job. Christopher Ware has accepted the Assistant Operations Officer position. Thanks to both of you.

In addition to our National Events, thanks to all the members who have performed locally. Since our last newsletter, band members have performed at more than 40 Local Events.



USCG PIPE BAND

Letter from the Pipe Major (cont.)

All eyes should now be on the upcoming National Events for 2018. Band Directors are currently reviewing potential national performances and will be contacting the membership as plans progress. At this time I believe we can plan on participating at the British War Graves (May 10 & 11), Washington DC National Law Enforcement Week (May 13 & 14) and the 2018 Grand Haven Festival (August 2, 3 & 4) events. Please put these dates on your calendar now to avoid conflicts. Participation in other events will be based on the number of commitments we receive from the membership.

Concerning Local Events, I know I have posted this before but, apparently, it needs repeating: There are specific procedures for performing or representing the USCG Pipe Band:

1. Only those members approved by the Pipe Major and designated as “Piper” (on our website) are authorized to perform solo or with non-USCGPB performers, representing us in our uniform.

Similarly, only those approved by the Drum Major/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.
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.

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.

Semper,

M. L. Loudermilk, PM



With Warmest Regards,
M. L. Loudermilk,
RM2 USCG Combat Veteran
Pipe Major, USCG Pipe Band

Other Notes of Interest

Please join us in congratulating the following:

- Our new Board of Directors for 2017-2018: SCPO Steve Cochran, CAPT Harry Dudley, Mr. M. L. Loudermilk, Mr. Bob Miller, Mr. John Quinn, CWO3 Michael Henry, CAPT Warren Whitley and Mr. Jack Pierce
- Mr. John Quinn has been appointed Pipe Sergeant for the Band
- Mr. Kevin Conquest has been awarded his Drum Major ID Badge
- Mr. Stephen Bogiages has been awarded his Tenor Drum ID Badge (also featured in this newsletter)
- Pipers who have recently passed their auditions include: Ms. Cathy Slabaugh, Mr. Butch Teston and Ms. Laura Neville
- Tod Wilkinson was awarded the USCGPB 2017 Public Affairs Achievement Award
- Jack Pierce was awarded the Pipe Major's Performance Award for 2017





USCG PIPE BAND

2017 Grand Haven Festival - A Photo Journal

Photos provided by Mr. Larry Story, USCG AUX



Admiral and Mrs. Zukunft



USCG Pipe Band on the march



Grand Haven Moorings



Sunset in Grand Haven





USCG PIPE BAND

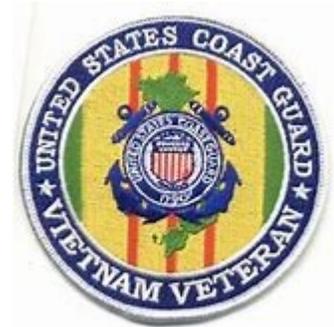
Recognizing our Vietnam Veterans at Grand Haven

By M.L. Loudermilk, PM, USCGPB

During the concert finale at the Grand Haven Festival, the performer requested all Vietnam veterans in the USCG Pipe Band to come forward while he sang Billy Joel's "We'll All Go Down Together." This also coincided with a spectacular fireworks display.



From left to right: Ben Kenny, M.L. Loudermilk and Bob Miller



Grillin' at Grand Haven

By Mr. Stephen Bogiages, USCG AUX

Once again, the U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band led the Grand Haven Festival parade to the applause of nearly 100,000 people lining the streets of 'Coast Guard City'.

As we all know, marching increases ones appetite, so Quarter Master John Quinn, Piper David Linder and Tenor Drummer Stephen Bogiages answered the call by manning the grills and providing dessert for the Band.





USCG PIPE BAND

South Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade

By Kevin Ritchie, FC, USCG AUX

On Sunday, March 19th, members of Team Coast Guard came together for the ninth year in a row to march in the South Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade. Over 40 members braved the 30 degree temperatures and 30 mph wind gusts to wear their uniforms with pride in front of the estimated 600,000 cheering spectators.

Planning for the event began in January when Auxiliary coordinator Kevin Ritchie opened communications with ENS Alexander Palacios and LCDR Douglas Voss to form a Team Coast Guard presentation for the second largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the country. Their combined efforts resulted in several USCG Auxiliarists representing three divisions along with many active duty and reserve members from Station Boston filling out the platoon formation that marched up Broadway in South Boston.

The team presentation included the USCG Academy Windjammers Drum and Bugle Corps who marched for the second year in a row (see photo on page 7). All were well received by the crowd of spectators ready to celebrate this day of Irish heritage. The presentation also included a 29 foot Response Boat positioned behind the platoon. An estimated eight million viewers also watched the parade from the comfort of their homes via live broadcast on New England Cable News (NECN) network.

For Police Captain Craig Hall and Mr. Kevin Ritchie, the day started at 0830 at the annual South Boston St. Patrick's Day Breakfast held at the South Boston Convention Center (see photo below). The two met with several Boston dignitaries including; Governor Charlie Baker, Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, Police Commissioner Paul Evans and Commissioner of Veteran Services Giselle Sterling.



Mr. Kevin Ritchie (top left) at South Boston St. Patrick's Day Breakfast. Photo by Jean Ritchie



USCG PIPE BAND

South Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade

This allowed for conversations of the important role of the Coast Guard and Auxiliary in the Boston area and plans for the upcoming National Safe Boating Week and Sail Boston events.

It was a great day for all Team Coast Guard members who participated and we look forward to next year's event!



Kevin Ritchie followed by USCG Academy Windjammers Bugle and Drum Corps. Photo by Robert McNeil



Team Coast Guard marching in South Boston. Photo by Robert McNeil





USCG PIPE BAND

Boston Light Station - Opening Day

By Mr. Stephen Bogiages, USCG AUX

At the invitation of Boston Light House Keeper Sally Snowman, Tenor Drummer Stephen Bogiages welcomed the public to Little Brewster Island for Opening Day of U.S. Coast Guard Light Station Boston, the oldest light station in the country. Opening Day also saw the arrival of 40 Tall Ships to Boston Harbor as part of Sail Boston 2017.



Boston Harbor Light - Aerial View
Boston in background



Mr. Bogiages at Lighthouse



CGC BARQUE EAGLE in Boston Harbor
(<http://go2.guide/events/sail-boston>)

Thanksgiving Parade in Portsmouth, MA

By Mr. Stephen Bogiages, USCG AUX

On a brisk New England day, Tenor Drummer Stephen Bogiages and Color Guard Commander Kevin Ritchie marched with CG AUX Division 6 - Flotilla 64 in the 21st annual Thanksgiving Day Parade in Plymouth, MA.

This is one of America's only historically accurate and chronological parades. Each century of America's rich heritage, from the 17th through the 21st, is brought to life visually. Beginning with the Pilgrim era, it promotes an appreciation among our citizens for our rich heritage all the way up to the modern era.



Mr. Bogiages pictured at far left
and Mr. Ritchie at far right in lead.





USCG PIPE BAND

Wreaths Across America

By Mr. Stephen Bogiages, USCG AUX



Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, the mission to *Remember, Honor and Teach* is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,200 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad.

This December on National Wreaths Across America Day, Tenor Drummer Stephen Bogiages joined with CG AUX Division 1 - Flotilla 11-02 and other volunteers to place 19,000 wreaths on individual veterans' graves at the National Cemetery in Bourne, MA.

If you would like to volunteer or find out more, please visit:
<http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/#join-us>

Featured Shipmate: Stephen Bogiages, USCG Auxilliary, Tenor Drummer

As the song goes, "I was born on "A" Street and brought up on "B" street Southie is my hometown." Stephen was born the fourth child of six children in Boston, MA to William Bogiages, a Navy Corpsman, who served in both WWII and Korea, and Elizabeth (Drake) Sharpe of a seafaring family dating back to the Sir Francis Drake's clan (according to family lore).

Although Stephen did not circumnavigate the globe as Captain Drake had, he started his nautical life as a young sailor of single-masted sloops, Force 5 and Laser racing sailboats in Boston Harbor. This led to a lifelong love of the sea which led him to become a ship's electrician at Massachusetts Maritime Academy aboard the T.S BAY STATE. Following his engineering interests, Stephen worked at Raytheon Missile Systems Division where he held a Secret Clearance, and then at a software company where he visited military bases throughout the U.S. to teach application and security software. Stephen continued his studies and completed Degrees in Engineering, Business, Law and an additional Master's Degree from Boston College.



Drumming is another family tradition. Stephen's maternal grandfather was a session drummer throughout the East Coast. Stephen's public drumming started as a Tenor Drummer for the Shriners, or Shrine Masons. The Shrine is best known for its colorful parades, distinctive red fez, and official philanthropy, the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Stephen also marched with the Greater Boston Firefighters Pipes and Drums which honors all members of the fire service and armed forces. Lastly, Stephen is a Tenor Drummer for Sutherland Pipe Band, formerly Clan Sutherland Society founded in 1936, making it one of the oldest pipe bands in the U.S.

Stephen's involvement with the CG Auxiliary extends beyond the USCGPB. He is a qualified chef (AUXFS), qualified as a Boston Light Historical Interpreter and participates in operations patrolling area waters. Stephen and two shipmates responded to a SAR incident resulting in a positive outcome and were recognized with the Semper Paratus Plaque, an honor bestowed on crew who perform the most outstanding rescue at sea involving the saving of life or property. He also volunteers at Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod which works in partnership with families in need to build homes, hope, lives and community on Cape Cod. Guiding Stephen's volunteer activity is his personal belief borrowed from a Greek proverb of "planting shade trees where other people will rest."

Stephen married his high school sweetheart, Carole Hughes, PhD. They have been married for 28 years and are the proud parents of two daughters who are accomplished musicians of their own.



USCG PIPE BAND

USCG Pipe Band Awards and Recognition

Event	Award	Date	Citation	Recipients
2017 USCG Pipe Band President's Award	Citation w/challenge coin presented to Mr. Dave Linder	8/4/17		Dave Linder
OSCS Baker Retirement	Challenge Coin presented to CWO3 Michael Henry	7/14/17		Michael Henry & Theresa Henry
CWO Fitzgerald Retirement	Challenge Coin presented to BMCS Steve Cochran	7/7/17		Steve Cochran

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

10/22/17 - Welcome Aboard to **Len Calabro**. Len is an Auxiliarist who comes to us from Red Bank, NJ and will be supporting the Band through service in the Color Guard. Len served as the Quartermaster, Logistics Coordinator and Color Guard Commander for the Atlantic Watch for 15 years.

8/11/17 - Welcome Aboard **Dan Wilson**. Dan is an Auxiliarist who comes to us from Athens, GA. He plays in the John Mohr MacIntosh Pipe Band with ML and the other Atlanta members.

7/15/17 - Welcome aboard to **Ensign Matthew Fann**. Matt, who is from Charleston, SC, is currently Stationed in Portsmouth, VA and comes to us with 9 years experience in Highland drumming. He has been a member of the Citadel and the Charleston Pipe Bands competing in Grades III and IV as well as being a grade III solo competitor. He also served in the capacities of Lead Stick and Drum Major.

7/6/17 - Welcome aboard to **Laura Nevile** and **Jean Gould**. Both are USCG Auxiliary members. Laura has an extensive background in music and leads the Rancocas Creek Pipe Band. Jean is a retired Army Sergeant Major, who also has an extensive music background and is a past Pipe Major for MacMillian Grade IV Pipe Band.

7/1/17 - Welcome aboard to **Leon Dame**. Leon is a USCG Reservist who comes to us from Chula Vista, CA and wants to learn the Pipes or Drums.





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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U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band

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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.

