

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. COAST GUARD

# YARD NEWS

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

VOLUME 66 NUMBER 05 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017

#### Cutter MAPLE Departs Alaska; Transits Northwest Passage; Arrives at Yard for ISVS



#### Yard Welcomes Fourth 225' ISVS Program Cutter

The Coast Guard Cutter MAPLE (WLB 207) (foreground) arrived at the Yard on the morning of August 29<sup>th</sup> to become the 4<sup>th</sup> 225' buoy tender to undergo the In-Service Vessel Sustainment (ISVS) project's mid-life maintenance. Like its predecessors in the program – OAK, WILLOW, and KUKUI – MAPLE will receive a 12-month overhaul of targeted hull, mechanical, electrical, and electronic systems. Upon completion, the buoy tender will be homeported in Atlantic Beach, North Carolina.

ISVS provides critical vessel overhauls for the long term sustainability of select classes of Coast Guard cutters. Specific work items on the 225' fleet involve overhaul of deck equipment and weight handling gear; updates to the machinery control system, HVAC systems and propellers; topside preservation, and stability assessment. Routine maintenance includes drydocking, painting, plate renewal, and renewal of worn-out machinery parts and rusted steel.

The Yard completed the Cutter OAK in September 2016 as the first 225' buoy tender overhauled under ISVS. OAK now operates in its homeport of Newport, Rhode Island. The second 225' ISVS Cutter WILLOW entered the Yard in May 2016, underwent ISVS repair and departed in August 2017 for its homeport in Charleston, South Carolina. Completion of the 12-month overhaul of the

third ISVS Cutter KUKUI is anticipated in March 2018 when the buoy tender will report to its new homeport in Sitka, Alaska.

The 225' seagoing buoy tenders were commissioned between 1996 and 2004 and are planned to spend 30 years in service. The Yard's renovation work at their mid-life supports the buoy tenders intended service years.

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

See MAPLE, pg 3

## The Commanding Officer's Column by Captain Matthew W. Lake



In 1949, Congress gave the Yard the authority to operate as a "non-profit business" through the establishment of an industrial working capital fund. As a business, we are responsible for generating enough revenue through sales of our services to offset all the costs associated with operating and maintaining the Yard – including salaries, benefits, training, utilities, equipment, and maintenance. We recover the cost of these overhead expenses by selling our services to the Coast Guard and other government agencies. When we sell our services, we charge our customers an hourly composite labor rate for work performed. This is much different from the rest of the Coast Guard, in which costs are covered by Congress through annual appropriations.

As a public "non-profit" business we are responsible to our exclusive "shareholder" – the U.S. Coast Guard. Our shareholder expects the Yard to put "service to the fleet" at the forefront. This means delivering quality services as efficiently as possible to achieve fleet readiness. In this regard, I am proud to say that Yard performance is the best that it has been in decades.

In FY2017, we achieved the highest workforce productivity rates in more than two decades. We lowered our composite labor rate by 4% (saving our customers \$4.2 million), and we expect to keep this labor rate constant through FY2018, despite a more than 3% shipyard market inflation rate. We also performed 858,956 production hours – the highest levels since 1998. This coming year, we expect to perform nearly 918,000 production hours – the highest levels since 1993. Of note, the Yard has achieved this higher production output with a smaller workforce than we had in 1993 – 1998.

The Yard achieved this high output through significantly improved efficiency, accountability, and a stronger, more proficient workforce. This was made possible by a number of factors. First, we began our three-year effort to restructure our workforce - increasing our ratio of junior to senior graded employees and selectively hiring personnel to match the requirements associated with our "booked" work. Secondly, we ensured that the work performed by the Yard matches our competitive advantage, making best use of our highly experienced workforce. This work includes the cutter renovation projects that are part of the In-Service Vessel Sustainment project and our other government agency work, and the 87' Coastal Patrol Boat Recurring Depot Availability Program. Finally (and most importantly), this achievement is about shoplevel leadership. I continue to be amazed by the ingenuity, stamina, and motivation of our supervisors, work leaders, and employees – they are the ones that are responsible for these amazing achievements. They are also responsible not just for the financial successes summarized above, but also for the tremendously valuable services we provide to the Coast Guard and our Nation every day.

#### Coast Guard Vice Commandant Makes First Official Yard Visit

The Yard and SFLC hosted Admiral Charles Michel (on stage) for his first official visit as Coast Guard Vice Commandant on August 15th. The day included SFLC/Yard briefs, tours of the Yard waterfront and warehouse, and an All-Hands gathering in the Yard Fabrication Shop. During the all-hands event, Admiral Michel presented five Yard/SFLC employees with "Commitment to Excellence" awards. Award recipients included Saa Banaci, Sr. and Levonia Witherspoon (Yard); MKCS Joshua MacKenzie, Ann Seale, and Brenda Taylor (SFLC).

Welcome aboard!



#### **Barque EAGLE Returns to Yard for Phase IV SLEP**

Departing Annapolis Harbor on Friday, August 18th, Barque EAGLE returned to the Yard to begin Phase IV of a four-year Service Life Extension Project (SLEP) under the Coast Guard's In-Service Vessel Sustainment program. Planned maintenance work is designed to extend the service life of the 81-year-old historic training vessel, essential to its long-term sustainability. EAGLE's fourth phase will involve mechanical, electrical and structural repairs and inspections while the historic cutter is dry-docked in the ex-USS OAKRIDGE. The Yard plans to conclude the SLEP in spring 2018 to prepare the ship for its summer ports of call.

Over 100 guests rode EAGLE from Annapolis into the Yard for the 4-hour sailing trip. Riders included Coast Guard Headquarters personnel, Congressional staff and Navy League



members, friends and family of the EAGLE crew, Yard & SFLC employees, representatives of the Baltimore

City School System, and students/ faculty from the New Era Academy public school.

Welcome Aboard!

#### MAPLE, cont. from pg 1

waterways impacted by natural disasters, assist oil spill clean-ups, and conduct search and rescue operations, among other Coast Guard missions.

In photo on page 1, the Yard drydocked the Cutter MAPLE (front foreground) on the shiplift on Friday, October 20th to join the ISVS 225' cutter KUKUI (left background) and the ISVS 140' cutter KATMAI BAY (right background) undergoing mid-life maintenance and service life extension overhaul, respectfully.

#### Cutter MAPLE Transits Northwest Passage To Reach Yard

The Cutter MAPLE made a unique voyage beginning July 12<sup>th</sup> and transited through the Northwest Passage to reach the Yard in late August. The Northwest Passage is a series of passageways through the complex archipelago of the Canadian Arctic Ocean, flowing into the North Atlantic Ocean.

The summer of 2017 marked the 60th anniversary of three Coast Guard

cutters and one Canadian ship that were the first to convoy through the Northwest Passage. From May to September of 1957, the crews of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutters STORIS, SPAR and BRAMBLE, along with the crew of the Canadian ice breaker HMCS LABRADOR, charted,

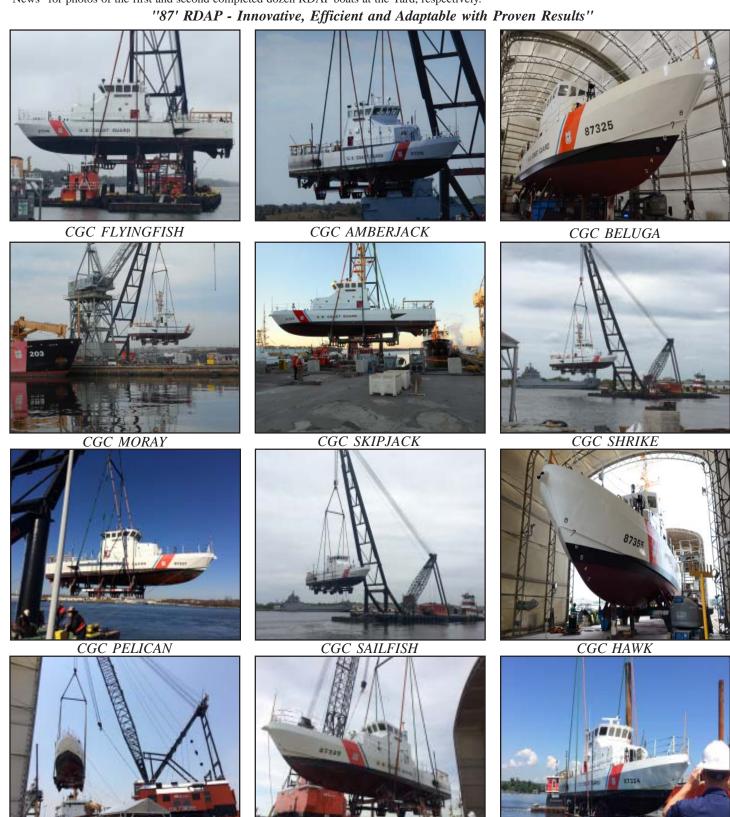
recorded water depths, and installed aids to navigation for future shipping lanes. The cutters' crews became the first deep-draft ships to sail through the Northwest Passage. MAPLE's trip to the Yard commemorated the anniversary by following the historic path.



MAPLE follows the Canadian Coast Guard Icebreaker TERRY FOX through the icy waters of the Franklin Strait in Nunavut, Canada. The Canadian Coast Guard assisted MAPLE's crew by breaking and helping navigate the seagoing buoy tender through several days of thick Arctic Ocean ice to reach the North Atlantic Ocean, with final destination at the Yard. (Coast Guard photo courtesy of PA2 Nate Littlejohn)

#### The Third Dozen

The Yard lifted the first patrol boat under the 87' Recurring Depot Availability Project (RDAP) (formerly Bow-to-Stern Project) in November 2014 and throughout the past three years has successfully completed repairs on three dozen cutters. As with the first and second dozen, the third dozen boats have been completed well under budget. The highly successful project has reduced lifecycle costs and improved readiness. RDAP performs a 60-day planned maintenance on select cutters of the Coast Guard Atlantic Area 87' patrol boat fleet. The third dozen vessels are pictured below in chronological order of completion (top to bottom; left to right). (See September-October 2015 "Yard News" and September-October 2016 "Yard News" for photos of the first and second completed dozen RDAP boats at the Yard, respectively.



CGC STURGEON CGC COCHITO CGC STEELHEAD

#### Coast Guard Commandant Recognizes Superior Accomplishments of Yard Civilian Employees

Admiral Paul Zukunft, Commandant of the Coast Guard, recognized four Yard civilian employees during ceremonies held at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC on July 24<sup>th</sup>. The Commandant provided congratulatory certificates to the winners of the U.S. Coast Guard Civilian Employees of the Year. Honorees in their respective categories included Adam Cole, X10, Coast Guard Civilian of the Year (Senior Level): Rick Hare, X60, Coast Guard Civilian of the Year (Mid-Level), and Jann Blevins, X42 Coast Guard Civilian of the Year (Junior-Level). (See background information on employees and specific award achievements in July/August "Yard News," pages 3 & 6).

In addition, Admiral Zukunft recognized several Coast Guard civilian employees celebrating 50 years of federal service; among them, Melvin Dash, Yard Mechanical Group Shop Planner, who celebrated his Golden Anniversary on August 27, 2017. Melvin served in the U.S. Air Force before beginning his employment at the Yard in 1971.

Congratulations to all from the Yard family!

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Monday, July 24, 2017: From the Desk of the Commandant of the Coast Guard: To the Coast Guard's Dedicated Civil Servants:

Today, I presided over the Civilian and Non-Appropriated Fund Employees of the Year Ceremony. In reflecting on this ceremony, I want to express my sincere gratitude for all that you do as civil servants in America's Coast Guard.

Today, we are, hands down, the world's best Coast Guard. We are the gold standard worldwide because of one thing: the caliber of our men and women. At all levels of our organization, you – the Coast Guard's civilian workforce – are



Adam Cole



Rick Hare



Jann Blevins



Melvin Dash

truly the bedrock of continuity and specialization for our men and women. Every success of the Coast Guard – every life saved, every vessel inspected, every smuggler halted – you'll find a civil servant at the core of that success.

This year's impressive award recipients are shining examples of the caliber of the 8,000 civilian men and women serving our Nation in the United States Coast Guard.

Additionally, I recently signed out

seven congratulatory letters to Coast Guard employees recognizing them for achieving 50 years of civil service. Fifty years! Half a century committed to our Nation.

Day in and day out, I am inspired by all that you do. And I am forever grateful that every single day you put Service before self to protect our homeland.

> Semper Paratus, Admiral Paul F. Zukunft

#### New Era Academy Summer Students Complete Yard Internship

The Yard held a ceremony on August 11<sup>th</sup> celebrating the conclusion of a seven-week internship for the New Era Academy (NEA) Transportation Technology Program students. Before an audience of Yard employees, program organizers, family and friends, the students received certificates of recognition for the successful completion of their internship program during the summer of 2017.

NEA is a college and career-preparatory middle/high school in Baltimore City's Cherry Hill neighborhood. The NEA student internships were part of the school's Transportation Technology Program that prepares high school students for careers in the transportation and maritime trades. NEA interns at the Yard worked 20 hours per week in the shipyard from June 26 to August 11 to gain work experience and basic on-the-job skills for potential employment in maritime transportation industry, including the Yard.

A win-win opportunity, the Yard benefited from the program by increasing the base of well-qualified applicants for consideration of future entry-level positions. NEA students received exposure to the marine trades through classroom and hands-on training under the mentorship of Yard master technicians. The students



The Yard hosted a Completion Ceremony for nine summer student interns from Baltimore's New Era Academy on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Over 50 guests, including Yard mentors, attended the ceremony that recognized the successful completion of the students' sevenweek Yard internship. Pictured left to right are: Brandon Mack, Cree Elliot, Davion Thomas, Junaya Ahmad, Timothy Scurry, Destiny Neslein, Gerald Gardner, Sedgwick Chase III, and Sha'Bria McCleod. Lamont McCloud, Yard Quality Assurance Specialist, is pictured in the back row at right. He served as the coordinator for the NEA summer internship program at the Yard.

program involved assignments in the Iron, Paint, Pipe, Sheetmetal, and Electric Shops.

The Yard conducted the NEA summer intern program under a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Baltimore Public School system. The shipyard is among nine federal government, Maryland state government and private sector organizations who employed over 40 NEA students this summer. The NEA student internships were funded through Baltimore City's Youth Works program and supported by contributions from local private entities who seek to advance Baltimore's economic development and the well-being of its citizens.



The New Era Academy students were among 100 guests who rode Barque EAGLE into the Yard on August 18th. EAGLE's 4-hour trip sailed the Severn River, Chesapeake Bay, Patapsco River and Curtis Creek. EAGLE's crew provided the students with a once-in-alifetime experience at the 81-year-old helm of America's Tall Ship. EAGLE's return to the Yard began Phase IV of a four-year Service Life Extension Project under the Coast Guard's In-Service Vessel Sustainment program begun at the Yard in 2014. The Yard will conclude EAGLE's Phase IV in spring 2018.

Levonia

Barksdale, Kevin

#### **Milestones: Civilian Awards**

#### **Special Act**

Hayden, Robert Raker, Richard Andrese, David Parmer, Sandra Hill. Bethany Russell, Marques Eschenbach, Richard Borman, Denise Josey, Derrick Borman, Denise Schucker, Myles Kuhn, Alvin Tyson, William Jacobson, Travis Ronald Viands Jacobs, Robert Phinney, Larry Cote, Joseph Appolin, Joseph Oakley, Gary Torres, Enidel Hoffman, William Benson, Donald McCloud, Lamont Stuchinsky, Joseph Wolford, Gary Wells, John Harris, Robert Warnick, Richard Kindig, Brian Kruger, Robert Hart, Collin Compton, Robert Tomas, Nicholas Peterson, Vincet Carey, Bennett Loftus, Daniel Porter, Wilbert Conrad, Darren Ferguson, George Smith, Kristopher Dobihal, Richard Angell, Raymond Roberts, James Dixon, Joshua Johnson, Kenneth Reinhardt, Joseph Regan, James Jarrad, Michael Stum, Daniel Heminger, Sean Rosemond, Teddy Peacock, Russell Wilson, Leon Virtue, Michael Kindig, Brian Fricke, Victor Meyers, Joseph

Bernacki, Anthony Sackalosky, Ryan Dickerson, Kyle Taylor, Justin Yearwood, John Brown, Theodore Virtue, Michael Skillman, Brian Martin, Bryan Cole, Adam Shields, Donald Viands, Ronald Downes, John Harvey, Eric Serio, Eugene Carr. Walter Duckery, Louis Baran, Gina Hafko, Terry Cuffley, Jason Jones, Akil Della, George Nicholson, Kenneth Kahl, Mark Beasley, Douglas Bernacki, Anthony Moon, Steven Brophy, Thomas Gonzales, Felipe Young, Stevie Bittner, William Cypress, Izear Nuth. John Anshel, David Zyla, Daniel Block, Melody Applebee, Ronnie George, Christopher Cuffley, Edward Reed, George Kaloc, Robert Randolph, Alan Stanley, Steven Harvey, Eric Brunson, James Haney, Jessie Young, James Mclucas, Shane Evans, Hansberger Harvey, Eric Cary, John Herbert, Davy Anderson, Antornus Vernon, Brandon Weddle, John

Feehly, Paul

Ennis, Mack

Bennett, William

Stafford, Halson Rockocy, Mike Northcraft, Rvan Hare, Keith Lamb, Claude Mitten, Roberts Krantz, Adam August, Matthew Banaci, Saa Powers, Robert Justice, James Phinney, Joseph Brown, Karla Bolton, Alison Zerbe, Heather Cockerille, Daryl Herd, Leonard Jordan, Keith Johnson, James Della, George Minor, Thomas Sackalosky, Ryan O'Dair, Michael Kahl, Mark Scharf, David Yearwood, John Tyson, William Shields, Donald Downes, John Cole, Adam Viands, Ronald Johnson, Kenneth Peacock, Russell Sturgeon, Brett Burnezky, Cory Haines, Timothy Mason, Michael Kozkiewica, Adam Applebee, Ronnie George, Chris Galek, Frank Block, Melody Pickron, John Souder, Frederick Dash, Melvin Ludwig, Gary Bond, Timothy Stanley, Steven Milic, Branislav Oakley, Gary Dove, Andrew Brown, Adam Tepper, Donald Sacks, Shawn Burdett, Aaron Hughes, Eric

Center, Kevin

Wills, Trevor

Williams, Michael Scharf, David Whitacare, Frederick Lowman, Ronald Coburn, David Layton, David Walker, Timothy Bannister, Dorothey Hoehn, James Bragaw, John Byrd, Teresa Edmondson, Chris

Time Off Linton, Eric Falcone, Leonard Blueford, James Sames, Daniel Crider, Christopher Page, Lawrence Mason, Michael Lee, Darrell Jones, James Kuhn, Alvin Bagshaw, James Kozkiewica, Adam Brown, Bryan Martin, Bryan Piper, Donald Roberts, Richard Walston, Sharon Spicer, Dasean Croxton, Bernard Burnezky, Cory Foca, Joseph Haines, Timothy Harrell, Richard Johnson, Kenneth Lee, Joshua Mark, John Schucker, Myles Maxwell, Dawn Washington, Fred Baran, Gina Vester, Aneisha Roberts, Timothy Means, Kevin Funk, Steven Kawecki, Jacob Brown, Howard Alexander, Dale Haskins, Michael Maxwell, Dawn Harris, Robert Washington, Fred Bagshaw, James Heminger, Sean Mason, Michael Rosemond, Teddy Wise, Gary Virtue, Michael

Thomas, David

Witherspoon,

Jerrell, Jason Mitchell, Lewis Aro, Richard Sapunar, Nelson Kindig, Brian Hart, Collin Compton, Robert Johnson, Kenneth Roth, Abraham Arthur, Robert Hardy, Ryan Kruger, Robert Umstead, Brett Dorsey, Ivan Torres, Enidel Yearwood, John Feiner, Devon Tyson, William Della, George Kahl, Mark Cockerille, Daryl Tyson, Timothy Sheppard, Timothy Scharf, David O'Dair, Michael Herd, Leonard Minor, Thomas Blevins, Jahn Cade, Daniel Dash, Brian King, Joseph Herd, Leonard Gray, Harry Torres, Enidel Nuth. John Anshel, David Zyla, Daniel Abrams, Justin Cress, Richard Virtue, Michael Kuhn, Alvin Maxwell, Dawn Washington, Fred Kozkiewica, Adam Lee, Joshua Bagshaw, James Mason, Michael Croxton, Bernard Greenfield, James

Hunt, William

Martin, David

Welling, Kieran Noland, Joseph Murray, Justin Ruhling, Shawn Schucker, Myles Alexander, Eric Warnick, Richard Abrams, Justin Kozkiewica, Adam Cuffley, Jason Greenfield, James Zyla, John Jenkins, Chris Sturgeon, Brett Johnson, Kenneth Peacock, Russell Mccloud, Joseph Byrd, Teresa Laporte, Chris Nicholson, Kenneth

#### On-The-Spot

Robb, Margaret McCain, Tracy Cahill, Michael Genco, Lynn Cortright, Catherine Brink, Alexandre Camara, Michele White, Marie Fields, Timothy Moylan, Jeffrey Walter, Brooks Lindley, Adam Wilson, Charles Nader, Michael Grasson, Kevin Wickenheiser, Sarah Nangle, John Wolford, Gary McCollum,Donald Grasson, Kevin Mills, Richard Schuyler, Wayne Powers, Earl Wilson, Charles Bannister, Dorothey Schwandtner, Richard Bartlett, John Stead, Christopher Tenetylo, Robert Malone, Dave Lowman, Ronald Powers, Matthew Randolph, Alan Center, Kevin Jeeter, Robert

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Zyla, Daniel Brown, Howard Nolan, Michael Kawecki, Jacob Young, Stevie Means, Kevin Gonzales, Felipe Roberts, Timothy Robinson, Shanae Laird, Mark Minor, Thomas Burnett, Barry Folker, John O'Dair, Michael Sackalosky, Ryan Boggs, Jerry Kahl, Mark Bare, Cody Taylor, Justin Bryant, Charles Gately, Stephen Della, George Jackson, George Gray, Harry Justice, James King, Joseph Bowser, Todd Olp, Gerald Johnson, James Phinney, Joseph Smith, Bernie Ricktor III, Barton Thompson, Charles Fleck, Stephen

Funk, Steven Weddle, John Alexander, Dale Blickenstaff, V

Blickenstaff, William Augustyniak, Micael

#### YARD NEWS

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