Captain Matthew Lake (center left) assumed command of the Yard from Captain George Lesher (center) at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, July 1, 2016. Captain Lake is the 42nd Commanding Officer in the 117-year-history of the Yard. Captain Lesher took command of the Yard in 2013. He left the Yard to assume duties as the Ship Design Manager, Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, DC.

Rear Admiral Bruce Baffer (center right), Assistant Commandant For Engineering & Logistics, U.S. Coast Guard, presided over the Change of Command ceremony held at the Yard’s Columbus Recreation Center. Guest speakers included U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin (right) of Maryland and U.S. Congressman John Sarbanes (center right) of Maryland’s Third Congressional District. LCDR Todd Fowler (left), USN, Chaplain, Sector Maryland-National Capital Region, provided the Invocation and Benediction. Commander Christopher Wolfe (at podium), Yard Executive Officer, served as Master of Ceremonies.

The U.S. Navy Band Ceremonial Brass Ensemble provided musical support. Alexandre Brink, Yard Fiscal Department, sang the National Anthem.

Captain Lake served as the Yard’s Industrial Manager from 2013 to 2014 where he was responsible for operation of the shipyard. He returns to the Yard from his most recent assignment as the U.S. Coast Guard’s Sloan Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The MIT Sloan Fellows Program is a 12-month, full-time executive MBA program for global leadership development.

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Captain Lake’s afloat assignments include Student Engineer on the CGC MIDGETT and Engineer Officer on CGC NORTHLAND. His shore engineering and logistics assignments include duty at the Maintenance & Logistics Command Atlantic; service as the first Sector St. Petersburg Logistics Department Head, and as the Surface Forces Logistics Center’s first Product Line Engineering Chief, implementing the Coast Guard’s present-day logistics systems and business framework.

Captain Lake served as Deputy of the Coast Guard’s Office of Budget and Programs where he oversaw formulation and defense of the Coast Guard’s $10 billion annual budget with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Administration, and Congress. He later served under the

See Change of Command, pg 2

Before a crowd of 500 employees and guests, Captain Matthew Lake became the 42nd Commanding Officer of the Yard during formal ceremonies held on July 1, 2016 in Columbus Recreation Center. Captain Lake assumed command from Captain George Lesher, Yard Commanding Officer, 2013-2016.
Greetings members of the Yard family! It is truly an honor to be back at the Yard. From my perspective, there is no better place to serve in our Coast Guard. The Yard is a unique place, with incredible people and a proud history. In order to explain why the Yard is so important, and why I am privileged to be part of this Yard family, it is useful to take a look back in history:

In 1952, Petty Officer Bernard Webber was coxswain of motor lifeboat CG-36500, from Station Chatham, MA. He and his crew of three answered the call to rescue the crew of stricken tanker Pendleton, which had broken in half during a Cape Cod Nor’easter. At great risk, Webber and his crew braved 60-foot seas in a 36-foot boat in the middle of the night under treacherous conditions.

Change of Command, cont. from pg 1
DHS Chief Financial Officer, coordinating formulation and justification of the DHS’ $65 billion 2016 President’s Budget Request to Congress, and prepared the Secretary for Congressional oversight hearings.

A native of Silver Spring, Maryland, Captain Lake earned a Bachelor of Science degree with High Honors in Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1995. He earned Master of Science degrees in both Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering in 1999 from the University of Michigan, and a Master of Business Administration from MIT in 2016.

Captain Lake has been awarded five Meritorious Service Medals, Coast Guard Commendation Medal (with Operational Distinguishing Device), Coast Guard Achievement Medal (with Operational Distinguishing Device), and several unit awards. He is a recipient of the 2010 American Society of Naval Engineers Perry Award; the 2007 Coast Guard Chief Financial Officer’s Team Award for financial stewardship, and was awarded by the Secretary of Homeland Security in 2013 for outstanding performance of duty.

Welcome aboard!
See Change of Command Photo Gallery, pages 6-7

The Commanding Officer’s Column
by Captain Matthew W. Lake

Despite losing the boat’s compass and wind-screen, they managed to locate Pendleton and rescue 32 crew-members aboard the vessel. He and his crew successfully piloted CG-36500 back to shore, loaded with 32 passengers – aboard a boat designed to hold 12. This was among one of the most celebrated rescues of our Service (recently featured in the film The Finest Hours). Naturally, Webber was nominated for the Gold Life Saving Medal, but his crew was nominated for the Silver Lifesaving Medal (a lesser award). Upon hearing of this disparity, Webber refused to accept the Gold Lifesaving Medal unless his crew received the same recognition. His chain of command relented, and all received their just awards.

Webber embodied the values that we Coasties embrace – patriotism, duty, selflessness, mental and physical courage. So, what does this have to do with the Yard? Everything! Webber went to boot camp here at the Yard in 1946, and CG-36500 was built here that same year. The Yard personnel who indoctrinated Webber worked diligently to instill the values and training necessary to serve. Webber would later rely upon these values and skills to rescue the crew of Pendleton. Likewise, Yard craftsmen built CG-36500 and many other vessels, not knowing exactly what great missions these vessels would accomplish at the hands of skilled Coasties. They all knew, however, that they were serving their country and humanity, and that their work was for a higher purpose.

Now, this is one instance of 117-years of Yard history. Nearly every Coast Guard vessel built in the past century has been serviced in some way by our Yard, and hundreds of thousands of Coasties have benefited from the work performed here. It is humbling to consider the hundreds of thousands of lives saved, trillions of dollars of economic activity protected, and the security of our nation safeguarded as a result of work done here by members of the Yard family.

Fast forward to today. As in 1952, the Yard family is providing critical services to crews and operational units on this base, and renovating and repairing vessels that will be used to save lives, safeguard our nation and protect our economic interests well into the future – just like our forbearers. When I walk around the Yard, I see clear evidence of this noble work.

In my mind, therefore, there is no greater honor and privilege than to be part of our Yard family and such an amazing legacy.

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Jennifer Walter
Collateral Duty Graphic Designer

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Collateral Duty Graphic Designer
Captain Matt Lake - Leadership Philosophy

My Personal Leadership Values and Intent

Place the interests of those that I serve and lead before my own. Hold the Yard workforce and myself accountable to the highest character standards. Lead from the front, and set challenging goals – removing obstacles that block success. Ensure the Yard is prepared for the future. These are the leadership values most important to me – and those that shape how I intend to lead our organization.

What I Ask of You as Leaders and Members of our Yard Family

Place interests of those that you serve and lead before your own. Act selflessly at all times. Enable your team to do the best job possible. Invest in the personal and professional growth of your team-members. Share credit with those you serve and lead, and establish an environment built upon trust, respect, devotion to duty, and commitment to our organization. By doing so, you will get the most out of your team because they will want to work with and for you.

Adhere to the highest character standards. Leaders of unquestionable character earn respect from those they serve and lead. Character is established through hard choices and a strong moral compass. Once character is compromised you cannot earn it back – and the integrity of our organization is undermined.

Lead from the front. You must position yourself where you can fully understand the manner, tasks, and environment in which your people perform their work – so that you are able to make well-informed decisions and advocate for them.

Set challenging goals. You must recognize limitations faced by your team, set goals that test those limits, and remove obstacles that block success. The challenge is to know exactly what the boundaries are, and stretch them just enough to inspire improvement. This requires diverse perspectives and “outside the box” thinking. It requires you to empower people and be willing to accept mistakes – but ensure your team is able to learn from them. Mistakes are okay, but compromising the fundamental values or standards of our Service is never acceptable.

Prepare for the future. Balance your focus between long-term “strategic” issues and “tactical” day-to-day work. You must envision future requirements, and then build the capability to meet those requirements. This includes things like improving workforce professional development and capacity, modernizing facilities, refining processes and systems, and ensuring we are ready to service new assets like Offshore Patrol and Fast Response Cutters.

Our Calling

Our calling is to achieve our operational customers’ fleet readiness requirements. Each day Coast Guard men and women carry out missions of tremendous value to the United States. We will give these men and women the assets and services they need to do their jobs safely and effectively. By doing so, we will honor our Nation, our Coast Guard, and those members of the Yard Family that came before us.
“We’re Working On It!”

(left to right) NOAA Ship THOMAS JEFFERSON (S-222) - Norfolk, VA; CGC OAK (WLB 211) - North Charleston, SC; CGC BRISTOL BAY (WTGB 102) - Detroit, MI

CGC CORMORANT (WPB 87313) - Charleston, SC

CGC BRISTOL BAY (WTGB 102) - Detroit, MI

CGC DIAMONDBACK (WPB 87370) - Atlantic Beach, FL
Yard Installs Overhauled MK75 Gun On Polish Navy Frigate

Ten employees from the Yard Electro, Mechanical, Services, and Structural Groups travelled to Gdynia, Poland this summer to install the first Yard overhauled MK 75 76mm gun on the 445’ Polish Navy frigate GENERAL K. PULASKI, formerly the U.S. Navy frigate USS CLARK FFG-11. The two week installation from June 18 to July 2 followed a six month overhaul of the MK 75 gun in the Yard Ordnance Shop.

The gun is one of two MK 75 weapons systems the Yard is repairing under an international ordnance repair agreement with the Naval Sea Systems Command. The team will travel again to Poland in late September to install the second overhauled MK 75 gun on board the Polish Navy frigate GENERAL T. KOSCIUSZKIO, formerly the U.S. Navy frigate USS WADSWORTH FFG-9.

Yard road team members John Driscoll, Dale Strucko, Travis Jacobson, Harold Haney and CWO David Schuette, Electro Group; Nick Nicholson and William Tyson, Services Group; John Danko, Mechanical Group, and Victor Fricke, Structural Group, recently completed the installation of the MK 75 weapon system onboard the Polish Navy frigate GENERAL K. PULASKI, homeported in Gdynia, Poland. (Photo courtesy of William Tyson, X40)

Yard Achieves “Safest Year” In Recent History

By Roger Taylor, Yard Safety & Occupational Health Manager

2015 was an extremely productive year on the Yard waterfront. We worked a significant amount of overtime hours, often times working in extremely limited time frames with multiple crafts overlapping in the various stages of ship repair in order to accomplish our mission.

One of the most noteworthy accomplishments within 2015 was the Yard's safety record. 2015 was the safest year the Yard has experienced in recent history. The overall accident rate for the year was 7.01 (This is a regulatory figure that represents the amount of personnel per 100 employees who were injured within the year). 2015 was the lowest recorded rate in the past 10 years. While public shipyards and private/commercial shipyards have different reporting requirements, the Coast Guard Yard was within one percentage point of the commercial industry rate for total accidents. The Yard's overall accident rate was approximately 10% lower than the year before and almost 22% lower than the previous three year average which is an outstanding accomplishment. The Yard's overall lost time case rate, which represents injuries that include days away from work, was the lowest recorded rate as well, approximately 21% lower than the year before and 12% lower than the previous three year average. These figures show the importance and commitment the Yard and its workforce places on safety.

Significant controls, training, investigations, and awareness have and continue to be implemented for reducing mishaps. The 2015 statistics prove we make safety a priority. Many initiatives such as job safety analysis, safety coordinator/management meetings, inspections, and training have contributed to the decrease in our mishap numbers. We believe, however, individual ownership of risk management and care for the well-being of others are the greatest factors for this reduction. Improving conditions of our hazardous work environment, having the proper equipment, and managing risk continue to be a recipe for improving safety.

Safety begins with you; 2015 proved that you believe in that. We are very proud of the overall reduction in the total accidents and lost time cases in 2015, and hope the trend continues.
U. S. Coast Guard Yard Change
Ron Viands Selected “Coast Guard Senior Civilian Employee of the Year”

The Commandant of the Coast Guard awarded Ron Viands, Yard Electro Group General Foreman, the U.S. Coast Guard Senior Civilian Employee of the Year (2015) in the GS-13/FWS-13 and above category for outstanding contributions to Coast Guard mission support. As supervisor of 85 employees of the Yard Electric, Electronics, and Ordnance Shops, Ron was responsible for managing the successful completion of 24 repair availabilities, 80 on-the-road installations, nine casualty response projects, and seven cutter decommissioning removal projects. Through his exceptional leadership, Ron reduced overhead costs while increasing workforce productivity.

Ron joined other civilian personnel award recipients at a ceremony on July 28th at Coast Guard Headquarters to receive this prestigious recognition. In the photo below, Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Paul Zukunft (left) presents the Coast Guard Senior Civilian Employee of the Year Award to Ron (center). Vice Admiral Sandra Stosz (right), Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, joins the celebration. Coast Guard Vice Commandant Admiral Charles Michel was also in attendance.

Congratulations from the Yard family! (Photo courtesy of CG Headquarters)

Yard Electric Supervisor Ricardo Mariano Wins Gold!

Yard Electric Supervisor Ricardo Mariano (right) captured the Gold Medal in the 49th Annual Excellence In Federal Career Award ceremony sponsored by the Baltimore Federal Executive Board on May 6, 2016 at the Martin’s West Banquet Center. Over 1000 guests attended the program held to recognize local federal civilian employees and military personnel for outstanding accomplishments throughout the year. Ricardo Mariano, a 34 year Yard veteran, received top honors as “Outstanding Supervisor Trades and Crafts.” Ron Viands (left), Yard Electro Group General Foreman, joined the celebration.

The FEB presented the award of “Outstanding Supervisor Trades and Crafts” to Rick for his exceptional expertise in the electrical field and superb supervisory skills. One noted accomplishment during the winter of 2015 was Rick’s technical contribution to the repair of the main motor on the Cutter STURGEON BAY, a critical ice breaking asset on New York’s Hudson River. He and a shop road team traveled to New York to repair the 140’ icebreaker tug in record time. Within 48 hours of completion of work, the local and national news stations released footage of STURGEON BAY freeing up bound barges and commercial tugs from the ice. Rick’s leadership and seasoned knowledge saved the government nearly $2 million and months of lost operational days during the worst ice season on record in the New York area.

Rick spends countless hours during the workday trouble shooting electrical and electronic systems over the phones for a variety of Coast Guard vessels including the 270’, 225’, 210’, 175’ and 140’ fleets. He is an ambassador of knowledge in his field and lives the Yard motto, “Service to the Fleet”!
In Sympathy: RADM Robert Duin, Yard Commanding Officer, 1974-1975

Rear Admiral Robert Duin, USCG (Retired), passed away on June 24, 2016 at his home in Redmond, Washington. He was 91 years old. He served as the Yard Commanding Officer from June 1974 to May 1975. This assignment followed three previous tours at the Yard as a Yard Ship Superintendent; Chief, Repair and Manufacturing Division, and Chief, Production Department.

RADM Duin first began his service career when he entered the Army in 1943 and attended Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, for nine months before serving with the 69th Infantry Division at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He was appointed to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1944, graduating in 1948. He earned eleven letters in football, basketball, and baseball while at the Academy and was captain of the football team his senior year. He was inducted into the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Athletic Hall of Fame in 1984 for these three sports. He obtained his Masters Degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering from 1952 to 1955.

RADM Duin held a variety of afloat and ashore assignments throughout his career including service on the Cutters GRESHAM, YAKUTAT, COOS BAY, TAMPA, WINNEBAGO, and EAGLE. He was stationed in Newfoundland, New London, CT, Coast Guard Headquarters, and the 13th Coast Guard District.

RADM Duin was promoted to Rear Admiral in June 1975, reporting to Coast Guard Headquarters. Following this assignment, he assumed duties as Commander of the 17th Coast Guard District in 1978 until his retirement in 1980.

He is survived by his wife, Phyllis, as well as three children, Robert A., Jr., Stephen B., and Julia C. Rear Admiral Duin’s interment will be at the Coast Guard Academy Columbarium.
The Coast Guard’s 226th birthday is August 4, 2016! Founded in 1790, the Coast Guard was created to enforce maritime custom laws. Today, the Coast Guard safeguards our Nation’s maritime interests and environment around the world.

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Coast Guard Yard

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