



# U.S. COAST GUARD PIPE BAND FOUNDERS & LEADERS EDITION

Official Publication of the United States Coast Guard Pipe Band

[www.uscgpipeband.org](http://www.uscgpipeband.org)

\* Active \* Reserve \* Retired \* Auxiliary \*

## Inside this Issue:

- Founders
- Current Leaders
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Treasurer
  - Secretary
  - Directors
  - Operations
  - Quartermaster

## Officers & Directors

### President:

CWO2 Dave Morgan, USCG (Ret)

### Vice President:

BMCS Steve Cochran, USCG (Ret)

### Treasurer:

CDR Andy Anderson, USCG (Ret)

### Secretary:

CDR Ken Hines, USCG (Ret)

### Directors:

M. L. Loudermilk, Combat Veteran

CAPT Harry Dudley, USCG (Ret)

LT Michael Doria, USCGR

Mr. Kevin Ritchie, USCG AUX

### Operations:

LT Michael Doria, USCGR

### Asst. Operations:

LTJG Drew Bacon, USCG

IS1 Brian Sanjari, USCG



U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band  
200 South Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 300  
Miami, FL 33131-2332  
<http://www.uscgpipeband.org>

## A Special Thanks to the USCG Pipe Band Founders

By YNC J. McBain Eudy

Since I was a wee lad, I have been utterly enthralled with Celtic music, folklore and traditions. The surprising thing is the origin of this fascination... it is a mystery; I truly don't know where it comes from. Although nothing of my heritage has been passed down from my splintered family, I have felt some Celtic and English traits flow freely from a very pure spot in my soul. Some things like listening to the pipes and wearing a kilt have always just felt right.

As a teenager, one of my hidden pleasures was listening to old Irish Celtic music, as well as the pipes and drums. While I listened to whatever pop and rock was popular with my friends, it was the Celtic songs that called to me. These songs went beyond my ear and deeper into my heart. They stirred a sense of longing; longing for a place somewhere on an emerald isle or in misty highlands.

When I was stationed in Hawaii as a Petty Officer Second Class, I volunteered to serve on a rifle squad for a funeral at the national cemetery near Kaneohe. (Few things are more important than honoring those who have gone before us.) The cemetery was located on an emerald mound, which was surrounded by a natural amphitheater of green and black, spire shaped mountains jutting out of the ground and straight up into the sky. The rifle squad stood a short distance from the actual ceremony, while a lone piper stood even farther away on a small hill rising up from the mound. After the prayers, a hush came over the site. The lone piper's song echoed softly across the land, setting the somber tone which was followed by our volley in tribute.

After the ceremony, we packed up our gear and began stowing in the van. I asked the team to stay behind for a few moments while the family of the departed left. Soon everything grew quite; only the trade winds could be heard blowing across the grass. It was then the lone piper began to play 'Amazing Grace' as he walked away, down the little hill. The sound reflected off the mountains and swirled in the warm air around the cemetery. Truly, it was a beautiful thing. I knew then I was meant to be part of something great, something tied to that inner Celtic calling.

Several months later I was privileged to see and hear CDR Ken Hines play his pipes at an official Coast Guard function in St. Louis, MO. I remember talking with him briefly about his performance and learning the U.S. Coast Guard actually had a uniformed pipe band. Needless to say, my interest was peaked. I was both excited and depressed. Anyone who truly knows me knows I have an ear for music, but was not blessed by the Almighty with any sort of musical ability. I remember wanting so badly to be able to play the bagpipes, to be a part of such an incredible group. It was not to be at that time though, so I went on honing my craft as a member of various color guard teams in the U.S. Coast Guard instead.

Then, a couple years later, while on temporary orders at the Port Security Unit in Cape Cod, MA, a young LTJG Doria (now LT) began, in earnest, to recruit me for a new color guard team the USCG Pipe Band was putting together. Finally I had a chance to realize my long held dream. There was only one problem; I did not feel even remotely worthy of being part of such a noble organization. It took some deliberation, but I finally grew confident enough, applied and was accepted into the Band in 2009. Since then, I have had, on multiple occasions, the fortunate pleasure of donning the U.S. Coast Guard Tartan and marching with some truly inspiring musicians and shipmates.

As a contributing editor for this fine newsletter, even if I do say so myself, I have taken great satisfaction in helping to put together this special edition to honor our founders and leaders. To them I am truly grateful. Without them, I would not be living this lifelong dream. As you read the biography of each, I hope you will join me in gratitude for their vision and willingness to create and lead such a phenomenal group.

Thank you shipmates, for counting me among your ranks!



## U.S. COAST GUARD PIPE BAND FOUNDERS & LEADERS EDITION

### Commander (CDR) “Andy” Anderson, USCG (Retired) - Founder

CDR Andersen is a Founding member of the USCG Pipe Band and currently holds the leadership positions of Treasurer and Drum Major. No biography is available.



### Chief Warrant Officer (CW02) Kevin Gilheany, USCG (Retired) - Founder



I was born in New York City, the grandson of four Irish immigrants. Growing up in an Irish family meant observing the traditions including attending the St. Patrick’s Day Parade on Fifth Avenue. I loved the bagpipes and noticed the sound made the hair stand up on the back of my neck! I once hinted to my mother about learning how to play, but her response was that it takes years to master and that I would have had to have started years ago. I believed her, even though I was only about ten years old. But I always thought how cool it would be to march up Fifth Avenue during the St. Patrick’s Day parade, playing the bagpipes.

Another childhood dream of mine was to join the U.S. Coast Guard, which I did in January of 1983. A few years later I saw a picture of BMC Mike Mone in a Coast Guard piper’s uniform and thought to myself, that perhaps one day that could be me. In New Orleans in 1996, I found a Chief Radioman named Steve Young who agreed to give me lessons. My first band was the Pipes and Drums of New Orleans. In 2000, to support the many Irish organizations, we formed The New Orleans Irish Pipe Band, where I served as President and Pipe Major.

For years I played at Coast Guard events wearing the uniform with whichever kilt was available, green or saffron. In 2001, a couple of years before I retired I decided to make the pilgrimage to the Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven, Michigan. It occurred to me that we should get all the Coast Guard pipers and drummers who did what I did, together and make a band for the big parade. I put the word out on the Fred’s Place website and immediately received a huge response. I finally listened to what the Boatswain’s Mates had been telling me for twenty years, that it was easier to be forgiven than it was to get permission, and so I told the Grand Haven Group Commander, the Ninth District and the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard Vince Patton, what we were going to do. They all thought it was a great idea. The rest is history.

But for me the best of all was March 17, 2008, when I marched up Fifth Avenue in New York playing the bagpipes in a Coast Guard uniform (above photo). I have been truly blessed, and I’m truly grateful to all the dedicated people who have kept the band going strong all these years.



## Senior Chief Steve Cochran, USCG (Retired) - Founder

Senior Chief Cochran is a Founding member of the USCG Pipe Band and currently holds the leadership positions of Vice President, Pipe Sergeant and Regional Coordinator for the Fifth District (D5).  
No biography is available.

## Chief Warrant Officer (CW04) Stephen Young, USCG (Retired) - Founder

The skirl of the pipes has always fascinated me ever since my father took me to my first parade with bagpipes at the age five. “That’s the Ladies from Hell,” is what he told me. I was quite impressed because the memory is still with me, 55 years later.

I was fortunate enough to be one of the founding members of the band, joining in June 2002, thanks to my shipmate, Kevin Gilheany. We did our first performance in Grand Haven that year with a minimal of players. I was Pipe Sergeant at the time moving up to Pipe Major a couple of years later. Though we wore different kilts (before the genesis of the CG Tartan) we had a huge impact the crowd. So much so we were invited the next year and I haven’t missed a year to date.

I started piping in 1989 in, of all places, the ‘Jazz Capitol of the World’, New Orleans, Louisiana, under one Kay Ihara, who was the Pipe Major of the Pipes and Drums of New Orleans. One of my first surprises in learning how to pipe was that one starts piping on a practice chanter, not on the bagpipes. The practice chanter is not unlike a recorder you may have been introduced to in grade school. Naturally I was a bit disappointed with the instrument, until I was introduced to the pipe scale; it was uphill from there. After 6 months of practice chanter, I was ready for the pipes. Not an easy transition, but I persevered. My first big event was marching in a Mardi Gras parade with 5 tunes under my belt, about one third of what the band was playing, but... I WAS PIPING IN A PARADE! Oh what glory!

Through time I was transferred with the U.S. Coast Guard to the West Coast. It was in Petaluma, CA that I met Mike Mone. I joined the Petaluma Police Band and then the Santa Rosa Pipe Band. I stayed with the Santa Rosa group because they were more fun.

Thanks to the Coast Guard’s policy of transferring personnel, I had the opportunity to not only to play in other bands but fulfilled some of the leadership roles as well. By happenstance, I was sent back to New Orleans, rejoined the band and started instructing. This led me into being made Pipe Sergeant and then Pipe Major. I taught at Tulane University for a year. I taught the ‘unofficial’ CG Headquarters Pipe Band, until my retirement and am currently one the lead pipers as well as an instructor/teacher with the City of Winchester Pipe Band in Virginia. That’s five bands I’ve been affiliated with; two of them twice (New Orleans and Winchester).

I hope to begin competing again in 2013 and would send a challenge to my fellow pipers: “Teach at least 10 other pipers in your lifetime.” The world can never have enough pipers.





### Chief Warrant Officer (CWO3) Michael Henry, USCG (Retired) - Founder

I enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1978 and attended boot camp in Cape May, NJ. I attended Class “A” School for Damage Controlman in Governors Island, NY. I advanced through the enlisted ranks to Chief Petty Officer before accepting a Commission as a Warrant Officer before retiring from active duty in 2003 at the rank of CWO3.

My assignments included CGC Hornbeam (WLB 304), Cape May, NJ.; Training Center Governors Island, NY.; Base Gloucester City, NJ.; Electronics Engineering Center, Wildwood Crest, NJ.; Group St. Petersburg, FL.; Marine Safety Office Valdez, AK.; CGC Gentian (WLB 290), Atlantic Beach, NC.; Station Newport, OR.; Civil Engineering Unit Cleveland, OH., and Support Center Elizabeth City, NC.



My piping career started in Seminole Florida in 1983 while assigned to Group St. Petersburg. Shortly thereafter, I was transferred to Alaska where there were no instructors to help keep me on track. So aside from some self-tutoring, I went dormant until September of 2001.

In September 2001, I saw Kevin Gilheany’s post on Fred’s Place and was motivated once again to get back on track. I resumed my lessons with Michael Crawley of the 87th Cleveland Pipe Band. Michael Crawley, a grade 1 Piper and a Grade 1 Drummer is currently the Pipe Major of the 87th, lead Drummer for the Great Lakes Grade III soon to be grade II Pipe Band and also has his own Celtic Rock Band based out of Cleveland, Ohio called Mary’s Lane. Michael tutored me with the music to be played for the first appearance of Coast Guard Pipers in Grand Haven in August 2002.

After my debut appearance as a charter member and subsequent plank owner of the Coast Guard Pipe band, I was transferred to Elizabeth City, NC where I continued to work on learning competition tunes for both grade IV and V. Upon my retirement in 2003, I was inducted into the 87th Cleveland Pipe Band’s Grade V competition Band. I competed as a solo piper briefly. After two years in Grade V, I advanced to Grade IV and served as the instructor for Grade V. I have attended work-shops with Robert Mathieson, former Pipe Major of The House of Edgar Shotts and Dykehead, Robert Wallace, Principle of the College of Piping, Glasgow Scotland. I’ve also attended workshops in London, Ontario Canada with world champion drummers Mike Cole and Craig “Hoss” Colquhoun (bass), Jim Kilpatrick (snare), Tyler Fry and Scott Curie (Tenor). I continue to compete with the grade IV Band.

After serving as a Pipe Corporal for several years with the Coast Guard Pipe Band, I was recently appointed as a Pipe Sergeant and continue to serve as the web manager for the Band’s website.

### Founders Who Were Unavailable

- \* **Paul Rothwell: Founder, Pipe Corporal, and Piper**
- \* **Michael Fink: Piper**
- \* **Lain Anderson**
- \* **Renee Blue O’Connell**



## Lieutenant (LT) Michael Doria, USCGR - Founder



LT Michael Doria learned the Bagpipes in 1996 while he was a cadet at The Citadel, the military college of South Carolina, under the teaching of world renowned Piper teacher and former Pipe Major of the Air Force Reserve Pipe Band Sandy Jones. In addition, to being a Cadet Bagpiper and due to his leadership qualities he served as The Citadel's Pipe Band Drum Major for his sophomore and junior years, a position usually reserved for senior cadets.

LT Doria is a volunteer bagpiper and founding member of the Coast Guard Pipe Band. In 2000, he was referred to as their "unofficial bagpiper" by the Commandant and the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard. Without hesitation, he traveled the East Coast between 2000 to 2002 for more than 27 performances, supporting all military branches. Since 2002, he participated in an additional 21 performances throughout the country, including changes of command, unit commissioning ceremonies, military balls, parades, retirements, and memorial services. As a result of his leadership, the Board of Directors of the Pipe Band appointed him Regional Coordinator for the First Coast Guard District in 2006. In 2007, he earned CG Sector New York's nomination, one of only two nominees from the 1st District, for the American League's Spirit of Service Award.

As Regional Coordinator, he coordinated and planned requests for performances, most notably the participation of the largest contingent of the Pipe Band to date in the 247th New York City Saint Patrick's Day Parade. During this event LT Doria organized all USCG Pipe Band activities over a three day period to include scheduling rehearsals and public affairs activities, credentials for volunteers, berthing and messing for all members, and coordinating local transportation from the USCG Academy, CG Sector New York, and CG Sector Delaware. In November 2008, he coordinated the USCG Pipe Band's performance for senior officials at the reopening of the USS INTREPID museum in New York City.

In 2011, LT Doria served as the Official Coast Guard Liaison with CG Sector New York, CG Headquarters, the USCG Pipe Band, the NYC parade Committee, and other Coast Guard Unit's during the New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade coordinated and plan the Bands participation in the historic 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary parade. In addition, he participated in the Grand Haven Festival on nine separate occasions since the Bands creation, as the first acting drum major and later as a piper.

As one of the founding directors LT Doria has also served key positions in the Band such as a bagpiper, the First District Regional Coordinator, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Drum Major, Pipe Corporal, Color Guard Commander, Chairmen of the Awards Committee, Operations Officer and an active member of the elected Board of Directors.



# U.S. COAST GUARD PIPE BAND FOUNDERS & LEADERS EDITION

## Investigator First Class (IV1) James Taylor, USCG (Retired) - Founder

My family's association with the highlands resolves back to 1746 at Culloden. Where three of my direct descendents (Taylor's) fought and died with Clan Cameron. MY great-great Grandfather was a Bass drummer with the Orange Lodge Pipe Band. My Grandfather joined the Gordon Highlanders at the age of 14, Aberdeen, Scotland. My father, Canadian Army and The Queens own Cameron Highlanders of Canada, while Mum served with the Royal British Army, WWII. My entry into the Clan occurred June 1946, Winnipeg, Canada. I'm a dual citizen.



1958-1959 Dad and I became founding members of the Clan Cameron Pipe Band, Bellingham, Washington. I played Tenor, while Dad was a Drum Major, Piper, Bass, Tenor, and Side. My three sisters and youngest brother were all highland dancers. One brother was a piper and the other a drummer. Mum was the Kilt Maker. 1962 I became a founding member of the Central Fraser Valley Pipe and Drums, Abbotsford, Canada, sponsored by the Royal Canadian Army Engineering Regiment. On occasion I filled in and played with the Royal Canadian Legion Pipe Band, of which my father was the Drum Major. At many of USCGPB practices you have undoubtedly observed me wearing my father's drum majors sash from the Legion.

1964-1969 I enlisted in the U.S. Navy and between tours in Vietnam, I played with the Campbell Pipe Band, San Diego, California. Over the years I've filled in with various bands that needed temporary players. 1994-2004 I played Bass and Tenor with the Greater Seattle Police Pipe Band. 2001 I learned of a movement to start a U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band and immediately joined. Since our beginning I've played Bass and Tenor, served 4 years as a Director on the Board and Regional Coordinator.

On a personal note; I joined the Coast Guard Reserve 1986-2006, serving as a special agent with the Coast Guard Investigative Service. September 12th, 2001, I was recalled to active duty for five years as an agent with the Coast Guard Investigative Service (CGIS). In civilian life I was a police officer for 35 years and currently serving as a Court Security Officer for the U.S. Federal Court in Seattle, Washington. In 2005 the Coast Guard gave me permissive orders to Scotland, where I represented USCG Pipe Band in the 'worlds largest parade'; over 12,500 pipers and drummers on parade.

My wife and I are in the process of moving from Redmond, Washington, to Green Valley, Arizona, south of Tucson, where I'll affiliate with one of the many local pipe bands.



## Chief Warrant Officer (CW03) Dave Morgan, USCGR (Retired)

**CW03 Morgan is the current President of the USCG Pipe Band. He also serves as a Piper and is on the Band's Awards Committee. No biography is available.**



## Commander (CDR) Ken Hines, USCGR (Retired) - USCGPB Secretary / Piper

CDR Hines entered the US Coast Guard Reserve in 1983 in the Direct Petty Officer program and was assigned to Reserve Unit Paducah, KY as a Port Securityman Third Class (PS3). Following a transfer to Reserve Unit St. Louis "B" and advancement in rank to Petty Officer First Class (PS1), Hines was accepted into Officer Candidate School and commissioned an Ensign in 1990. CDR Hines was assigned the Intel career track and had assignments including CG Group Galveston, Marine Safety Office St. Louis, U.S. Transportation Command Joint Intelligence Center, 8th Coast Guard District, and the CG Inland River Vessel Movement Center, and CGHQ.

CDR Hines began seriously piping in 1997 and has piped with a number of pipe bands. He was also an original member of the US Coast Guard Pipe Band, joining in 2002 following the solicitation from CWO2 Kevin Gilheany. CDR Hines retired from the USCGR in February 2010 with nearly 27 years of active duty and reserve service. He is employed with the US Department of Justice and lives in Missouri where he devotes his spare time to piping Veteran and Law Enforcement events and the annual Veterans Air Show in Columbia, MO. CDR Hines is currently building a replica World War I Nieuport-28 fighter plane that he hopes to have in the air in the summer of 2013.

CDR Hines is married to Margaret, has three grown children and one adorable granddaughter. His personal awards include: Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf cluster, CG Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, CG Commendation Medal with Operational Device, Joint Service Achievement Medal, CG Achievement Medal (2), CG Commandant Letter of Commendation (5), Marine Safety Device, and Coxswain Device.



## Mr. M. L. Loudermilk, USCG Auxiliary - USCGPB Pipe Major / Board of Directors

M.L. Loudermilk has been with the U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band since 2004. He has been a Director since 2006 and assumed duties as Pipe Major in May of 2009. A U.S. Coast Guard veteran, he performed Search & Rescue operations out of CG Base New York City and earned the CG Combat Action ribbon for service in Viet Nam in 1970 and 71. He is currently serving in the Coast Guard Auxiliary at Lake Lanier, GA.

Born and raised in South Carolina, M.L. lived and worked in Georgia, New York, Tennessee and Oklahoma before becoming an ex-patriot worker for two years in Saudi Arabia. In 1983, he, his wife Sally and daughter, Ida, moved to Alaska where they lived for 22 years. In 2005 M.L. retired as an administrator for the Anchorage School District and he and Sally moved to Georgia where they currently live, NE of Atlanta.



M.L. has had more than 26 years of pipe band experience with five pipe bands. During his career he has played more than 1,200 performances and 180 piping competitions including the World Pipe Band Competitions in Glasgow, Scotland, in Grade III. He has performed numerous times on television, in movies, at college football half-time shows and university graduations and recently with "Celtic Woman Live" at Atlanta's Fox Theater and on their DVD.

M.L. began his pipe band experience as a drummer before switching to pipes. He has been a side drummer, bass drummer, piper, Pipe Corporal, Pipe Sergeant and Pipe Major, as well as band President. He has also produced, directed and performed in numerous pipe band stage concerts and has participated in more than 80 highland games and 10 piping schools.

In his non-piping life, he has a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree in Organizational Management. A certified Master Diver and SCUBA Instructor, he has taught and certified more than 2,400 diving students. As a licensed pilot he flew search and rescue missions with the Civil Air Patrol while in Alaska. His hobbies include running, weight lifting, motorcycling, shooting, boating and working in his woodshop.



### Captain (CAPT) Harry Dudley, USCG (Retired) - Board of Directors / Side Drum Sergeant

#### PIPE BAND

Although I had no direct experience with pipe bands before 2007, I have done a lot of drumming. I tried to join a local band but found there was none in my immediate area (Olympic Peninsula, WA). So I founded the Olympic Peninsula Pipe Band in 2007, but ran into the common problem of not having many pipers available. In the process I met Dave Bailey, a piper in USCG Pipe Band, who told me about it. I subsequently joined the USCG Pipe Band that same year. My first event was the Jacksonville Games in February 2008, and then I also marched in the New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade that year.

I have been active since and was elected to the Board of Directors for 2009. In 2010 I was asked to be Side Drum Sergeant (and Lead Drummer). In spite of my lack of experience in that role, I took the job because I knew I would get incredible support from the Drum Corps – especially those who had led the Corps to that point.



#### DRUMMING

I started drumming in the 3rd grade (even though the band leader wanted me to play trombone). I played percussion in various school, regional bands and orchestras. I went to the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in 1955 and was so impressed with highland drumming that I created a “tenor” section in my high school marching band by cutting off tympani sticks and putting boot laces on them so we could ‘flourish’. I played tenor (horizontal mount) in the North Carolina State Marching Band for a year and then went to the CG Academy where I played snare in the D&B Corps, which I commanded in 1966. I have played in many jazz and dance bands from high school to present, but, in all that time, I never played one lick of real Highland drumming until joining USCGPB.

#### BACKGROUND

I was commissioned in 1966 and started my career as a Deck Watch Officer on the USCGC WESTWIND and USCGC SOUTHWIND. I had a variety of assignments including getting an Master's Degree at URI which led to assignments in support of Aids to Navigation in the Fifth Coast Guard District and Headquarters. I then changed paths and went into Marine Safety where I was assigned to CG Marine Safety Offices (MSO) in Portland, OR, Los Angeles / Long Beach, CA and eventually as Commanding Officer of CG MSO Puget Sound. I took a brief detour to complete an assignment in the Middle East during the “Iran/Iraq Tanker War” (1987-1988) which then led to an assignment as Chief of Readiness and Reserve in the Thirteenth Coast Guard District (CGD13). I returned to Marine Safety and eventually retired as Chief of Marine Safety Division (CGD13) in 1994.

I also serve as Chairman, Washington State Board of Pilotage Commissioners. I have a USCG Merchant Mariner license as Master 1600, Oceans (2nd Mate Unlimited). I am President, Hastings Estate Company, Inc., and Azimuth to Zenith LLC (both family-owned companies). I was on the Board of Military Benefit Association from 1982 to 1994 and am now an advisor to that Board. I am a Licensed Armed Security Officer with Security Services Northwest and one of their security boat operators. I am a Past Commodore, Port Townsend Yacht Club. I joined the Auxiliary in 2009 and am the FSO-VE for Auxiliary Flotilla 47 (Port Townsend). I'm in the process of qualifying for crew and plan to qualify as coxswain.

While at the Academy, I was assigned to escort Zoe Ann at the Wilmington, NC Azalea Festival in 1965; we were married in 1966. We have two children and four grandchildren.





## Mr. Kevin Ritchie, USCG Auxiliary - Board of Directors / Color Guard Sergeant



Born on Long Island, NY, I was the youngest of three children to Mr. George P. & Mary F. Ritchie. My father was a sergeant on the Nassau County Police Department and my mother was the assistant court clerk for the village of Munsey Park, NY. I grew up in the town of Port Washington, NY, which is located on the Long Island Sound. I attended catholic elementary school and St. Mary's Boy's High School, where I served as an altar boy for five years. At age thirteen, not satisfied with my weekly allowance, I rode my bicycle to a nearby golf course to learn the craft of caddying.

I started off the first three days by sitting on a bench for several hours and not being selecting to caddy. However, things changed and it quickly turned into a very industrious career.

Within two years I was consistently caddying for the top golfers in the club championship. I was soon employed in the pro shop, overseeing golf carts and the bag room. By day I would caddie, by night I would park cars at the restaurant located on site. During my ten years at North Hempstead Country Club, I held positions of Course Starter, Cart Manager, Valet Supervisor and also caddied in professional PGA golf tournaments, hence my email address, xlooper.

In 1985 I was awarded a four year Caddie Scholarship to St. John's University in Jamaica Queens, NY, where I subsequently graduated with a degree in Marketing. My first job out of college was delivering mail at a large cooperation, Thompson Industries, at which I wore a suit and tie every day. I was soon accepted into The Buyers Training Program at Lord & Taylor in New York City. During my five years at Lord & Taylor, I was promoted four times, including Store Operations Manager, where I was tasked with direct supervision of seventy five employees. I also held positions at the New York Life Insurance Company as a licensed insurance agent and at TJX Companies as an store operations manager.

For the last seventeen years, I have been employed by Konica-Minolta Business Solutions. In that span I've held several positions including Senior & Major Account Executive & Branch Sales Manager. I have received 38 performance awards, including 10 Presidents Club Awards and the two highest honors available, National Top Sales Representative of the Year Award and the Diamond Circle of Excellence Award. Currently, I am the longest tenured representative for the company in the Northeast.

In February 2004, I joined the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. I began actively working in public affairs as a certified instructor. I have also held Staff Officer positions within the Flotilla and Division and have served on the color guard. In 2006, I joined the Randolph Auxiliary Police Department for which I served two years.

In the Coast Guard Auxiliary, I've spent many hours in schools teaching children about marine and boating safety. I've also been very active in the Auxiliary Trident program. I'm currently working on my Performance Qualifications for Assistant Port State Control Examiner at Station Boston, where I am assisting active duty members in LNG boarding's, along with cargo vessel and cruise ship inspections. In 2009, I started a color guard unit for our local division. Within one year, we were invited by the Boston Celtics to present colors for game six of the NBA finals, which is believed to be the first presentation of colors by a CG Auxiliary unit ever carried live on national TV. Our unit is currently regular presenters for the Boston Red Sox, New England Patriots and Boston Celtics. In 2010 our unit received the Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation Award.

In 2010, I joined the USCG Pipe Band. Although I played the drums some in my younger days, I chose to participate in the color guard. My wife Jean, who is from Boston MA, and I have been married for twelve years. I have one son, Daniel, who is in the sixth grade. We reside in Braintree, MA.



## U.S. COAST GUARD PIPE BAND FOUNDERS & LEADERS EDITION

### Lieutenant Junior Grade (LTJG) Andrew Bacon, USCG - Assistant Operations / Piper

“Drew” Bacon has been piping since he was 10 years old. He has played with numerous pipe bands across the nation. While growing up in Maryland he played with the Calvert High School Pipe Band and the Mary Washington College Pipe Band. Upon moving to Portland Oregon in high school, he played with the Sir James McDonald Pipe Band competing with them in the Juvenile World Pipe Band Championships in 2002; he placed third. While attending the US Coast Guard Academy, he was a member of the Regimental Band playing for the Corps of Cadets during drill ceremonies. Additionally during this time, Drew played with the Grade II competition Manchester Pipe Band from Manchester Connecticut, and continues to play with the US Coast Guard Pipe Band. Drew has been piping for Scottish Highland Dancing for as long as he’s been playing. He has piped for dance competitions across the nation including both the East and West Coast Championships. Drew is a Grade II solo competitor.



Drew attended the Coast Guard Academy graduating in 2009 with a Bachelors of Science in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. He was selected for and reported to Naval Flight Training in Pensacola FL during the fall of 2009. Upon earning his ‘Wings of Gold’ in the fall of 2011, Drew was transferred to CG Air Station North Bend, Oregon where he currently resides flying the MH-65D Dolphin helicopter (see photo).

### Intelligence Specialist First Class (IS1) Brian Shajari, USCG - Assistant Operations

I am a native Texan and proud of it! I was born and raised in Beaumont, TX where I spent most of my life. I learned how to play the bagpipes in the mid 1990's when I was only 13 years old. I learned as a member of band I joined, the Lone Star Pipe Band. I am still a very active member of my home band and have been the Pipe Sergeant since 2009. Throughout my piping career, I have played with four other pipe bands; the USCG Pipe Band, Honolulu Pipes and Drums, McGuire's Pub Pipe Band, and most recently, the San Antonio Pipes and Drums.



I began my Coast Guard career in May 2002 by enlisting as a Reservist while I was in my Sophomore year of college at Lamar University in Beaumont, TX. After boot camp, I was transferred to CG Station Sabine Pass, TX where I served until 2005. I graduated from college in 2005 with a Bachelor's of Science in Criminal Justice and History and then immediately volunteered for active duty. I was subsequently transferred to CG Marine Safety Unit Port Arthur, TX, where I served in multiple positions. In 2009, I switched rates to Intelligence Specialist and have never regretted it. In 2010, I integrated into active duty and took a billet at CG Air Station Barbers Point, Hawaii, where I served as the unit's intelligence analyst and Aviation Mission Specialist on both the C-130 and MH-65C airframes. I also served as the District 14 Regional Coordinator for the USCG Pipe Band while I was in Hawaii. In 2012, I took orders to return to Texas to serve as a Deployer at CG Cryptologic Unit Texas in San Antonio where I now serve. Other than the USCG Pipe Band, I have served in a multitude of other positions in the Coast Guard, including Boarding Officer, Boat Crew Member on several platforms, Weapons Petty Officer, Aviation Mission Specialist/Tactical Systems Operator, and Radiation Level II detector.

Other than the bagpipes, my other big hobby is re-enacting. I primarily reenact American Revolution, War of 1812, Texas Revolution, American Civil War, British Victorian, and WWII. Other hobbies involve anything that is creative!

I look forward to serving as Assistant Operations. My career in the Coast Guard has prepared me for such a position and I promise to devote my fullest in undertaking this position. I have been a member of the USCG Pipe Band since February 2003 and my time in the band will help me assist our Operations in providing the best opportunities for us.



## Mr. John Quinn, USCG Auxiliary - Quartermaster / Piper



John Quinn is in his fourth year as a member of the USCG Pipe Band and is a member of CG Auxiliary Flotilla 29. During this time he has attended all the Band's national events, including the Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven, Michigan; St. Patrick's Day parades in New York City and Savannah, Georgia; and Police Week in Washington, D.C. Mr. Quinn has participated in numerous local events with other members of the Band's Atlanta Detachment, including 9/11 remembrances in Roswell, Georgia, Wreaths Across America ceremonies at National Cemeteries in Canton and Marietta, Georgia (see photo); and Change of Watch ceremonies for CG Auxiliary Flotillas 22 and 29, as well as USCG Auxiliary Division 2 (District 7).

Mr. Quinn is a 1977 Graduate of the Law School at the University of Georgia. He was an attorney for the National Labor Relations Board for four years, serving in Washington, D.C. and at the agency's Regional Office in Atlanta, Georgia. Thereafter he entered private practice representing employees and labor organizations and in 1984 became a founding partner in the firm now known as Quinn, Connor, Weaver, Davies and Rouco with offices in Birmingham, Alabama and Atlanta, Georgia. He now also serves as Regional Counsel for the Communications Workers of America. In November 2012 Quinn was elected to the Office of Commissioner, City of Avondale Estates, Georgia.

A lifelong fan of piping and Celtic music, Mr. Quinn did not begin to play the Great Highland Bagpipes until 1994. He began with the Birmingham Society of Piping (now know as Alabama Pipes and Drums) where he served as quartermaster for a number of years. Upon relocating to Atlanta, Mr. Quinn began playing with John Mohr MacKintosh Pipes and Drums competing at Grades IV and V. He also served as an officer and member of the band's board. Mr. Quinn went on to play with the Atlanta Pipe Band in its

Grade IV competition unit and served as its Secretary for the past four years. He has also been a solo competitor at the Grade IV level for many years. In addition to receiving instruction from the late Winter Taylor, Mr. Quinn has attended both the North American Academy of Piping in Valle Crucis, North Carolina, and the National Piping Center's Atlanta school where he has studied with world renowned pipers Sandy Jones, Colin MacClellan, Ed Neigh, Captain Stuart Sampson, Glenn Brown, and John Mulhearn. For the last year, Mr. Quinn has been serving as member of the board of the Atlanta Piping Foundation, Inc. which sponsors instruction and scholarship to promote piping and drumming in the Southeast.

### Newsletter Staff

Senior Editor  
*Mr. Michael Goodwin, USCG Aux*

CO-Editor's  
*YNC Jonathan Eudy, USCG*  
*YN2 William Bagwell, USCG*



### U.S. Coast Guard Pipe Band

200 South Biscayne Boulevard,  
Suite 300  
Miami, FL 33131-2332

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.

<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.*

