

CPOA D.C. Chapter News

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — The CPOA D.C. Chapter installed new officers at a midday ceremony at Headquarters June 4. RADM Dennis Sirois, Director of Reserve and Training, swore in four new officers: CPO Mark Allen, President; MCPO Alex Keenan, Vice President; CPO Jamie Rambo, Secretary; and CPO Carmela Martinez-Ortiz, Treasurer.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony signaling the opening of the new HQ Chief's Mess was also held in conjunction with the ceremony. The Chief's Mess is located in the northwest corner of the HQ cafeteria. A cake-cutting followed the ribbon-cutting to celebrate "A New Era in the New Chief's Mess."

The D.C. Chapter has been heading up the "USCG Flags Across the USA" program that began at a nationwide level in January 2001. The program is a way to honor and respect those who have come before us, as local volunteers place Coast Guard flags on the graves of fellow Coast Guardsmen. So far, 57 Coast Guardsmen in 23 states and the District of Columbia have expressed an interest in the program. For more information, e-mail: uscgflags@yahoo.com

Another major 2001 initiative of the D.C. Chapter is the Leadership Series, which will bring to Headquarters on July 31, 2001 Pea Island experts David Wright, David Zoby, and Elisa Carbone. These three reknowned authors of books about the U.S. Life-Saving Service's Pea Island Station will share their insights into leadership examples today's Coasties can learn from Pea Island's famous heroes. For more information, e-mail: mallen@qssmeds.com

Cutlines from DC CPOA Installation Ceremony

Photo Caption 1 ([cpoa5.jpg](#))

The CPOA D.C. Chapter swore in new officers at a Headquarters midday ceremony June 4. Left to right are CPO Carmela Martinez-Ortiz, Treasurer; CPO Jamie Rambo, Secretary; MCPO Alex Keenan, Vice President; CPO Mark Allen, President; and RADM Dennis Sirois, Director of Reserve and Training. Photo by CPO Ed Kruska, USCGR

Photo Caption 2 ([cpoa9b.jpg](#))

New D.C. Chapter President CPO Mark Allen, left, holds the Chapter gavel presented to him by RADM Sirois. Photo by CPO Ed Kruska, USCGR

Photo Caption 3 ([cpoa9e.jpg](#))

President CPO Mark Allen, left, presents a ceremonial baton to outgoing President MCPO Bill Michael. The baton, including fancywork of snake seizing and Turk's heads, represents the Chapter's gratitude to Michael for *carrying the baton* as interim President. Photo by CPO Ed Kruska, USCGR

Photo Caption 4 ([cpoa9g.jpg](#))

RADM Dennis Sirois, left, helps SCPO Edna Doak cut the ribbon signaling the grand opening of the new Chief's Mess at Headquarters. The ribbon-cutting was held in conjunction with the installation of new D.C. CPOA officers. Photo by CPO Ed Kruska, USCGR

Photo Caption 5 ([cpoa9i.jpg](#))

Newly installed D.C. CPOA President CPO Mark Allen, left, cuts a cake along with D.C. Chapter member SCPO Edna Doak at the June 4 ceremony. Doak was instrumental in establishing the new Mess. The cake reads: Congratulations 2001 CPOA Officers, "A New Era in the New Chief's Mess." Photo by CPO Ed Kruska, USCGR