

## Class of 1972 - 2020 Ring Donors

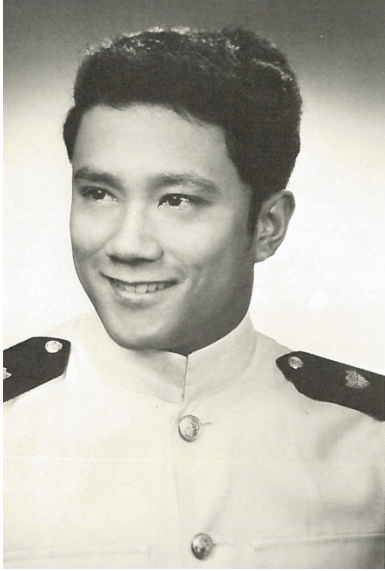
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Captain Robert W. Vail, CGA Class of 1972

He reported to the CGC Sedge in Cordova, Alaska. This initial tour was followed by assignments in his native New England in the Aids to Navigation Office in Boston, Massachusetts and as Operations Officer on the CGC Active home ported in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. He headed back west for assignments at Air Station Port Angeles, Washington; Personnel Officer in the Seventeenth District in Juneau, Alaska and Executive Officer of Base Honolulu, Hawaii. His last assignment on active duty was at the CG Personnel Command in Washington, DC. He retired to his "gentleman's farm" Homeport Homestead in Port Angeles, Washington in September 1996. He became

very active in the community serving as Chairman of the Clallam County Planning Commission, an instructor at Peninsula College and also as an active Chaplain within the Olympic Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Port Angeles. Captain Vail "crossed the bar" on October 15, 2005 in Port Angeles, Washington.



CAPT Bienvenido Abiles, USCG (Ret), Class of 1972

On 12 November 1949 Ben was born in Urdaneta, Pangasinan, Republic of Philippines. In 1968 he graduated from Queen Anne HS, Seattle, WA and entered the USCGA in June 1968. On June 6, 1972 he graduated the USCGA, commission Ensign. USCG Assignments include 1972 USCGA Academy, Summer Ensign, Commandant of Cadets Staff; 1972-1973, USCGC Northwind, Seattle, WA Deck Watch Officer; 1973-1975, USCG Group OTP/PSSTA Seattle, Dangerous Cargo Officer; 1975-1977, Station Pago Pago, American Samoa, Commanding Officer; 1977-1980, CCGDEight, New Orleans, LA District Recruiting Officer; 1980-1981, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, MBA in Finance; 1982-1985, CCGD Five, Portsmouth, VA District Budget Officer; 1985-1987, DEPGRUCOM/GRUCOM Sault Ste. Marie, MI Executive Officer and Commanding Officer; 1987-1990, USCGA Associate Director of Admissions; 1991-1994, Group Sandy Hook, NJ, Group Commander; 1994-1997, Integrated Support

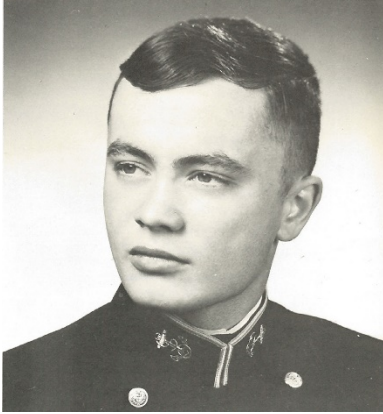
Command, Kodiak, AK, Commanding Officer; 1997-2000, USCG(G-WTL), Chief, Office of Leadership and Diversity. His personal awards include: CG Meritorious Service Medals with two gold stars, CG Commendation Medal with "O" device with gold star, CG Achievement Medal, CG Meritorious Team Commendation with four gold stars, CG Bicentennial Unit Commendation, National Defense Medal with bronze star, Humanitarian Service Medal, CG Special Operations Service Ribbon, CG Sea Service Ribbon, DOT Secretary's Award for Meritorious Achievement with Silver Medal, CG Expert Rifleman, CG Expert Pistol, Antarctic Service Medal, Arctic Service Medal. He was also the recipient of the Alex Haley Award for unit family publication "The Group Scoop" while assigned as Deputy Group Commander in Sault Ste. Marie. Ben is married with four children and eight grandchildren. He lives in Kissimmee, FL, mainly enjoying retirement, but also working as a real estate agent.



Mr. Timothy C. Healey, Class of 1972

Mr. Healey's career included a Student Engineer assignment on the BOUTWELL (WHEC 719) in Boston, Assistant Engineer/Damage Control Assistant on the BIBB (WHEC 31) in New Bedford, Marine Inspection and Investigation at Marine Safety Office San Francisco as a Boiler and Hull Inspector, the Merchant Vessel Inspection Division within the Office of Marine Safety at Coast Guard Headquarters including participation at the International Maritime Organization in London, Chief of Investigation and later Resident Inspector at Marine Safety Office Baltimore, and concluded back in in the Office of Maine Safety at Coast Guard Headquarters implementing new regulatory mandates of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. During his time in San Francisco, he earned an MBA (Transportation & Logistics) at Golden Gate University. Following retirement, Mr.

Healey was the Assistant Chief, Vessel Inspection at International Registries (IRI) in Virginia, overseeing the inspections of approximately 1,000 Liberian ships throughout the Americas and Pacific Tim. Mr. Healey left IRI and relocated to the Hartford, Connecticut area in 1994, where he joined The Hartford Steam Boiler inspection & Insurance Company (HSB) to provide workplace safety support for their nearly 500 boiler inspectors nationwide. During this time, he formalized their safety and training programs, held leadership positions on several national consensus standards committees related to fall protection, confined space entry and transportation safety, and received numerous safety awards. He retired as HSB's Director of Safety in 2018. He continues his transportation safety interests with active participation in motor vehicle driver performance improvement forums and is an on-track/in-car coach for teen and adult drivers.



Cadet 3/c James B. Kehoe, Class of 1972

Cadet Kehoe was born in Pittsburgh, PA on 30 March 1950 and Crossed the Bar 6 August 1969. Jim is a classmate to all in the Coast Guard Academy Class of 1972. Entering the Academy 24 June 1968, he weathered the storm of SWAB summer and became a member of the Corps and Foxtrot Company during his 4th class year. His 3rd class summer cruise was aboard CGC Mackinaw. Near the end of that cruise, the ship was moored in her homeport of Cheboygan, MI. While on liberty, Jimmy was swimming with some classmates in the river nearby the ship when somehow he got caught in the river current and tragically drowned. Jim is remembered for being thoughtful and always

kind to us all. James B. Kehoe Forever a Classmate and always remembered. A ring was anonymously donated by a member of the Class of 1972 in memory of 3/c Kehoe.



CDR James F. McCarthy III, P.E., Class of 1972

During his Coast Guard career (1972-1993), Mr. McCarthy was initially assigned as Student Engineer/DCA on USCGC JARVIS (WHEC-725): Follow-on tours: CGD(12) Boating Safety. Graduate Student at University of Michigan (Masters Degrees in NavArch /Marine Engineering and Mechanical Engineering). CGD3(mmt) Staff Engineer (Hull, Machinery, and Electrical), CGD3(mio) Hull and Machinery inspector stateside and overseas, G-MTH-3 Naval Architecture Branch and IMO participant, G-MSA Chief, Hull Division, G-ER (Fire Safety). After serving 21 years on active duty, he retired from the Coast Guard, and worked 6 years in the marine industry as a Program Manager / Senior Engineer supporting the MSC, CG and the National Park Service Maritime ships. In 1998, he entered the CG Civil Service and served as Technical Director for many new

and ongoing CG-9 acquisition projects including 8 years on new MACKINAW (WLBB-30), from concept design through its delivery. He later worked on the Response Boat Small (RBS), Over the Horizon (OTH) boat, and Long Range Interceptor (LRI) procurement projects. Professional Licensures: Registered Mechanical Engineering P.E. (1988 - NJ), DHS Certified Acquisition Professional as a Program Manager (Level 3), Test and Evaluation (Level 3), Systems Engineering (Level 3), Logistician (Level 1). He was the 1st DHS level 3 Test and Evaluation certified professional in the CG. He fully retired in 2012 and has taken a proactive role in the LITC program, mentoring six cadets in the class of 2022. Mr. McCarthy enjoys golf, skiing, sailing, but most of all, playing with his 2 grandchildren.





CAPT Terry W. Newell, Class of 1972

CAPT Newell is an honors graduate of the United States Coast Guard Academy and served from 1972-1998. He spent almost his entire career in operations, including thirteen years of sea duty, nine of those years as Commanding Officers of four cutters: WALNUT, BUTTONWOOD, VENTUROUS, and BOUTWELL. Other afloat assignments included DWO on SPAR and XO of RED BEECH. Ashore assignments included Commanding Officer of CG Station Fire Island, two tours in District Eleven in Search & Rescue and then Aids to Navigation. He was Pacific Area Chief of Current Operations, and Maintenance & Logistics Command and Pacific Chief of Inspection Staff. Operational highlights in the latter part of CAPT Newell's career include serving as Commodore of CTU44.7.2.

As Commodore, he oversaw 5 HEC/MECs, 5 WPBs, and 2

HH65 AVDETs conducting Alien Migrant Interdiction Ops and Counter Drug Ops. One particular career highlight includes the repatriation of 4,000 Haitians from GITMO to Port-A-Prince while commanding BOUTWELL during a four-month deployment from PACAREA in 1994. Also, while commanding BOUTWELL, in 1996, they intercepted and shadowed a rouge stateless high seas drift net vessel for 14 days covering a 2,000 NM transit through the North Pacific including passage through Super Typhoon Eve, resulting in a subsequent joint boarding / seizure with the Taiwanese Coast Guard. After retiring, CAPT Newell participated in various entrepreneurial ventures. He became a professional trader in equities and futures and wrote his own proprietary computer code to automate his trading business. CAPT Newell and his wife Arlis currently reside in the San Francisco Bay Area and Honolulu.



Mr. Bradley J. Niesen, Class of 1972

Mr. Brad Niesen retired in July of 1998, at the rank of captain, after 26 years of service in the U.S. Coast Guard. Following a one-year tour on the USCGC Woodrush, he was assigned to U.S. Navy flight training in Pensacola, Florida. Upon graduating from flight training, he was assigned to a variety of air stations, accumulating over 5,000 flight hours in a wide range of fixed and rotary-wing aircraft. In 1990, he was transferred to USCG Headquarters Office of Operational Law Enforcement, then served for four years as the senior USCG liaison officer to the U.S. Department of State. Immediately following his retirement from the USCG, Mr. Niesen was employed by the State Department as an aviation specialist, where he worked with multiple partner nations in the Western Hemisphere to provide them with aviation assets that were modified to assist in counter-narcotics efforts. For the past 20 years, Mr. Niesen has served in

a variety of contract positions with the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Coast Guard, with a primary focus on aviation mission systems and operational data networks. Mr. Niesen has the honor of sponsoring Cadet 3/c Rasa Kirvelevicius through the academy's Link in the Chain program. He has been married for nearly 48 years to the former Miss Jane Tuckerman, of Killingworth, CT. Together, they have 5 children and 11 grandchildren who live in various parts of the country.



CAPT Thomas C. Paar, USCG (Ret), class of 1972

Captain Paar's 30 year commissioned career included operational tours as DWO, CGC MACKINAW (WAGB 83); OPS, CGC VIGILANT (WMEC 617); XO, CGC DILIGENCE (WMEC 616); CO, CGC THETIS (WMEC 910); and CO, CG Group Miami/Base Miami Beach. Staff tours included 9th District Recruiting, and CGHQ Officer and Enlisted Personnel, and Programs Divisions. He concluded his career as Deputy Commander, CG Personnel Command, Assistant Superintendent, USCGA, and Chief of Staff, Atlantic Area/5th Coast Guard District. Upon retiring from the Coast Guard in 2002, Captain Paar joined the effort to standup the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) serving as Staff Officer to the Administrator. In 2003, he moved to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as Staff Officer to the

Deputy Secretary, and in 2005 as Chief of Staff, US Citizenship and Immigration Services. He retired from federal service in 2009 and worked in the private sector for Tesla Laboratories, Inc. a Washington, DC consulting firm. He retired, retired in November 2016 and now works as a Domestic Engineer. In addition to a BS degree earned at the Academy, he also earned an MBA from Marymount University, Arlington VA.





Cadet 2/c Robert J. Schmoeger, Class of 1972

Cadet Schmoeger was born in Oglesby, Illinois on 16 March 1950 and Crossed the Bar 12 March 1971. Bob is a classmate to all in the Coast Guard Academy Class of 1972. Entering the Academy 24 June 1968, he weathered the storm of SWAB summer and became a member of the Corps and Foxtrot Company during his 4th and 3rd class years and of Hotel Company his 2nd class year. During spring of his 2nd class year, he and a group of his classmates were selected to be part of an Exchange Weekend at the US Air Force Academy. Bob tragically died having slipped and fallen over a cliff while jogging on a mountain path near the Air Force Academy. Bob is remembered

as having a positive attitude, always grinning and smiling, an encouragement to us all. Robert J. Schmoeger Forever a Classmate and always remembered. A ring was anonymously donated by a member of the Class of 1972 in memory of 2/c Schmoeger.



Mr. Penn F. Shade, Class of 1972

Penn entered the Coast Guard Academy in 1968 from Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania. During 4/c year he served as class president for the Class of 1972. Following graduation, Penn was assigned to Dauntless (WMEC 624). The Coast Guard's initiation into the current drug interdiction mission began with Penn. Ensign Shade led the Dauntless boarding party that accomplished the Coast Guard's first drug seizure on March 8, 1973. After Dauntless, Shade was selected for flight training at NAS Pensacola. After receiving his wings, LTJG Shade was assigned to CGAS Miami and later to CGAS Cape Cod. In March 1983, LCDR Shade left active duty and served in the Coast Guard Reserve until 1992. His reserve assignments included First District RCC Controller, Executive Officer MSO RU Boston, and Commanding Officer RU Station Woods Hole. After leaving active duty, Mr. Shade joined American Airlines rising to the level of Captain where he flew the B-727, MD-80, B-737, MD-11, and A-300, flying a mixture of domestic and international routes. After retiring, he became part owner in ePaint Company, a manufacturer of copper-free, anti-fouling paints for the boating industry. Today, Penn spends his time running the business, golfing, woodworking, and volunteering in various community activities.



CAPT Charles B. Williams, USCG (Ret), Class of 1972

Captain Charles B. Williams, USCG (Ret) graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1972. He also attended the United States Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California and earned a Masters of Science Degree in Communication Engineering in June 1977. During his thirty years in the Coast Guard, Charles had over twenty-six years of progressively responsible executive level and hands-on experience including more than twenty-one years in Telecommunications & Information Systems Management. His awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal and the Coast Guard Commendation Medal with three gold stars. After retirement from the Coast Guard, Charles was employed at L-3 Communication Systems-East in 2003, as a key Program Manager ensuring products and services meeting

USCG needs. He was always active in the Alumni Association having served on the Board of Directors. Charles died December 7, 2015 and we his family would like to donate his miniature class ring in his memory.