



**United States Coast Guard
CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION &
ENLISTED ASSOCIATION**

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20 July 2025

From: CPOA/CGEA Executive Director

To: All CPOA and CGEA Members

Subj: Executive Director Annual Report

The following report is provided to document the state of our National Office, National CPOA/CGEA Programs, and National Staff.

1. IRS EIN Management / Tax Reporting:

- a. **CPOA Chapters:** In 2024, 7 Chapters reported to have revenue of more than \$50,000, the remaining were reported to the IRS having received less than \$50,000 in gross receipts.
 - i. Several Chapters were found to have lost their Tax Exemption Status. See below for the current status of these Chapters. Chapter leadership should contact the Executive Director if they have questions about their status.
 - Liberty (Philadelphia) Chapter: Tax Exemption Revoked 5.15.2023
 - New Haven Chapter New EIN Issued in 2020 – (*Pending Exemption Approval*)
 - Cape Cod (Woods Hole) (Corrected as of 6.19.2025 - no further action needed)
 - Derby City Sluggers Chapter Revoked 5.15.2020 (*Pending Exemption Approval*)
 - Gold Country Chapter Revoked 5.15.2019 (*Pending Exemption Approval*)
 - St Louis Chapter (*Corrected: New EIN Issued and Tax Exemption approved 6/2025*)
- b. **CGEA Branches:** In 2024, no Branches reported to have revenue of more than \$50,000, therefore, all Branches were reported to the IRS having received less than \$50,000 in gross receipts.
 - i. Several Branches were found to have lost their Tax Exemption Status. See below for the current status of these Branches. Branch leadership should contact the Executive Director if they have questions about their status or to initiate action to reinstate.
 - Elm City Branch - Revoked 2019 – Need information from Branch
 - Greater Alaska - Revoked 2022 - Need information from Branch
 - Lake Effect (Buffalo, NY) - Revoked 2024 - Need information from Branch
 - Mobile (Mobile, AL) - Revoked 2013 (*Pending Exemption Approval*)
 - Tornado Ally - Revoked 2021- Need information from Branch
 - ii. The Following Branches failed to report their annual gross receipts.
 - Bay State (Boston, MA) - no report submitted, 2 members
 - Cape Ann (Gloucester, MA) - no report submitted, 2 members
 - Eastern Shore - no report submitted, 2 members
 - Glacier/Juneau (Juneau, AK) - no report submitted, 0 members
 - Kitsap (Silverdale, WA) - no report submitted, 2 members
 - Marianas Islands - no report submitted 0 members
 - Motor City (Harrison TWP, MI) - no report submitted, 8 members
 - Oregon Coast 83-1861659 - no report submitted, 4 members

2. Computer Systems:

- a. I4A: In 2024, CPOA began to transition from legacy website and membership database applications to the all-in-one Internet for Associations (i4A) online portal. In March of 2025 we transitioned to i4A as our sole-source membership and online profile (website), eliminating the need for multiple systems and redundant data entry/validation. Although this transition came at a cost, we expect this upfront

investment to be quickly recouped in the years ahead by reducing the need for additional software and time spent on data management. Suggestions for content and usability should be forwarded to Executive Director for discussion/consideration - we want this application to be user friendly and productive for the entire Association (as of 01 March 2025, our Constant Contact account has been closed).

- b. MS TEAMS: As of November 2024, we have migrated our on-line video conferencing and collaboration to MS TEAMS. To date this has been very successful and has allowed us to use this platform for both internal (CPOA/CGEA) meetings as well as vendor and partner discussions. Chapter/Branch leadership is encouraged to join the CPOA/CGEA Community on MS Teams. There is no charge for MS users to set up / join meetings, and the National Office and Board of Directors are using this for information sharing and dissemination (as of 01 January 2025 our Zoom account has been closed).
- c. Operating System: The National Office Continues to use the suite of Microsoft 365 products, supplemented by Adobe, Google Drive (storage), etc....
- d. Email: The National Office continues to use the Go-Daddy hosted email accounts (uscgcpoa.org) with great success. Chapters/Branches wishing to purchase an email address for their local leadership may do so (at cost) – contact the Executive Director for more information.

3. **FINANCES/ACCOUNTING**

- a. We continue to utilize QuickBooks Online Essentials as our accounting software. Our National Treasurer has access to ensure continued transparency and financial oversight.
- b. We closed out 2024 with a Valuation of \$1,147,067. Valuations for the end of the first and second quarters of 2025 are \$1,176,703 and \$1,167,646 respectively. Total Association valuation has seen an increase of \$59,968.63 since the last convention. A full financial report has been filed by the Treasurer.

4. **Captain Caliento College Assistance Fund (CCCAF)**

- a. CCCAF information was published in the January edition of “*The Chief*” and posted on our website and e-newsletter. We received and processed 30 applications and provided them to our CCCAF Chairman for grading. Congratulatory letters were sent to the winners, and the scholarship “Big Checks” were mailed for presentation. \$11,000 was paid out to this year’s winners and letters of acknowledgment were sent to all individuals who participated in this year’s program.
- b. The Navy Federal CD’s were renewed on May 17, 2025, with a new CD APY of 4.02% (last CD Rate was 2.62%). As of 6/19, the fund presently has \$68,836 in our BofA account and \$74,691 in 2 Navy Federal CDs for a total valuation of \$145,527. A full CCCAF report was filed separately.

5. **Walter Gore Memorial Scholarship (WGMS)**

- a. This year we received 4 entries for the WGMS and issued two awards (\$500 ea) for a total of \$1000. As of 6/19/2025 there is \$1029 in the WGMS BofA Account.

6. **Communication**

- a. **The Chief Magazine:**
 - In-Design (Adobe): We continue to use In-Design as our magazine development software with continued success. Nothing notable to report.
 - Production: We continue to use Master Print/Vomela as our publisher. In January of this year, MP-Vomela added to their service line the ability to validate and print mailing address directly on the magazines and deliver our product directly to USPS for shipping - without the need for our staff to intervene and move product. This ‘in-house’ feature has resulted in savings in mailing costs, overprinting product, and staff time. We now pay an average of \$1.87 per copy + \$.058 Postage for a total of \$2.45 per copy, well below the \$2.75 per copy that we have budgeted.
 - Mailing list: Membership mailing addresses continue to cause inability to deliver the magazine to all eligible members. For the July 2025 Magazine, we had 115 eligible members whose address was incorrect, prohibiting us from mailing them their copy of the magazine. Members should update their address in i4A to ensure receipt.
 - Submissions: Chapter/Branch leadership is encouraged to submit articles and ‘chapter/branch news’ for inclusion in The Chief – this is a weak area for the publication, requiring ongoing outreach from the National Staff.

- Advertising: In an effort to offset the cost of publishing The Chief, we sell advertising space in each edition. Chapters/Branches are encouraged to find local vendors who would like a national audience in our publications.

b. **e-Newsletter:**

- In March of 2025 we began using i4A for newsletters and membership information distribution. All members should ensure their email address is up to date. NOTE: We highly encourage the use of personal email addresses for CPOA/CGEA membership correspondence - the Coast Guard (uscg.mil) email server often removes attachments and prohibits receipt of CPOA materials sent to those accounts.

c. **Social Media (Facebook/LinkedIn):**

- The CPOA Facebook page remains a valuable communication platform to quickly spread awareness about key issues, mobilize supporters, raise funds, and create online advocacy movements. The page has 8,700 followers with an average reach of 2,300 people per month.
- Our LinkedIn, and Twitter feeds continue to grow. All continue to serve as great venues to keep our membership informed about Association events and attract new and former members.

7. **The Military Coalition (TMC)**

- a. The Military Coalition (TMC), is a group of 35 military, veterans, and uniformed services organizations. The philosophy of The Coalition is that, by working together on issues of mutual agreement, the participating organizations can harness the grassroots support of more than 5.5 million members, plus their families, and accomplish far more than by working on these initiatives separately.
- b. Our Legislative Affairs Director and past National President, BMCS Jon Ostrowski, remains our point person for Legislative Affairs engagements and regular attendee at TMC Meetings.
- c. QMC/CWO Randy Reid remains on the TMC Leadership Board as Treasurer (for the past 10 years).
- d. Letters which have garnered support from CPOA can be found on the TMC website and linked in our e-newsletter. www.themilitarycoalition.org

8. **Membership**

- a. We presently have 8,491 CPOA members and 1,790 CGEA members - an increase of 355 from our last convention report.
- b. 1 July 2024, the MC has opened 548 new memberships. (367 CPOA and 197 CGEA)
- c. Since 1 July 2023, 221 of our members Crossed the Bar.
- d. Our Membership Coordinator (MC) will mail 89 25-year pins, 138 35-year pins, and 41 50-year pins to eligible members this year.

9. **Dues**

Active Duty / Reserve Allotments

- Allotment compliance continues to improve - albeit slowly.
- As of 30 June 2025, 3,126 AD/RES members cover annual dues via allotment.
 - 1,634 (47.73%) of those members are not compliant (not paying at least \$48/yr),
 - An 18% improvement since last convention.
 - Annual allotment deficit is estimated to be \$35,838.
- As of 20 July 2025, 2,788 Retiree members cover annual dues via allotment.
 - 1,479 (53.69%) of those members are not compliant (not paying at least \$48/yr),
 - Annual allotment deficit is estimated to be \$38,658.00.

10. **Strategic Partnerships**

- a. First Command Financial Services (FCFS) – First Command continues to be a valued partner, and the named Sponsor of this years' convention. We are enjoying our 3rd year with FCFS as a key sponsor of CPOA; they provide (annually) sponsorship contributions of \$10,000 in support of CPOA/CGEA operating capital and convention support with an additional \$2,500 (per year) in support of our scholarship fund. We look forward to continuing this partnership well into the future.
- b. Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) – We entered into a one-year sponsorship agreement with BCBS in January where they provided \$10,000 in financial support for CPOA/CGEA as well as \$2,500 in direct support for The Chief Petty Officer Foundation. We will pursue a long-term partnership agreement later this year.

- c. Other significant sponsorships and partnerships for 2024-2025 include: Coast Guard Foundation, Coast Guard Mutual Assistance, Veterans United Home Loans, Veterans Spouses Network, FEFA Financial, and the National Coast Guard Museum Association.

11. National Office Building Maintenance / Improvements:

- a. In January 2025, we instituted a new phone tree system in the National Office to facilitate better communications to the National Staff when away from the office. The phone numbers remain the same, allow you to choose the person you are looking for, and will ring directly to the staff member you are wishing to speak with.
- b. In April 2025, we had a new entryway door installed in the main entrance of our National Office Building to provide safe and professional access to our offices. We also had a panic bar installed on the side door to facilitate egress from our spaces.
- c. The Business Park Association is developing a plan to re-pave our parking lot and working with the county to have a turn lane (into our development) included in upcoming roadway improvements on Backlick Road.

12. Other

- a. In November 2024, we represented the CPOA at the Veterans Day Ceremony at Arlington National Ceremony where CPOA members placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and participated in the parade of colors (with the CPOA Flag and American flag) in the amphitheatre before and after the ceremony.
- b. In May 2025, we represented the CPOA at the Memorial Day Ceremony at Arlington National Ceremony where CPOA members placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and participated in the parade of colors (with the CPOA Flag and American flag) in the amphitheatre before and after the ceremony.

In conclusion, since last convention CPOA/CGEA has forged ahead with completing a major acquisition of our new membership portal and website – Internet for Associations (i4A), which we have quickly integrated into our daily routine. Having been in this role for 6+ months now, I am confident that this investment was an excellent choice and will result in significant savings and increased productivity. That said, 2025 is not without challenges to our Coast Guard workforce and CPOA/CGEA must continue to remain relevant and in-touch with the issues that they face. Please continue to engage your local workforce, encourage new membership, and keep the National Staff apprised of challenges that we can assist with. I am honored to be your Executive Director and look forward to moving our Association forward. Please let us know at the National Office how we can best serve your membership.

...serving to serve you!


C. R. Bushey, CMC, USCG (Ret)
Executive Director