

CELEBRATING WOMEN IN U.S. COAST GUARD HISTORY



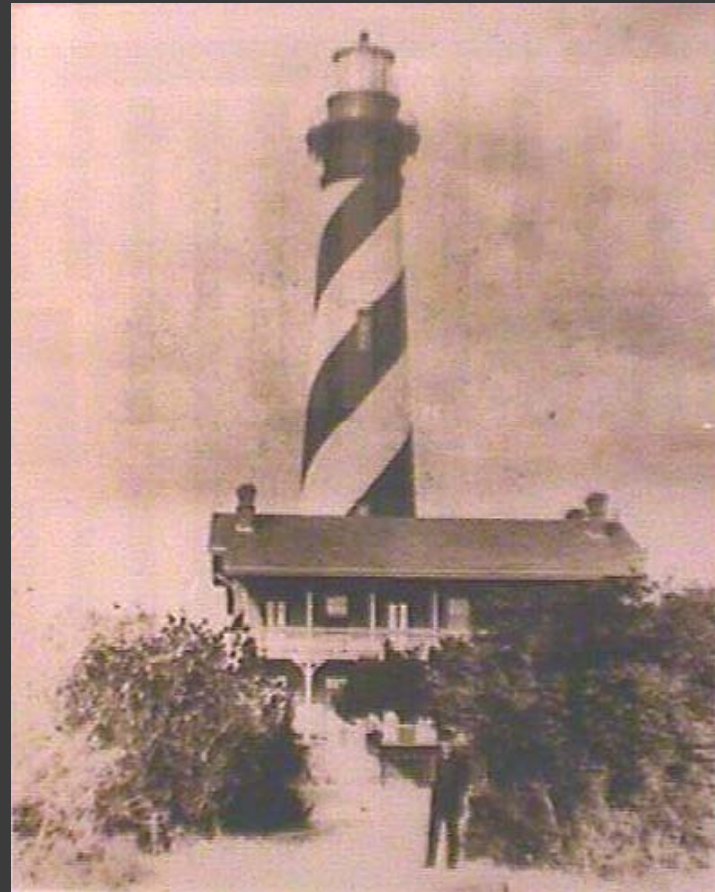
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Base Elizabeth City HRC

Women were first officially assigned as keepers in the Lighthouse Service beginning in the 1830s although many wives and daughters of keepers had previously served as keepers when their husbands or fathers became ill. Women continued as lighthouse keepers until 1947.

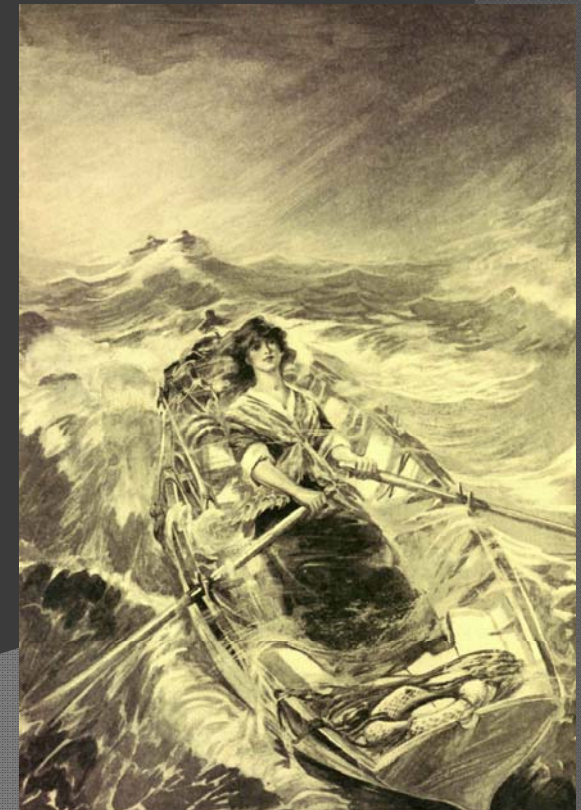


Mrs. Fannie Mae Salter

From 1859 to 1862 **Maria Andreu** (a.k.a. Maria Mestre de los Dolores) served as the Keeper of the St. Augustine Lighthouse in Florida, becoming the first Hispanic-American woman to serve in the Coast Guard and the first Hispanic-American woman to oversee a federal shore installation.



In 1881, Lime Rock Lighthouse Keeper **Ida Lewis** becomes the first woman to be awarded a Gold Lifesaving Medal.



1942 SPARs established. **LCDR Dorothy Stratton** transferred from the Navy to serve as the director of the SPARs. More than 11,000 SPARs served during World War II. The program was largely demobilized after the war.



Dorothy Stratton

First five African-American females entered the SPARs in 1945: **Olivia Hooker, D. Winifred Byrd, Julia Mosley, Yvonne Cumberbatch, and Aileen Cooke.**



Olivia Hooker



1973:- Legislation ends Women's Reserve and women were officially integrated into active duty and Coast Guard Reserve. Female reservists then serving on active duty were given the choice of enlisting in the regular Coast Guard or completing their reserve enlistments. **Alice Jefferson** became the first SPAR to be sworn into the regular Coast Guard.



SPARs CELEBRATE 24TH ANNIVERSARY. ADMIRAL Willard J. SMITH, cuts the cake at Coast Guard Headquarters on 23 November 1966 in recognition of the 24th Anniversary of the Coast Guard Women's Reserve. Representing the SPARs at the ceremony are (left to right): CWO Elizabeth F. SPLAINE; Commander Laura F. LAWRENCE; Commander Valeria L. BERG; SKC Alice JEFFERSON; and Commander Eleanor C. L'ECUYER. The SPARs who reached their peak of 11,000 during World War II today have less than 50 people on active duty.



FIRST NEW GROUP OF SPARs TO RECEIVE BASIC MILITARY TRAINING IN 25 YEARS

1974: Eleanor L'Ecuyer became the first woman on active duty promoted to Captain since World War II.



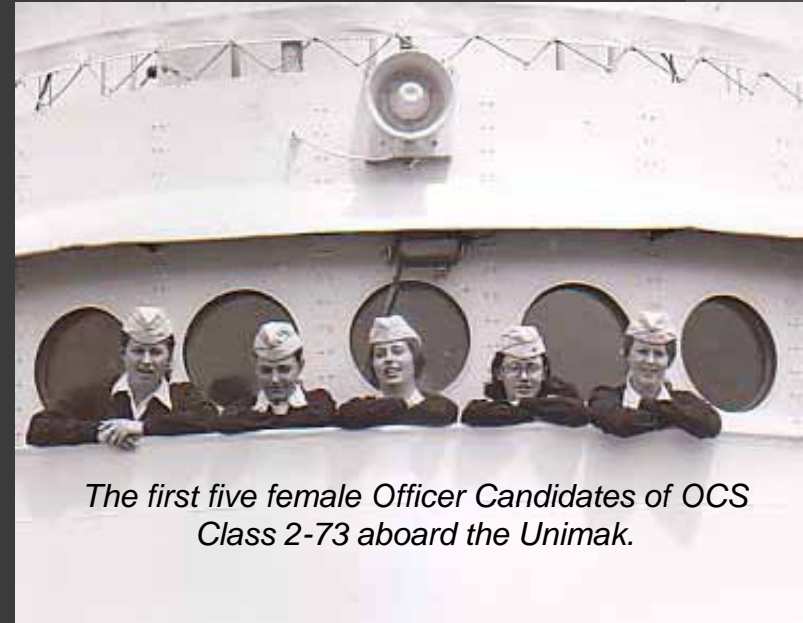
CDR Eleanor L'Ecuyer and LCDR Vivian Reese, both of Washington, D.C., visited Palm Beach recently to make preparations for a 25th SPAR anniversary reunion. They are shown reading a 1943 press clipping describing the training being conducted at the Palm Beach-Biltmore Hotel. The reunion will be held at the hotel 20-24 November 1967.

*Photo by Ursula Seeman,
Palm Beach Post Times*

1973: Margaret R. Riley, Lynn W. Smith, Sue E. Jennings, Bonnijill McGhee, and Shelia E. Denison reported to OCS class 2-73 in Yorktown, Virginia. From those first five women of Class 2-73 to today, OCS continues to produce female officers of remarkable quality.



CAPT Margaret R. Riley



The first five female Officer Candidates of OCS Class 2-73 aboard the Unimak.

On 8 June 1973, OCS Class 2-73 graduated from their training at Yorktown, Virginia. The entire class was twenty-nine strong. In their ranks at graduation for the first time were five women. One of those women graduates was **Margaret R. Riley**. During her thirty-year career CAPT Riley served as the Executive Officer of the Integrated Support Command, Boston, Massachusetts and was later assigned to the Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC. She also served as the Commanding Officer of the Supply Center, Baltimore, Maryland; and the Commanding Officer of the Integrated Support Command, Boston and retired in 2003 as Director of the Leadership Development Center at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.

CAPT Riley died in January 2008 following a long illness.

1976: Debra Chambers Buchanan and Debra Lee Wilson became the first female coxswains in the Coast Guard.



Debra Chambers Buchanan



Female Coxswain Today

Connie Swaro became the first active-duty female promoted to E-7 on 1 August 1977



1977: **Janna Lambine** became the first female designated as a Coast Guard aviator.



1979: **Beverly Kelley** became the first female commanding officer afloat when she took command of the CGC *Cape Newagen*.



1980: First woman graduated from the Coast Guard Academy: **Jean M. Butler**; 13 other women also graduate as part of the Academy's Class of 1980.



CAPT Jean Butler

The Women of the Class of 1980



Jean Butler



Sue Donner



Mary Jane East



Michele Fitzpatrick



Kathy Hamblett



Linda Johansen



Joanne McCaffrey



Chris Quedens



Tami Rose



Moynee Smith



Mary-Lou Southwood



Jody Turner



Karen Tweed



Sharon Willis

1981: **Lieutenant Colleen Cain**, the first female Coast Guard pilot to fly an HH-52, became the first female Coast Guard aviator to qualify as an HH-52 co-pilot, pilot and aircraft commander.

1982:

Lieutenant Colleen Cain became the first woman killed in the line of duty when the HH-52 she was flying as co-pilot crashed during a SAR mission



1982: First female Chief Petty Officer to serve at sea on a Coast Guard cutter was **Patricia Stolle**.



Master Chief Petty Officer Patricia Stolle

YNMC Stolle joined the Coast Guard in June 1974, just shortly after the 1973 legislation passed allowing women to join the regular Coast Guard. She attended basic training at Cape May, New Jersey and attended Yeoman "A" School in Petaluma, California. Stolle's long list of historical accomplishments includes the first female chief petty officer to serve at sea on a Coast Guard cutter and the first enlisted woman since the SPARs to be advanced to master chief petty officer. Stolle and Master Chief Petty Officer Diane Bucci were the first women to be selected for command master chiefs. Stolle retired in 2009.

1986: First female Coast Guardsman to graduate from Navy Rescue Swimmer School and the Coast Guard's first female rescue swimmer was **Kelly Mogk Larson**



SEATTLE - Capt. Anne Ewalt, Chief of Staff for the 13th Coast Guard District presents a Meritorious Service Medal to Lt. Cmdr. Kelly Larson (formerly Mogk), the 13th District Command Center Chief, during her retirement ceremony here, Dec. 21, 2009. Larson joined the Coast Guard in 1984 and became the first female to complete Navy Rescue Swimmer School on May 23, 1986. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Tara Molle

1988: First enlisted woman assigned to officer-in-charge afloat billet: **Dianne Bucci**, who commanded the CGC *Capstan* (WYTL-65601) commencing in September 1988.



1990: **LT Sandra Stosz** took command of USCGC *Katmai Bay*, becoming the first female commanding officer of a 140-foot icebreaking tug and also the first female to command any U. S. Coast Guard vessel on the Great Lakes.



1998: **Sally Brice-O-Hara** became the first female commanding officer of a Coast Guard Training Center.



2000: **Vivien S. Crea** became the first woman promoted to Rear Admiral



Captain Vivian Crea, commanding officer of USCG Air Station Clearwater, Florida, reports the location and status of a burning merchant vessel while serving as pilot aboard one of the station's HC-130 long-range aircrat. Crea became the first female commanding officer of an air station in 1992, and the first female admiral in 2000.

2003: **LT Holly Harrison** became the first Coast Guard woman to command a cutter in a combat zone. She was also the first Coast Guard female to be awarded the Bronze Star Medal



In December 2003 Coast Guard helicopter pilot **LCDR Sidonie Bosin** was recognized by the First Flight Centennial Commission's 100 Heroes Committee as being one of the "top 100 aviators of all time." She was also the first female aviation officer in charge of air crews deployed to the Coast Guard cutter *Polar Sea* in the Antarctic, including one of an all-female flight crew.



2005: **LTJG Jeanine McIntish-Menze** became the first African-American female Coast Guard aviator when she pinned on her wings of gold on 24 June 2005



2009: **LT Felicia Thomas** took command of the CGC *Pea Island* on 19 June 2009. She is the first African-American female commanding officer of a Coast Guard cutter.



In July 2009, VADM Jody A. Breckenridge became the first woman to assume command of Coast Guard Pacific Area



2009: **CAPT Sandra L. Stosz** was promoted to RADM, becoming the first female graduate of the Coast Guard Academy to reach flag rank. On 3 June 2011 RADM Sandra Stosz assumed command of the U. S. Coast Guard Academy, becoming the first woman superintendent of that institution. She was also the first woman to command any U.S. service academy.



2010: On 9 April 2010 **LTJG La'Shanda Holmes** became the first African-American female helicopter pilot in the Coast Guard.



FUTURE COAST GUARD LEADERS IN ACTION



Petty Officer 3rd Class **Jennifer Nelson**, a member of Coast Guard Port Security Unit 308, arrives at the Gulfport Army National Guard Base after returning from a six-month deployment to the Middle East, Feb. 27, 2011.



Seaman **Erica Pranke** sits in the cockpit of an MH-60T Jayhawk helicopter at U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Diego March 13, 2012. The sector's airman program allows for non-rated members to get hands-on training on the inner workings of rates that involve aviation. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Seaman Alexis Motley.

FUTURE COAST GUARD LEADERS IN ACTION



Ens. **Hayley Warshauer**, a boarding officer aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Morgenthau, is interviewed by local news stations after the cutter returned to its homeport at Coast Guard Island, in Alameda, March 9, 2012. The crew of the Morgenthau intercepted nine vessels during a two-month patrol resulting in the seizure or disruption of more than one ton of cocaine, 1,300 pounds of marijuana, and the apprehension of 10 migrants and 15 suspected smugglers. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Sondra-Kay Rivera.



Coast Guard Auxiliarist **Taylor Williams** (left) pilots an Hydratrek amphibious vehicle on the lower Mississippi River near Mud Lake during a flood response exercise with a Disaster Assistance Response Team, March 1, 2012. The DART recertified members in the use and operation of proper personal protective equipment and flood punts. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Lt. j.g. Brian Miller.

FUTURE COAST GUARD LEADERS IN ACTION



Petty Officer 3rd Class **Nicole Colston**, a yeoman at Coast Guard Sector Baltimore, poses for a photo after receiving the Airman Leadership Award at the Donald L. Harlow Airman Leadership School at Andrews Air Force Base, Feb. 9, 2012. Colston is the 12th Coast Guard graduate of the school and the first Coast Guard graduate to win the award at Andrews Air Force Base. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Senior Chief Petty Officer Bill Putnam.



Petty Officer 3rd Class **Danielle Tatum** works in the combat information center aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Dallas Feb. 15, 2012. The ship is currently on its last patrol before it is decommissioned in March. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Patrick Kelley.

FUTURE COAST GUARD LEADERS IN ACTION



Rear Adm. **Linda Fagan**, left, Commander of Coast Guard Sector New York, accepts a one-star flag after being promoted today to the rank of rear admiral lower half in a ceremony held at Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, N.Y. The ceremony was presided over by Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard Vice Adm. Sally Brice-O'Hara. Fagan serves as Captain of the Port of New York and New Jersey, which oversees Coast Guard missions in the New York and northern New Jersey region. The Port of New York and New Jersey is the third largest in the nation, and fully one third of the country - 100 million people - rely on the 175 billion dollars of cargo flowing through the region. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Thomas McKenzie

FUTURE COAST GUARD LEADERS IN ACTION



Petty Officer 2nd class **Angela G. Korenko** and Petty Officer 2nd class Mark J. Wickman, both machinery technicians stationed at the Pacific Strike Team in Novato, Calif., pay out messenger lines to hoist the fuel pump out of the fuel tank of the decommissioned Navy ship Kawishiwi, Feb. 8, 2012. The Coast Guard Pacific Strike Team is working with the Maritime Administration to safely lighter fuel off ships from the mothball fleet in Benicia. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Chief Petty Officer Sarah Foster.



Operations Specialist Second Class **Georgette Lopez**, stationed at Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston, stands radio watch in the command center. These specialists perform functions ranging from search-and-rescue and law enforcement operations, to combat information center operations. Operations Specialists operate the most advanced tactical computer systems the Coast Guard has, incorporating satellite communications, global position navigation, electronic charting systems to real-time target acquisition, tracking and identification utilizing a vast array of systems. (Photo by Petty Officer First Class CC Clayton, U.S. Coast Guard.)

FUTURE COAST GUARD LEADERS IN ACTION



Diane Hunter and Petty Officer 2nd Class **Melissa Navarro**, the Base Elizabeth City civilian and sailor of the quarter, respectively, reveal a sign during a ceremony combining all Coast Guard support units within Elizabeth City under the command of the officially titled Base Elizabeth City, Nov. 29, 2011. The ceremony is a continuum of the Coast Guard's base initiative to steady the service as it heads toward completing the modernization of the mission support organization. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class David R. Marin.



YN3 Elisha Moody participates in an advertising photo shoot to highlight females in the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard is the one branch of the armed forces that has no job restrictions for women. (Photo by Petty Officer First Class CC Clayton, U.S. Coast Guard.)

FUTURE COAST GUARD LEADERS IN ACTION



Aviation Maintenance Technician Third Class **Molly Bowser**, stationed at Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point, gets ready to lower the rescue basket on a training flight around Oahu Island in an HH-65 Dolphin helicopter. Aviation Maintenance Technicians act as in-flight crewmen, hoist operators, and flight mechanics on Coast Guard air operations. (Photo by Petty Officer First Class CC Clayton, U.S. Coast Guard.)



Entrepreneur Carol Day (LEFT), Petty Officer 2nd Class **Jodi Williams**, an aviation survival technician (CENTER), and Assistant Chief Patrol Agent Norma King, U.S. Border Patrol (RIGHT), participated on the discussion panel at the DHS Woman's Conference held in San Diego, Wednesday, March 24, 2010. Williams, stationed at Sector San Diego, is one of three female ASTs serving in the Coast Guard. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Jetta H. Disco.

FUTURE COAST GUARD LEADERS IN ACTION



Petty Officer 1st Class **Jessica Wolchak**, a boatswain's mate stationed at Coast Guard Station New York on Staten Island, N.Y., displays her Military Leadership Award medal April 24, 2009. Wolchak was selected in part for her role during the USAirways Flight 1549 crash landing on the Hudson River - the multi-agency response to the crash resulted in the rescue of 155 passengers and crew onboard the downed aircraft. (U.S. Coast Guard photo/PA3 Barbara L. Patton)



In this photo released by the Coast Guard, Chief Petty Officer **Laura Freeman** flashes a smile while working on board the Coast Guard Cutter Polar Star May 4, 2009. Freeman was one of the first female chief's in the damage controlman rating. (U.S. Coast Guard photo/Petty Officer Third Class Tara Molle)

Coast Guard Women: Setting a positive example, Affecting the future



Thank You