

Not an "official" reference guide, just an attempt to by a retired semi – geezer, put together, in one pamphlet, a listing of the enlisted ratings and Warrant specialties used in the Coast Guard. There are most likely minor gaps in some of the dates, but it's a close as I'm able to get.

Dana Lewis, CWO, BOSN USCG Retired December 2016

Finding definitive dates for establishing the timeframes that a rating is in existence can be a little bit of a challenge. A 2009 & 2011 update of this pamphlet is being sent along to the CG Historian because of some recent additions. Of great help has been a recent project by the Reservist Magazine staff. They have placed all the back issues of that magazine on-line. From old articles, billet solicitations and photos it has been easier to fill in some of the blanks. I am finished with this piece of work. Hopefully someone will keep track from 2016 onward.

A big thanx to these shipmates :

I also received a nice letter from the field, supplying up to date information on the AET Rating.

AETC Bill Minik ATTC AET "A" School Elizabeth City

If anyone else spots anything that seems off, please drop a note to the CG Historians Office. I'll try to keep it up to date when I'm not sailing .



A big thanx to :

HSC Shannon P. Reck U.S.C.G.C. BERTHOLF For a heads up on the Flight Surgeon Insignia and the Physicians Assistant Insignia.



Mr. Scott Price

Coast Guard Historians Office

Thanks for digging out the old copies of Coast Guard Uniform Regs and General Orders..

### GMCM William Wells, USCG Retired

For the prodding and clues on when to change to a new course. Much of this work has been a result of catching the ' history bug' and just wanting to find more about the enlisted Cutterman. Thanx Bill ...

### U.S. REVENUE MARINE REGULATIONS ~ 1834

To each of the Revenue Cutters there will be allowed the following petty officers, viz.; one Boatswain's Mate, one Gunner's Mate, one Carpenter's Mate, compensation shall be \$18 per month, and one navy ration per diem.

Petty officers will be appointed by the Captain, and hold their appointments during his pleasure. They and the crew will be shipped, unless otherwise directed by the Department, for the term of one year, according. to the form of articles herewith enclosed; but may be discharged at any time, by the Captain, for incompetence or misconduct, or when their services are no longer required.

### UNIFORMS

**PETTY OFFICERS**. Blue cloth jackets, with five revenue buttons on each lapel, one on each side of the collar, and one on each cuff, white frocks, with collar and breast facing of blue, a worked star on each side of the collar, and two on each side of the breast; white or blue trousers, according to the season, with blue belt.

SEAMEN. Same as petty officers, omitting the buttons on collar and cuffs.







The uniforms and identification remained basically the same through 1871 . There is a long connection to following the U.S. Navy uniform standards.

#### GENERAL ORDER TO OFFICERS OF THE REVENUE MARINE SERVICE.

### TREASURY DEPARTMENT

### WASHINGTON, DC, MARCH 15, 1871

Hereafter and until otherwise directed, the uniform of the U.S. Revenue Marine will be as follows:

### PETTY OFFICERS AND CREW.

Blue cloth jacket with nine Revenue buttons on each lapel, three under each pocket flap, and three on each cuff. They will be allowed to wear white shirts, cotton or linen, ( in lieu of duck frocks with turn over collar ) and uniform vest with six small- sized Revenue buttons.

Master at Arms will wear on both sleeves of their jackets a white shield,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long over white foul anchor 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, worked in white silk or thread or made of suitable material.

Coxswain of commanding officer to wear a single foul anchor 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long on each sleeve of frock above the elbow, to be worked in white or blue, according to the color of the garment, and to be in a vertical position. All other Coxswains to wear but one foul anchor, to be placed on the right or left sleeve, according to the watch to which they belong.

Quartermasters to wear on sleeve of frock, right or left, according to their watch, in front, half way between the edge of the sleeve and elbow, a single marine glass  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch in length, worked in, of white or blue sewing material, according to the color of the garment.

Seamen, ordinary seamen, firemen, coal-passers, stewards, cooks, and boys, for muster, shall wear blue cloth jackets and trowsers, or blue woolen frocks; caps, blue cloth, without visor; cap bands to be of black ribbon 1 ½ inch wide, with name of the vessel to which they belong painted on them in yellow or gilt letters. In warm weather it shall consist of linen or duck frocks, and blue or white trowsers , blue cloth caps with or without covers, or white sennit hats, as the commanding officer may direct; hat or cap bands to be as prescribed above; black silk neckerchief, and shoes or boots properly cleaned. The outside of the collars of all frocks for petty officers, seamen, and boys will be made of or covered with blue dungaree or blue nankeen.

The collars to be uniform in size, 7 inches deep, with square corners, with a white embroidered five-pointed star one inch in diameter in each corner; one row of tape to be stitched round the collar below the star. The collars to be neatly stitched with white thread. The shoulder pieces of shirts to be doubled; the seams to be overlapped and double stitched, the rows of the stitching to be  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch apart. The breasts of the shirts to be of double thickness, four inches wide on each side, to be neatly stitched with white thread, two rows of stitching  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch apart. The opening in front of the shirt shall extend down from the collar ten inches, neatly stitched and strengthened at the point where the opening ends. Three tape ties on each side at equal distances apart; ties to be twelve inches long.

Trowsers are to be made with broad flaps, to button 1 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches from the top. The cuffs of all frocks to be uniform in length. There will be no dungaree cuffs. The cuffs are to be of the same material as the frocks, to be neatly stitched all around, with two buttons on the sleeve. Those for landsmen, coal heavers, and boys shall have one strip of blue dungaree or blue tape around the cuff <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inch wide 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inch from the lower edge. For ordinary seamen and second class firemen, two strips <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch apart . For seamen three strips, and for petty officers four strips. On the blue frocks there shall be strips of white tape <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inch wide sewed on in the same manner. Stewards of commanding officers and wardroom messes may be allowed to wear blue cloth or flannel jackets with rolling collar, to be double breasted, with two rows of medium sized Revenue buttons, six in each row.

They may also be allowed to wear plain blue cloth caps with visors, and with or without covers. On special occasions they may be directed to wear citizens clothes, Hat ribbons are to be 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide, and must be uniform both in width and length of tie bow. The lettering is to be of gilt or yellow color, and must be the same in character and size for the whole ships company.

All seamen to wear, on proper occasions, a working suit, to consist of a jumper and a pair of overalls, made of canvass duck. Caps and hats for all seamen, ordinary seamen, boys, firemen, and coal passers must be uniform both in shape and color.

Officers are required to provide themselves with the above prescribed uniform within six months. Photograph samples of sword and ornaments will be furnished by Department

Secretary of the Treasury.



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STEWARD





### **1891 REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE UNIFORM REGULATIONS**

#### RATING BADGES

All petty officers shall wear on the outer garment (excepting the overcoat) a rating badge as per pattern. For the Boatswain, Gunner, Carpenter, and Master at Arms, the badges shall be embroidered in gold on dark navy blue cloth; and for Quartermasters, Coxswains, and Oilers, the badges shall be worked in white silk on blue clothing and in blue silk on white clothing. The badge shall be worn on the outer side of the right sleeve, half way between the shoulder and elbow and be of patterns as follows : viz.

For Boatswain as per figure 22

For Gunner as per figure 23

For Carpenter as per figure 24

For Master at Arms as per figure 25

For Quartermasters as per figure 32

For Coxswains as per figure 33

For Oilers as per figure 34

*Quartermasters, Coxswains, and Oilers :* shall wear around the cuffs of the overshirt three stripes of white tape three sixteenths of an inch wide and one quarter of an inch apart, the middle of the middle stripe to be in the center line of the cuff .

Seamen, Firemen, and Coal Passers : shall wear two strips, 1/4 of an inch apart.

*Boys* : shall wear one strip of white tape, 3/16 of an inch wide, around the cuffs of the overshirt, the middle line of the space between the two strips, and the middle of the single strip to come over the middle of the cuff.

A copy of these Regulations shall be placed on the berth deck, where they may be consulted at all reasonable times by the enlisted men.





#### **1900 REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE UNIFORM REGULATIONS**

#### **RATING BADGES**

*Rating badges for quartermasters, coxswains, second and third oilers, and buglers.* - To be worked in white silk on blue cloth and in blue silk on white in the following designs:

*For quartermasters.* - A spread eagle; body 1 inch high from top of head to claws, resting on a bar, and 2 inches between wing tips; <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of an inch below the bar on which is perched the eagle, a steering wheel of the following dimensions and description; Hub, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch diameter; rim 7/8 inch in diameter; eight spokes, spaced equidistant from each other, and projecting from the hub to 1/8 of an inch beyond the rim of the wheel.

*For cosswains.* – Eagle same as above, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of an inch below the bar on which is perched the eagle, an erect foul anchor of the following dimensions and description; From top of ring to crown, 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches, spread between the palms 7/8 of an inch; length of stock 1 1/8 inches; an arrow 1 7/8 inches long crossing the center of the shank of the anchor at right angles, arrowhead to the front.

For second and third oilers. - Eagle same as above, ;  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch below the bar on which is perched the eagle, a three bladed propeller shaft of the following dimensions and description; Hub, 7/16 diameter to outer rim; three blades each  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, spaced equidistant from each other; blades to be  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch wide at the rim of the hub, shaped to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide at the outer end.

*For bugler.* - Eagle same as above ; <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of an inch below the bar on which is perched the eagle, a hunting horn, placed with the bell up, of the following dimensions and description; Length 1 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches; single turn, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inch inside; bell <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch; mouthpiece <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch from center of turn. Four small tassels to be worked at the bottom of horn, 2 each side of turn.

For master at arms. - Eagle of same dimensions and description as above, but to be embroidered in gold on blue and white cloth;  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch below the bar on which is perched to be a five point star, of the following dimensions, embroidered in silver; each point to be  $\frac{9}{16}$  on an inch from the center of the star; the points to be spaced equidistant from each other in a circle 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter.



MASTER AT ARM



### **U.S. Revenue Cutter Service**



A. **Petty Officer of the First Class** : Worn on the left or right sleeve of the blue coat, midway between the shoulder and elbow. The eagle and chevrons were of gold, and the specialty mark of silver. For the white coat the eagle and specialty mark were of blue. Service stripes were worn for three consecutive years of service. The Master at Arms, Wheelman Quartermaster, Electrician, Electrician First Class & Ship's Writer wore the CPO type rating badge, and the CPO style uniform.

B. **Petty Officer of the First Class :** Wheelman, acting appointment, not permanent from the Department. The Petty Officer was not required to get the new uniform until the appointment was permanent.

C. **Petty Officer of the First Class** : The Signal Quartermaster and First Oiler wore this rating badge on the left or right sleeve of the overshirt, depending on the watch to which assigned. Three stripes were on the chevron. The stripes were white, 1/4" wide edged with 1/8" scarlet cloth on both the white & blue rating badges

D. **Petty Officer of the Second Class**: The Assistant Master at Arms, Quartermaster, Coxswain, Second Oiler, and Watertender wore this rating badge on the left or right sleeve of the overshirt, dependant on the watch to which assigned. Two stripes were on the chevron. The stripes were white, 1/4" wide edged with 1/8" scarlet cloth on both the white & blue rating badges

### U.S. Revenue Cutter Service 1908 - 1915





### U.S. Revenue Cutter Service 1908 – 1915

### **REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE PETTY OFFICER RATING BADGES** 1908 ~ 1915



### U.S. Coast Guard 1915 – 1920

The original enlisted ratings of the newly formed U.S.Coast Guard has been a difficult item to establish. I recently located, thanks to the Google Books website ,records of Congressional Committees in 1918 concerning the supplemental appropriations to new Coast Guard. In statements by Captain Commandant Bertholf, he gives a break down of the Commissioned, Warrant and enlisted ratings of the Coast Guard. This section concerning the early service is, I feel, is a good early record.

#### Sundry Appropriations to Coast Guard, March 25, 1918 Personnel of the CG

#### STATEMENTS OF CAPT. ELLSWORTH P. BERTHOLF, COMMANDANT; CAPT. CHARLES A. McALLISTER. ENGINEER IN CHIEF: CON-STRUCTOR F. A. HUNNEWELL: MR. K. J. MINOT, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF DIVISION: AND MR. P. J. LATHAM, CIVIL ENGINEER.

#### PAY AND ALLOWANCES-INCREASES DUE TO WAR

The CHAIRMAN. Captain, suppose you state the different warrant officers that the law contemplates.

Capt. BERTHOLF. Boatswains, gunners, machinists, carpenters, and keepers; five grades of warrant officers. (In a statement to another Committee he mentions Masters Mates in the Warrant grades.)

The CHAIRMAN. What petty officers are there?

Capt. BERTHOLF (Reading):

Petty officers: Master at arms; No. 1 surfman; electrician; electrician, first class; yeoman; ship's writer; wheelman; signal quartermaster; machinist, first class; carpenter, first class; sailmaker, first class; oiler, first class; blacksmith, first class; plumber, first class; painter, first class; assistant master at arms; quartermaster; electrician, second class; carpenter, second class; oiler, second class; coxswain; water tender; painter, second class; electrician, third class; bayman.

Enlisted men not petty officers: Seaman; surfman; fireman; bugler; ordinary seaman; coal heaver; cabin steward; wardroom steward; cook; cadets' cook; steerage cook; boy, first class; boy, second class.

Mr. GILLETT. I understood you to say that machinists and carpenters were warrant officers.

Capt. BERTHOLF. A " machinist" is a warrant officer: a " machinist, first class," is a petty officer.

### THE COAST GUARD. Committee On Interstate And Foreign Commerce, House Of Representatives,

Thursday, April 18, 1918. The committee met at 10.30 o'clock a. m., Hon. Thetus W. Sims (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will please come to order. Gentlemen, this meeting is for the purpose of having a hearing on House bill 6979, introduced by Mr. Adamson on December 5, 1917, to regulate the personnel of the Coast Guard.

Capt. Bertholf, of the Coast Guard, is here to tell us how the bill will work. You may proceed, Captain.

#### STATEMENT OF ELLSWORTH P. BERTHOLF, CAPTAIN COMMANDANT, COAST GUARD.

Capt. BERTHOLF. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, this bill was referred to the Secretary of the Navy by this committee, and after consideration the Secretary communicated with this committee, under date of January 29, 1918, stating that as the Coast Guard is serving under the jurisdiction of the Navy Department during the present war, and the personnel of the service subject to the laws prescribed for the government of the Navy, it has been practicable to provide by general order, in accordance with Navy Regulations, the benefits for the Coast Guard that the bill in question contemplates in sections 2, 5, and 6, and that the provisions of section 3 of the bill have been made operative by order of the captain commandant since the Coast Guard came under the jurisdiction of the Navy, in consequence of which no legislation along the lines of the subject matter in these sections is necessary while the Coast Guard is operating as a part of the Navy. With regard to the other sections of the bill, the Secretary announced that the subject matter is not of a character made necessary because of the transfer of the Coast Guard to the Navy or in any way because of its association with the Navy, but that, on the other hand, it is legislation of a permanent character, which may, no doubt, be necessary for the well-being and efficiency of the Coast Guard entirely aside from any connection with the Navy, and inasmuch as the Coast Guard has been operating under the Navy for apparently so short a time, and inasmuch as its continuance in that status is of uncertain duration, the Secretary did not feel justified in expressing either approval or disapproval of these items of legislation, but felt rather that comment thereon would be more appropriate and helpful if coming from the head of that department under which the Coast Guard previously operated for so many years and to which it will, under the present law, revert upon the conclusion of the war. The Secretary, therefore, referred the bill to the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of the Treasury communicated with the chairman of this committee, under date of February 6, 1918, setting forth the necessity for those sections of the bill which had not been made operative by administration action of the Navy Department.

Section 1 of the bill is in the nature of permanent legislation and is needed for the following reasons: Prior to the passage of the Coast Guard act, the Secretary of the Treasury had authority under the law to fix the ratings of warrant officers and petty officers and enlisted men according to the needs of the service—the Revenue Cutter Service. The second section of the Coast Guard act provides:

# That in the Coast Guard there shall be \* \* \* warrant officers, petty officers, and other enlisted men, all of said offices, respectively, corresponding to the present offices of the Revenue-Cutter Service, which are transferred to the Coast Guard \* \* \* .

This section has been construed by the law officers as having the effect of leaving the Secretary without authority to establish any grade or rating among the warrant and enlisted personnel of the Coast Guard in addition to those existing at the time of the passage of the Coast Guard act. Under the law as it existed prior to the passage of the Coast Guard act, new ratings have been established in the past as the service developed and the need for the same was apparent. For example, some years ago wireless telegraphy was developed to such an extent that it became necessary to install radio apparatus on cutters to facilitate giving assistance to vessels in distress, and as qualified men were needed to operate the apparatus, a new rating of electrician was established. This was done by administrative act of the Secretary, but under the construction placed by the law officers upon the Coast Guard act, no new ratings can now be established. Furthermore, as the Coast Guard is required under law to operate as a part of the Navy at certain times, it is of importance that when such need arises for additional grades or ratings in the warrant and enlisted personnel, they should correspond as closely as practicable to the grades and ratings of the men performing similar duties in the Navy.

The purpose of section 1 is to remedy the defect in section 2 of the Coast Guard act by restoring to the administrative office the authority to provide additional grades and ratings as the necessity for them may arise, in order that the service may more efficiently fulfill its lawful functions.

When Congress passed the act increasing the pay of the men in the Navy and provided that the warrant officers and enlisted men of the Coast Guard should have pay equal to the corresponding grades of the Navy, there at once arose a question as to what were the corresponding grades in the two services. We have not in the Coast Guard a rating of chief petty officer, and consequently all of the ranking petty officers in the Coast Guard now correspond to petty officers of the first class in the Navy, although they have practically the same duties as chief petty officers. We can not under the law establish a rating of chief petty officer to meet this condition.

It might be said that whenever it is necessary for a new rating to be established, owing to changed conditions, the Secretary could ask Congress to establish that rate. That is what is done in the Navy, but the procedure is very simple so far as the Navy is concerned. The Naval Committee sits for the single purpose of considering the needs of the Navy, and whenever a new rating is needed it may go on the naval appropriation bill. We can not do that in connection with the sundry civil appropriation bill, and it is therefore very difficult for the Coast Guard to have these small matters considered. The Revenue Cutter Service was administered for over a hundred years under the old law, where the number of men and the different kinds of ratings were matters of administrative determination, and that was in nowise abused, and it seems as if the service could safely continue on the same plan, so that the Secretary could meet the needs of the service as they arose and not wait for legislation concerning details.

Mr. ESCH. The situation is that the act of January, 1915, deprived the Coast Guard Service of any flexibility?

Capt. BERTHOLF. Exactly.

Mr. ESCH. So the establishment of new grades is impossible?

Capt. BEKTHOLF. Yes, sir.

Mr. ESCH. And you want section 1 in there to give you that power?

Capt. BERTHOLF. Yes, sir; to restore it.

Mr. ESCH. Which assimilates your service with the Navy service?

Capt. BERTHOLF. Yes; we want it restored to the old conditions.

| U.S. REVENUE CUT      | ГER | SERVICE PERSONNEL       |
|-----------------------|-----|-------------------------|
| PETTY OFFICERS &      | EN  | LISTED MEN 1914 ~ 1915  |
| WHEELMAN              | 5   | FIRST OILER 31          |
| MASTER AT ARMS        | 26  | SECOND OILER 27         |
| ELECTRICIANS          | 3   | COXSWAIN 80             |
| ELECTRICIAN 1st CLASS | 21  | QUARTERMASTER 51        |
| ELECTRICIAN 2nd CLASS | 24  | ASST. MASTER AT ARMS 19 |
| ELECTRICIAN 3rd CLASS | 24  | WATER TENDERS 53        |
| YEOMAN                | 3   | BAYMAN 1                |
| SHIPS WRITER          | 25  | SEAMEN                  |
| CARPENTER, 1st CLASS  | 1   | FIREMEN 67              |
| MACHINIST, 1st CLASS  | 2   | BUGLER 25               |
| PAINTER, 1st CLASS    | 1   | ORDINARY SEAMEN 130     |
| PLUMBER, 1st CLASS    | 1   | COAL HEAVERS 22         |
| BLACKSMITH, 1st CLASS | 1   | COOKS                   |
| SIGNAL QUARTERMASTER  | 24  | STEWARDS & BOYS 279     |



**A. Petty Officer First Class :** Worn on the right sleeve of the blue coat, midway between the shoulder and elbow. The Eagle was white , chevrons scarlet , and the specialty mark white. For the white coat the eagle and specialty mark were of blue. Service stripes were worn for three consecutive years of service. The Master at Arms, Number 1 Surfman, Wheelman, Electrician, Electrician First Class, Machinist, Carpenter , Yeoman, Ship's Writer wore the CPO type rating badge, and the CPO style uniform.

**B. Petty Officer First Class :** Rating badge worn on the right sleeve of the overshirt and jumper . Three stripes on the chevron. The stripes are scarlet cloth on the blue rating badges and blue on the white rating badge.

**C. Petty Officer Second Class:** The rating badge on the right sleeve of the overshirt and jumper . Two stripes on the chevron. The stripes are scarlet cloth on the blue rating badges and blue on the white rating badges.

**D. Petty Officer Third Class:** The rating badge on the right sleeve of the overshirt and jumper . One stripe on the chevron. The stripe is scarlet cloth on the blue rating badges and blue on the white rating badges.

**E.** Permanent petty officers with 12 years of continuous service with a record not less than "good "in proficiency, sobriety, obedience and conduct, the chevron and service stripes for blue clothing shall be made of gold lace and the eagle and specialty mark embroidered in silver.



Service stripes representing 3 years continuous service, worn on the left sleeve. Gold for good conduct.



### U.S. Coast Guard 1915 – 1920



On May, 18, 1920 the Coast Guard adopted the US Navy ranks and rating scheme. Rating badges had the eagle facing the viewers right, in 1922 those of the Seaman Branch, Boatswains Mate, Quartermaster, Signalman, Gunners Mate, Fire Controlman, Torpedoman were worn on the right arm, all others on the left arm. In 1941 the eagle was changed to standing straight up and face forward and on the wearer for both right and left arm ratings, supposedly to symbolize facing the enemy in light of the looming war in Europe. More likely though to follow the rules of heraldry. The pentagon shape background and direction of the slant on the ends of the perch were altered in about 1935

### U.S. Coast Guard 1915 – 1920

|   | <b>Signal Quartermaster :</b> 1st Class 1915 - 1920<br>Brought from Revenue Cutter Service. Wore the traditional "square rig"<br>uniform, Rating badge worn on right sleeve.   |   |
|---|--|---|
| Ť | <b>Coxswain :</b> 2nd Class 1915 - 1920<br>Brought from Revenue Cutter Service, changed to Boatswains Mate . Wore the<br>traditional " square rig" uniform, Rating badge worn on right sleeve  | : |
| * | <b>Blacksmith :</b> 1st Class 1915 - 1920<br>Wore the traditional "square rig" uniform, Rating badge worn on right sleeve.   |   |
| Ŷ | <b>Sailmaker :</b> 1st Class 1915 - 1934<br>Wore the traditional " square rig" uniform, Rating badge worn on right sleeve.<br>Name changed to Sailmakers Mate 1921. A Warrant Officer specialty is<br>identified in the 1930 Uniform Regulations   |   |
|   | Watertender : 2nd Class 1915 - 1920<br>Wore the traditional "square rig" uniform, Rating badge worn on right sleeve.<br>Specialty mark may have changed to that of Machinists Mate in 1920. Grade of<br>Chief Petty Officer eliminated about 1922. | f |
|   | <b>Bayman:</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class 1915 ~ 1920<br>Wore the traditional " square rig" uniform, Rating badge worn on right sleeve.<br>Rating changed to Pharmacists Mate in 1920   |   |
|   | <b>Bugler :</b><br>Specialty mark worn on the right sleeve between the shoulder & elbow  |   |





| Estimates provided to the Treasury Department in connection with appropriations to the Coast Guard. |      |      |      |
|---|------|------|------|
| U.S.R.C.S. & U.S.C.G. ENLISTED P  | ERSC | )NN  | EL   |
| PETTY OFFICERS & ENLISTED MEN   | 1915 | 1917 | 1919 |
| WHEELMAN  | 5    | 5    | 21   |
| MASTER AT ARMS  | 26   | 27   | 43   |
| ELECTRICIANS  | 3    | 4    | 24   |
| ELECTRICIAN 1st CLASS   | 21   | 21   | 35   |
| ELECTRICIAN 2nd CLASS   | 24   | 43   | 52   |
| ELECTRICIAN 3rd CLASS   | 24   | 7    | 4    |
| YEOMAN  | 3    | 3    | 13   |
| SHIPS WRITER  | 25   | 31   | 78   |
| CARPENTER, 1st CLASS  | 1    | 2    | 6    |
| MACHINIST, 1st CLASS  | 2    | 10   | 78   |
| PAINTER, 1st CLASS  | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| PLUMBER, 1st CLASS  | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| BLACKSMITH, 1st CLASS   | 1    | 2    | 2    |
| SIGNAL QUARTERMASTER  | 24   | 29   | 55   |
| FIRST OILER   | 31   | 34   | 58   |
| SECOND OILER  | 27   | 29   | 60   |
| COXSWAIN  | 80   | 75   | 96   |
| QUARTERMASTER   | 51   | 62   | 89   |
| ASST. MASTER AT ARMS  | 19   | 20   | 27   |
| WATER TENDERS   | 53   | 60   | 88   |
| BAYMAN  | 1    | 1    | 6    |
| SEAMEN  | 328  | 329  | 555  |
| FIREMEN   | 67   | 146  | 172  |
| BUGLER  | 25   | 25   | 27   |
| ORDINARY SEAMEN   | 130  | 139  | 199  |
| COAL HEAVERS  | 22   | 68   | 75   |
| COOKS   | 47   | 55   | 63   |
| STEWARDS & BOYS   | 279  | 272  | 316  |

GENERAL ORDER No. 329.

#### NAVY DEPARTMENT, Washington, D. C., October 10, 1917.

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CORRESPONDING GRADES AND RATINGS OF NAVY AND COAST GUARD.

The act of Congress approved May 22, 1917 (Public No. 17), provides as follows:

SECTION 13. "Nothing contained in this act shall operate to reduce the rank, pay, or allowances that would have been received by any person in the Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard except for the passage of this act."

SECTION 15. "That commencing June first, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and continuing until not later than six months after the termination of the present war, all enlisted men of the Navy of the United States in active service whose base pay does not exceed \$21 per month shall receive an increase of \$15 per month; those whose base pay is over \$21 and does not exceed \$24 per month, an increase of \$12 per month; those whose base pay is over \$24 and less than \$45 per month, an increase of \$8 per month; and those whose base pay is \$45 or more per month, an increase of \$6 per month: *Provided*, That the increases of pay herein authorized shall not enter into the computation of continuous-service pay: *Provided*, That during the continuance of the present war warrant officers, petty officers, and enlisted men of the United States Coast Guard shall receive the same rates of pay as are or may hereafter be prescribed for corresponding grades or ratings and length of service in the Navy."

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### GENERAL ORDER 329

| Corresponding grades or ratin | gs are declared to be as follows: |  |  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| COAST CUADD                   | N.T. & 3737                       |  |  |

| COAST GUARD                             | NAVY                             |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Senior five master's mates              | Boatswains                       |
| Remaining master's mates                | Do                               |
| Acting master's mates                   | Do                               |
| Keepers                                 | No corresponding grade           |
| Acting boatswains                       | Boatswains                       |
| Acting carpenters                       | Carpenters                       |
| Acting gunners                          | Gunners                          |
| Acting machinists                       | Machinists                       |
| Boatswains                              | Boatswains                       |
| Gunners                                 | Gunners                          |
| Machinists                              | Machinists                       |
| Carpenters                              | Carpenters                       |
| Sailmakers                              | Sailmakers                       |
| Master - at - arms                      | Master-at-arms, first class      |
| Assistant master-at-arms                | Master-at-arms, second class     |
| No. 1 Surfman                           | No corresponding rating          |
| Wheelman                                | Do                               |
| Signal quartermaster                    | Quartermaster, first class       |
| Quartermaster                           | Quartermaster, second class      |
| Machinist, first class                  | Machinists mate, first class     |
| Oiler, first class                      | Oiler                            |
| Oiler, second class                     | Do                               |
| Electrician                             | Electrician, first class         |
| Electrician, first class                | Electrician. first class         |
| Electrician, second class               | Electrician, second class        |
| Electrician, third class                | Electrician, third class         |
| Carpenter, first class                  | Carpenters mate, first class     |
| Carpenter, second class                 | Carpenters mate, second class    |
| Water tender                            | Water tender                     |
| Yeoman                                  | Yeoman, first class              |
| Ship's writer<br>Sailmaker, first class | Do<br>Seitmetende mete           |
| Blacksmith, first class                 | Sailmaker's mate<br>Blacksmith   |
| Plumber, first class                    | Plumber and fitter               |
| Painter, first class                    | Painter, first class             |
| Painter, second class                   | Painter, second class            |
| Coxswain                                | Coxswain                         |
| Bayman                                  | Hospital apprentice, first class |
| Bugler                                  | Bugler                           |
| Surfman                                 | No corresponding rating          |
| Seaman                                  | Seaman                           |
| Fireman                                 | Fireman. first class             |
| Ordinary seaman                         | Seaman, second class             |
| Coal heaver                             | Fireman, third class             |
| Cabin steward                           | Cabin steward                    |
| Wardroom steward                        | Wardroom steward                 |
| Cook                                    | Ship's cook, second class        |
| Cadet cook                              | Steerage cook                    |
| Steerage cook                           | Warrant officers cook            |
| Boy, first class                        | Mess attendant, first class      |
| Boy, second class                       | Mess attendant, second class     |
|   | JOSEPHUS DANIELS                 |

JOSEPHUS DANIELS Secretary of the Navy



### U.S. Coast Guard 1920 - 2011

### **GRADES AND RATINGS**



U. S. Coast Guard, Treasury Department, *Washington, May 18, 1920.* 

### General Order No. 43.

1. The act of Congress approved May 18, 1920, that provides "the grades and ratings of warrant officers, chief petty officers, petty officers, and other enlisted persons in the Coast Guard shall be the same as in the Navy, in so far as the duties of the Coast Guard may require, with the continuance of the grade of surfman."

2. Article 816 of the Regulations is amended to read as follows:

(a) The warrant officers shall be as follows:

Boatswains. Gunners. Machinists. Carpenters. Pharmacists. Pay Clerks Acting pay clerks. Sailmakers.

(b) They take precedence of each other on the active list of the Coast Guard according to the order in which their names are borne on the official Coast Guard register as kept at headquarters. The names of warrant officers shall be borne on the official register in the following order:

(1) Warrant officers appointed boatswain from the grade of master's mate according to date of appointment as master's mate.

(2) Boatswains appointed such from the grade of acting master's mate.

(3) All other warrant officers according to date of appointment1 as warrant officer.

3. Article 817 of the Regulations is amended to read as follows:

Ratings of chief petty officers, petty officers, and other enlisted persons in the Coast Guard shall be as follows:

| <i>Classification</i><br>CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS,                             |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Seaman Branch Artificer branch Special Branch                              |   | Special Branch   |
| Chief boatswains' mates.<br>Chief gunners' mates.<br>Chief quartermasters. | Chief machinists' mates.<br>Chief electricians'.<br>Chief carpenters' mates<br>Chief watertenders.<br>Chief storekeepers. | Chief commissary stewards.<br>Chief yeoman.<br>Chief pharmacists' mates. |

| <i>Classification</i><br>PETTY OFFICERS, FIRST CLASS.                            |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Seaman Branch  | Artificer branch   | Special Branch   |
| Masters - at - arms.<br>Boatswains' mates.<br>Gunners' mates.<br>Quartermasters. | Blacksmiths.<br>Coppersmiths.<br>Pattern makers.<br>Boiler makers.<br>Machinists' mates.<br>Shipfitters.<br>Electricians<br>Plumbers and fitters.<br>Watertenders.<br>Engineman.<br>Painters.<br>Sailmakers' mates.<br>Carpenters' mates.<br>Storekeepers. | Commissary stewards.<br>Ships' cooks.<br>Bakers.<br>Yeoman<br>Pharmacists mate<br>First musicians. |

| <i>Classification</i><br>PETTY OFFICERS, SECOND CLASS.                           |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| Seaman Branch  | Artificer branch   | Special Branch                              |
| Masters - at - arms.<br>Boatswains' mates.<br>Gunners' mates.<br>Quartermasters. | Blacksmiths.<br>Coppersmiths.<br>Pattern makers.<br>Machinists' mates.<br>Electricians<br>Shipfitters.<br>Engineman.<br>Carpenters' mates.<br>Painters.<br>Storekeepers. | Ships' cooks.<br>Yeoman<br>Pharmacists mate |

| <i>Classification</i><br>PETTY OFFICERS, THIRD CLASS.                    |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| Seaman Branch  | Artificer branch   | Special Branch                              |
| Masters - at - arms.<br>Coxswains.<br>Gunners' mates.<br>Quartermasters. | Electricians<br>Carpenters' mates.<br>Painters.<br>Storekeepers. | Ships' cooks.<br>Yeoman<br>Pharmacists mate |

| <i>Classification</i><br>SEAMAN, FIRST CLASS.  |                        |                                 |  |  |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Seaman Branch  | Artificer <b>k</b>     | oranch                          | Special Branch   |  |
| Seaman.<br>Surfman.  | Fireman, first class.  |                                 | Bakers, second class.<br>Musicians, first class.<br>Ship's cooks, third class.   |  |
|  | SEAMAN, SE             | COND CLASS                      |  |  |
| Seaman, second class.  | Fireman, second class. |                                 | Musicians, second class.<br>Ship's cooks, fourth class.  |  |
|  | SEAMAN, T              | HIRD CLASS.                     |  |  |
| Apprentice seaman.   | Fireman,<br>Lands      | third class.<br>man.            | Landsman.  |  |
|  | MESSMAN BRANCH         |                                 |  |  |
| Cabin stewards.<br>Wardroom stewards.<br>Wardroom cooks.<br>Warrant officers' stewards |                        | Mes<br>Mes<br>Not<br>Mes<br>Mes | zens of United States:<br>ss attendants, first class<br>ss attendants, second class<br>ss attendants, third class<br>t citizens of United States:<br>ss attendants, first class<br>ss attendants, second class<br>ss attendants, third class |  |

5. Warrant officers of the Coast Guard are hereby appointed warrant officers as of

| May 18, 1920 as follows :               |
|---|
| Masters' mates To be boatswains.        |
| Acting masters' mates To be boatswains. |
| Keepers To be boatswains.               |
| Boatswains To be boatswains.            |
| Gunners To be gunners.                  |
| Machinists To be machinists.            |
| Carpenters To be carpenters.            |
| Sailmakers To be sailmakers.            |
|   |

5. Acting warrant officers are hereby permanently appointed chief petty officers as of the date of this General Order as follows:

Acting keepers ...... To be chief boatswains'mates.

Acting gunners ...... To be chief gunners' mates.

Acting machinists ..... To be chief machinists' mates.

Acting carpenters ...... To be chief carpenters' mates.

Commanding officers and district superintendants shall immediately upon receipt of this order recommend for examination for appointment as warrant officers in the grade for which qualified, each chief petty officer appointed such *by this paragraph* whose service has been satisfactory during that part of his probationary period as acting warrant officer already served.

6. (a) Petty officers and other enlisted persons are transferred as of 18 May, 1920 from the ratings they held under the old classification of ratings and are hereby permanently appointed to the ratings provided in the new classification, as follows:

| Old Rating                 | New Rating  |
|----------------------------|---|
| Master at arms             | With three years service, or more, as master at arms,               |
|                            | to be chief commissary steward                                      |
| Master at arms             | With less than three years service, as master at arms, to be        |
|                            | commissary stewards.  |
| No. 1 surfmen              | To be boatswains mates, first class                                 |
| Electricians               | With three years total service, or more, as electrician and         |
|                            | electrician first class, to be chief electricians                   |
| Electricians               | With less than three years total service, as electrician and        |
|                            | electrician first class, to be electricians, first class            |
| Oiler, first class         | With less than 3 years total service as oiler, first class and      |
|                            | oiler, second class, to be engineman, second class.                 |
| Blacksmiths, first class   | To be blacksmiths, first class                                      |
| Plumbers. first class      | To be plumbers and fitters ( USN 1 <sup>st</sup> class only rating) |
| Assistant masters at arms  | To be masters at arms, second class.                                |
| Quartermasters             | To be quartermasters, second class.                                 |
| Electricians, second class | To be electricians, second class.                                   |
| Carpenters, second class   | To be carpenters' mates, second class.                              |
| Oilers, second class       | With three years service, or more, as oiler, second class, to be    |
|                            | engineman, first class.   |
| Oilers, second class       | With less than three years service, as oiler, second class, to be   |
|                            | engineman, second class.  |
| Coxswains                  | To be coxswains.  |
| Water tenders              | To be water tenders (USN Chief & 1 <sup>st</sup> class only rating) |
| Blacksmiths, second class  | To be blacksmiths, second class.                                    |
| Plumbers, second class     | To be plumbers and fitters ( USN 1 <sup>st</sup> class only rating) |

| Painters, second class    | To be painters, second class  |
|---------------------------|---|
| Electricians, third class | 1   |
|                           | . To be pharmacists' mates, third class.                              |
| Seamen                    |   |
| Surfmen                   |   |
| Firemen                   |   |
|                           | . To be buglers. ( <i>distinguishing mark only</i> )                  |
| Ordinary seamen           |   |
| Coal heavers              |   |
| Cabin stewards            |   |
| Wardroom stewards         |   |
|                           | Serving on vessels, to be cooks, second class.                        |
|                           | Not serving on vessels, to be cooks, second class.                    |
| Steerage cooks            |   |
| Cadet cooks               |   |
| Boys, first class         |   |
|                           | . To be mess attendants, second class.                                |
|                           | . With three years service, or more, as electrician, first class, to  |
|                           | be chief electricians.  |
| Electricians first class  | . With less than three years service, as electrician, first class, to |
|                           | be Electricians, first class.   |
| Veoman                    | With three years total service, or more, as yeoman and ships          |
|                           | writer, to be chief yeoman.   |
| Veoman                    | With less than three years total service, as yeoman and ships         |
|                           | writer, to be yeoman, first class.                                    |
| Wheelman                  |   |
| ,,                        | chief boatswains' mates.  |
| Wheelman                  | With less than three years service, as wheelman, to be                |
|                           | boatswains' mates, first class.                                       |
| Signal quartermasters     | With three years service, or more, as signal quartermaster, to        |
|                           | be chief quartermasters.  |
| Signal quartermasters     | With less than three years service, as signal quartermaster, to       |
|                           | be quartermaster, first class.  |
| Machinists, first class   | With three years total service, or more, as machinist, first          |
|                           | class, oiler, first class, and oiler second class to be chief         |
|                           | machinists' mates.  |
| Machinists, first class   | With less than three years total service, as machinist, first         |
|                           | class, oiler, first class, and oiler second class to be machinists'   |
|                           | mates, first class.   |
| Carpenters, first class   |   |
| 1 /                       | be chief carpenters' mates.   |
| Carpenters, first class   | With less than three years service, as carpenter, first class, to     |
| 1 /                       | be carpenters' mates, first class.                                    |
| Sailmakers, first class   | To be sailmakers' mates ( USN 1 <sup>st</sup> class only rating)      |
|                           | With three years total service, or more, as oiler, first class,       |
| ,                         | and oiler second class to be enginemen, first class.                  |
|                           | 0   |

(ITALICS ADDED FOR INFORMATION ON HOW THEY RELATE TO THE U.S.N. RATINGS)

(b) In computing length of service in any rating under paragraph (a) of this article, service as acting petty officer in that rating shall be included and all service in the rating (acting and permanent) shall be credited, whether continuous or not.

(*c*) Acting petty officers, without regard to time in acting rating, shall be rated to the grade provided by this general order for permanently rated petty officers of the same grade.

7. Until further instructions are issued chief petty officers, petty officers, and other enlisted persons are authorized to continue to wear the uniforms and rating badges they now have until no longer serviceable.

8. Wherever in the regulations, general orders, circular letters, or other instructions issued by the department or headquarters there appears a grade or rating which this general order abolishes, substitute the corresponding grade or rating as established by this general order.

9. Until new compliment lists are received, substitute the corresponding ratings as established by this general order for all ratings abolished.

10. Instructions relative to promotion of the enlisted personnel will be promulgated in the near future. Until such instruction are received no ratings shall be made to any of the petty officer ratings nor shall any person be enlisted in a petty officer rating after the ratings have been adjusted to corresponding ratings as prescribed by paragraph 6 of this general order, unless specifically authorized by headquarters.

D.F. Houston. Secretary.

#### AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS.



Treasury Department, Washington, May 3, 1921.

1. General Order No 43. Is rescinded and the Regulations, United States Coast Guard, 1916, are amended as follows, to become effective on July 1, 1921.

2. Art. 816 (1) The warrant officers shall be as follows:

| Boatswains. | Pharmacists        |
|-------------|--------------------|
| Gunners.    | Pay Clerks         |
| Machinists. | Acting pay clerks. |
| Carpenters. | Sailmakers.        |
| · · · ·     |                    |

(b) They take precedence of each other on the active list of the Coast Guard according to the order in which their names are borne on the official Coast Guard register as kept at headquarters. The names of warrant officers shall be borne on the official register in the following order:

(a) those appointed boatswain from the grade of master's mate according to date of appointment as master's mate.

(b) those appointed boatswains from the grade of acting master's mate.

(c) All other warrant officers according to date of appointment as warrant officer.

3. Article 817 of the Regulations is amended to read as follows:

Ratings of chief petty officers, petty officers, and other enlisted persons in the Coast Guard shall be as follows:

#### SEAMAN BRANCH.

Chief boatswain's mate. Boatswain's mate, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Boatswain's mate, 2d class. Coxswain. Chief gunner's mate. Gunner's mate, 1st class. Gunner's mate, 2d class. Gunner's mate, 3d class. Chief quartermaster. Quartermaster, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Quartermaster, 2d class. Quartermaster, 3d class. Chief signalman. Signalman, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Signalman, 2d class. Signalman, 3d class. Seaman, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Seaman, 2d class. Apprentice Seaman. Surfman.

#### ARTIFICER BRANCH.

Chief electrician's mate. Electrician's mate, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Electrician's mate, 2d class. Electrician's mate, 3d class. Chief radioman. Radioman, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Radioman, 2d class. Radioman, 3d class. Chief carpenter's mate. Carpenter's mate, 1st class. Carpenter's mate, 2d class. Carpenter's mate, 3d class. Chief shipfitter. Shipfitter, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Shipfitter, 2d class. Shipfitter, 3d class. Chief storekeeper. Storekeeper, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Storekeeper, 2d class. Storekeeper, 3d class. Patternmaker, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Patternmaker, 2d class. Sailmaker's mate, 2d class. Sailmaker's mate, 3d class. Sailmaker's mate, 3d class. Painter, 1st class. Painter, 2d class. Painter, 2d class.

#### ARTIFICER BRANCH – ENGINE-ROOM FORCE.

Chief machinist's mate. Machinist's mate, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Machinist's mate, 2d class. Chief water tender. Water tender, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Water tender, 2d class. Blacksmith, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Blacksmith, 2d class. Boiler maker, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Boiler maker, 2d class. Coppersmith, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Coppersmith, 2d class. Engineman, 1st class. Engineman, 2d class. Molder, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Molder, 2d class. Fireman, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Fireman, 2d class. Fireman, 3d class.

### SPECIAL BRANCH.

Chief yeoman. Yeoman, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Yeoman, 2d class. Yeoman, 3d class. Chief pharmacists' mate. Pharmacist's mate, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Pharmacist's mate, 2d class. Pharmacist's mate, 3d class. Hospital apprentice, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Hospital apprentice, 2d class. Bugler, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Bugler, 2d class. First musician. Musician, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Musician, 2d class.

#### COMMISSARY BRANCH

Chief commissary steward. Commissary steward. Ship's cook, 1 st class. Ship's cook, 2d class. Ships cook, 3d class. Baker, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Baker, 2d class. Baker, 3d class.

#### MESSMAN BRANCH

Cabin steward. Wardroom steward. Wardroom cook. Warrant officer's steward. NCH Mess attendant, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Mess attendant, 2d class. Mess attendant, 3d class.

#### AVIATION BRANCH

Aviation chief machinist's mate. Aviation machinist's mate, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Aviation machinist's mate, 2d class. Aviation chief carpenter's mate. Aviation carpenter's mate, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Aviation carpenter's mate, 2d class Aviation carpenter's mate, 3d class. Aviation chief rigger. Aviation rigger, 1<sup>st</sup> class. Aviation rigger, 2d class. Aviation rigger, 3d class.

> J. H. MOYLE, Assistant secretary.

From an article by GMCM William Wells on the history of the Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer

"It was not until after World War I that the Coast Guard established the petty officer rating structures that are, fundamentally, still in use.

"the Act of May 18, 1920 officially established the Chief Petty Officer in the Coast Guard. This Act was intended to "increase the efficiency of the commissioned and enlisted personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service," and put the Coast Guard in the "grades and ratings of warrant officers, chief petty officers, petty officers and other enlisted persons in the Coast Guard shall be the same as in the Navy...". The Coast Guard wholeheartedly accepted the Navy's system including the parameters for advancement qualifications and performance evaluations. Less than a month later the Coast Guard issued its first list of "Abbreviations of Enlisted Ratings and Special Designations". Indubitably this list was a reprint of the Navy's rating list and listed at the head"

### " Chief Petty Officer.....C.P.O."

All ratings were divided into three distinct groupings: **Seaman Branch, Artificer Branch**, and **Special Branch**. Although aircraft were in use, no special grouping was created; they were considered as mechanics and tradesmen. On June 28, 1921, Coast Guard Headquarters issued Circular Letter No. 202 outlining these groups.

| SEAMAN BRANCH<br>CHIEF | ARTIFICER BRANCH<br>CHIEF | SPECIAL BRANCH<br>CHIEF |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| BOATSWAINS MATE        | MACHINISTS MATE           | YEOMAN                  |
| GUNNERS MATE           | MOTOR MACHINISTS MATE     | STOREKEEPER             |
| QUARTERMASTER          | WATERTENDER               | COMMISSARY STEWARD      |
| SIGNALMAN              | RADIOMAN                  | PHARMACISTS MATE        |
| ELECTRICIANS MATE      | AVIATION MACHINISTS MATE  | CARPENTER               |
| SHIPFITTER             | AVIATION CARPENTERS MATE  | AVIATION RIGGER         |

| 1921 U.S. | C.G. CHIEF | PETTY | OFFICERS |
|-----------|------------|-------|----------|
|-----------|------------|-------|----------|

All ratings were represented by a CPO grade except;

Engineman, Coppersmith, Blacksmith, Boilermaker, Molder, Patternmaker, Painter and Sailmaker's mate. By October 1922, Watertender, Shipfitter, and the aviation ratings were deleted from the CPO ratings list as well as the Coppersmith, Boilermaker, Molder, and Patternmaker from the petty officer ratings. During the 1930s, the Engineman, Storekeeper and Motor Machinist Mate ratings were abolished. This reduction had to do with economics as well as need. The Coast Guard changed the designation of some ratings as needs changed, just as during World War II, journalists and photographers (in use since the 1920s) were called Specialists in their separate ratings. The Journalists were then changed to Yeoman (PI) and in the late 1940s to Journalist. In the 1970s photographers and journalists were combined into the PA, public affairs rating. In the early 1950s, Gunner's mate Fire Control GM (FC) became the control (FC), then Fire Control Technician (FT).

GMCM Bill Wells article

### U.S. Coast Guard Aviation Ratings 1917 – 2016

### No Aviation ratings noted from 1924 to 1930 Uniform Regs

|                 | Aviation Electricians Mate : mid 195                                  | 6 ~ 1 Jan 1999               |
|-----------------|---|------------------------------|
|                 | Rating absorbed into Avionics Technician or AMT                       | 1 Jan 1999                   |
|                 |   |                              |
|                 |   |                              |
| 0               | Avionics Electrical Technician (AET):                                 | 2004 ~ Present               |
|                 | Avionics Technician (AVT)   | 1999 ~ 2003                  |
| A contraction   | Aviation Electronics Technician : (AT)                                | 1948 ~ 1998                  |
| U               | Aviation Licentonies Technician . (AT)                                | 1)+0 ** 1)))0                |
|                 | Aviation Electronicsman; (AL)   | 1948 ~ 1965                  |
|                 | Aviation Radioman; (ARm)  | 1943 ~ 1948                  |
|                 |   | 1915 1910                    |
|                 |   |                              |
|                 | Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) :                               | 1999 ~ Present               |
|                 | Formed from Machinists Mates, Metalsmiths                             | 1))) I lesent                |
|                 | Aviation Machinists Mate : ( AD )                                     | 1948 - 1999                  |
|                 | Aviation Machinists Mate (AMM):                                       | 1921 - 1924                  |
| -               | Aviation Machinists Mate (Ativity).                                   | 1921 - 1924<br>1930 - 1948   |
|                 | Aviation Metalsmith (AM):   | 1940 - 1999                  |
|                 | absorbed Aviation Carpenters Mate                                     | 1740 - 1777                  |
|                 | absorbed Aviation Carpeners Mate                                      |                              |
| **              | Aviation Carpenters Mate(ACM) :                                       | 1921 - 1924                  |
|                 | Aviation Carpenters Mate(ACM).  | 1921 - 1924<br>1930 - 1940sh |
|                 |   | 1930 = 194080                |
|                 |   |                              |
|                 | Aviation Survival Technician (AST) : All Grades                       | 1999 - 2004                  |
|                 | Aviation Survival Technician (AST) : An Oraces                        | 1968 - 1999                  |
|                 | Merger of AO & PR, Comdtnote 1414 of 10 July 68 t                     |                              |
|                 | as per ASMCM D. Gelakoska, in the class to change to new rating.      |                              |
|                 | as per ristriction D. Genakoska, in the class to change t             | o new rating.                |
|                 | Parachute Rigger (PR) :   | 1942 ~ 1968                  |
|                 | Tarachute Rigger (TR).  | 1)+2 ~ 1)00                  |
|                 |   |                              |
| <b>.</b>        | Aviation Ordnanceman (AO) :   | 1943 ~ 1968                  |
|                 | Merged with PR in 1968 to form a new rating ASM                       | 1918 1900                    |
|                 | Aviation Ratings merged 1 Jan 1999 COMDTINST 52                       | 221.1 of 9/18/98             |
|                 |   | 221.1 01 9/10/90             |
| -               |   |                              |
|                 | Enlisted Aircraft Pilot (AP):   | 1930 - 1979                  |
|                 | Chief, 1st, 2nd Class   | 1950 1979                    |
|                 | Aviation Rigger : Chief, 1st, 2nd, Class                              | 1922 ~ 1924                  |
| •               | Rating changed to Enlisted Airplane Pilot                             | 1930 ~ 1948                  |
|                 | 1924 to 1933 the specialty mark was gold embroidered                  |                              |
|                 | Pilots wore their rating specialty, and from '42 to '48 the specialty |                              |
|                 | mark, first in gold, then white or blue In 1959 there w               |                              |
|                 | Pilots still on active duty. ADCM John Pershing Grea                  |                              |
| Aviation Diagon | last Enlisted Pilot in the Coast Guard, and retired in 19             |                              |
| Aviation Rigger | Bar in June 2006.   | , 2. Crossed the             |
|                 | Dur mittune 2000.   |                              |
|                 |   |                              |



## U.S. Coast Guard Deck Ratings 1920 – 2016

| 1920 – 2016 |   |   |  |
|-------------|---|---|--|
| t           | Established by General Order 43 of 18 May 1920  | Ţ   |  |
| 淡<br>敬      | Boatswains Mate (BM) ↓: All Grades   Chief, 1st, 2nd Class :   Coxswain (3rd Class )   Boatswains Mate Lifesaving (L)   The BM(L) rating ceased in 1939, those rated retained it until ret   Formed by the WHEELMAN, No. 1 SURFMAN, & COXSWAI   Quartermaster (QM): All Grades   Quartermaster : 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class   Formed by the Signal Quartermaster. Merged into BM in July 2 | 1948 - Present<br>1920 - 1948<br>1920 - 1948<br>1920 - 1960 ?<br>iring.<br>N Rating<br>1920 - 2003<br>1915 - 1920 |  |
|             | Signalman (SM) <sup>t</sup> : Chief, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Class 1921 - 193<br>Signal Quartermaster :<br>Merged into QM   | 0? / 1941 - 1948<br>1915 - 1920   |  |
| Ğ,          | Operations Specialist (OS):<br>Parts of Quartermaster, Radarman, and Radioman merged July 2<br>Radarman (RD):   | 2003 - Present<br>003<br>1948 - 2003  |  |
| -           | This specialty mark introduced into the Navy<br><b>Radarman (RDm) :</b><br><b>Telecommunications Specialist (TC) :</b>  | 1942 – 1948<br>1994 - 2003  |  |
| <b>H</b>    | Rating merged into Operations Specialist (1C):<br>Rating merged into Operations Specialist July 2003<br>Radioman (RM):<br>RM established by Gen'l Order 77 of 5 May 1<br>Radio Technician (RT) to Electronics Technician Mate   | 1921 ~ 1994   |  |
| <b>-∽~</b>  | Sonar Technician (ST):<br>Sonarman (SO):<br>Original name was Soundman. Rating eliminated, absorbed into  | 1970 - 1993<br>1943 - 1970<br>ET, OS,   |  |
| X           | Gunners Mate (GM) な:<br>Possibly established in WW1 around 1918. Navy Cross was awa<br>connection with the loss of the "Wellington"<br>Mark is crossed 12" Dahlgren Guns  | 1920 - Present<br>urded to GM2 in   |  |
|             | Fire Control Technician (FT): All grades<br>Merged with ET: July 2003<br>Fire Controlman (FC & FC R rangefinder):<br>Chief, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Class<br>Specialty mark was range finder during WW2 era. USN Specialt<br>range finder to enclosed Radar director 1947 - 1958  | 1955 - 2003<br>1942? - 1955<br>y mark from  |  |
| _           | Distinguishing Mark 1930 Gun Range Finder Operator<br>CG Reservist Magazine mentions the GM(FT) in mid 1953 - '55   |   |  |
|             | <b>Torpedoma</b> n's <b>Mate :</b><br>Chief, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Class<br>World War 2 rating due to CG manning of to Destroyer Escorts  | 1943 ~ 1945   |  |


From 1915 to 1920, rating badges were worn on the right sleeve. After adopting the US Navy rating scheme in 1920, rating badges of the seaman branch were worn on the right arm and artificer & special branch worn on the left arm. The Coast Guard shield distinguishing mark was authorized in 1922 and worn on the right sleeve. The Lifesaving Branch insignia was worn on the collar and cap by members of the lifesaving branch. The Station numbers were on the center of the collar insignia, 1920 - 1924.





### U.S. Coast Guard Engineer Ratings 1920 – 2016

| Ø        | Machinery Technician (MK): All Grades<br>Formed from the merger of Engineman, Machinists Mate, Bo<br>Engineman (EN):  | 1974 - Present<br>Dilerman<br>1947 – Jan. 1974 |
|----------|---|--|
|          | Machinists Mate (MM) な: Chief, 1st, 2nd Class<br>3rd Class<br>Merged with BT and EN to form MK rating   | 1920 - 1974<br>1942                            |
| MO       | Motor Machinists Mate (MoMM) な:<br>Chief, 1st, 2nd Class<br>3rd Class during WW2<br>Called Engineman : 1st, 2nd Class   | 1920 - 1948<br>1920 -1930?                     |
|          | <b>Boilerman ( BT ) :</b> All Grades<br>Merged with MM and EN to form MK rating   | 1948 - 1974                                    |
|          | Watertender (WT): Chief, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Class<br>CPO eliminated in 1922, Specialty mark changed to MM pro<br>Rating changed to Boilerman in 1948.  | 1915 - 1948<br>opeller in 1920.                |
|          | <b>Electricians Mate (EM) :</b> All Grades<br><b>Electrician (E) :</b><br><b>Electricians Mate Telephone (EMT) :</b>  | 1921 - Present<br>1915 - 1921<br>1934 - 1960   |
|          | <b>Information System Technician( IT ) :</b><br><b>Telephone Technician (TT) :</b><br>formed from Electricians Mate Telephone 1960  | 2003 - Present<br>1960 - 2003                  |
| <b>A</b> | Electronics Technician (ET) :<br>Electronics Technician Mate (ETM) :<br>Radio Technician (RT) :<br>Radio Technician wore the Radioman Sparks, specialty mark  | 1948 - 2004<br>1945 ~ 1948<br>1942 ~ 1945      |
| *        | <b>Damage Controlman ( DC ):</b> All Grades<br>Formed from below ratings  | 1948 - Present                                 |
|          | <b>Carpenters Mate (CM) t</b> : Chief,1st, 2nd. 3rd Class<br>Plumbers & Painters : 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2nd, 3rd Class   | 1920 ~ 1948                                    |
| *        | Shipfitter : 1st, 2nd Classto Carpenters Mate by WW 2Blacksmith : 1st, 2nd Classbecame Shipfitter aboutCoppersmith & Boilermaker : 1st, 2nd ClassPatternmaker : 1st, 2nd ClassPatternmaker : 1st, 2nd Class | 1921<br>1936<br>1920 - 1922<br>1920 - 1923     |

### U.S. Coast Guard Administrative Ratings 1920 – 2016

| $\mathbf{X}$ | <b>Yeoman(YN) (Y):</b> All Grades<br>From the Ships Writer & Yeoman Rating of 1915 – 1920  | 1920 - Present                       |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <u>á</u>     | Storekeeper (SK) रै: All Grades<br>From the Yeoman Rating of 1915 - 1920   | 1920 - Present                       |
| ×            | <b>Ships Serviceman :</b> All Grades<br>Specialties as Barber, Tailor, Laundryman, Cobbler   | WW2 Rating<br>1942 - 6/1946          |
|              | Health Services Technician(HS):All GradesHospital Corpsman (HM) :All GradesMerged with Dental Tech1983   | 1983 - Present<br>1948 ~ 1983        |
|              | <b>Dental Technician (DT) :</b>  | 1949 - 1983                          |
|              | E-4 & E-5 only 1958<br>All Grades<br><b>Pharmacists Mate (PhM) </b> な:<br>Chief, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Class<br>From the BAYMAN rating. Specialty mark worn until 1948         | 1958 ~ 1983<br>1920 - 1948           |
|              | <b>Public Affairs Specialist (PA) :</b><br>Merger of Journalists and Photographers Mates into Photojourn   | 1972 - Present<br>nalist 1972        |
| X            | <b>Journalist (JO) :</b><br>Emergency Rating PR during WW 2<br>Specialty Mark after 1948   | 1948 ~ 1972                          |
|              | <b>Photographers Mate( PhoM) :</b><br>mention of second Photographers Mate and first Chief Photogra<br>1940, Clarence Samuels, quite a career, see CG Historians site. | 1939? ~ 1972<br>aphers Mate rated in |
|              | Printer :<br>merged into Journalist  | 1944 ~ 1970                          |
| 25           | Bandmaster : Chief<br>Musician : First Musician (PO1), Musician 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2nd Class (n<br>Coast Guard Band started in 1925, Enlisted currently as First Cl     |                                      |
|              | Diver :<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Class, 1 <sup>st</sup> Class, CPOs NAVY DIVER SPECIAL   | 2015 ~<br>ГҮ MARK                    |



The eagle was redesigned in 1941 to stand straight up and changed facing direction to its own right on the left arm ratings. All eagles now faced forward. The May 1941 Bureau of Navigation Info Bulletin reports it was done to follow the rules of heraldry, instead of the Napoleonic tradition.

The C.P.O. cap device was changed about 1941 from having the anchor being foul with cable to being foul with chain. The fouling followed the design of the U.S.N. CPO as per the 1941 USN Uniform Regs. In 1944 a  $\frac{3}{4}$  size (1  $\frac{1}{4}$ ") cap device was authorized for the Navy / CG for wear on the overseas cap. Uniform Regs in 1951 indicated 15 stripes on the shield, and a 1959 change specified the design with 13 stripes that is the insignia in use today.

### U.S. Coast Guard Administrative Ratings 1920 - 2016

|                 | Food Services Specialist (FS): All Grades<br>Subsistence Specialist (SS): All Grades<br>Culinary Specialist (CS) name change Dec 2016<br>created from merger of Commissaryman and Steward July 1   | 1996 - Present<br>1973 - 1996<br>973   |
|-----------------|--|--|
|                 | Commissaryman: All Grades<br>Commissary Steward (CS) <sup>‡</sup> Chief, 1 <sup>st</sup> Class:<br>Commissary Steward Chief & 1st class from the Master at Ar  | 1948 - 1973<br>1920 - 1948<br>ms   |
| Iget mark above | Ships Cook 5: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Class<br>Steward: Chief, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Class<br>The crescent designated as the Specialty mark till 1964 then c<br>Officers Stewards & Cooks<br>Distinguishing Mark worn on the left sleeve of the jacket. The<br>beneath the crescent designated the grade, Steward second cla<br>Aug.1944 shifted to the standard petty officer rating badge. W<br>style uniform until 1950. 1 Jan.1950 designated as Petty Office<br>Mess Attendants / Stewards Mates 1st Class, 2nd Class, 3rd<br>Wore the square rig sailor uniform when not in Mess | 1920 - 1944<br>e horizontal bars<br>ass illustrated.<br>Vore the C.P.O.<br>cers<br>Class (non rated) |
|                 | Marine Science Technician (MST) :<br>created from Aerographers Mate and Sonarman, Comdtnote 1<br>Reserve MST authorized in 1999  | 1968 - Present<br>414, 10/22/68  |
|                 | Aerographers Mate (AG) :   | 1942 ~ 1968  |
| ×               | <b>Intelligence Specialist (IS) :</b><br>ISCM David Rochefort first ISCM . First three Master Chiefs 2007. USN authorized the use of the CT rating mark.   | Jan 2008<br>designated April   |
|                 | Maritime Enforcement Specialist (ME) :Auth. 6 June 2008Established Jan 2010MECMs rated Dec 2008Gordon MuiseUSCG, Steven Lowry , Randy Krahn , William AllOriginal design by Lcdr Wayne Till,USCGR, 1980, for the CG Reservence   |  |

#### NON RATED MEN, PRIOR TO 1948

Non Rated men were enlisted in the Seaman Branch, as :

Apprentice Seaman - AS (Hosp. Appr. - HA 1943) Seaman Second Class - S2c; Seaman First Class - S1c Designated by a 3/8" white stripe, on the blue uniform, and a blue stripe on the white uniform, worn around the right shoulder. In the Engineer Branch, there was no grade Apprentice Fireman, the non rated men started at : Fireman Third Class - F3c ; Fireman Second Class - F2c ; Fireman First Class - F1c ( this grade got the same pay as a third class petty officer, many engineer ratings started at Second Class petty Officer and did not have a third class petty officer until WW2. Non Rated men were enlisted in the Steward Branch, as :

Mess Attendant / Stewards Mate 3c ; Mess Attendant / Stewards Mate 2c ; Mess Attendant / Stewards Mate 1c



In April 1948 the right arm ratings were eliminated and all rating badges were worn on the left sleeve. Petty officers with 12 years consecutive good conduct are entitled to wear gold chevrons and hash marks, the eagle and specialty mark is embroidered in silver bullion, and a gold shield worn on right sleeve. In June 1959 collar devices were authorized for Chiefs khaki shirts, E-8 & E-9 collar devices didn't appear until mid 1961. These were 15/16", and the USN added the stars in Jan 1969, the CG by early 1971sh. Star were specified at <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" dia. The E-8 star was placed on the ring, one ray down, The E-9 rested on both arms of the stock, with one ray down.



### U.S. Coast Guard Reserve Ratings 1941 – 2016

| ANNO STATE                            | <b>Data Processing Technician :</b><br>Reserve Rating originally Machine Accountant (1971) changed<br>merged into TC  | 1971 ~ 1999<br>to DP 1973,                |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| PS                                    | Port Security Patrolman / Specialist Port Security:<br>Port Securityman :<br>Port Security Specialist :<br>Source for establishment date has not been identified.<br>Reserve Rating: Name changed to Port Security Specialist (PS | 1943 - 1982<br>1982 ~ 1999<br>1999 ~ 2010 |
|                                       | Specialty Mark of Shield 1981, w/PS 1984. To be dis-establish most lateral change of rating to Maritime Enforcement Spec. (1  | ed in 2010 and                            |
|                                       | Coastal Forceman : Merged into the PS rating  | 1963 – 1967                               |
|                                       | <b>Investigator :</b> All Grades<br>Reserve Rating & Active duty special assignment   | 1982 ~ Present                            |
| \$Q                                   | Firefighter :<br>Fire & Safety Specialist :<br>Merged with PS rating (Reservist Dec 1991)   | 1954?~ 1982<br>1982~ 1993<br>1993         |
| $\langle \hat{\mathbf{c}} \rangle$    | CLASSIFICATION INTERVIEWER :  | 1943 ~ 1947                               |
| $\Diamond$                            | DOG & HORSE HANDLER:1Referred to in some documents as Dog Patrol.Reference for discontinuation date is not identified.1. U.S.C.G. supplement to U.S. Navy uniform regulations of 19   | 943(1) – 1951 (?)<br>941, 2 Jan. 1943     |
| I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I | <b>TANKER LOADING INSPECTOR:</b><br>Reference for discontinuation date not identified.<br>1. U.S.C.G. Amendment #5 to U.S.N. uniform regulations of 15  | 1957(1) - ???<br>951, 24 June 1957        |
| <b>CW</b>                             | CHEMICAL WARFAREMAN:<br>Reference for discontinuation date not identified.<br>1. Change to U.S.C.G. suppl. (U.S.N. uniform regulations of 19  | 1943(1) - ???<br>141), May 1943           |
| PR                                    | <b>PUBLIC RELATIONS :</b><br>Journalist (JO) rating established 1948<br>Reference for discontinuation date not identified.<br>1. Change to U.S.C.G. supplement (U.S.N. uniform regs of 194  | 1943(1) – 1948<br>1 ), 12 July 1943       |
| TR                                    | TRANSPORTATIONMAN:<br>Neither source for establishment date nor reference for disconti<br>identified. Handled Freight, Passenger, Vehicle<br>From John Stacey Book on U   |   |

### U.S. Coast Guard SPAR Ratings in WW II

The SPARs of World War II held a variety of ratings. Most abbreviations for ratings are not the same as modern abbreviations. The manner in which they wrote them was also different. For example, if a women was a second class yeoman, it would have been written Y2c. For the Specialists rates, a letter inside the badge symbol indicated the specialty the woman held.

\* A seaman rating badge was established during the war for the Coast Guard SPARs and later for the U.S.Navy WAVES. The number of stripes represented the cuff stripes on the male uniform.

| 22              | BM<br>Cox | Boatswain's<br>Mate<br>Coxswain |               | PhM          | Pharmacist's Mate                               |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---|
| ×               | GM        | Gunner's Mate                   |               | НА           | Hospital Apprentice                             |
| ×               | QM        | Quartermaster                   | Ą             | MU           | Musician  |
| $\mathbf{X}$    | Y         | Yeoman                          |               | PR           | Parachute Rigger                                |
| - <del>~~</del> | SoM       | Soundman                        |               | SK           | Storekeeper                                     |
|                 | EM        | Electrician's<br>Mate           | X             | SSM<br>B,L,T | Ship's Serviceman<br>Barber, Laundry,<br>Tailor |
| ₩¥              | RM        | Radioman                        |               | PhoM         | Photographer's Mate                             |
| **              | СМ        | Carpenter's<br>Mate             | ~ <b>\$</b> ~ | AerM         | Aerographer's Mate                              |
| *               | RT        | Radio<br>Technician             | С             | SC           | Ship's Cook                                     |
| M O O           | Mo<br>MM  | Motor<br>Machinist's<br>Mate    | C             | St           | Steward   |
|                 | Р         | Printer                         |               | S-2c         | Seaman *  |
| ×               | Rd<br>M   | Radarman<br>Loran               |               | F            | Fireman *                                       |

### U.S. Coast Guard SPAR Ratings in WWII

| ¢          | Sp<br>(C)  | Specialist<br>(Classification<br>Interviewer) | $\langle \hat{\nabla} \rangle$ | Sp<br>(T)         | Specialist<br>(Teacher)<br>Link Trainer    |
|------------|------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| ¢w         | Sp<br>CW   | Specialist<br>Chemical<br>Warfare             |                                | Sp<br>TR          | Specialist<br>Transportationman            |
| $\Diamond$ | Sp<br>(I)  | Specialist<br>(IBM Operator)                  | \$                             | Sp<br>(W)         | Specialist<br>(Welfare)                    |
| Ŵ          | Sp<br>(M)  | Specialist(Mail)                              | $\otimes$                      | Sp<br>(X)<br>(OY) | Specialist<br>(Control Tower<br>Operator)  |
| PR         | Sp<br>(PR) | Specialist<br>(Public<br>Relations)           | $\otimes$                      | Sp<br>(X)<br>(VA) | Specialist<br>(Motion Picture<br>Operator) |
| R          | Sp<br>(R)  | Specialist<br>(Recruiting)                    | $\otimes$                      | Sp<br>(X)         | Specialist<br>Unclassified                 |







# U.S. Coast Guard Distinguishing Marks

|            | Coast Guard Distinguishing Mark:1922Every enlisted man of the Coast Guard shall wear the<br>distinguishing mark of the Coast Guard, a shield 1 inch in height,<br>on the right arm midway between the top of the cuff and elbow.<br>If two distinguishing marks are prescribed for the right forearm,<br>they shall be placed one half inch apart, with the shield below.<br>Petty officers wearing rating badges with gold stripes shall wear<br>this shield embroidered in gold.1922 Uniform Regulations   |
|------------|--|
|            | <b>Gun Captain :</b><br>Men regularly detailed by the Commanding Officer of a vessel<br>as gun captains, except secondary battery guns (less than 3"-50<br>cal), shall wear the distinguishing mark , a gun, with axis<br>horizontal , muzzle pointing forward, midway between the<br>shoulder and elbow of the left sleeve for men of the seaman<br>branch, and on the right sleeve for others.<br>1922 Uniform Regulations   |
| $^{\star}$ | Gun Pointer & Gun Pointer First Class :<br>Men who have qualified as gun pointers, first or second class,<br>shall wear the gun pointers mark ( cross wires of a gun sight )<br>midway between the shoulder and elbow of the left arm for<br>members of the seaman branch, and right arm for others. Gun<br>pointers ,first class , shall wear the star 1 inch above the mark,<br>one ray pointing up. 1922 Uniform Regulations  |
| <b>A</b>   | <b>Gun Range Finder Operator Mark:</b><br>Men who have qualified as gun range finder operators shall<br>wear the distinguishing mark ( range finder ) midway between<br>the shoulder and elbow of the left arm for members of the<br>seaman branch, and right arm for others.<br>1930 Uniform Regulations  |
|            | <ul> <li>Coast Guard A (E): The Coast Guard A (E), a block letter 5/8" high &amp; 1/2" wide embroidered in silk in lines 1/8" thick is issued in three colors – white, blue and red. These marks may be worn, when prescribed by headquarters, as follows:</li> <li>1. The white Coast Guard A (E) ( blue on white clothing ) by members of gun crews, and by members of ship and fire control parties that have made exceptionally high scores in special forms of gunnery exercises designated by headquarters. The white A thus awarded may be worn by the designated man for one year without regard to future assignments. It may be worn for two years by men who remain on the vessel on which the award was made, provided that such men continue as members of gun crews, or ship and fire control parties and the vessel has not, during such two year period , again fired the exercises for which the award was made.</li> </ul> |

### U.S. Coast Guard Distinguishing Marks

|    | 2. The white Coast Guard A (E) ( blue on white clothing ) by men of the engineers force, and ship control party recommended for such distinction by commanding officers of vessel awarded the white Coast Guard A (E) for excellence in engineering. The red Coast Guard A (E) by men of the engineers force and ship control party recommended by the commanding officers of vessels awarded the red Coast Guard A (E) for excellence in engineering. The white and red Coast Guard A (E) awarded in engineering competition may be worn from the time of notification of its award until the awards are made for the next competition year. Commanding officers shall prevent the wearing of the Coast Guard A (E) by men not entitled to such mark. The Coast Guard A (E) shall be worn on the right sleeve by men of the seaman branch and on the left sleeve of others , midway between the shoulder and the elbow, or 1 inch below the rating badge. |
|----|--|
|    | Expert Rifleman's Mark :1922 Uniform RegulationsEnlisted men of the Coast Guard qualifying as expert riflemanwill wear upon the right sleeve about half way between thewrist and elbow a distinguishing mark as follows : a targetconsisting of a one inch square inclosing two concentric rings ,3/4" and 1/2" diameters, with a 1/4 " bullseye in the center,embroidered in narrow lines.Sharpshooter's Mark:1930 Uniform RegulationsA sharpshooter shall wear the same mark except that the inner1/2 inch ring shall be omitted   |
|    | Officers Stewards and Cooks :<br>These shall wear the specialty mark on the left sleeve<br>1922 Uniform Regulations<br>Officers Stewards and Cooks :<br>These shall wear the specialty mark with three, two, and one<br>horizontal stripes below it to denote first, second, and third class<br>respectively.<br>1930 Uniform Regulations  |
| AC | <b>Air Crewman :</b> Distinguishing mark worn on the right sleeve<br>between the shoulder and elbow. Established in about 1958<br>when the current Air Crew breast insignia originated. This was<br>worn by A/C when not assigned to flying duty. Eliminated mid<br>1960s when the A/C wings were authorized for full time wear.   |









Collar insignia for Chief Petty Officers was authorized in 1959 and insignia for Senior and Master Chief was authorized by 1962. The combination cap device was not changed in the Navy until 1969, and the Coast Guard followed suit as noted in a change to Uniform Regs dated 1972.





# **DEVICES and QUALIFICATION INSIGNIA**

# REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE AND U.S. COAST GUARD CHIEF PETTY OFFICER AND WARRANT OFFICER



GENERAL ORDERS Nos. 35, 36 Division of Revenue Cutter Service

> TREASURY DEPARTMENT. OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, D.C., August 2, 1898

The following orders are published for the information and government of all officers of the Revenue Cutter Service. All regulations in conflict with these orders are hereby rescinded:

ORDER No. 35.

Paragraph 61, regulations 1894, is amended to read as follows: The petty or noncommissioned officers shall be and take precedence as follows :

Chief Petty or Forward Officers. (APPOINTED BY THE DEPARTMENT)

- Boatswains.
- 2. Gumers.
- 3. Carpenters.
- 4. Chief oilers or machinists.

#### Petty officers of the first class.

- Masters at arms.
- 2. Signal quartermasters.
- Second oilers.

Petty officers of the second class.

- 1. Quartermasters.
- 2. Coxswains.
- 3. Third oilers.

3

The Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer and the Warrant Officer have the same family lineage. The R.C.S. General Order amended regulations and established the rate and titles that continue on in the present day Coast Guard. The excerpt from a statement to a Congressional Committee gives the position of the Chief Petty Officer / Warrant Officer in the Revenue Cutter Service. The 1899 R.C.S. Register of Officers starts the rank order listing of Warrant Officers.

#### copied from Register of Officers Revenue Cutter Service July 1, 1899 REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE 32 WARRANT OFFICERS (23)

#### (Under G.O. No. 35, August 2, 1898)

#### BOATSWAINS

| Number | Name                 | Present station                    | Date of<br>present as-<br>signment | Date of<br>birth | Date of ap-<br>pointment |
|--------|----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.     | Geo. R. D'Orange     | Receiving ship Colfax,Baltimore,Md | 2 Aug. 98                          | 10 Sept. 60      | a 2 Aug. 98              |
| 2.     | Chas. Sandison       | Str. Woodbury, Portland. Me        | do                                 | 20 Dec, 52       | a do                     |
| 3.     | Jas. M. Bragg        | Str. Winona, Mobile, Ala           | do                                 | 22 Mar, 49       | a do                     |
| 4.     | Carl Johnson         | Str. Grant, on Alaskan cruise      | do                                 | 24 Feb, 51       | a do                     |
| 5.     | Nels Johnson         | Str. Algonguin, Wilmington, NC (b) | 4 Oct, 98.                         | 2 June, 72       | a do                     |
| 6.     | Adolph Jansen        | Str. Dallas, New London, Conn      | 2 Aug, 98 .                        | 27 Apr. 70       | a do                     |
| 7.     | Chas. Emil Johnson   | Str. Rush, on Alaskan cruise       | do                                 | 1 Oct. 64        | a do                     |
| 8.     | Johns Swenson        | Str. Dexter, Newport, R.I          | do                                 | 2 May 62         | a do                     |
| 9.     | Chas. Ludgren        | Str. Fessenden, Detroit, Mich      | do                                 | 25 Mar.,71       | a do                     |
| 10.    | Peter W. Petersen    | Practice ship Chase, Baltimore, Md | do                                 | 4 Oct.,72        | a do                     |
| 11.    | Knudt Knudtsen       | Str. Corwin, on Alaskan cruise     | do                                 | 19 Dec.,67       | a do                     |
| 12.    | Thomas Winstrup      | Str. Perry, on Alaskan cruise      | do                                 | 23 Dec.,66       | a do                     |
| 13.    | Michael Thos. Mc -   | Str Manning, Boston, Mass          | do                                 | 12 May 59        | a do                     |
|        | Graw                 |                                    |                                    |                  |                          |
| 14.    | Jens Hansen          | Str Boutwell, Newbern, N.C         | 10 Sept.,98                        | 7 Nov.,68        | 10 Sept.,98              |
| 15.    | Jno. H. Kahnberg     | Special duty, Baltimore, Md        | 6 May 99                           | 10 May ,65       | 5 Nov., 98               |
| 16.    | Petrus A. Anderson . | Str. McLane, Key West, Fla         | 1 Dec., 98                         | 5 Apr., 70       | 1 Dec., 98               |
| 17.    | Nels C. Nelson       | Str Onandaga, Philadelphia, Pa     | 8 Jan., 99                         | 29 July, 66      | 8 Jan., 99               |
| 18.    | Llewellyn Evans      | Str. Morrill, Milwaukee, Wis       | 15 Feb., 99                        | 26 Mar., 68      | 15 Feb., 99              |
| 19.    | Wm. E. Davis         | Str. Hamilton, Savannah, Ga        | 4 Mar., 99                         | 1 Feb., 69       | 4 Mar., 99               |
| 20.    | John A. Burke        | Str. Gresham, New York             | 1 Apr., 99                         | 24 Mar., 59      | a 1 Apr., 99             |
| 21.    | John Connely         | Special duty. Baltimore, Md        | 28 June 99                         | 25 Oct., 53      | a 25 June 99             |
|        | I                    |                                    | I                                  |                  | I                        |

a Served previously in the rate of boatswain. **b** Temporarily at Baltimore, Md.

# WARRANT OFFICERS (23) ( Under G.O. No. 35, August 2, 1898 ) GUNNERS

| Number | Name                 | Present station                      | Date of<br>present as-<br>signment | Date of<br>birth | Date of ap-<br>pointment |
|--------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.     | William Boundy       | Str Bear, on Arctic cruise           | 2 Aug. 98                          | 12 Nov., 50      | a 2 Aug. 98              |
| 2.     | Sansom Sunstone      | Str Windom, Baltimore,Md             | do                                 | 10 Oct.,57       | a 2 Aug. 98              |
| 3.     | James Finn           | Str. Morrill, Milwaukee, Wis         | 31 Oct., 98                        | 16 Nov., 52      | a do                     |
| 4.     | Joseph N. Woolford . | Str McCulloch, on Alaskan cruise .   | 2 Aug. 98                          | 26 Jan., 71      | a do                     |
| 5.     | Bernard C. Anderson  | Str. Hamilton, Savannah, Ga          | do                                 | 16 Sept. 68      | a do                     |
| 6.     | William Innes        | Str. McLane, Key West, Fla           | do                                 | 4 Aug., 70       | a do                     |
| 7.     | Caius Christiansen   | Str. Corwin, on Alaskan cruise       | 1 Sept.,98                         | 3 Nov., 66       | 1 Sept., 98              |
| 8.     | Albert M. Totzke     | Receiving ship Colfax, Baltimore,Md  | 28 Sept.,98                        | 22 Apr., 68      | 28 Sept.,98              |
| 9.     | Geo. Lensenrink      | Str. Grant, on Alaskan cruise        | 8 Oct., 98                         | 17 Oct., 66      | 8 Oct., 98               |
| 10.    | Frank Emil Ostrom .  | Str. Rush, on Alaskan cruise         | 10 Oct., 98                        | 20 Sept,72       | 31 Oct., 98              |
| 11.    | William Kendrick     | Str Manning, Boston, Mass            | 1 Nov., 98                         | 20 Mar., 69      | 1 Nov., 98               |
| 12.    | Micharl McInary      | Str. Perry, on Alaskan cruise        | do                                 | 17 Oct., 61      | do                       |
| 13.    | August Anderson      | Str. Dallas, New London, Conn        | do                                 | 11 Oct., 51      | do                       |
| 14.    | Pear R. Bowman       | Str. Dexter, New Bedford, Mass       | 15 Nov., 98                        | 1 Apr., 72       | 15 Nov., 98              |
| 15.    | Hezikiah W. Willis . | Str Boutwell, Newbern, N.C           | 17 Nov., 98                        | 4 Apr., 62       | 17 Nov., 98              |
| 16.    | Chas. Parsons        | Str. Winona, Mobile, Ala             | 15 Dec., 98                        | 19 Dec., 62      | 15 Dec., 98              |
| 17.    | Chas. Knehling       | Str. Gresham, New York               | 1 Jan., 99                         | 14 May, 69       | 1 Jan., 99               |
| 18.    | Chas. Lincoln        | Str. Galveston, Galveston, Tex       | do                                 | 11 May, 69       | do                       |
| 19.    | Jno. Edwards         | Str. Algonguin, Wilmington, NC (b)   | do                                 | 27 May, 63       | do                       |
| 20.    | 0.C. Olsen           | Str Onandaga, Philadelphia, Pa. (b). | 12 Jan., 99                        | 26 Apr., 65      | 12 Jan., 99              |
| 21.    | Henry A Irvine       | Str. Fessenden, Detroit, Mich        | 1 Feb., 99                         | 18 Sept, 67      | 1 Feb., 99               |
| 22.    | Jas. Carlsen         | Practice ship Chase, Baltimore, Md   | 4 Feb., 99                         | 22 Sept, 72      | 4 Feb., 99               |
| 23.    | Gustav Jensen        | Str. Woodbury, Portland. Me          | 25 Feb., 99                        | 17 Sept, 75      | 25 Feb., 99              |
|        | I                    |                                      |                                    | I                |                          |

a Served previously in the rate of gunner.

b Temporarily at Baltimore, Md.

### copied from Register of Officers Revenue Cutter Service July 1, 1899

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### REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE

WARRANT OFFICERS (18)

#### (Under G.O. No. 35, August 2, 1898) CARPENTERS

#### CARPENTERS

| Number   | Name   | Present station   | Date of<br>present as-<br>signment | Date of<br>birth         | Date of ap-<br>pointment |  |  |
|----------|--|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| 1.<br>2. | Valentine W. Paul<br>Chris Christiansen                                      | Str. Winona, Mobile, Ala<br>Str. Dexter, New Bedford,Mass | 2 Aug. 98<br>do                    | 25 Nov.,38<br>14 July,54 | a 2 Aug. 98<br>a do      |  |  |
| 3.       | John A. Hahn   | Str.Windom, Baltimore,Md                                  | do                                 | 4 Jan.,53                | a do                     |  |  |
| 4.       | Christian Christian<br>sen   | Str Gresham, New York, N.Y                                | 31 Oct.,98                         | 20 Dec.,51               | a do<br>a do             |  |  |
| 5.       | Wm. L. Dixon   | Str. Morrill, Milwaukee, Wis                              | do                                 | 11 Oct.,44               | a do                     |  |  |
| 6.       | William H. Chadsey   | Str. Dallas, New London, Conn                             | 2 Aug, 98.                         | 16 Dec.,32               | a do                     |  |  |
| 7.       | Adolf Hartz  | Str. Fessenden, Detroit, Mich                             | do                                 | 18 Aug.,48               | a do                     |  |  |
| 8.       | Israel Elmgren   | Str Boutwell, Newbern, N.C.                               | do                                 | 12 Dec.,58               | a do                     |  |  |
| 9.       | J.M. Tavernd   | Str Bear, on Arctic cruise                                | do                                 | 7 Mar.,50                | a 2 Aug. 98              |  |  |
| 10.      | Nils C. Hildahl  | Str. McLane, Key West, Fla                                | do                                 | 5 Feb.,59                | a 2 Aug. 98              |  |  |
| 11.      | Ludwig H. Anderson   | Str. Perry, on Alaskan cruise                             | do                                 | 27 June,64               | a do                     |  |  |
| 12.      | Samual Hastings  | Str. Corwin, on Alaskan cruise                            | do                                 | 7 Jan.,65                | a do                     |  |  |
| 13.      | Svan Leonard Hal –   | Str Grant, on Alaskan cruise                              | 2 Aug, 98.                         | 13 Sept.54               | a do                     |  |  |
|          | berg   |   |                                    |                          |                          |  |  |
| 14.      | Chas. A Tillack  | Str Onandaga, Philadelphia, Pa                            | 11 Sept.,98                        | 3 Mar.,61                | 11 Sept.,98              |  |  |
| 15.      | Edward J. Jansen   | Receiving ship Colfax, Charleston,<br>S.C.                | 1 Oct, 98.                         | 15 Dec.,65               | 1 Oct, 98                |  |  |
| 16.      | Paul Paulsen   | Practice ship Chase, Baltimore, Md                        | do                                 | 24 Sept,66               | do                       |  |  |
| 17.      | Francis J. Balme   | Str Manning, Boston, Mass                                 | 4 Dec., 98                         | 29 Mar.,71               | 4 Dec., 98               |  |  |
| 18.      |  | Str. Hamilton, Savannah, Ga                               |                                    |                          |                          |  |  |
|          | a Served previously in the rate of carpenter b Temporarily at Baltimore, Md. |   |                                    |                          |                          |  |  |

#### WARRANT OFFICERS (6) (Under G.O. No. 35, August 2, 1898) CHIEF OILERS

| Number | Name               | Present station                    | Date of<br>present as-<br>signment | Date of<br>birth | Date of ap-<br>pointment |
|--------|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.     | Hans Jacob Olsen   | Str.Windom, Baltimore,Md           | 2 Aug. 98                          | 24 July,54       | 2 Aug. 98                |
| 2.     | Wm. Lenz           | Str Gresham, New York, N.Y         | 1 Nov., 98                         | 22 Nov.,69       | 1 Nov., 98               |
| 3.     | Wm. A. Wright      | Str Manning, Boston, Mass          | do                                 | 25 Mar., 78      | do                       |
| 4.     | B.M. Jarvis        | Str Bear, on Arctic cruise         | 1 Feb., 99                         | 14 Nov.,73       | 1 Feb., 99               |
| 5.     | Henry Deaver Hill  | Str Onandaga, Philadelphia, Pa (a) | 22 Mar, 99                         | 10 Nov.,69       | 22 Mar, 99               |
| 6.     | Charles M. Dearick | Str. Algonguin, Wilmington,NC (a)  | 1 June, 99                         | 5 May, 61        | 1 June, 99               |

a Temporarily at Baltimore, Md.

### WEDNESDAY, April 18. 1906. REVENUE-CUTTER SERVICE. STATEMENT OF CAPT. WORTH G. ROSS, CHIEF OF DIVISION OF REVENUE-CUTTER SERVICE, ACCOMPANIED BY LIEUT. J. E. REINBURG.

**The CHAIRMAN.** Are the estimates which have been submitted to Congress for this Service for the coming fiscal year made up by you?

Captain Ross. Yes, sir.

**The CHAIRMAN.** What is the basis upon which you make your estimates? How do you arrive at the amount necessary for the coming fiscal year?

**Captain Ross.** We usually arrive at our estimates by the expenses of the preceding years; by working them up from what it has taken to run the Service, particularly the last year.

**The CHAIRMAN.** In the discharge of your duty as chief of division, are you in touch with the expenditures, so as to know whether or not all the expenditures that have been made in the previous year under the appropriations are necessary?

**Captain Ross.** Yes, sir; I am in touch with all the expenditures of the previous year.

**The CHAIRMAN.** Are you personally in touch with the expenditures, so that you can form a judgment as to whether they are any greater than they ought to be?

**Captain Ross.** Yes. sir; I want to make this statement, however: I have been in this position for a year only. I assumed the duties of chief of division on April 1,1905, so that I can not say I am positively in touch with the expenses previous to that time further than the records of the office show.

**The CHAIRMAN.** In making up these estimates for the coming fiscal year, you were guided almost entirely by the expenditures of the previous year?

**Captain Ross.** I was guided largely by the expenditures of previous years, and also by my knowledge of the service and the situation in which I found it to be when I took charge.

The CHAIRMAN. How long have you been in the Service?

**Captain Ross.** This is my thirtieth year. When this calendar year is over I shall have been in the service just thirty years.

..... Later in testimony .....

### WARRANT AND PETTY OFFICERS.

**Mr. SMITH.** The language used to read " For pay of petty officers." It now reads " For pay of warrant and petty officers.

**Captain Ross.** Yes, sir; that means nothing at all, excepting in this respect: We have chief petty officers to whom we give what we call warrants. For instance, the boatswain, the gunner, the carpenter, and the chief oiler, when they have served the probationary term, are given appointments or warrants by the Secretary of the Treasury, they are practically chief petty officers, but we would like to call them warrant officers. They prefer to have that title, also. **Mr. SMITH.** This means no increase in the personnel whatever? **Captain Ross.** None whatever.

### Statutes at Large of the United States From 1902 to 1903 Public Laws 57<sup>th</sup> Congress

#### **REVENUE-CUTTER SERVICE.**

For expenses of the Revenue-Cutter Service: For pay and allowances of captains, lieutenants, captain of engineers, chief engineers, assistant engineers, and a constructor, Revenue-Cutter Service; pay of cadets, and surgeons and pilots employed, and for rations for the same; **pay of petty officers, buglers, seamen, oilers, firemen, coal heavers, stewards, cooks, and boys,** and for rations for the same; for fuel for vessels, and repairs and outfits for the same; ship chandlery and engineers' stores for the same; .....

### Statutes at Large of the United States From December 1905 to March 1907 Public Laws 59<sup>th</sup> Congress

### **REVENUE-CUTTER SERVICE.**

For expenses of the Revenue-Cutter Service: For pay and allowances of captains, lieutenants, engineer in chief, chief engineers, assistant engineers, and constructor, Revenue-Cutter Service, cadets, commissioned surgeon; two contract surgeons, two civilian instructors, and pilots employed, and rations for the same; **for pay of warrant and petty officers**, **ships' writers, buglers, seamen, oilers, firemen, coal heavers, water tenders, stewards, cooks, and boys,** and for rations for the same; for fuel for vessels, and repairs and outfits for the same: ship chandlery and engineers' stores for the same; ......

The Revenue Cutter Service Register of Officers for 1 July 1899, list, by specialty and seniority the first appointed (Warranted) Chief Petty Officers of the Revenue Cutter Service.

| BOATSWAIN   | George R. D'Orange | Receiving ship COLFAX at Baltimore |
|-------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| GUNNER      | William Boundy     | Steamer BEAR on Alaska Patrol      |
| CARPENTER   | Valentine W. Paul  | Steamer WINONA at Mobile, Al.      |
| CHIEF OILER | Hans Jacob Olsen   | Steamer WINDOM at Baltimore        |

# Warrant Officer Specialty Marks & Uniforms 1900



## Warrant Officer Specialty Marks 1908



# 1915 ~ 2016

# 1915 ~ 1920 COLLAR DEVICES





Cap Device of either embroidered bullion or gilders metal. A 1/4" gold chin strap was worn. Sleeve stripe consisted of a 1 inch black mohair braid or white linen braid, placed 2 1/2" above the cuff.

# Warrant Officer Specialty Marks 1920 ~ 1940

On 18 May, 1920 CGHQ General Order 42 directed the Coast Guard to adopt the U.S. Navy system of ratings and specialties. The Warrant Officers of the C.G. were now in the grade warrant officer. On 18 May 1920, the grade of Chief Petty Officer was adopted by the Coast Guard.

My personal estimation of WHO was the first Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer is based on longitude and the positions of Cutters that may have had a crewmember advanced. The records of the 1920 International Ice Patrol place the SENECA as the cutter furthest to the East. The National Archived hold no records for Seneca for May 1920. Records for Cutter OSSIPEE place her SW of Sable Island, Nova Scotia, enroute to relieve SENECA. Crew MUSTER LISTS for OSSIPEE indicate that an Acting Warrant Machinist, William W. DeWever, reported aboard May 5<sup>th</sup> and sailed on the mid month patrol. The Muster Roll notes he was advanced to Chief Machinists Mate, in accordance with the General Order 43. William DeWever retired from the Coast Guard in October 1946 as a LCDR. He crossed the Bar in 1950s and is buried at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetary in San Diego.

## **COAST GUARD CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER**

The first Chief Warrant Officers are listed in the 1925 Register of Coast Guard Officers.

1. The act of Congress approved May 18, 1920, provides "the grades and ratings of <u>warrant officers</u>, chief petty officers, petty officers, and other enlisted persons in the Coast Guard shall be the same as in the Navy, in so far as the duties of the Coast Guard may require, with the continuance of the grade of surfman."

Section 5 of the act of April 21, 1924, 43 Stat.106, authorizing the temporary appointment of chief warrant officers in the Coast Guard, provided:

Sec. 5. (a) Under such regulations as he may prescribe, the President is authorized to appoint, by and with the consent of the Senate, twenty-five temporary chief warrant officers of the Coast Guard from the permanent list of warrant officers of the Coast Guard.

(b) Such chief warrant officers shall receive the same pay, allowances, and benefits as commissioned warrant officers of the Navy, except that any such officer shall continue to hold his permanent grade, and shall be retired in the same manner as though this Act had not become law. The temporary chief warrant officers authorized by section 5 of the act of April 21, 1924, who were in the Coast Guard on July 1, 1926, were transferred to the regular Coast Guard and the permanent appointment of such officers was authorized by section 10 of the act of July 3, 1926, 44 Stat. 817, which provides:

Sec. 10. That all temporary chief warrant officers who are in the Coast Guard on July 1, 1926, shall be transferred to the regular Coast Guard as chief warrant officers as of that date and shall be commissioned accordingly. Under such regulations as he may prescribe the President is authorized to appoint, by and with the consent of the Senate, chief warrant officers of the Coast Guard <u>as the needs of the service may require</u>, and such chief warrant officers shall receive the same pay, allowances, and benefits as commissioned warrant officer shall suffer a reduction in pay or allowances on account of his appointment as a chief warrant officer under the provisions of this section.

In the fall of 1939, the final merging of the Lifesaving Branch, Cutter Branch, and the newly integrated Lighthouse Service was instituted by Admiral Waesche. This eliminated the Lifesaving Branch and the grade of Boatswain (L). Coast Guard HQ made all Coast Guardsmen available for assignment in any part of the service.

According to the 1930 Coast Guard uniform regulations, the following warrant specialties were in service. The Warrant Pharmacist was added in 1934. World War Two established the Ships Clerk and the Photographer. The Bandmaster is listed in the register of officers in 1961. The later 1960s saw a renaming of the Coast Guard Warrant Officer specialties. Only the Boatswain retained its original RCS designation.



**SLEEVE & SHOULDER MARK GRADE DEVICES** 

The service dress uniform style changed from the 'choker tunic' style to the double breasted 'reefer' style by 1923. Sleeve striping was adopted for the grade of Warrant Officer and a few years later, Chief Warrant Officer.

There is photographic evidence and the 1923 C.G. Officer Uniform Regulations note that in the period from 1920 to 1930 that the Warrant Officer was designated by a 1/4" wide gold stripe with the shield and specialty mark above the stripe. This was the USN 1919 to 1922 style. The Chief Warrant Officer was designated by a 1/2" gold stripe with the  $\frac{1}{2}$ ' blue breaks. In the 1930 Uniform Regulations, the Warrant Officer  $\frac{1}{4}$ " gold stripe was broken by a 1/2" blue break at 2" intervals, the Chief warrant officer was designated by a 1/2" wide gold stripe, broken by a 1/2" blue break at 2" intervals. Stripes were worn 2" above the cuff.

Shoulder marks were 2 1/4" wide by 5 1/2" long, worn on service white and overcoats. The stripe was 1/2" from the edge of the mark.

Sailmaker Mate probably disestablished by 1934. The only Sailmaker, Henry L. Tall, retired in August 1921.



As per the 1923 C.G. Officers Uniform Regulations

# Warrant Officer & Chief Warrant Officer

sleeve striping & shoulder marks



# Warrant Officer & Chief Warrant Officer

cap devices



1930 specified bullion embroidered and in 1940 the metal insignia was authorized.

An amendment (#7) to the USCG Uniform Regs, dated June, 18, 1941 concerning working khaki for officers and chiefs, authorizes:

<u>Warrant officers</u> to wear gold metal collar devices , 5/8 size of the corps device used on the sleeve.

<u>Chief Warrant officers</u> to wear silver metal collar devices 5/8 size of the corps device used on the sleeve.

During and after World War 2, additional specialties were added. In 1948 the career compensation act re-organized the military pay grade structure and created the pay grades used at present.

In the summer of 1941 the Coast Guard adopted the USN Uniform Regs and issued addendums specific to the Coast Guard.



The warrant insignia W ~ 1 thru W ~ 4 were created by the Warrant Officer Act of 1954 and the standardized rank insignia introduced in Nov 1954. W-1 ~ W-4 became ranks.

W ~ 1, Warrant Officer

 $W \sim 2$  thru  $W \sim 4$ , Chief Warrant Officer (commissioned)







#### U. s. C. G. alabada ta deteste WAAA 000000 W Α R R GUNNER 1920 MACHINIST CARPENTER BOATSWAIN Α 1920 1920 1920 N Т Ο F F Ι С Е R ELECTRICIAN 1925 PAY CLERK RADIO ELEC. S SAILMAKER 1920 - 1930 1925 1920 1 9 1 5 ~ ----1 9 7 6 SHIPS CLERK PHOTOGRAPHER BANDMASTER 1942 1942 1942 PHARMACIST 1934

# Warrant Officer Specialty Marks



### **REFERENCES AND SOURCES**

- 1. U.S. REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE UNIFORM REGS 1900, 1908
- 2. U.S. COAST GUARD UNIFORM REGULATIONS 1916
- 3. U.S. COAST GUARD UNIFORM REGULATIONS, 1922, 1923, 1930
- 4. U.S. COAST GUARD UNIFORMS & INSIGNIA 1918 COL. DION WILLIAMS, USMC
- 5. USN RATING BADGES & DISTINGUISHING MARKS JOHN A. STACEY
- 6. COAST GUARD MUSEUM N.W. SEATTLE, OLD PHOTOS
- 7. ARTICLE FOR CPO ACADEMY BY GMCM BILL WELLS BELOW PAGES CAN BE PRINTED OUT FOR COLOR INSERTS AS WANTED

















#### ENLISTED RATINGS 1915-1920 1920 - 1930 1930-1940 1940 - 1950 Master at Arms Boatswains Mate Boatswains Mate / Boatswain's Mate Number 1 Surfman Gunners Mate Coxswain Gunners Mate Signal Quartermaster Ouartermaster Ouartermaster **Torpedomans Mate** Wheelman Quartermaster Signalman Gunners Mate Ouartermaster Coxswain Radioman Radioman Signalman Electrician Yeoman Carpenters Mate Fire Controlman Electrician 1st, 2nd, 3rd Class Fire Controlman (Repair) Machinists Mate Storekeeper Commissary Steward Watertender Electricians Mate Sailmaker Ships Cook Boilermakers Blacksmith Radioman Yeoman, Ships Writer Steward Engineman Carpenters Mate Machinists, Oilers Bandmaster/Musician Electricians Mate **Electricians Mate** Watertenders Pharmacists Mate Blacksmith/Shipfitter (Telephone) Carpenters, Painters, Sailmakers Mate Yeoman Radio Technician Plumbers Shipfitter Storekeeper Radarman Baymen Coppersmith Pharmacists Mate Sonarman Blacksmith Commissary Steward Printer Boilermaker Ships Cook Machinists Mate Molder Steward Motor Machinists Mate Patternmaker Sailmakers Mate Watertender Bandmaster/Musician Yeoman Painter Carpenters Mate Aviation Carpenter Mate Storekeeper Electricians Mate Aviation Machinist Mate Commissary Steward Machinists Mate Aviation Metalsmith Ships Cook Motor Machinists Mate Aviation Pilot Steward Watertender Ships Serviceman Aviation Rigger (Pilot) Pharmacists Mate Aviation Machinist Bandmaster/Musician Mate Aviation Pilot Aviation Carpenter Aviation Machinist Mate Mate Aviation Radioman Aviation Metalsmith Aviation Ordnanceman

#### WARRANT OFFICER SPECIALTY MARKS 1920~2011

Parachute Rigger Aerographer's Mate Photographer's Mate





#### 1940 - 1950

Specialists ( RESERVE only) Classification ( C ) Chem. Warfare (CW) Dog – Horse Handler (D) IBM Operator (I) Mail (M) Public Relations (PR) Port Security (PS) Recruiting ( R ) Teacher (T) Transportation (TR) Welfare (W) Specialist (X)

1952

Boatswain's Mate Ouartermaster Sonarman Radarman Gunner's Mate Fire Controlman (FC) **Electronics Technician** Radioman Yeoman Storekeeper Commissaryman Steward Printer Journalist Photographer's Mate Musician Hospital Corpsman Machinist's Mate Engineman Boilerman Electrician's Mate Damage Controlman Aviation Machinist's Mate Aviation Structural Mechanic Aviation Ordnanceman Aviation Electronicsman Aviation Electronics Tech. Parachute Rigger

#### 1980 - 1990

Boatswain's Mate Ouartermaster Sonar Technician Radarman Gunner's Mate Fire Control Technician Electronics Technician Radioman Marine Science Technician Yeoman Storekeeper Subsistence Specialist Public Affairs Specialist Musician Health Services Technician Machinery Technician Electricians Mate Telephone Technician Damage Controlman Aviation Machinist Mate Aviation Structural Mechanic Aviation Survivalman Aviation Electronics Tech. Aviation Electricians Mate

#### 1990 - 2000

Boatswain's Mate Ouartermaster **Operations Specialist** Gunner's Mate Fire Control Technician **Electronics Technician** Telecommunication Specialist Marine Science Technician Yeoman Storekeeper Food Service Specialist Public Affairs Specialist Musician Health Services Technician Machinery Technician **Electricians Mate** Telephone Technician Damage Controlman Aviation Maintenance Tech. Aviation Survival Tech. Aviation Electronics Tech. Aviation Electricians Mate

2000 ~ Present Boatswain's Mate Gunner's Mate **Operations Specialist** Electronics Technician Information System Tech. Marine Science Technician Yeoman Storekeeper Food Service Specialist Public Affairs Specialist Musician Health Services Technician Machinery Technician Electricians Mate Damage Controlman Aviation Maintenance Tech. Avionic Electrical Tech. Aviation Survival Tech.

Jan 2008 Intelligence Specialist

Jan 2010 Maritime Enforcement Spec.

April 2015

Diver



