CEO Corner // Message from RADM Cari Thomas

Hope your Memorial Day was safe and gratitude-filled. Summer is almost here and PCS Transfer season is just arriving. That, of course, means CGMA is prepping to provide assistance to Coast Guard members and their families in the weeks ahead.

With the summer months come both PCS Transfer and Hurricane Season and with them the expected and unexpected circumstances that accompany them both. Last year we tripled our PCS support and are equally prepared to be as responsive this summer. The PCS transfer season along with another above-average active Hurricane season anticipated will keep Mutual Assistance very busy as we support clients with these career transitions as well as disaster recovery should storm(s) make landfall.

I am excited for you to read more about the wonderful awardees that we honored at our recent Mutual Assistance Annual Meeting in this quarter’s newsletter. I am grateful to those who have stood in solidarity with us as we served the Coast Guard community during the last year.

Have a wonderful summer! Enjoy grilling out and the chance to enjoy the surf and sunshine wherever you find yourself vacationing, moving, or retiring.

Cari B. Thomas
Cari Batson Thomas, CAE
Rear Admiral (Ret), USCG
Chief Executive Officer
efforts of various CG-focused charities to foster collaboration and complement each other efforts all the while striving to meet the needs of the Coast Guard community through their varied missions and initiatives.

"And I'd be remiss if I didn't thank both Coast Guard Mutual Assistance and the Coast Guard Foundation for their critical support of “Team Coast Guard!” Most impressively, these organizations continue to find new ways to best support our personnel and the broader Coast Guard family, which in turn, enables our workforce to deliver mission excellence anytime, anywhere!

Admiral Karl L. Schultz, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard

Photos: Admiral Schultz during the 2022 State of the Coast Guard address.
publicly celebrate the unique efforts of the last year and the wonderful people that contributed to the success of our mission-driven work.

At the 2022 Annual Meeting, CGMA honored several outstanding individuals and organizations that made significant contributions to the mission effectiveness and reach for Mutual Assistance.

[Watch our Year in Review video](#). There are so many great highlights and milestones that we want to celebrate with you!

We are making great strides for our strategic initiative to make CGMA #evenbetter through the amazing support and valuable investment of time and resources by our amazing partners like you!

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**Meet our 2022 Award Recipients**
For the last two years Chief Jennifer Thompson spearheaded the fundraising and outreach efforts at USCG Base Portsmouth. Mid-pandemic, she initiated a large-scale color run with hundreds of participants.

The effort involved coordination with the fourteen tenant commands, safety personnel, and over 50 volunteers. Chief Thompson was an active voice advocating awareness to both CGMA eligible personnel and Coast Guard commands throughout the year. Her enthusiastic activism on behalf of CGMA ensured that more Coast Guard personnel and their families would receive the benefits of assistance from CGMA.

"I don't really look at it as I won this award – Base Portsmouth won this award. I am incredibly blessed to have an amazing command and team at Base Portsmouth that recognizes the importance of CGMA and getting our junior members and their families familiar with it early so that it’s a safe, easy ask if they ever need it. My goal has always been to help people, and CGMA is an outlet that lets me do that in the most incredible ways."

ITC Jennifer Thompson
CGMA Representative
2022 CGMA Ambassador of the Year
This year's Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Values Pennant was presented to Community Services Command. This award recognizes the effort of an organization that significantly promotes CGMA's mission or engages with CGMA in an activity that reflects the highest values of Helping Our Own.

Over the years they have raised over $187,000 dollars to support our mission. Their support continues to enhance our outreach to the Coast Guard community.

As a supporting organization, Community Services Command provided significant financial proceeds and visibility due to the CG Exchange spring promotion and donation campaign. Community Services enhanced CGMA's ability to communicate with the CG community that help is available and the means to do so is through helping our own.

Members of the North Key Largo Boating Safety Foundation were presented the "So Others May Live" Award at their Flotilla meeting last November in gratitude for their outstanding work in raising the CGMA flag high, and their gift of more than $110,000. Our thanks to them for their generous support and for their ongoing efforts to raise awareness of our mission within the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

CGMA PCS support is expected to break records again this year as families combat supply chain delays and housing shortages. We will have a special edition of our newsletter just to share how we are planning to help—stay tuned!

Your donation will accelerate this response for this and other disaster emergencies. With the help of incredible donors like you, Erica, CGMA is ready to serve the Coast Guard community every day.
You can make sure CGMA is Semper Paratus for the task at hand!

**Give Help.** *This good work is made possible by generous donors like you!*

*Need assistance? Talk to your local CGMA Representative.*

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