



MILITARY
SEALIFT
COMMAND

Seafarer's

ADVISOR

ISSUE 1 2008

Letter from the Director

Dear Partners,

As you may know, the maritime industry continues to look for skilled and well trained mariners to fill vacancies. All organizations are feeling the pinch when it comes to finding qualified mariners. There has been an increase in candidates obtaining their MMDs, but there is also a steadily aging workforce that will soon to begin to think about retiring from their sea-going positions. These facts reinforce why it is so important for Military Sealift Command to continue to work and develop new initiatives with programs like yours. You are helping us develop the new generation of U.S. mariners. So, thank you for your continued support.

We have a strong desire to speak with experienced mariners. However, if you have not sailed before, we do have a few entry level positions available. Some of the skill sets we are always trying to develop are engineering related – those with welding, machining and HVAC experience in particular. We also have a need for those interested in culinary opportunities. If you are offering any courses or regularly meet with individuals who have these skill sets, please ask them to consider employment with Military Sealift Command.

The Transportation Security Administration has added an additional requirement on individuals working in and with the maritime industry. Be sure to check out

Job Fair Schedule

4/8/2008	14th Annual Governor's Job Fair	Biloxi, MS
4/10/2008	MSC Mini Job Fair	Hampton, VA
4/10/2008	MSC Mini Job Fair	Seattle, WA
4/10/2008	MSC Mini Job Fair	Gulfport, MS
4/15/2008	MSC Mini Job Fair	Milwaukee, WI
4/16/2008	MSC Mini Job Fair	New Orleans, LA
4/15/2008	MSC SeaFarer Day - Charleston	North Charleston, SC
4/16/2008	FFSC TAMP/VA Job Fair	Great Lakes, IL
4/17/2008	Joint Navy and Air Force Job Fair	Charleston, SC
4/17/2008	Recruit Military	San Diego, CA
4/23/2008	MSC Mini Job Fair	St. Marys, GA
4/23/2008	Recruit Military	Tampa, FL
4/23/2008	MSC Mini Job Fair	New York, NY
4/28/2008	MSC Mini Job Fair	Cincinnati, OH
4/30/2008	MSC SeaFarer Day Ft. Lauderdale	Dania Beach, FL

See www.sealiftcommand.com for more information on upcoming events.

our article about TWIC in this issue to see how this will impact applying for a position with MSC. Also, we continue to be proud of our civilian mariners who apply themselves and advance in our organization. Ms. Rachel "Lillie" Humphrey has really commanded her own career.

Here is to a great 2008,

Phyllis B. Spano
Director, Human Resources and
Manpower
MSFSC

MSC Positions

MSC is currently or will soon be hiring for the following positions:

- 2nd Officer
- Able Seaman
- Deck Engineer Machinist
- Unlicensed Junior Engineer
- Pumpman
- Chief Cook
- Assistant Cook
- Cook Baker
- Yeoman Storekeeper
- Assistant Yeoman Storekeeper

Success Story: Rachel "Lillie" Humphrey, Supply Officer

Lillie Humphrey had never been on a ship when she started working for Military Sealift Command (MSC) in March 1981. Her previous work history included working in a hospital preparing and delivering food, a retail sales position, and she worked for a dry cleaner. While many might think this experience wouldn't qualify her for a sea-going position, she was able to translate her skills in sales, food handling and preparation, and customer service into a position with MSC as a steward mess person. That was twenty-seven years ago and Humphrey is still with MSC, having worked her way through the supply department to become a Supply Officer. She is currently sailing on USNS John Lenthall.

Humphrey considered a job with MSC because she had a friend who was a civilian mariner. Her friend spoke about the opportunities to travel and see other parts of the world. So Humphrey took the plunge! During her career with MSC, she has been all over the world...her favorite ports of call have been in Spain, Israel, Greece and Bahrain. In Spain, the food, shopping and clubs top her list of must do activities. Humphrey found the beauty of Israel's religious culture memorable and the shopping in Greece and Bahrain was outstanding. What she found, aside from the travel aspect, is despite where you go it is the crew you work with, day-in and day-out, which makes each deployment truly memorable.

The most challenging position Humphrey held was her first job as an officer. She was promoted to Junior Supply Officer on USNS Concord. As the only female officer onboard, she was at first a bit overwhelmed and felt like she was under the microscope. She quickly realized she was the right person for the job and she proved it to her colleagues. Humphrey's secret to success was simple, "In any position you fill, you have to give your all and work until the job is not only done, but done right. So that is what I did. I put in the time and effort to not only get the job done, but support the people who worked for me and it all came together." Humphrey's determination did not stop there. When she realized how well she could do this job, she set her sights still higher. In April 2002, Humphrey was permanently promoted to the Supply Officer position.

In order to reach her career goals, Humphrey relied heavily on the support of her family. She was able to manage her efforts by knowing that those she loved were waiting for her to return. After more than thirty deployments with MSC, Humphrey now is able to take 3-4 weeks vacation after each deployment. In addition, when the ship is in the shipyard or preparing for the next tour, she is able to do her work and then go home to her family (because she lives in Norfolk). The hardest challenge Humphrey has faced with MSC was not the job but the loss of loved ones

while underway. Not being able to be home in time has made coping with her losses very difficult.

In her twenty-seven year MSC career, Humphrey feels as if she has grown up on the water. But the ship is not her home and she works hard to make sure it stays that way. Her home is where her family is. "Each time you leave home is a challenge, so it is important to bring a little bit of home with you," says Humphrey. She works to help new CIVMARs find ways to do this. "The advice I give those people interested in employment or who have recently joined MSC is to set your goals and take advantage of all the training opportunities offered, keep regular doctor visits and always put your family first."

Humphrey has thoroughly enjoyed her time with MSC and plans to stay with MSC until she retires. "MSC has afforded me the opportunity to see the most beautiful parts of the world that I shall ever see, meet some of the most wonderful people that I will ever know and make some of my best dreams come true."

**See other MSC
Success Stories at
www.sealiftcommand.com**

Have You Heard About TWIC Yet?

This isn't the maritime industry of old. The times are changing, and because of that so are MSC's employment requirements. Beginning 1 May 2008, Military Sealift Command will require all future employees to carry a Transportation Workers Identification Credential (TWIC) card when applying. The TWIC card is an effort to boost port security and will be a new and permanent fixture in the US transportation world by next fall.

So what does this mean to you? It means that before you apply with MSC, you must first obtain a TWIC card. The cost of the card is \$132.50 and will be good five years. However if you already have

an MMD, the cost is \$105.25. TWIC enrollment centers are setting up across the country to assist workers in obtaining this new security clearance.

Why do we have TWIC? In 2002, Congress passed the Maritime Transportation Security Act. The TWIC card was a big part of that legislation. This act requires certain transportation workers to complete an additional security threat assessment so they are able to have unescorted access to secured areas of port facilities and vessels. Congress determined this as a necessary additional security measure of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) efforts to

enhance port security. It has been estimated that more than 750,000 current workers in the transportation industry will obtain TWIC cards by the national compliance date of 25 September 2008.

As MSC complies with this new DHS regulation, our recruiters, CIVMAR Support Center, and Marine Employment Division staff are committed to help all prospects move forward in the application process. If you have any questions about MSC's new requirement, please contact us at 1-877-562-7672. To find the TWIC center nearest you or learn more about this process, visit www.tsa.gov/twic.