

Greetings, I hope this update finds you well!!

Coast Guard Chapter Newsletter

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Important Deadlines

July 29: Delegate names due to RXI

Member Spotlight

Mrs. Kristina Price is a gem among gems and one of the behind the scenes master minds for keeping our productive. Besides being a wealth of knowledge, she is a source of creativity and insight that allows us to respond quickly and miraculously to short deadlines with the appearance of ease.



Kristina serves as the chapter's Public Relations Chair, Awards Chair, and Regional Representative. She frequently leads the chapter's election processes with her innovative ways to ensure every member has the opportunity to vote from anywhere and has served on and/or supported practically every chapter committee in some

Specifically, as the Awards Chair, Kristina does most of the heavy lifting in ensuring our chapter and its members get recognized for the committed service we provide. Kristina is the most valuable player when it comes to awards. Her efforts led to the nominations of William Speight and Gail Jackson receiving nominations for the Distinguished Service Hall of Fame Award at the Regional and National level and for the Coast Guard Chapter winning the Region XI Chapter of the Year award in 2021.

For our commemoration event, Kristina designed T-shirts for us in lieu of the ones that she ordered that wouldn't be delivered in time for the event and provided some of the most beautiful hand fans you've ever seen for the heat we endured that day.

Did You Know?

In November 2021, **CAPT Marcus Canady**, currently CG-8 Executive Assistant, was awarded the Blacks In Government Meritorious Service Award. CAPT Canady was honored for his contributions towards recruiting, mentoring, and advancing the Coast Guard's diversity and inclusion (D&I) efforts. CAPT Canady recently worked with a team of senior officers to develop the Coast Guard's National Naval Officers Association's (NNOA) list of strategic priorities for D&I. His actions have significantly increased the opportunity for participation of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) in federal programs. He played a major role in the drafting and approval of organizational memorandums of understanding with Texas Southern University and the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals with prospective student and officer candidates. He is an active mentor and member of mentoring networks to include the Academy Minority Outreach Team and the Coast Guard Mentoring Program. The sum of his contributions have increased Coast Guard's presence in the civilian community and drastically improved recruiting efforts in diverse communities.

The genuine heart and sincerity behind CAPT Canady's contributions are not only evident in the work he does for the Coast Guard, but also in his willingness to impart wisdom in conversation as well as in publications he's been featured in, such as in one article he wrote, **Racial Tension in America Requires Intrusive Military Leadership**: MILITARY LEADERS CAN INVITE THE UNCOMFORTABLE BUT NECESSARY CONVERSATION JUST BY ASKING, 'ARE YOU OKAY?'. You can find the article at <https://www.usni.org/magazines>. It's the June 2020 edition, Volume 146/6/1,408. He is humble, generous with his time, and passionate about D&I.

The Coast Guard Chapter of Blacks In Government celebrated 20 years of dedicated service recently. The chapter was founded and incorporated by Ms. Laverna Johnson and 9 other members in October 2001. Ms. Johnson established the Coast Guard chapter after a failed attempt to start at chapter at her previous place of employment in the Navy. We are ever grateful for Laverna's tenacity and unwillingness to let a no be her final answer. Laverna was in attendance at our commemoration program held at Joint Base Andrews on July 23rd. We also had the pleasure of hosting the National President of Blacks in Government, Shirley Jones; the President of Region XI, Stephan Matthews; and one of our Region XI Board of Directors and most recent past National President, Marion Allen.

In the Coast Guard Chapter of Blacks In Government, we honor service. Our commemoration program included a small awards ceremony. The following awards were presented: Community Service Award—Penny Collins; Leadership Award--Dewayne Corbett; Presidential Award--LaShanda Jones; Legend Award--Gail Jackson. An additional surprise award was presented to Larry Houston for his work behind the outstanding commemoration program and unending overall support to Coast Guard Chapter initiatives.

You Might Have Missed . . .

- ✚ Coast Guard Back Pack Drive is underway presently through 12 Aug: Let's donate 5 backpacks (with supplies) in the name of the Coast Guard Chapter
- ✚ Future Leaders of American Government (FLAG) Student Volunteer Program: Region XI is looking for volunteers. I'll share what I have in the next newsletter.

✚ **Forthcoming Details** regarding an opportunity to engage with **Rear Admiral Michael Johnston** at the NTI. Find Admiral Johnston's bio here: [Rear Admiral Michael J. Johnston > United States Coast Guard > Display \(uscg.mil\)](#)

President's Intro

Greetings, CGC BIG Family and Friends!

Last week, I opened with some notes about networking and sponsorship and since I've have received so many affirmations, reminders, and resources to echo just how important these two concepts are. This week, I have spoken to several senior leaders and some other very influential people in the Coast Guard community and I can't tell you how encouraged I feel about my own potential. I also feel highly inspired to help pave the way for new networking opportunities for others. Did I not suggest that I have some ideas for initiatives I see myself as the champion for (with the right sponsorship, of course)? ☺ That omission was intentional, but stay tuned . . .

LaShanda

Upcoming Events

43rd Annual National Training Institute

Date(s): August 15th - 18th, 2022

Location: Cleveland, OH

Registration/Questions:

<https://bignet.org/regional/2022NTI>

Next BIG Friday

Date: August 26th, 2022

Time: 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Location: Top Golf - Oxon Hill (Tentative)

RSVP: <http://evite.me/H58AjqNt5n>

CGC BIG Friday Monthly Meeting

Date: September 20th, 2022

Location: CG Teams Or call in (audio only)

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