

The Chief's Fouled Anchor

World War II

World Trade Cent
New York, NY
September, 2001

on
VA
2001

The **Fouled Anchor** is the emblem of the Rate of Chief Petty Officer of the United States Navy. Attached to the Anchor is a length of chain and the letters U.S.N. To the novice, the anchor, chain and letters only identify a Chief Petty Officer of the United States Navy, but, to a Chief, these have a more noble and glorious meaning.

The "U" stands for **Unity**, which reminds us of cooperation, maintaining harmony and continuity of purpose and action.

The "S" stands for **Service**, which reminds us of service to our God, our fellow man and our Navy.

The "N" stands for **Navigation**, which reminds us to keep ourselves on a true course so that we may walk upright before God and man in our transactions with all mankind, but especially with our fellow Chiefs. The Chain is symbolic of flexibility and reminds us of the chain of life that we forge day by day, link by link and may it be forged with Honor, Morality and Virtue.

The Anchor is emblematic of the hope and glory of the fulfillment of all God's promises to our souls. The golden or precious Anchor by which we must be kept steadfast in faith and encouraged to abide in our proper station amidst the storm of temptation, affliction and persecution



Juan F Bravo, Jr

CSC (SCW)

Culinary Specialist Chief Petty Officer

Seabee Combat Warfare

Retirement Ceremony



Saturday 20 November 2010

Navy Operational Support Center

Ellington Air Field

Houston, Texas

No enemy can crush the American Spirit...

They only strengthen our resolve to crush our enemies!



"It was our intent to impress upon you that challenge is good; a great and necessary reality which cannot mar you--which, in fact, strengthens you. In your future as a Chief Petty Officer, you will be forced to endure adversity far beyond that imposed upon you today. You must face each challenge and adversity with the same dignity and good grace you demonstrated today."

--from the Chief Petty Officer Creed

Piping Ashore

History and Tradition

"Piping Ashore" is a historical and traditional Naval Ceremony that began in the 1700's. With the ships Bos'n Mate manning the Bos'n pipe, to control the actions of the sailors hosting manning the lines, visiting officers were brought aboard in a basket from a small boat...

"Sideboys" were assigned to assist in the hoisting and to swing the basket aboard. The more senior officers were generally stouter and normally required more "Sideboys."

These days the "Piping Ashore" is reserved for both officers and enlisted men who have completed a career serving their country in the highest traditions of the Naval Service. There are no "baskets" involved in today's updated "Piping Ashore" ceremony. Now the retiree passes by the "Sideboys," who salute as the Bos'n Mate Pipes him ashore... Traditionally the retiree requests permission to "go ashore" for the last time symbolizing the end of a naval career.

Program of Events

Welcoming Remarks- MAC Roger Reyes, Master of Ceremonies

Arrival of the Official Party

Presentation of Colors- Cypress Creek HS Air Force JROTC

The National Anthem- Cypress Creek High School

Invocation- MSgt Yvonne LaRusso, U.S. Air Force (Ret)

Guest Speakers-

CDR Anthony Spinler, U.S. Navy

BUCS (SCW) Robert A. Clements, U.S. Navy

Awards- RPCM Billie Campbell

Old Glory- Read by CDR Keith Gartner

The Watch- Read by ABCM Kenneth Campbell

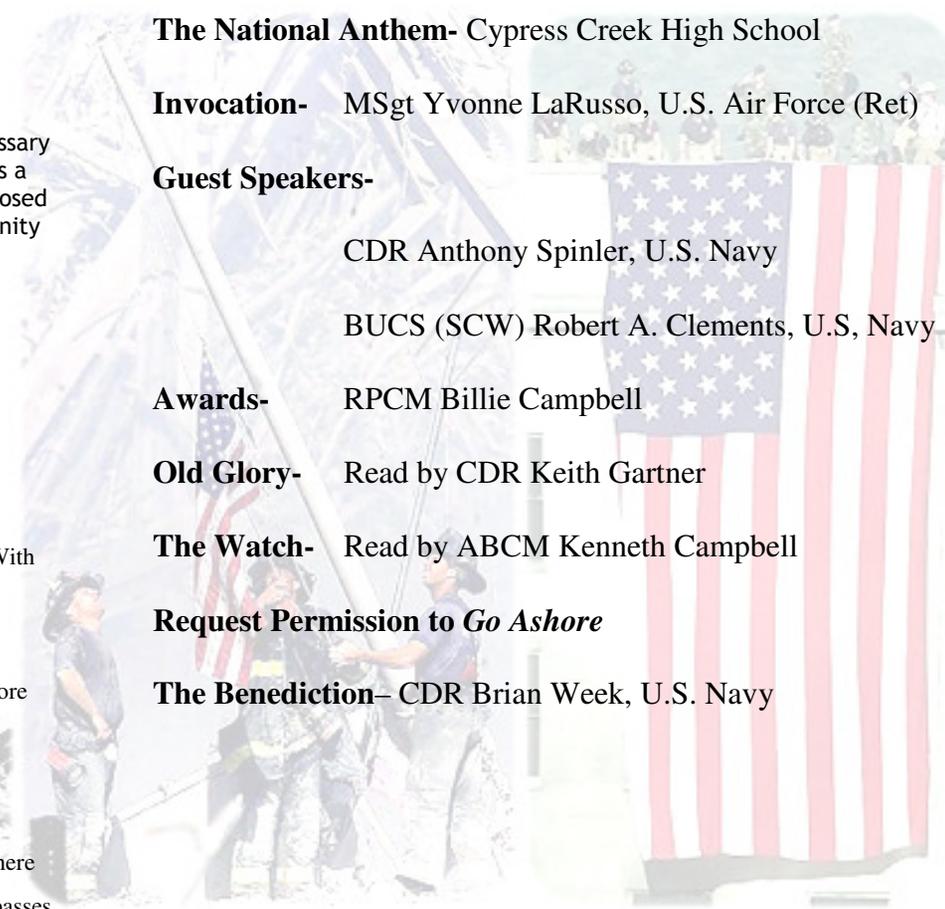
Request Permission to Go Ashore

The Benediction- CDR Brian Week, U.S. Navy

The Watch

Aye Mates,
For many years

World Trade Center
New York, NY
The Pentagon
Arlington, VA



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This Sailor has stood the watch

While some of us were in our bunks at night
This Shipmate stood the watch

While some of us were in school learning our trade
This Sailor stood the watch

And yes, even before some of us were born into this world
This Shipmate stood the watch

In those years when the storm clouds of war were seen brewing on
the horizon of history
This Sailor stood the watch

Many times he would look ashore and see his family standing there
needing his guidance and help... needing that hand to hold during
those hard times but he knew he must stay,
Because he had the watch

He stood the watch for many years
He stood the watch so that we, our families and
Our fellow countrymen could sleep soundly in safety,
Each and every night knowing that
This Sailor stood the watch

Today we are here to say
'Shipmate... the watch stands relieved.
Relieved by those You have trained, Guided, and Lead.
Chief Bravo, you stand relieved.. We have the watch..."
"Boatswain.. Standby to pipe the side...
Shipmate's going Ashore..."

World Trade Center
New York, NY
September, 2001



Official Party

NOSC Commanding Officer: CAPT Marlin Anthony
Command Master Chief CMDCM (SW) Loretta Burchett
CDR Anthony Spinler
BUCS (SCW) Robert Clements
CSC (SCW) Juan F Bravo Jr

Honors Boatswain
BM2 Terrence Phillips

Bell Ringer
IT1 Stephen Saucier

Side Bouys
HMC Tiffany Dekinger
LSCS (SCW/SW) Mark Cashion
OSC William Sam
BMCS Denay Valentin
CSC Stephen Gallardo

BMCS Mike Corcoran

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World War II
Iwo Jima
February, 1945

OLD GLORY

World War II Center
New York, NY
September, 2001

The Pentagon
Arlington, VA
September, 2001

"I am the flag of the United States of America. My name is "Old Glory." I fly atop the world's tallest buildings; I stand watch in America's halls of justice. I fly majestically over great institutions of learning. I stand guard with the greatest military power in the world. Look up! And see me! I stand for peace - honor - truth - and justice, I stand for freedom. I am confident - I am arrogant. I am proud. When I am flown with my fellow banners, my head is a little higher, my colors a little truer ... I BOW TO NO ONE! I am recognized all over the world. I am worshipped - I am saluted - I am respected - I am revered - I am loved and I am feared. I have fought in every battle of every war for more than 200 years: At Gettysburg, Shilo, Appomattox. San Juan Hill, The trenches of France, The Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome, The beaches of Normandy, Midway, Guadalcanal, Okinawa, Korea, Vietnam, in the Persian Gulf... and a score of places, long forgotten by all but those who were there with me ... I was there.

I led my soldiers - I followed them - I watched over them -They love me. I was on a small hill in Iwo Jima, I was dirty battle worn and tired, but my soldiers cheered me! And I was proud. I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of countries that I have helped set free. It does not hurt, for I am invincible. I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of my own country, and when it is by those whom I have served in battle... it hurts.

But I shall overcome, for I am strong! I have slipped the bonds of Earth and from my vantage point on the moon, I stand watch over the uncharted new frontiers of space. I have been a silent witness of all of America's finest hours. But my finest hour comes when I am torn into strips, to be used as bandages for wounded comrades on the field of battle ... when I fly half-mast to honor my soldiers ... and ... when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving mother, at the grave side of a fallen son or daughter.

Dear God long may I wave."

Det. Treasure Island, NAS, Dallas, TX	1988-1990
MIUW 109, Dallas, TX	1990-1992
USS McCandless FFT 1084	1992--1994
COOPMINE, Galveston, TX	1994-1995
MSU-1, Galveston, TX	1995-1997
IBU 14, Galveston, TX	1997-2000
IBU-15, Copus Christi, TX	2000-2002
Det. Yokuska, Houston, TX	2002-2004
NMCB 22, Lonestar Battalion, FW, TX	2004-2006
CNL-South/CNL , Atlanta GA	2006-2008
CPPD, Atlanta, GA	2008-2010



CSC (SCW) Frank Bravo

Culinary Specialist Chief Petty Officer - Seabee Combat Warfare qualified - Frank Bravo was born in Manhattan and raised in the Bronx, NYC. He graduated from Christopher Columbus High School in 1970 and immediately entered the business world. After being moved around the country Chief Bravo settled in Dallas, TX where he later graduated North Texas State University (1987) and started his career in education. Bravo later earned his Masters in

Chief Bravo's List of Duty Stations:

Sworn in – Webb M.S., Garland, TX

Jan 29, 1988

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Education from the University of Houston, in 2000.

Bravo joined the Navy Reserves as an APG (Advance Pay Grade) in January 1988 and was sworn in with hundreds of students, including his 12 year old son, witnessing the ceremony at Webb Middle School, in Garland, TX. He then received APG training in New Orleans and was selected the Honor Student for his graduating class, in 1989.

Chief Bravo's 22 year naval career has included 11 duty assignments ending with The Center for Personal and Professional Development (CPPD) Atlanta, as an instructor where he combined his love of teaching with his love for the Navy.

During his career Chief Bravo's travels have taken him all over the US including Hawaii, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia, Europe, and Africa. Bravo has also participated in various operations including Operation Natural Fire 2000, Operation Bright Star 2001, Operation ULCHI Focus Lens 1997 and 2002, and Operation Iraqi Freedom 2005-2006. In Iraq Bravo served with the NMCB 22 Convoy Security Team where his duties included CST Administrative and Intel. During his time in the Sand Box he qualified for the Seabee Combat Warfare pin in an abandon RR station turned U.S. installation in northern Iraq. His job with CST also afforded him the opportunity to travel with his team throughout Iraq and Kuwait.

Chief Petty Officer Bravo's medals include: - (4) Navy and Marine Corp Achievement, - Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, -Global War on Terrorism, -Armed Forces Reserve w/"M" device with Bronze Hour Glass,

(2) National Defense Service Medal, -Iraq Campaign, - (5) Navy Reserve Meritorious Service, - Armed Forces Service and a number of Ribbons and a Letter of Commendation from an Admiral.

Bravo will "retire" from the Navy on paper but will always be a Chief Petty Officer but now his USN will change to USN-Ret. He will now devote his time to his family, his friends, his civilian job, and his church.

The Navy has not lost a Chief but gained a life-long Shipmate. As inspirational author Catherine Pulsifer so eloquently put it,

"Retirement may be an ending, a closing, but it is also a new beginning"

I Complained

Today it is dawning on me that now I will have the extra time I complained "I don't have", make it to the extra activities I complained "I can't attend because I have to drill", finish the extra projects around the house I complained "I'll get to it when I can", help with some extra projects at church I complained "I want to but can't right now", spend extra time at work developing a plan for student/teacher success that I

complained "I will put that together soon but I have to pack to travel out of town", or enjoy and appreciate what I have and what is around me after I complained "I'm busy". Navy life...I'm missing it already. CSC (SCW) Frank Bravo 20Nov10

To my Family

I know you have always been proud of me but deep down inside I also know that at times some of my obligations hurt you, disappointed you, angered you, made you cry, and many times scared you. But, you have always stuck by me and my obligation to the Navy and Our Country. I wish I could wave a magic wand and take the fear, the sleepless nights, and the tears away but please know that I shared in those very same moments here and abroad thinking of you, praying for you... all of you. **I love you all so very much.**

Papi, Dad, Husband, Brother, Son

Warrior

I never wore the uniform, no medals on my chest.
The band it doesn't play for me, I am not among the Best.
I do not march in cadence, I do not rate salute,
I stand among the silent ranks, our devotion absolute.

If you've not worn my shoes, you do not know my story.
I live a life of sacrifice, my reward a private glory. I've wept many silent nights away, and
I've kept the home fires burning.
I've worried and I've waited, as world events were churning...

Excerpts from Warrior by Elizabeth Soutter Schwarzer

Dedicated To My Family for they were the True Warriors.

World Trade Center
New York, NY
September, 2001
The Pentagon
Arlington, VA
September, 2001

They only strengthen our resolve to crush our enemies!



Going Ashore

Avast ye swabs, lands in sight-make haste in sail for we land tonight and in the morn at break of day, we'll man the rails and gangplank way.

The Bos'n's pipe will trill and shrill—as we send a shipmate to the shore, there to remain forever more.

Tonight we'll crack a keg or two, gather round and drink a toast to you. We'll lift our mugs away up high, for the many years that drifted by. Remember throughout the many years, you sailed away amidst the tears of loved ones left behind, worried and hoping they'd be fine.

Of our shipmates too, my man, who followed you to many lands, in time their names and faces, will be forgotten as all those places. But like the morning fog and dew, we'll endeavor to remember you, and when morning sun lifts the haze, and we sail again for many days you'll remember us as we will you, until the years leave only a few to recall the good old days, of sailing men o're the waves.

Special Thanks

Kenny and Roger: for being who you always are, mentors, leaders, Shipmates and dear friends. You two have always been there to step up to the plate and help out any friend. Anthony and Brain, my Woodsedge Community Church brothers in Christ: It is amazing how the Lord has brought us together from different paths, states, units, neighborhoods, and churches to make sure we cross paths and meet in the same Navy units and the same church. It is not a coincidence but His plan. Andy, nearly 23 years ago you took a picture of me swearing in at Webb MS and that was the start of our journey my friend. We have been educators, brothers, Shipmates in the same war zone, part of each other's lives, shared laughter, shared hurt, and watched our kids grow. Thank you for being a friend. To my Tallowberry Family (the Pearsons, Longs, Hathaways, Walwraths, David) : thank you for being there before, during, and after my Navy paid scenic world trips. It is my pleasure to have you as neighbors. Jim Morgan, Ron Woods, Tom Millison, and Joe Spellman, wherever you are thank you for renewing my belief in my obligation to serve and to go the distance. Phil (stepdad), I know you could not make the trip but thanks for advising me, "Stick it out...you'll be frustrated some days...want to quit on others...the timing will always be wrong for you but stick it out. It will be worth it. You'll see..." Phil, it took nearly 23 years but I see. Vicki, Dan, Mary, Christy, and Mom: thank you for the prayers I know you said for me on your knees with tear stained faces. I felt them. Tiffany, thanks for all the help and advice you gave me over these past few years when I couldn't just jump in the car and drive to Atlanta to handle an issue. If I missed anyone, I apologize but I humbly thank you for teaching me and sharing your life with me. **Frank**

h the American Spirit...

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