
FLAG & GENERAL OFFICERS: Miscellaneous Matters & Info of use to YOU - DEC 17

1 message

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Fellow Flag & General Officers:

Following are multiple subjects and topics that we think may be of use to you as military Flag & General Officers. Feel free to share this message with other flag and general officers you know who may also have use for it:

- O Appointment of fellow TFGON Member MGEN Bill Matz, US ARMY [Ret.] as Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission; also MARAD Administrator Rear Admiral [Ret.] Mark H. "Buz" Buzby. US NAVY:**
- O Arlington National Cemetery Eligibility Fact Sheet**
- O Certain Military Veterans Are Eligible to Apply for Summer 2018 White House Internships**
- O Some CyberSecurity Advice You Can Use in Language You Can Understand**
- O FY-2018 COLA Memo**
- O Wreaths Across America Not just at Arlington National Cemetery**
- O New "TO REMIND" Newsletter Section For Quick Access to TFGON Programs & Projects**

O Appointment of fellow TFGON Member MGEN Bill Matz, US ARMY [Ret.] as Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission; also MARAD Administrator Rear Admiral [Ret.] Mark H. "Buz" Buzby. US NAVY:

Congratulations to Fellow TFGON Member, Major General Bill Matz, US ARMY [Ret.] on the White House Announcement of their intention to appoint him as Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission [ABMC] www.ABMC.gov Many of you will remember General Matz as the Former President of the National Association for Uniformed Services. Also belated compliments and congratulations to Rear Admiral Mark H. "Buz" Buzby, US NAVY [Ret.] who was sworn in as the Administrator of the US Maritime Administration [MARAD] on AUG 8th. www.marad.dot.gov Admiral Buzby served as Commander of the Military Sealift Command from 2009 - 2013 and was President of the National Defense Transportation Association from 2013 until becoming

the Maritime Administrator. A well-earned WELL DONE to both of these fellow Flag & General Officers.

O Arlington National Cemetery Eligibility Fact Sheet: In one of our TFGON newsletters earlier this year [prior TFGON newsletters are posted on the TFGON website: <http://flagandgeneralofficersnetwork.org/newsletters.html>], we included information regarding burial in US National Veterans Cemeteries maintained by the Department of Veterans Affairs and a new systemic they put in place with regard to being able to determine in advance your eligibility to be buried there. This prompted a lot of questions about "what about Arlington National Cemetery" [ANC], which is maintained by the US ARMY, and we have learned ANC does NOT provide a systemic for the cemetery to review your documents while you are still alive and let you know if you are eligible for burial there or not. ANC will only do this at time of death, and as several of our members have pointed out, that can be the very worst time for their families to try to find the necessary documentation that will prove eligibility to the ANC staff. In our further research on this matter, we DID discover an ANC "Fact Sheet" that can assist you in determining your eligibility for ANC burial while you still walk among us and we have attached a copy of that document for your information and use. Further information on ANC and it's rules and regulations and systemics and operations and administration are available on their website at www.arlingtoncemetery.mil

O Certain Military Veterans Are Eligible to Apply for Summer 2018 White House Internships: The White House Internship Program is now open and taking applications for their Summer 2018 term. This program is open to any veteran who is enrolled in college OR to young veterans meeting TWH criteria. We're sharing this with TFGON members in case you have sons or daughters, grandsons or granddaughters, nieces or nephews, or young military veterans you know that might be interested. Submissions close January 12, 2018 at 11:59 PM EDT.

The program, a long-standing tradition that spans from administration to administration, helps to engage young people in the Executive Branch's daily activities including "conducting research, managing incoming inquiries, attending meetings, writing memos, and staffing events." Once selected, interns will participate in the program from May 30 to August 10.

Applicants must have at least one of three prerequisites to apply:

- They must be currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program at a two- or four-year institution;
- They must have graduated from an undergraduate or graduate program at a two- or four-year institution no more than two years before the internship start date;
- Or, they must be a veteran with a high school diploma (or GED) who has served on active duty during the two years before the internship start date

Those interested can find more information and apply at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/> or contact the White House via e-mail to request an application: intern_application@who.eop.gov

O Some CyberSecurity Advice You Can Use in Language You Can Understand:

Almost all of us receive info from time to time regarding the internet and our e-mail accounts or other digital media, telling us to "don't do this" or "do this" yet when we try to find information that will explain "why" and what we are to do, all too often it seems to be in the same psychobabble of the teckies that write the User Manuals for all our other digital accessories that we also cannot understand. TFGON has been fortunate to have worked with Mr. George Platsis for several years now as he serves pro bono as our Technical Liaison with the TSA PreCheck staffers in ensuring our TFGON TSA PreCheck List is properly encrypted and transmitted to TSA in a timely and secure way. He's very good at what he does, as demonstrated that we have NOT had a single problem related to TFGON's TSA PreCheck Program through any error or data-compromise on our part, and we have George Platsis to thank for that. We recently had cause to ask him to clarify what some cybersecurity matters "meant", and in response he sent us an article that he and Mr. Paul Ferrillo authored that addressed these issues. Paul is a highly-respected lawyer whose practice focuses on cybersecurity matters and George is the cyber security professional who has been a true champion for TFGON in our endeavors to keep the folks at TSA happy regarding our TFGON participation in the TSA PreCheck Program---- the URL for their article follows: <https://www.tripwire.com/state-of-security/security-data-protection/cyber-security/potentially-unwanted-leaks-social-engineering-small-missteps-big-mistakes/>

O FY-2018 COLA Memo: Almost all TFGON members will benefit from the 2% COLA adjustments that take place next month and will be reflected in our Military Retired and Retainer Pay and Survivors Annuities and Payments. But you may not have thought about some of the technical nuances as to who and whom these changes impact and to what extent. In TFGON's mission focus to keep you informed, we have attached a copy of the recent SECDEF Memo addressing these topics. While for most of us, this means a 2% increase in our retired pay/retainer, this document will also give you chapter and verse as to several categories and related impacts that are also involved.

O Wreaths Across America Not Only at Arlington National Cemetery: Every year we hear from several of our TFGON members who participate in the laying of these wreaths at the graves of fellow military veterans who are buried in Arlington National Cemetery [ANC]. This year it took place yesterday, 16 December, and has been featured on several TV channels as this program has grown significantly over the years. However some of you may not be aware that this is NOT just an "Inside The Beltway" event at ANC but in fact also occurs at a growing number of other veterans cemeteries across America, and thus almost anywhere you live, you and your families can participate in this program honoring our military veterans in all sorts of other veterans cemeteries across the USA. Several of our members have told us how they use this annual participation as a family event to involve and teach and participate with their Grandkids as a way to help them to understand the sacrifices that so many have made to provide them with a life of freedom and liberty. Full details on Wreaths Across America [WAA] and these programs and where they are held and how to get involved are on the WAA website at www.wreathscrossamerica.org

O New "TO REMIND" Newsletter Section For Quick Access to TFGON Programs & Projects: TFGON regularly receives queries from our membership with regard to one or more of our TFGON programs or projects, so we've decided to add this "every newsletter" one-stop-shopping list that will enable you to quickly find information and guidance on several of our TFGON programs, projects, & events:

O TFGON User ID & Password for Website "protected pages": For Quick Access to the TFGON website, use www.TFGON.org For password-protected pages, the user ID is tfgon and the password is nogft which is tfgon spelled backwards for ease in remembering. These are purposely generic, however they will change in 2018 once the newly revamped website is in place and each TFGON member will have the ability to set their own User ID and Password. Details on that once the new website has been tested and is ready for general use.

O TSA PreCheck Airport Security Membership: Full details on the TFGON website at <http://flagandgeneralofficersnetwork.org/TSA/AirportSecurityPreCheck.php>

O TFGON Membership "How to Join" and TFGON's Summary Overview Document to Use in Recruiting:
<http://flagandgeneralofficersnetwork.org/join.html>

O TFGON "Admiral McGrail Scholars" Internship Program for Military Veterans: Full details on this program, the contact info for TFGON's OinC, and a listing of the military veterans classes is available at this URL:
<http://flagandgeneralofficersnetwork.org/mcgrail.html>

O 2018 TFGON Networking Reception Schedule and Guidelines: Full details and dates and attendance guidance at:
<http://flagandgeneralofficersnetwork.org/calendar.html>

O TFGON Job Opportunities & Resume Circulation Guidance: Full details on how to get your resume circulated to the entire TFGON Membership are at this URL:
<http://flagandgeneralofficersnetwork.org/jobOps.html>

This brings us up-to-date once again. We hope you find this information of value and helpful to you as a military flag or general officer. Also, please allow TFGON to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and all the very best in the new year for you and all those you hold dear. Continued thanks to each of you for your service to our beloved America. Each of us has been honored to have been promoted to the highest ranks our armed forces has to offer, and each of us has done our share to keep our country free in an ever-more-dangerous world. Special thanks to ALL for standing tall in uniform throughout the world so that our children and grandchildren will have a future of freedom and security that we have been able to provide for them.

With all good wishes,

Jim Carey

Rear Admiral [Ret.] James J. Carey, National Chairman

THE FLAG & GENERAL OFFICERS' NETWORK

www.FlagAndGeneralOfficersNetwork.org



An Official 501.c.19 War Veterans Organization!!!

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2 attachments

 **TFGONarlingtonCemeteryEligibility-Fact-Sheet-20170701.pdf**
392K

 **TFGONCOLAFY18MemoSigned.pdf**
167K