Lisa Hoff: Benefits Specialist and Chief, U.S. Coast Guard Reserve

On Veteran’s Day Lisa Hoff, Benefits Specialist in Human Resources, worked in uniform. She wore “Tropical Blue Long,” the Coast Guard uniform she typically wears to work on the one weekend each month and two weeks during the year that she travels to Boston and fulfills her duties as a reservist. On her shirt is a five-row ribbon bar displaying the ribbons awarded for personal and unit accomplishments Lisa earned over close to 20 years of service.

Here at the College, Lisa is responsible for handling the day-to-day administration of the health & welfare benefit programs for Middlebury College and the Monterey Institute of International Studies. For Sector Boston, the station where she is Chief Yeoman in the Reserve Administration Office, Lisa handles pay and benefits for the 200 Coast Guard reservists in the Boston area and also makes sure the reservists are carrying out their duties.

Lisa entered the Coast Guard in the spring of 1989. She did eight weeks of boot camp in Cape May, NJ, after which she was stationed in Louisville, KY. That’s right, Kentucky — not a state that first comes to mind when most think of the Coast Guard. “One of the Coast Guard’s major missions is Aids to Navigation including the inter-coastal waterways, the major rivers along which commerce travels to the middle of the country,” explains Lisa. Commercial ships need to know how to navigate the rivers safely, and the rivers have to be kept open during freezing winter months; that assistance for rivers like the Mississippi and Ohio comes from Louisville. Lisa worked as an administrative assistant there before transferring to northern California to attend school.

At Coast Guard school in Petaluma, Lisa gained the knowledge necessary to earn the rating of Yeoman and administer pay and benefits. Then Lisa was stationed in Boston’s 1st District Office doing pay and benefits work, and earning promotions during her five years there. She also met her husband Kerrin who at the time was Seaman on a cutter stationed in Portland, ME. A transfer to Group South Portland Maine made Lisa supervisor of the payroll office for two years, during which she and Kerrin married.

(Story continues on page 3)
A Winter Clothing Closet “Thank You”

In the words of students—
"Thanks a ton, this helps a lot.”
“Now I am not scared of winter anymore!”
“I loved it. I am ready for winter now.”
“Am I glad I had this opportunity.”
“Amazing… so many great clothes!”
“I needed it because my clothes have not come in and it snowed!”
“Thank you so much!”
“It is awesome that we are able to have something like it.”
“The blankets were really handy.”
“There is definitely a wide range to choose from. I am extremely grateful. God bless!”
“Thanks a ton. Please continue this.”

Thanks to all of the generous donations that were collected from the College community, the annual Winter Clothing Closet was a huge success. The doors of the event opened on October 29 with a surge of students eager to find warm clothing and layers to help keep warm during our very cold Vermont winters.

The 2008 Winter Clothing Closet benefited more than 134 first-year students and many students from other class years. In total, 224 undergraduates (148 U.S. and 76 international students) attended the event, which is almost double the number of students who attended the event in 2006.

The students greatly appreciated your contributions. They were in search of sweaters, jackets, blankets, boots, hats, scarves, gloves and all types of layering clothes. They were seeking any items that would provide extra warmth and protection during the coming months.

This year, we offered both afternoon and evening times for students to come pick out clothing. The majority of students were successful in finding the items they were hoping for, but as the day went on it became more difficult to satisfy every student. Most students left with at least one or two items that will provide extra comfort and warmth. Unlike in years past, we did not have many winter items remaining at the end of the day, but what little was left was donated to local farm workers and Neat Repeats.

Without the generous donations and support from the Middlebury College community, this event would not have been possible. Thank you for your support and for sharing your no-longer-used winter clothing and gear with students who are now enjoying your donations.

~ Kathy Foley-Giorgio, Olivia Whitman, Kaye-Lani Laughna and Mary Cairns
International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) and the Office for Institutional Planning and Diversity

OneMidd Mug Contest Answers

Nine readers responded correctly to the second “OneMidd” mug contest quiz: Patty Hornbeck, Tom Beyer, Judy Watts, Franci Farnsworth, Deborah Young, Janis Audet, Tiffany Sargent, Marie Winner and Neil Waters had correct answers again – they also answered the first quiz correctly. Thanks to all who participated!

1. Stephen Freeman and Edward Knox were both professors of French who directed the Language Schools and also served as acting presidents of Middlebury College, so the correct answer was “d) All of the above.”
2. The library on the Bread Loaf campus is known as the Davison Memorial Library.
3. It is true that the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies at MIIS has a full-time staff of about 40 specialists working together to stop the development of weapons of mass destruction.

Look in the December 5 issue of MiddPoints for another win-a-mug opportunity!
Lisa was offered the position she wanted most at Station Channel Islands in Southern California. It is a “small boat station” from which search and rescue operations are carried out, and Lisa was excited to gain operational experience, a change from her previous administrative duties. As Officer of the Day, Lisa was in charge of deciding how the station would handle distress calls – send a boat, a helicopter, how many personnel?

After two years at that station, Lisa decided to end her active duty with the Coast Guard and become a reservist. She went back to school full time to earn a business degree with a concentration in human resources to complement her eight years of experience in the field. She also had her first daughter, and as Lisa had grown up in Southern California, she enjoyed having family close by to enjoy that time.

The family moved back across the country to her husband’s hometown of Bristol in 2001. They have a second daughter, and Lisa began working for Middlebury College earlier this year.

“I value the mission. The great thing about the Coast Guard is that its mission helps so many people day in and day out,” says Lisa. Her administrative work as a reservist supports the operations carried out by the Coast Guard—saving lives, helping to stop drugs coming into the country, and protecting our natural resources (the oceans, rivers and wildlife). “I chose the Coast Guard over other services because of the value placed on women; women are allowed to do every single job in the Coast Guard,” Lisa says. In the other services, women aren’t assigned to certain units and aren’t allowed to do some jobs, but here, drops them off with their grandmother, and then works the weekend at the station. They return home late on Sunday and have to get up early for school and work on Monday. “That second week can get long, and I can get cranky!” Lisa says with a smile. Even in these volatile times, Lisa says the likelihood of her being recalled and sent to Iraq is “miniscule,” but there is always that possibility. As a reservist, she could be called to active duty at any time, especially in the event of a national emergency. Despite these down sides, Lisa is proud of her service and the work the Coast Guard does, and she has made no plans yet to retire from service.

~ Liz Hammel

Coast Guard men and women protect wildlife
United Way Early Bird Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the Middlebury College United Way of Addison County Campaign, Early Bird Raffle prize winners. Many, many thanks for everyone’s support of the United Way of Addison County, its member agencies, and most importantly, the people they serve, during this fall’s campaign!

- Gift certificate for a pair of tickets to an event at the Mahaney Center for the Arts: Terry Aldrich, Sarah Carver, Amy Briggs.
- One-day adult pass to the Snow Bowl: Robert Cluss, Stephen Donadio.
- One sweatshirt of her choice at the College Bookstore: Deborah Evans.
- A “coffee card,” worth eleven free cups of coffee, contributed by Dining Services and redeemable anywhere they serve coffee: Kathleen Jewett, Sue Lalumiere, Michael McKenna, Karen Shackett.
- One free lunch (including sandwich, dessert and beverage) at the Wilson Cafe in the new library, also provided by Dining Services: Don Swenor.


Health Awareness Fair a success

Over 80 staff and faculty participated in the Health Awareness Fair on Nov. 5 at Kirk Alumni Center including Darryl Sheldon, right, from Facilities Services, who’s shown having his blood pressure checked by pharmacist Tom McDonald. The Optimal Health Initiative Committee held the event in partnership with CBA Blue and Marble Works Pharmacy. Also offered at the event were cholesterol and blood sugar tests, and health risk assessments.

PreSeason Tune-up Specials and Wax Card at the Snow Bowl!!

Get your skis and boards tuned up and ready for the season for only 25 bucks! From November 17 through December 19 you can get a stone grind and hot wax for $25, which is a 44% discount over the regular price! Get ‘em gliding and turning like you won’t believe — wax allows skis to turn easier as well as glide better. Or, get a quick edge and hot wax for just $15, and binding torque tests are only $15 as well.

New this year is the WAX CARD, which gives you a free hot wax after 10 are paid for. So bring the boards in to Derrick and Jake for a preseason tune-up and get your first WAX CARD punch at a discount! The Bowl ski shop will be open for drop off and pickup from 8:30-4:00 on weekdays only from Nov. 17 until the Bowl opens for the season, and seven days a week from opening day through Dec. 19. For more info call 388.4356 and ask for the ski shop.

Snow Bowl Ski Shop Used Equipment Sale

The Snow Bowl Ski Shop currently has many pairs of used skis and boots for sale, with a wide variety of sizes for both kids and adults. Skis are from $60 to $200, boots from $20 to $65, & packages of skis and boots range from $80 to $265 (this includes the binding adjustment)! We also have a few of our used Burton Boards for sale. Our boards include bindings and are only $200!

Our used gear has all been well cared for and has years of life left to give, we’re just making room for the ’08–’09 gear. It’s the perfect opportunity to set up your family in time for the holidays with quality gear that won’t break the bank, and of course it is all freshly tuned and ready to hit the snow! The Bowl Ski Shop is open weekdays 8:30-4:00 from November 17 until the Bowl opens for the season, and then seven days a week. Questions? Give us a ring here at the shop 802.388.4356.

Middlebury College Ski Patrol Ski Sale

Location: Chateau Grand Salon
Time: Saturday, November 22, 9–4
Sunday, November 23, 10–2

For consignments: Drop off Friday, November 21, 3:30–5:30

Questions: Contact hcoleman@middlebury.edu

Jake Wilkinson (left) and Derrick Cram in the Ski Shop at the Wintersteiger stone grinder.
Winter Slips and Falls

Winter weather can be beautiful, but be aware that with winter weather comes the increased risk of slips and falls. Our Facilities department does a terrific job keeping pathways and parking lots cleared of ice and snow, but drifting, blowing, icing, and continuous snowstorms mean that these areas may become slippery.

Things you can do to prevent slips and falls:
- Wear appropriate footwear for the weather. Shoes/boots with traction are best during inclement weather.
- Watch where you are walking and be cautious on ice and snow covered pathways!
- Allow extra time when traveling on foot — rushing can lead to falls.
- Use the salt/sand from the buckets that will be placed inside main entrances of buildings. If you notice a slippery spot outside your building, please spread the salt/sand so others don't fall.
- Make sure you stomp off snow covering your shoes when you enter a building so you don’t leave wet spots on stairs and in hallways that could cause someone to slip.
- Contact Facilities if you notice a walkway or parking lot that needs attention.

The Screen Door Opens the Door to Human Services for Vermonters

The Vermont Agency of Human Services and its partners offer a variety of services to meet the needs of you and your family. The Screen Door is a web-based, interactive tool that is designed to help Vermonters find out about the services and programs that might be available to help in times of need, based upon your particular circumstances.

The screening tool asks questions about the people in your household. Then the tool compares your answers with the various program rules and identifies a number of resources or programs for which you or your family may qualify. You will also see the office to contact to actually apply. None of this information will be saved or stored on anyone’s computer or in anyone’s database, and identifying information such as your name, address, or social security number will not be required.

To find out more about AHS programs for you and your family, visit www.screendoor.vermont.gov.

Open Meetings Scheduled with TIAA-CREF Consultant

Mark your calendar! On Thursday, December 4, TIAA-CREF consultant Erik Moreau will discuss “Market Volatility” at two open meetings on campus. Bring your questions for a Q&A period after the talk. Look for an all faculty and staff e-mail next week with location, time, and registration details.

2009 MiddPoints Publication Dates

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(Classifieds, ctd. from pg. 6)

Wanted

Wanted: Computer monitor, call x5468.

House/Pet Sitter Wanted: Live in our Ripton home and care for 2 dogs and 3 cats from 12/23-12/29. Call 802.989.0891 or e-mail blkloman@middlebury.edu.

Wanted: Aquarium stand for a 20 gallon fish tank. Contact Beth at 382.9332 or e-mail bqmiller@middlebury.edu.
Classifieds

Ads must be submitted seven days prior to the publication date. Guidelines for ads can be found on the MiddPoints section of the HR Website. Please send ads to Classifieds, MiddPoints, HR, Service Building, or e-mail to middpoints@middlebury.edu (electronic submissions preferred).

Auto


For Sale: 2003 Polaris 550 snowmobile 2 up touring sled. 1,300 miles. $200. Hand/thumb warmers, electric start, auto reverse, color blue. Ridden only 2 years, well maintained & kept under cover. Still like new, a must see. $2,000. 758.2065 anytime after 3:00 p.m., ask for Dawn.

Other

For Sale: Rebel Proform recumbent bike and elliptical crosstrainer, $100. Call x5595 or e-mail dbernier@middlebury.edu.


For Sale: 30” glass top slide-in Jenn-Aire range with grill attachment. $300 obo. Call George @ x5994 or 388.0581.

For Sale: Musical items. 1) Kawai Any-Time Acoustic/Digital Upright Piano, $3,100, x-frame bench incl. 2) Roland Digital Piano MP-500, $550, 2 pair head-phones & x-frame bench incl. 3) Large collect. of new piano books, mostly teaching materials, 50% of cover price. Kitty Davis, kittyhere@shoreham.net, or 462.2284.

For Sale: Used H2O Softener in good condition, GE GXSF39E model (manual included). Nothing wrong with it; worked well for us but have upgraded to a complete H2O treatment system. Asking $250. 802.948.2349 evenings before 9:00 please.

For Sale: Ethan Allen Roll Top Desk, medium finish, 55” wide, 28”deep, 48” tall. Medium finish, very good condition. Locking drawer (key included) and 2 deep file drawers. $500 obo. Photos available. Call 802.462.3503 or e-mail adiehl@middlebury.edu.

For Sale: 30 GB Video ipod. Like new condition. Asking $170. Contact Bill at 377.8206 or wekroos@middlebury.edu.

For Sale: Britax Roundabout convertible car seat, tan, plus extra seat cover. Purchased brand new in 2007, excellent condition. $125 obo. angel@middlebury.edu or x3139.

Real Estate

For Sale: Circa 1813 brick Colonial on 13 acres in Addison w/ outstanding Adirondack views. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 2 fireplaces, large rear sun porch. Many upgrades incl. new cherry kitchen w/oak floors, mostly new windows, antique woodstove. Lovely extensive gardens, attached 2-car garage w/ storage above. 20-25 min. from campus. $495,000. Call Sarah at 802.989.3403 or x5794.


For Rent: Available now in Middlebury (Battell Hill), beautiful end condominium unit in private location abutting the Battell Woods, first floor master suite, cathedral ceilings, comfortable and convenient. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, garage, parking, deck, $1,500/ mo. No smoking, no pets. Flowing, lawn care, & water included in cost. 1,936 sq. ft. Appliances: stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Call Sarah at 802.989.3403 or x5794.

For Rent: Middlebury. Beautiful furnished home for rent in South Street neighborhood 5 min. by foot to College and dwntwn. from January through June 2009. 3-4 BR, 2 1/2 BA, incl. master bedroom/bathroom suite, office, DR, LR, playroom, washer, dryer. Big porch & yard. No dogs. $1,400 plus utilities. Contact noelke@middlebury.edu.

For Rent: Cornwall house. 2 BR, 2 BA house w/post-and-beam living room, beautiful views, yard, gardens. Close to College & adjacent to walking/ski trails. $1,000/mo. Call Aaron, 349.7216 or e-mail acoburn@alumni.middlebury.edu.

Free

Free: Fitness/weight lifting gym equipment set. Want to avoid the trip to the gym and stay warm and in shape this winter? Disassembled for easy travel to your home. E-mail asolomon@middlebury.edu.

College Book Store

Saturday Only Sales
10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.

The details of each sale are announced each Friday via e-mail to Panther Rewards Members. Join today so you don’t miss the Friday announcement.

http://bookstore.middlebury.edu

(Classifieds continued on page 5)