

2011 Coast Guard Professional Reading List

Commandant's Choice

2010-Rescue Warriors: The U.S. Coast Guard, America's forgotten heroes: by David Helvarg 2009. The first big, narrative nonfiction book about the U.S. Coast Guard, from its founding in 1790 to the present, including dozens of gripping stories of dangerous rescues and first-person reporting, by an award-winning journalist. (363.286 H485)

2007-The Contrarian's Guide to Leadership: by Steven Sample 2003. In *The Contrarian's Guide to Leadership*, University of Southern California President Steven Sample offers up a refreshing perspective on the characteristics of a successful leader. (303.34 S192)

2006-Alexander Hamilton: by Ron Chernow 2004. Ron Chernow's *Alexander Hamilton* provides what may be the most comprehensive modern examination of the often overlooked Founding Father. From the start, Chernow argues that Hamilton's premature death at age 49 left his record to be reinterpreted and even re-written by his more long-lived enemies, among them: Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and James Monroe. (973.4092 C521)

2005-Built to Last: Successful Habits of Visionary Companies: by Jim Collins and Jerry Porras 2004. This book, written by a team from Stanford's Graduate School of Business, compares what the authors have identified as visionary companies with selected companies in the same industry. The authors juxtapose Disney and Columbia Pictures, Ford and General Motors, Motorola and Zenith, and Hewlett-Packard and Texas Instruments, to name a few. (658 C712)

2003-Character in Action: The U.S. Coast Guard on Leadership: by Donald Phillips and ADM James Loy, USCG (Ret 2003). A former Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard and a best-selling author combine their knowledge of the subject to offer a formula for success. Donald T. Phillips, who has written eight books on leadership, asserts that the Coast Guard is a superlative example of an organization with effective leadership, loaded with leaders at all levels. From a guardsman scraping barnacles off buoys in the Gulf of Mexico to the captain of a cutter in the Gulf of Alaska to the Commandant in Washington, they know exactly what leadership is, how it works, and why it is important. (658.4092 P558)

2002-The Founding Fathers on Leadership: Classic Teamwork in Changing Times: by Donald Phillips 1998. When America aspired to break free from Britain, the real-life David-and-Goliath situation required that a full-blown cadre of dynamic leaders arise immediately from the revolutionary populace. As history shows, it did. Now, Donald T. Phillips uses those events to suggest ways that today's businesspeople can likewise overcome tough odds and achieve success. (303.34 P558)

"Leaders of Leaders" Section (Recommendations from Senior Coast Guard Leaders)

Until the Sea Shall Free Them: by Robert Frump 2002. Frump captures both the cruel sea and the determination of a group of dedicated individuals who worked together trying to fix a converted World War II vessel riddled with problems that had not been addressed by its owner. *Until the Sea Shall Free Them* recounts in compelling detail the wreck of the *Marine Electric* and the legal drama that unfolded in its wake—a lawsuit that led to vital reforms in the laws regarding the safety of ships. (VADM Brice-O'Hara's choice). (363.12 F944)

Bloodstained Sea: by Michael G. Walling 2004. The story of the Secretary Class cutters at the dawn of WWII and the Battle of the Atlantic against the U-Boat threat. (VADM Currier's choice) (940.54293 W211)

Heroic Leadership: Best Practices from a 450-Year-Old Company that Changed the World: by Chris Lowney 2005. Author Chris Lowney offers leadership lessons from the Jesuits, the renowned religious order whose originality and expertise have stirred admiration for nearly five centuries. (RADM Salerno's choice) (658.4092 L919)

Social Intelligence: The New Science of Human Relationships: by Daniel Goleman 2007. A critique of society's creeping disconnection in the age of the iPod, constant digital connectivity, and multitasking. Goleman discusses the "toxicity" of insult and unpleasant social experience as he warns of the dangers of self-absorption and poor attention. Drawing on numerous studies, Goleman illuminates new theories about attachment, bonding, and the making and remaking of memory as he examines how our brains are wired for altruism, compassion, concern, and rapport. (VADM Brown's choice) (158.2 G625)

The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration: by Isabel Wilkerson 2010. Stories of migration in America that will enrich the context of any immigration debate. (VADM Parker's choice) (304.80973 W681)

Successful Leadership Today: by Douglas L. Drewry 1996. A collection of time-tested common sense leadership skills for today's successful leader. Personal traits and habits, like the manner and style in which you talk and listen, are as important to leadership as the way you direct and lead others. Leadership principles and concepts are interwoven with management and personal practices in this book. (*MCPO-CG Leavitt's choice*) (303.34 D776)

Ask the Chief: Backbone of the Navy: by J. F. Leahy 2004. A compilation of leadership experiences by Navy Chiefs from the aviation, surface, submarine, and special warfare communities, this book provides words of wisdom to guide the Coast Guard and Navy Chief alike. A Chief can enjoy just one story about another Chief's daily life, or she/he can consume the entire book based on interviews of nearly 100 Chiefs. (*MCPO-CGRF Allen's choice*) (359.338 L434)

Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership: by Ruth Haley Barton 2008. This is a book that gets to the heart of the difficulties and struggles that leaders face. Ruth's insights will, at the very least, strengthen the soul of your leadership. (*CAPT Weeden's Chaplain of the Coast Guard choice*) (248.892 B293))

Contemporary Issues Section

Employee's Survival Guide to Change: by Jeffrey Hiatt 2001. A complete guide to surviving and thriving during organizational change. (658.406 H623)

Disappearing Through the Skylight: Culture and Technology in the Twentieth Century: by O.B. Hardison, Jr. 1990. The key take away from this book is that is the recognition that when an entire culture understands something it becomes "invisible." It doesn't go away, it becomes intuitive, and it becomes culture. (303.483 H264)

Epic Change: How to Lead Change in the Global Age: by Timothy Clark 2007. Epic Change presents a strategic-level road map, along with tactical level tools, for the every-day needs of leaders who must respond to all types of adaptive challenge to remain competitive. (658.4092 C595)

Kiss, Bow, or Shake Hands: The Bestselling Guide to Doing Business in More than 60 Countries: by Terri Morrison and Wayne Conaway 2006. This is an invaluable book for "doing well while doing good" in your intercultural relations, covering the protocols of appointments, business entertaining, greetings, forms of address, gestures, dress, and gifts in 60 of the nations you're most likely to be doing business. (395.52 M882)

Linked: How Everything is Connected to Everything Else and What it Means: by Albert-Laszlo Barabasi 2003. The results of Barabási's research into the behavior of networks are deeply compelling. Not all networks are created equal, he says, and he shows how even fairly robust systems like the Internet could be crippled by taking out a few super-connected nodes, or hubs. His mathematical descriptions of this behavior are helping doctors, programmers, and security professionals design systems better suited to their needs. (003 B223)

The Mindful Way through Depression: Freeing Yourself from Chronic Unhappiness: by Williams, Teasdale, Segal, and Kabat-Zinn 2007. This authoritative, easy-to-use self-help program is based on methods clinically proven to reduce the recurrence of chronic unhappiness. (362.25 M663)

Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10: by Marcus Luttrell 2007. If you're looking for a true story that showcases both American heroism and Afghani humanity, Marcus Luttrell's Lone Survivor may be the book for you. (958.1047 L974)

Why are all the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?: A Psychologist Explains the Development of Racial Identity: by Beverly Daniel Tatum 2002. An insightful exploration of the varieties of Americans' experience with race and racism in everyday life. (305.8 T221)

Leadership Section

The Armed Forces Officer: by the National Defense University 2007. Educates officers of all services, as well as civilians, about the fundamental moral-ethical requirements of being a commissioned officer in the armed forces of the United States. (355.33 A728)

Lying: Moral Choice in Public and Private Life: by Sissela Bok 1999. A thoughtful addition to the growing debate over public and private morality. Looks at lying and deception in law, family, medicine, government. (177.3 B686)

Predictable Surprises: The Disasters You Should Have Seen Coming, and How to Prevent Them: by Max H. Bazerman and Michael D. Watkins 2008. Insisting theirs is not 20/20 hindsight, the authors explain how many disasters are preceded by clear warning signals that leaders miss or ignore. Characteristics of predictable surprises include when leaders know a problem exists and that problem does not solve itself and gets worse, the human tendency to maintain the status quo, and the reality of a small vocal minority (special interests) that benefit from inaction. (363.347 B362)

The Five Dysfunctions of a Team: A Leadership Fable: by Patrick Lencioni 2002. Once again using an astutely written fictional tale to unambiguously but painlessly deliver some hard truths about critical business procedures, Patrick Lencioni targets group behavior in the final entry of his trilogy of corporate fables. And like those preceding it, *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team* is an entertaining, quick read filled with useful information that will prove easy to digest and implement. (658.4036 L563)

From Boomers to Bloggers: Success Strategies Across Generations: by Misti Burmeister 2008. *Boomers to Bloggers* offers tips to help boomers, Xers and Yers get what they want from their careers while helping their employers and peers achieve their goals. (658.4092 B962)

How Life Imitates Chess: Making the Right Moves, from the Board to the Boardroom: by Garry Kasparov 2008. Kasparov has put his powerful strategic thinking to work in business and politics, showing that a simple reliance on instincts can guide you through even the most complex challenges. With no shortage of wit or eloquence, he's answered our hardest questions about what factors can make or break a decision-making moment. (794.1092 K19)

Primal Leadership: Learning to Lead with Emotional Intelligence: by Daniel Goleman, Richard Boyatzis and Annie McKee 2008. Since the actions of the leader apparently account for up to 70 percent of employees' perception of the climate of their organization, Goleman and his team emphasize the importance of developing what they term "resonant leadership." Focusing on the four domains of emotional intelligence--self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, and relationship management--they explore what contributes to and detracts from resonant leadership, and how the development of these four EI competencies spawns different leadership styles. (658.4092 G625)

Quiet Leadership: Six Steps to Transforming Performance at Work: by David Rock 2007. Transforming performance involves listening and communicating . . . The ultimate goal of quiet leadership is to empower employees. (658.4092 R682)

Leading at the Edge: Leadership Lessons from the Extraordinary Saga of Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure: by David Rock 2000. A former Marine lieutenant, Perkins introduces 10 key concepts he believes are essential to productive leadership with lively anecdotes from the adverse but ultimately successful expedition to the South Pole led by Ernest Shackleton in 1914 (his entire crew survived on the ice with almost no supplies or hope for rescue after their ship drifted off course and was crushed), which he contrasts with a disastrous Canadian expedition launched at almost the same time. (658.4092 P448)

Coast Guard History and Culture Section

Lucky Thirteen: D-Days in the Pacific with the U.S. Coast Guard in World War II: by Ken Wiley 2007. In this book, Ken Wiley, a Coast Guardsman on an Attack Transport in the Pacific, relates the intricate, often nerve wracking story of how the United States projected its power across 6,000 miles in the teeth of fanatical Japanese resistance. (359.97 W676)

The Metal Life Car: The Inventor, the Imposter, and the Business of Lifesaving: by George Buker 2008. This book presents a fascinating story of American ingenuity and struggle against bureaucracy and chicanery. Buker details the conflicting claims of Joseph Francis, a prominent Boston inventor and businessman, and Captain Douglass Ottinger, U.S. Revenue-Marine, who battled for decades for the rights to this keystone invention. (623.88 B941)

Mind the Light, Katie: The history of Thirty-Three Female Lighthouse Keepers: by Mary Louise Clifford and J. Candace Clifford 2006. A collection of stories on the lives of thirty-three female lighthouse keepers between the years 1830 and 1947. (387.155 C638)

A Perfect Lady: A Pictorial History of the U.S. Coast Guard Barque Eagle: by Tido Holtkamp 2008. A pictorial history of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Barque Eagle with over 280 photographs. Since 1946, the U.S. Coast Guard has used the Barque Eagle for training their cadets and officer candidates. (359.97 H758)

Two Tankers Down: The Greatest Small-Boat Resuce in U.S.

Coast Guard History: by Robert Frump 2008. Off the coast of Cape Cod in 1950, a February blizzard tore not one but two oil tankers in half. This is the suspenseful true story of a U.S. Coast Guard captain and his small crew who were called out to rescue the tanker crews without a cutter or chopper or a sea plane. But Captain Bernie Weber knew well the infamous Coast Guard motto: "You have to go out. You don't have to come back." He took a small boat and crew out in 60-foot waves and rescued 30 men. Weber's subsequent gold medal for valor is still revered within the U.S. Coast Guard, and this thrilling first-ever narrative is a gripping adventure story for fans of *The Perfect Storm* and *The Hungry Ocean*. (910.9163 F944)

Lifeboat Sailors: The U.S. Coast Guard's Small Boat Stations: by

Dr. Dennis L. Noble 2001. This the first book on the distinguished past, hazardous present, and uncertain future of an organization whose roots extend back nearly 200 years. Despite the fact that small boat stations are the very symbol of rescue upon the water, the public knows little about what takes place in them and about the professionals who put their own lives at risk in this way every day. (363.12381 N748)