

# Learn about Coast Guard, Great Lakes mission Sept. 19

"An Overview of the U.S. Coast Guard and Its Great Lakes Mission" will highlight the Aurora Navy League Council 247 monthly dinner meeting in Montgomery Sept. 19.

U.S. Navy Lt. Commander Lincoln Puffer, executive officer of the Marine Safety Unit Chicago, will address the meeting at Grandma's Table Restaurant, 1700 Douglas Rd.

The public is invited.

The event will open with a reception at 5:15 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. Entrees include fish, chicken, or beef with soup or salad, dinner rolls, vegetables, dessert, and nonalcoholic drink. The cost is \$20. A dinner salad entree includes soup, dinner rolls, dessert and nonalcoholic drink is \$12.

Lt. Cmdr. Puffer assumed command of the Marine Safety Unit Chicago in June.

His first assignment was to Marine Safety Unit Morgan City, La., where he served in inspections and investigations divisions. As a boarding team member, he led most boardings and inspections of tanker ships supplying U.S. oil through the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port.

In 2008, Puffer was named chief of the Port State Control Branch at Sector St. Petersburg, Fla. In this role, he was responsible for the screening, inspecting and boarding all of the foreign flagged vessels calling on ports on the west coast of Florida.

Additionally, he served as command duty officer for search and rescue, law enforcement and ports and waterways coastal security missions throughout the St. Petersburg sector.

In 2013, Puffer completed the Masters of Business Administration and Masters of Accounting program at the College of Williams and Mary. He was awarded the Student Achievement Award from the Federation of Schools of Accountancy for superior academic achievement, leadership and professionalism in post-baccalaureate accounting education.

Puffer was inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, international honor society for collegiate business schools. He qualified as a Certified Public Accountant, joining a few active-duty CPAs in the Coast Guard.

A native of St. Petersburg, Fla., Puffer graduated from the University of Florida in 2001 with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. He worked in private-sector financial services industry before attending Officer Candidate School in January 2005.

Puffer earned two Coast Guard commendation medals and two Coast Guard achievement medals. He lives in Chicago with his wife Lindsay, daughter Leah and son Colin.

Call (630) 554-9386 for more information.

