

Get to know your Chief Petty Officer Association Regional Advisor candidate Mark Cortor, CWO4 (ret). Mark is recently retired from Active Duty with 25+ years of service to our U.S. Coast Guard. He is extremely passionate as to non-profit associations, as Mark has served as former President of the CPOA (Petaluma Chapter 2007-08), former President of the CWOA (2018-2020) and former Coast Guard Advisor to the Board of Directors of the Sea Service Family Foundation (SSFF) (2019-2020).

Mark Cortor is a CPOA Silver Lifetime Member (member in good standing since 2006), CWOA Lifetime Member, FRA Member, MOAA Member and American Legion Member. He continues to remain active within non-profit organizations as the current Immediate Past President of the CWOA, while also serving on several of their standing committees and serves as the Chief Advocacy Officer of the SSFF. In his local community of Forest City, NC, Mark serves with the American Legion Post 74 and Cpl Chris S. Ebert Marine Corps League Detachment #1221.

Mark is desiring to become more active member of our CPOA at the National level, as a Regional Advisor. He has proven his ability to foster better communications between like-minded military associations and increase their voice on Capitol Hill. During the partial government shutdown of 2019, Mark played a key role in bring all resources and associations together to bring one voice to Washington DC. Just days after shoulder surgery, Mark "Stormed the Hill" with just three other volunteers, but was able to visit every Congressional Office in both the House and Senate to advocate for the "Pay the Coast Guard Act". Just one year later, Mark faced yet another challenge of which the CWOA had never encountered in its 91-year history. Due to COVID-19, he quickly developed a plan to hold the CWOA Annual Meeting virtually and was able to successfully conduct all required business to keep the association moving forward, along with a smooth transition of leadership. He also has a tremendous understanding the role of social media plays in today's world, as our future in communications continues to change.

On a personal note, Mark is married to Dana Cortor and they have three kids: Tyler (24), Andrew (14), Savannah (10) and one granddaughter Persephone (1). Mark and Dana reside in western North Carolina on Dana's homestead with her grandfather, Harry, along with his in-laws. The Cortor family loves God, family, country and of course baseball!

Vote Mark Cortor!