



Western Pacific Maritime Academy

Biography



CAPT RANDY BROWN, INSTRUCTOR

Master 3000 Ton, Master of Towing

Born to a military family in 1959 at Kirtland Airforce (AF) base, grew up in Albuquerque and Belen New Mexico (NM). At 9 years of age, his family moved to Paramount, Los Angeles California and at age 10 they experience the 'liveaboard life' for 4 years on a former Coast Guard (CG) cutter in San Pedro. Through his high school years, he lived at a boy's ranch in Belen, NM learning the discipline and the values of hard work that served him well to his future. Randy now lives with his wife Cindy in a lovely home overlooking enchanting Lau Lau Bay on facing the sunrise on south east Saipan.

Right out of high school Randy joined the Army in 1978. His entire career was as a water craft operator which gave him the passion and skills for being an accomplished mariner. He honed his seamanship skills and knowledge with additional experience and responsibilities through his Army career. His service took him to Hawaii, Panama and Virginia where he served as an instructor and on various craft including landing craft and ocean-going tugs. After 20 years of service, he retired honorably as a Sargent First Class.

Solid experience as an Army watercraft operator made a smooth transition into the Merchant Marine when he earned his 1600-ton Masters license in 1999. He first served as Second Mate on an articulated tug barge for 6 months and then landed a job with McAllister towing out of Newport News Virginia. Later he served on the Military Sealift Command (MSC) vessel the Advantage. In 2004 he joined the Seafaring International Union in various unlicensed positions and landed on the shores of Saipan in 2010 while serving on the USNS Pless where he met his wife. Since that time he worked as a mariner in the Saipan tourism trade and currently sails as Chief Mate on the ocean tug Tamara plying the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Teaching was a common thread in Captain Randy's career both in the Army and Saipan's Maritime Training International. His vision is for young people to take his job, his goal is to pass on his experience so that the next generation of mariners will rise out of Western Pacific Maritime Academy to carry on long standing maritime traditions and skills. He loves to teach based on experience and believes that there is no substitute for 'on the job' training.