

# SCUTTLEBUTT



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY 5<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT NORTHERN REGION, DIVISION 7

MANAHAWKIN, NJ FLOTILLA 74

April, 2009

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

VOLUME 09 No 04

FSO-PB *Roger Guenther rdguenther@verizon.net*

FLOTILLA WEB SITE: <http://a0530704.uscgaux.info/>



**Message from Mike O'Brien**  
**Flotilla Commander**

April is finally upon us and the weather is looking better every day. What does that mean to Flotilla 74? It means we are getting busier each day. On April 4<sup>th</sup> the ABS class with 48 students registered and a Safe Boating information table at the Boat Shop open house in Manahawkin stretches our resources once again. We welcome all to volunteer for the open houses but only certified NJ State Boating Instructors can volunteer for the ABS courses. You must have a State issued ID card to interact with the students at these classes.

We have a number of member training events planned at the Division and Flotilla level. At our next flotilla meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup> we have the one hour TCT refresher course set for all crew and coxswains. This will take place immediately following our meeting.

There is a crew schools scheduled for the week of April 27<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in attending, please contact our SO-MT Luis Salgado ASAP. The slots are filling fast so contact him soon to reserve your spot.

There will be a full member-training schedule at the division meetings, which started in March with a session on knots and continued with First Aid training by Dr. Michael Alexander at the April meeting. Luis Salgado and Dr. Alexander are exploring a CPR training proposal for our members as well.

For anyone thinking of becoming a crewmember I strongly suggest that you attend the 8 hr TCT training being offered at Station Barnegat Light on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>. This would also apply for any crewmember or

coxswain that requires their 8 hr TCT this year. Take advantage of this local training.

We have our second ABS class scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you are in possession of a State ID card, we need your help because Jon Bomengen, Bill Smith and myself will be in training at TRACEN in Cape May. If you are qualified and have the time, please contact our FSO-PE Barbara Bomengen.

We are planning other events in May and we will need the help of ACTIVE MEMBERS. Please see the flotilla calendar of events for scheduled activities and GET INVOLVED; we could use a hand.

Respectfully,

Michael J. O'Brien  
Flotilla Commander



**Message from Bill Smith**  
**Vice Flotilla Commander**

On March 20<sup>th</sup> thru March 22<sup>nd</sup>, I attended the 5NR Spring Conference in York, PA. This year's conference was different from last years. Instead of attending the various talks and presentations as I did last year, I signed up for the NAV Rules class. I soon found out that this was a very challenging task. We started on Friday afternoon with a two-hour class lead by a very capable Instructor, Rich Weiss, from Division 8. Rich gave us a loose-leaf binder with his Power Point presentation, self-tests after each part and various other aids. Friday's class was two hours long after which we had our homework to do. The homework and self test kept me busy until midnight that night. After breakfast the next day, it was back to class again for another two hours.

Various Flotilla awards were presented during lunch. After that it was back to another two hours of class. We had a very good Banquet dinner; however we had to leave early before the award presentations because we had homework and studying for the NAV Rules test on Sunday morning. I apologize to Jim Emery, IPDCPT-E, for not being there to see him get his Coast Guard Award from CDR Glenna Tredinnick. I hope that when you see Jim you will congratulate him for receiving such a distinguished award.

We finished the homework and studied until midnight again for the second night. The next morning, after breakfast, we met again for a review of our homework and for the closed book test. The test was a 30-question test that required a 90% to pass. This meant we could miss no more than three questions. We did not know whether we passed it or not, as the tests are given to DIRAUX for correcting. DIRAUX will notify us by mail on our results. No matter whether I passed or not, it was a very informative course in which I learned a great deal about NAV Rules. If I did pass and become Coxswain, I will be required to take it again in three years; however, the next time will be open book.

Respectfully,

Bill Smith  
Vice Flotilla Commander

### **Transferred and new members welcomed in the March meeting**



Bill Smith, VCO welcomes Paul Schell who transferred from Flotilla 7-12



Bill Smith, VCO welcomes Jarrell Oden who was sworn in as a new member.



### **New Member/All Member Workshop Held**

A well-attended workshop was held on March 14 that provided a wealth of information to

new members and a refresher for experienced members. Flotilla 74 members gave about 30% of the presentations.

Flotilla 74 Speakers and topics presented were:



**Jon Bomengen, DVCDR**  
Overview



**Lyn A. Thomas, IPDCDR**  
Four Cornerstones & Auxiliary Structure



**Herbert E. Hoeger, SO-OP**  
Boat Crew Program & Training



**Edna M. Winans, SO-PB**  
Publications



**William Smith, SO-CS**  
Web Watcher/Communications Services



**Tamra Neer, SO-FN**  
Finance



The Stafford Township Fireman's Fishing Flea Market was held on March 28 at the firehouse. Jon Bomengen, Edna Winans,

Fred Strang, Roger Guenther and Doug Smith represented the Flotilla by distributing literature and answering questions.

**ALL VESSEL EXAMINERS:****By Bob Kratsch FSO-VE**

Remember when doing an inspection to be sure the boat owner is aware that "all recreational boats must carry one type I, II, III or V (wearable) PFD for each person on board. Any boat 16' or over (except canoes

and kayaks) must also carry one type IV (throwable) PFD."

The inspection season is now upon us. Please contact me at 609 698 3868 if you need supplies such as stickers or 7012 Vessel Safety Check forms.

Thanks to all VEs and remember the date for Pebble Beach Homeowners Assoc is 6/27/09. We will need a minimum of 6 VEs. Please contact me if you will be able to help. In next month's message, I hope to have a schedule set up for several marine inspections.

**Maritime Mobile Service Identities****By Doug Smith SOCM**

Everyone should know about this feature of VHF Radios by now. It could save your life if working properly and connected to your GPS. It all starts with the MMSI number (.Maritime Mobile Service Identities). "Boat US" supplies the number free of charge. All of your boat

information, including home port, phone numbers, and emergency contacts will be inputted into a data base, which is updated weekly. The Coast Guard, or any nearby vessel similarly equipped, will be able to identify and locate you instantly. None of the DSC features will work until you obtain and install the MMSI number on your radio.

Once the MMSI is installed, it opens a whole new world of on the water communication. You can create a "phone book" of MMSI numbers belonging to your friends or boating associates with which you can "ring up" their vessels, find their location, and automatically switch to a predetermined talking channel for follow up conversation.

In summary, not only is the "Red Button" being used these days for DSC equipped radios but other feature uses are increasing. The list of MMSI's is growing; this increases your chances of being located quickly and taking the "search" out of Search and Rescue. If you haven't taken the time to make use of this new technology, maybe now is the opportunity to "Get on the List".

A good web site for additional information is:

<http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/MARCOMMS/gmdss/dsc.htm>

**Dates to remember**

# Don't Forget to post your hours!

**(For the latest information See**

<http://www.a0530704.uscgaux.info/March%20Calendar%20of%20Events.htm>)

**NEXT DIVISION MEETING**

*When:* April 3, 2009

*Where:* Mill Creek Community Center  
1199 Mill Creek Road, Manahawkin, 08050

*Time:* 1930 Hour

**NEXT FLOTILLA MEETING**

*When:* April 10, 2009

*Where:* Mill Creek Community Center  
1199 Mill Creek Road, Manahawkin, 08050

*Time:* 1930 Hour

**Next Breakfast Meeting**

*When:* April 22, 2009

*Where:* Jon & Barbara Bomengen  
284 Jennings Road  
Manahawkin, NJ 08050

**About Boating Safety Course**

*When:* April 4, 2009

*Where:* Mill Creek Community Center  
1199 Mill Creek Road, Manahawkin, 08050

*Time:* 0800-1600 Hours

**Open House "The Boat Shop"**

*When:* April 4, 2009

*Where:* 756 E. Bay Ave, Manahawkin, NJ

*Time:* TBD

**Aux Search Coordination & Execution Course**

(AUXSC&E previously AUXSAR)

At TRACEN Cape May, N.J. (Starts 0830 AM) Housing available on Base starting Friday  
E-mail Bruce Long, MT, dcp08@comcast.net  
This is held over two successful weekends

**Crew School**

There is a crew school scheduled for the week of April 27<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in attending, please contact our SO-MT Luis Salgado ASAP. The slots are filling fast

**Editors Corner**

Roger Guenther Editor FSO-PB  
[rdguenther@verizon.net](mailto:rdguenther@verizon.net)

Thanks to Doug Smith and Bob Kratsch for taking the time to write articles.

Do not forget to make sure that you have the latest information. One useful information source is The Local Notice to Mariners, which contains all information

relevant to the waterways within the Fifth Coast Guard District and is updated each Tuesday on the U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Center website at <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/lnm/d5/>

The home page for the Navcen is <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/navinfo/tim-entry.aspx>

In addition, one of the best sources of information is to talk to your Flotilla Staff Officer in charge of the subject matter. For Navigation Systems, that is Charles Andree.

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT PUBLICATION IS**  
**April 30, 2009**

