



TillaTalk

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FLOTILLA 14-2

VOLUME IX ISSUE 02 February 2009

Winter Meetings 2nd Tuesday, 1930 Hours, Hoss's Steak House, 2175 White St, York, PA

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
FIFTH NORTHERN REGION
DIVISION 14 FLOTILLA 14-02**

**JEFF KUHN, FLOTILLA COMMANDER
LINDY HARRISON, VICE FLOTILLA COMMANDER**

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Flotilla Commander Jeff Kuhn



Flotilla Commanders Report

February Flotilla Commander's Report

Mid-winter greetings fellow Auxiliarists: There may be a slow down in the economy, but there is no slow down in Auxiliary activity. It has, at least for me, been an extremely busy winter for meetings and training. AUXOP courses and crew training have been ongoing. The Division COW is coming up in a hurry 21 Feb. The registration form was in the Jan. newsletter. This is a fine event held at a majestic location. If you are not signed up, please do so right away. EOT is on the 28th of Feb., and ICS-210 on 8 March. Spring Conference is 20-22 March at Heritage Hills

in York. The registration form is on the 5NR web site. Spring training day at the SARDET is 4 April, when the required trainings will be presented: Instructor workshop, operations workshop, one-hour TCT, and probably the VE workshop, each, one-hour in length. The 8-hour TCT for the several of us, including me, who need it, has not yet been scheduled. I do, however, expect this to be presented at the Division level at our base. The spring workday at the base is 25 April beginning at 0830. We'll be doing some touch up work on the docks, among other chores. We will look to put the docks in 9 May. These workdays are a great way for everyone to contribute, plus it's great fellowship. If all that is not enough to get your *semper paratus* in gear nothing will. Incidentally, the Division is seriously looking into an Auxiliary family night at the ballpark at a Lancaster Barnstormers game either 23 May or 6 June. Our honor guard will be participating in the pre-game ceremonies.

I'd like to add a thank you to all who served in Flotilla staff offices last year and those who accepted positions for the coming year. It was a pleasure for Lindy and I not to have to twist arms too much to get offices filled. In fact, the spirit of participation was wonderful. This will go a long way to making this a successful watch. Be well and rest assured, spring is around the corner.

Jeff

Meeting Minutes

MEETING MINUTES

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
FIFTH NORTHERN DISTRICT
DIVISION XIV
FLOTILLA 14-02

Tuesday 10 Feb 2009
Hoss's Steak House
1930

Total attendance- 10 members and 1 guest

Call to Order – FC Kuhn
Pledge to flag – Troy Faw
Invocation – Bob Wecker
Introduction of Guests – Ernie Harrison
Minutes from last meeting – Darwin B. Dosch
Financial Report – Jeff Kuhn for Karen Hagerman
Staff Officers' Reports – VFC Harrison

MT – Jeff Kuhn – The AUX-OP weather class has 4 members and will be completed in 5 weeks. Jeff is working with Rob St. Clair on crew training.

MA –Troy Faw – no report

CM – Troy Faw – no report

OP – Lindy Harrison – Members need to pick weekends for Patrols so Lindy can schedule them.

PS – Keith & Karen Hagerman- no report

IS – Bob Wecker- Forms are up-to date

PV – Henry Reeser – no report

PB – Stan Olson- Some Tilla Talks are being returned. Needs latest mailing and email addresses.

MS –Rob St. Clair - no report

AN – Greg Stough- no report

PE – Lindy Harrison- Total of 19 people in BS&S class which Greg Stough is teaching this evening.

PA – Patti Kuhn- Jeff presented newspaper photo of Kevin Kuhn & Zach Wiest at the Christmas Party. Coast Guard Public Affairs Guidance announcement provides justification for USCG AUX boating courses that may appear to compete with privately sponsored courses for profit. This has created a conflict in a few states such as New Jersey. The announcement provides assistance for response to media inquiries.

CS – Ryan Crider- no report

VE – Henry Reeser- no report

Commander's Report –

Division COW, 21 Feb. 2009, Lauxmont Farms, Social hour 1300, Dinner 1400, \$30,
Service Dress Blue or appropriate civilian attire

ICS 210, scheduled for 8 March, at noon, has been relocated to the Lower Windsor Township Building due to anticipated over crowding at the base. Two FEMA courses: 100 & 200 required to take ICS-210.

Jeff and Lindy to attend Elected Officers Training classes, 28 Feb in Reading

Spring Conference will again be in York- 20-22 March – Heritage Hills Conf. Center

No TCT offered at this Conference

Training is scheduled for 4 April at the SARDET Base

Spring workday 25 April, prepare docks and service the SARDET Base

Install docks 9 May with 16 May as "rain date"

Uniform notes- Female Combo hat is discontinued; ODUs must be either tucked or un-tucked, but not mixed within a group. Tucked tops to be discontinued in 2012. Service Dress Blue Bravo is now Service Dress Blue; no more Bravo.

Correspondence –

Member Summary and Status Report Letters presented to attending members.

Old Business –

No comments on changes to standing rules.

Mariner's Marine Weekend TBD.

New Business –

Lindy has a disk of the Telecomm course with all course references; search function adds flexibility. If AUXCOMM course was completed, member can operate Base radio. Jake and Jeff will be qualified and can teach the course on how to operate the Base radio.

Visiting Officers – none

Awards – Lindy Harrison presented 20 years Service Award.

Good of the Auxiliary – Jeff concludes that members like the West York Hoss's for winter meetings.

Guest comments – Ernie Harrison- “ Happy to be here”.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 10 Mar 2009, 1930, Hoss's Steak House, White St., York

Motion to adjourn- Stan Olson motioned, Troy Faw seconded

Respectfully submitted, Darwin B. Dosch FSO-SR

Member Activities



FC Jeff Kuhn is shown congratulating VFC Lindy Harrison on receiving her 20 Year Service Award. Way to go, Lindy! Was it a tiring 20 years? *Photo by Stan Olson*

Calendar Of Events

March

6 March- Division Meeting- SARDET Long Level

8 March- ICS 210 Training, Lower Windsor Township Building, 2425 Craley Road, 1300 Hours

10 March- Flotilla Meeting- Hoss's Steak House, West York, 1930 Hours

20-22 March, District 5NR Spring Conference, Heritage Hills Conference Center

April

2 April- Division Meeting- SARDET Long Level

4 April- Training Session- Ops, Instr, TCT, VE- SARDET Long Level

10 April- Good Friday

12 April- Easter Sunday

14 April- Flotilla Meeting- SARDET Long Level- 1930 Hours

25 April- Prepare docks and service base- SARDET Long Level- 0830 Hours

AUXILIARY BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION MISSION

SUMMARY:

There are commercial interests that provide recreational boating safety courses to the boating public which may contend that the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary should not be involved in the conduct of boating safety education. Specific arguments may include that the Auxiliary teaches similar courses to the public as the commercial businesses, that the Auxiliary unfairly impinges on commercial interests, that states lose valuable tax dollar revenue, and that the involvement of the Auxiliary in boating safety education is the same as the Coast Guard's relationship with commercial towing companies. Further contentions may include that the Auxiliary inappropriately leverages its status as a volunteer, non-profit organization and fails to be accountable in the management of revenue from its boating safety education program.

BACKGROUND:

The strategic plan of the national RBS program is coordinated by the Coast Guard's National Boating Safety Advisory Council and the Coast Guard's Boating Safety Division. This plan emphasizes the importance of volunteer organizations as a key element of its public education objectives, and it stresses the need for contributions from a multitude of partners in recreational boating safety. The Auxiliary is a vital and devoted partner in national, state and local boating safety programs that support this plan.

Auxiliarists not only provide boating safety education to the public, but they also conduct search and rescue, vessel safety checks, marine environmental protection and a wide variety of direct support to Coast Guard missions. Without recruiting opportunities from boating safety courses, Auxiliary presence would be significantly reduced as would its ability to support Coast Guard missions and national interests.

GUIDANCE:

- Public affairs posture is response to query.

KEY MESSAGES:

- The Auxiliary, the Coast Guard's statutorily-created volunteer organization, has since its creation in 1939 been tasked by the Commandant of the Coast Guard with the promotion and improvement of boating safety through the education of America's boating public.
- The Auxiliary has statutory and regulatory authority to execute the Coast Guard's recreational boating safety programs, an intrinsic part of which is public education. The Auxiliary has nearly 70 years of expertise in this endeavor and is dedicated to delivering comprehensive, high-quality boating safety education.
- The Auxiliary is a vital and devoted partner in national, state and local boating safety programs.
- Auxiliarists expose members of the public to a patriotic way by which they can give back to their communities, their state and their nation.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q1. Is the Auxiliary authorized or required to teach boating safety classes to the public?

A1. Both. The Coast Guard is the nation's lead agency for the prevention of loss of life and property in the maritime domain. It is required by law to oversee our national recreational boating safety program. The Auxiliary has the expertise and statutory and regulatory authority to conduct boating safety classes as part of its support to Coast Guard programs. The Commandant of the Coast Guard has thus directed it to support the Coast Guard's development and implementation of recreational boating safety programs.

Q2. Does the Auxiliary pay taxes?

A2. The IRS has determined that the Auxiliary and all of its units (not including any authorized corporations) are an integral part of the federal government. Auxiliary units are therefore not required to file state or federal income tax returns. Auxiliary units may also be exempt from payment of state sales and use taxes on items that they purchase.

Q3. If the Auxiliary is part of the Coast Guard, why does it charge people for its boating safety classes?

A3. Auxiliary is authorized to collect certain fees for its boating safety classes. The fees collected by the Auxiliary for its boating safety classes help offset costs of the classes and provide funding for expenses incurred in direct support of Coast Guard missions and programs.

Q4. What does the Auxiliary do with the money it collects from its boating safety classes?

A4. The Auxiliary is authorized to collect certain fees for its boating safety classes. These fees help offset the Auxiliary's costs for the classes and support of Coast Guard missions and programs. Examples include:

- Course advertisements in local publications;
- Teaching aids (e.g. – handouts, brochures, hands-on demonstration equipment);
- Administrative supplies (e.g. – pencils, paper for student use);
- Audio-visual equipment (e.g. – projectors, screens, laptop computers);
- Facility rental and custodial fees; and,
- Refreshments or meals provided to students to enhance the experience of long classes.

Auxiliarists are prohibited from collecting or receiving any compensation for their performed services. Additionally, funds collected from Auxiliary boating safety classes are prohibited from being used for social functions.