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United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

Official Newsletter of Coast Guard Auxiliary 5th District, Northern Region



# topside



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## *Leadership of 5NR*

**Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX)**  
CDR Tim Gunter

**Operations Training Officer (OTO)**  
CWO4 Richard Clark

**District Commodore (DCO)**  
COMO Barry M. Kyper

**District Chief Of Staff (DCOS)**  
Thomas J. Dever

**District Captain Central (DCAPT-C)**  
Donald W. Merrill

**District Captain East (DCAPT-E)**  
Joseph Smith, Sr.

**District Captain West (DCAPT-W)**  
Robert G. Vanderhook

**Immediate Past Commodore**  
COMO Kevin C. Murphy

**President Past Captains Association**



**D-AA** Jason C. Flynn

**D-AA** Phil Walmsley

**DSO-C** Kevin L. Tyler

**DSO-C** Vickie M. Tyler

**DSO-DV** Marilyn F. Hughes

**DSO-FN** COMO Robert J. Perrone, Sr.

**DSO-LP** Martin C. Mooney Sr.

**DSO-SL** Harry W. Otto

**DSO-SL** Thomas J. Morrissey

**DSO-SL** Richard L. Raudabaugh

**DDC-Logistics** Mark F. Letavish

**DSO-CS** Richard Taylor, III

**DSO-HR** Thomas H. Brouillard

**DSO-IS** Lorraine Cannata

**DSO-MA** Lorraine Bianco

**DSO-PB** Timothy P Marks

**DSO-SR** Rita H. Kratzer

**DDC-Prevention** Alfred O. Grimminger

**DSO-MT** Steven J. Marthouse

**DSO-NS** Matthew J. O'Brien Jr.

**DSO-PA** Kevin C. Murphy

**DSO-PE** Robert N. Adams

**DSO-PV** Russell M. Galson

**DSO-VE** Edwin W. Seda

**DDC-Response** Douglas L. Smith

**DSO-CM** Richard F. Lord

**DSO-IM** Greg M. Stough

**DSO-MS** Laurie L. Huselton

**DSO-OP** Douglas L. Smith

### Cover Photograph:

**CAPE MAY, NJ** - During a Memorial Day ceremony held on Cape May Beach, a USCG 45ft. Response Boat-medium (RB-M) tows a small boat adorned with fresh flowers out to sea in honor of the military service members who died and serve for our freedom. The Flower Boat Ceremony was originated by Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 08-02 (5NR) and has been conducted every Memorial Day for nearly 60 years. *Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Joseph Giannattasio*



## *From the Desk of the Commodore*

Upon arriving to D5NR as DIRAUX CDR Gunter arranged for the EXCOM to meet with SDB Commander, Capt. Benjamin Cooper. At the start of the meeting, Capt. Cooper began his discussion with the members by inquiring as to what the Auxiliary in the D5NR is doing to “mitigate risk” among the membership. EXCOM members lead by then DCO Murphy offered several examples of activities and procedures in place either as part of training programs or day to day activities that provided a safety awareness and risk prevention utilized by the members in the district. Throughout the meeting, Captain Cooper reiterated his concern for the safety of the members who were under his watch as Sector Commander. It was very clear to those in attendance that he took his role as protector of those who served under him very seriously and without doubt, the message was received “loud and clear.”

As we begin our major activity season this summer, engaging the public, participating in Vessel examinations, performing surface and air patrols, and other Auxiliary undertakings let us remember and rededicate ourselves to the training and procedures that enable us to “mitigate risk” and perform our tasks both safely and efficiently.



**Commodore Barry Kyper**  
**District Commodore**

We have been very fortunate in the D5NR that our members thoughtfully engage in meticulous, deliberate actions and have thus been able to avoid major incidents and accidents. Conscientiously, our members have been performing to expected safety standards contributing greatly to our success in this area and outstanding safety record. I am very proud of our past performance and ask that you all engage in those practices that will most prominently keep us safe and secondarily, maintain our good record.

Here are a few safety tips to help mitigate risk as we participate this summer:

- ◇ Keep an eye out for your shipmates
- ◇ if you see something that needs correction for safety sake- say something! (tactfully)
- ◇ Stay hydrated
- ◇ Keep an eye on the weather
- ◇ Watch for wandering attention and signs of fatigue
- ◇ Take breaks
- ◇ Share the load
- ◇ Stay in contact with others- notify of time out and return

In closing, I am reminded of the remarks that started each episode of the police drama from the 1980s “Hill Street Blues” when Sgt. Phil Esterhouse extolled his officers to “**be careful out there!**” before sending them out on patrol at the end of the morning roll call. Good advice no matter what the circumstances!

Have a safe and happy summer! SEMPER PARATUS!

**HONOR; RESPECT; DEVOTION TO DUTY**

## *Message from the Chief of Staff*

I joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary the "old fashioned way." Thoughts of buying a boat motivated my son and me to attend a local BS&S class. We enjoyed it and learned a lot. At the end, the instructor, Don Coggins (04-09), sat down with us to tell us what the Auxiliary does for boaters and the US Coast Guard. He also told us about the free classes and opportunities that would be available to us if we joined and both of us did.

At first my entire Auxiliary world was my flotilla. It was a fun, active world but, in hindsight, one that did not expose me to all of the opportunities the Auxiliary had to offer.

A couple of years after I joined, my flotilla commander, Russell Vreeland asked me to go to D-Train (same event, different name then) with him. I know that I would never have decided to go on my own - I really thought the event was just for "big shots!" We shared a room to keep costs down. Russell gave me advice on training to take, made sure I met others and that I knew I was welcome at events like the board meeting.

I left with a broadened and completely changed view of the Auxiliary. I still valued my flotilla but had now been exposed to very interesting training, programs and people, including for the first time our active duty and Auxiliary district leadership. Looking back, that weekend gave me the incentive to become more involved - to work toward new qualifications - and to try new programs. It was the beginning of my increased interest and involvement as a member.

Motivate one of your flotilla's newer members. Invite them to go with you to District 5NR's Fall D-Train on 8-10 September. Maybe your division or flotilla can help them with the costs. Either way, you will show them you value them and you will encourage them. With all of the demands on our time, that motivation may make all the difference. It did for me!



**Thomas J. Dever**  
**District Chief of Staff**  
**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary**  
**5th District-Northern Region**

Thomas J. Dever  
District Chief of Staff  
Coast Guard Auxiliary Fifth District Northern Region

# A Focus on 5NR Departments



# *Incident Management and Preparedness*

## **5<sup>th</sup> Northern's 2017 FULL ACCOUNTABILITY DRILL**

An approaching Atlantic Hurricane has resulted in a mandatory evacuation order being issued for parts of Cape May County New Jersey and Sussex County Delaware. Everbridge® mapping capabilities have identified 255 Auxiliarists, and their families, that must evacuate. Voluntary evacuation orders have been issued for additional areas that could be adversely affected, affecting [many more Auxiliarists](#).

No, this time it is not a real event, it was a drill. But a very important drill designed to help each of us learn and understand our part during Everbridge® notifications. Our results for this Full Accountability Drill were excellent! Please continue to read to learn of the results!

The United States Coast Guard considers it's Auxiliarists as one of its most important assets. Should a real hurricane put Auxiliarists in danger, rest assured that we will be directed to confirm that all Auxiliarists in the affected area are safe. The US Coast Guard takes our safety very seriously, and we should too.

As most of you know, each month we perform a monthly Everbridge® Familiarization Drill. These drills are prepared and initiated by the Auxiliary's Incident Management & Preparation Team of 5<sup>th</sup> Northern. The April drill was a joint effort between the US Coast Guard and US Coast Guard Auxiliary called a HUREX Drill. This was a week-long event that ended on Friday with a "Hotwash" meeting to review results; determine what went well, and also to examine areas that can be improved upon. Constant review and improvement is critical to success.

These drills are conducted monthly to insure the 5<sup>th</sup> Northern Everbridge® system, our procedures and our protocol are all working properly. These drills are vital to insure each and every Auxiliarist is familiar with how to confirm Everbridge® notifications when requested to do so. It's recommended that Auxiliarists confirm each message they receive by text, Email or phone to insure they can confidently confirm by all methods when needed. As everyone knows, as soon as Everbridge® receives the first confirmation, that Auxiliarist will not receive any additional contacts through Everbridge®. Of course if an Auxiliarist does not confirm they will be contacted by text, phone and email.

How long does it take to confirm? It takes about fifteen seconds when responding by text or email, and perhaps 60 seconds if you confirm by phone. In all instances the message will indicate exactly what you need to do to confirm. Only fifteen seconds? That's far less time than an advertising commercial on radio or television.

For the 2017 Full Accountability Drill 5<sup>th</sup> Northern Auxiliarists had an excellent response! Out of 2033 members we had 94% of them (1904) members that were confirmed! See below for our statistics.

*Continued on next page...*

# *Incident Management and Preparedness*

## Summary Accountability Drill Results

### Flotilla Statistics

- 2033 Members sent Everbridge® notification with request to confirm
- 10 Flotilla confirmed 100% of their members with Everbridge® alone (no manual confirmation needed)
- 20 Flotilla confirmed 100% of their members with Everbridge® and manual confirmation
- 40 Flotilla concluded the drill with unconfirmed members

### Member Statistics (94% confirmation!)

- 1772 Auxiliary members (87%) confirmed with Everbridge® alone
- 261 Auxiliary members (13%) were not confirmed with Everbridge®
- 132 Auxiliary members (7%) were manually confirmed by Flotilla Leadership (or their assigns)
- 129 Auxiliary members (6%) remained unconfirmed at the conclusion of the Drill

Please be sure to congratulate the following Flotilla, and their members, for having 100% confirmation rate with Everbridge® alone! This is fantastic! Flotilla 053-01-09, 053-07-11, 053-15-04, 053-16-03, 053-16-05, 053-16-08, 053-17-03, 053-20-02, 053-21-05 and 053-21-06. Please keep up the great work!

We must also congratulate the following Flotilla, and their leadership teams, for achieving 100% confirmation through a combination of Everbridge® and manual contacts made by their leadership! Flotilla 053-04-04, 053-07-02, 053-08-02, 053-12-01, 053-12-03, 053-12-05, 053-12-08, 053-15-11, 053-17-01, 053-17-02, 053-17-04, 053-18-02, 053-18-05, 053-19-02, 053-19-03, 053-20-03, 053-20-04, 053-21-01 and 053-21-04. Excellent work on achieving that 100% confirmation! Thank you all!

As you can see, we had an excellent response to this year's full accountability drill! Congratulations to all those that actively participated. Next year we can do even better by working with other members to insure they confirm during Everbridge® drills, and by increasing the number of flotilla that responded to the request to confirm their members during the drill. Many thanks to everyone that participated in this Full Accountability Drill. Your efforts made our District a *GREAT SUCCESS!*

Greg Stough, DSO-IM&P





## *Member Training*

I believe that most individuals, who join the Coast Guard Auxiliary, do so to receive the education, training and individual development that we offer. I believe also, that units with an active training program generate enthusiasm and naturally attract new members. With that philosophy, we have tried to foster the idea that we must develop all our members with not only the training to qualify in our cornerstone programs but also to develop their leadership skills to confidently and successfully hold the appointed and elected offices necessary for our organization to function.

As DSO-MT, one of the responsibilities is to insure members have the opportunities to take the courses to achieve the AUXOP designation. Several years ago, the program was modified so members had some flexibility in picking the courses that interested them from a set menu. Units that were looking for skilled instructors to present some of these courses have contacted Member Training and we've been able to provide assistance. Currently we plan to offer the Auxiliary Seamanship Course (AUXSEA) by means of our District Go-to-Training software. This will give our interested members a method of receiving excellent instruction in the comfort of their own home. If all works well with this first course, we will be in a position to provide a really mixed offering of material by the best instructors in the District without the expense and scheduling difficulties normally encountered. Stay tuned for further developments.

The schedule of training and workshops offered at our Spring and Fall D-TRAIN events is also the responsibility of Member Training. There are some workshops that presentations that are best suited for this kind of situation. From those required courses, we look for others to round out the offerings. We have been very fortunate to be able to hold National "C" School courses in Leadership in conjunction with D-TRAIN for the last several years. This course is extremely popular and fills up quite rapidly. Being it is controlled by National, we must follow their guidelines and class size limits. Obviously we want to offer programs of interest to our members, so if you have a subject area you would like covered, please feel free to contact me or one of the ADSO's.



**Steve Marthouse**  
**DSO-MT**





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## *Human Resources*

Submitting the ANSC Form 7035

By

Thomas H. Brouillard

DSO-HR, 5NR

By far, the greatest number of personnel actions I review and forward to DIRAUX are, unhappily, disenrollments. These are also, by far, the most time consuming for me, for the flotilla commanders and, I dare say, for DIRAUX. The reasons for this are various, but mainly the following:

New DSOs-HR and FCs breaking into their jobs

Failure to consult the AUXMAN

Failure to consult the D5NR POLMAN

Let's look at some particulars. The requirements pertaining to disenrollments are found in the AUXMAN, Chapter 3, Section H.5, pp. 3-54 to 3-56 and the POLMAN, Chapter 2, Section A.2, pp. 2-3 to 2-15. Some important highlights are as follows:

**Only** the DIRAUX can disenroll members; Auxiliarists cannot disenroll Auxiliarists.

Disenrollment Requests must be postmarked or emailed to the DSO-HR by **15 November** to avoid possibly having to pay dues for the member for the following year.

The deadline for the DSO-HR to get requests to DIRAUX is **21 December** to ensure end of year processing.

Generally, members disenrolling with **15 or more years** of cumulative service should be placed in Retired Member Status.

The most common Disenrollment Requests are:

Member Request: Various reasons are given by members. FC and/or FSO-HR should personally communicate with the member to determine if disenrollment is really the best course of action, or if there is some way of retaining the member for the Auxiliary.

Non-Payment of Financial Obligations: Member's failure to pay dues or other financial obligations after repeated attempts to notify him or her over a reasonable period of time.

Retirement: Member has 15 or more years of cumulative service, qualifies, and desires Retired Member status.

Death: Immediate notification should be given to the DSO-HR, so that DIRAUX and the DCO are made aware as soon as possible.

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## *Human Resources, continued*

The following are the proper procedures in submitting Disenrollment Requests to the DSO-HR for each of the above:

**Member Requests (Disenrollment or Retired Status):** Requests must be submitted by the member in writing to the FC. The FC forwards an ANSC Form 7035, Change of Member Status, to the DSO-HR by surface mail or scanned pdf. document:

**Section I: Flotilla Commander:**

Fills in the Member Name and Member Number **only**.

**Section II: Member:**

Fills in Flotilla Number (053-XX-XX) and Date;

Checks either the box “I desire Retired Member status” and fills in his or her Enrollment Date **OR** checks the box “I desire to disenroll” and fills in the reason (optional). **Note:** Transfers will be addressed in a future article.

Checks the box “My membership card is enclosed” and encloses card. **Note:** Failure to return the I.D. Card will not hold up the action, but it should be requested.

Signs

**Section III: Flotilla Commander:**

If the member is requesting Disenrollment, checks the box “Recommend disenrollment effective,” fills in a date, and checks the box “at Member’s Request” **OR** if the member is requesting Retired Status, checks the box “Member desires and is eligible for Retired Member status and checks the box either “yes” or “no.”

Signs and Dates. **Important Note:** If the member is in AP Status, the DCDR must also sign and date.

Forward the form (and the I.D. Card) to the DSO-HR.

**Note:** If the member returns the card, it **must** be sent to the DSO-HR, as DIRAUX collects the I.D. Cards at each D-Train.

**Section IV: DSO-HR:**

Reviews the form and the information; returns to FC if more is needed. If good to go,

Checks the box “Recommend Disenrollment” **OR** the box “Member desires and is eligible for Retired Status,” as appropriate.

Signs, dates, and forwards to DIRAUX with a copy to the FC.

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## *Human Resources, continued*

**Non-Payment of Financial Obligations:** Every reasonable effort must be made to collect financial obligations incurred by a member in the course of their normal Auxiliary membership. While timely payment of financial obligations is expected of every member, non-payment of dues shall not be used as a convenient method for disenrollment.

**Section I: Flotilla Commander:**

Fills in Member Name and Member Number.

Fills in year and amount in arrears.

Signs and dates.

Sends the 7035 to the member.

**Note:** This should be the last step in notifying the member after at least two previous attempts, which must be documented; it gives the member a final **30 days** to respond. Keep a copy of this form.

**Section II: Member:**

Fills in Flotilla Number (053-XX-XX) and Date

Checks the box “An amount to pay my Financial Obligation is enclosed” and fills in Flotilla Number (053-XX-XX) **OR** checks the box “I desire to disenroll” and fills in the reason (optional).

Checks the box “My membership card is enclosed” and encloses card.

Signs

**Note 1:** If after 30 days, this form is not returned, FC completes Section III and forwards to the DSO-HR.

**Note 2:** Along with the ANSC Form 7035, copies of the emails and/or phone and visitation logs showing AT LEAST two previous attempts to contact the member must be included. **Failure to include these is the reason most of these requests are sent back to the FC.**

**Section III: Flotilla Commander:**

Checks the box “Recommend disenrollment effective” and fills in the date.

Checks the box “For Non-payment of Financial Obligations.”

Signs and dates.

**Important Note:** If member is in AP Status, the DCDR must also Sign and Date.

*Continued on next page...*

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## *Human Resources, continued*

### **Section IV: DSO-HR:**

Reviews the form and the information, returns to FC if more is needed. If good to go,  
Checks the box “Recommend Disenrollment.”  
Signs, dates, and forwards to DIRAUX with a copy to the FC.

**Deaths:** Again, these should be reported as soon as possible. In addition to the notification, a request for a Letter of Sympathy from the DCO to the next of kin may be made through the DSO-HR.

### **Section I: Flotilla Commander:**

Fills in the deceased Member’s Name and Member Number **only**.

### **Section II:**

FC fills in the Flotilla Number

### **Section III: Flotilla Commander:**

Checks the box “Death of member” and fills in the date of death, as well as the name, address, and relationship of the next of kin.

**Note 1:** It’s very helpful to DIRAUX if you can include a copy of the Obituary with details of observances.

**Note 2:** If the deceased Member was eligible for Retired Status at time of death, please indicate in Section III. He or she can be awarded Retired Status posthumously and a certificate forwarded to the Next of Kin.

### **Section IV: DSO-HR:**

DSO-HR reviews the form and the information; returns to FC if more is needed. If good to go,  
Checks the box “Recommend Disenrollment.”  
Signs, dates, and forwards to all to DIRAUX with a copy to the FC.





# A Focus on 5NR Divisions



## *Division 4*

### *Summer: Time to Get to Work!*

Unlike many Americans, Auxiliarists do not have the summer (or even a part of it) off. Summer, at least in the northern part of the country, is when the Auxiliary really gets to work.

Nowhere is this more true than at TRACEN-Marcus Hook, Division 4's year-round training facility and summer headquarters for the Division's SafeBoat and support of District 5 Northern's SARDET operations.

As we move into summer 2017, the big focus is on the Auxiliary docks in the Delaware River. Located immediately in front of the training center, these docks take a year-round beating from tides, debris, and wakes. The result is an endless round of repair, refitting and coordination. The coordination part is important, because the health and viability of our docks depends in part on the health and viability of the nearby Borough of Marcus Hook dock.

But the docks are only part of the story. Training continues day and night in the TRACEN building, which also provides watch stander and communications capacity in support of patrol and SARDET activity. Summer also brings increased patrolling on the Delaware River as well as expanded Vessel Safety Examinations on the Delaware, Schuylkill and Susquehanna Rivers; in the northern portion of the Chesapeake Bay; and on a number of lakes, included Marsh Creek Lake and Lake Nockamixon.

All of this is in support of the AUXTRACEN Marcus Hook Mission Statement:

- ◇ To promote and improve Recreational Boating Safety
- ◇ To provide facilities and trained crews to augment the United States Coast Guard and enhance safety and security of our ports, waterways, and coastal region.
- ◇ To provide training in the missions of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary as determined by the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard.
- ◇ To support the United States Coast Guard operationally, administratively and logistically.



Division 4 Safe Boat, with United States Coast Guard Barque Eagle in the background.

Division 4 Commander: Alan Lindsay  
Vice Commander: Dick McConnell

## *Division 19*

### *Marine Safety Article*

#### **"Hot Stuff"**

While some people sometimes think they are "hot stuff," the "hot stuff" I wish to relate to you is no joking matter. "HOT" is an acronym representing the three phrases: "Hidden?"; "Obviously Suspicious"; and "Typical." This is a protocol developed by our British "cousins" to guide travellers by sea and air in assessing potentially dangerous terrorist threats. The protocol was developed jointly by the British Transport Police and the National Counter Terrorism Security Office or NaCTSO.

The "H" component asks if something appears to be concealed or hidden, the latter supplying the "H." Citizens are informed that bombs are unlikely to be left in locations such as this, i.e., where any unattended item will be noticed quickly. A question that observant individuals must ask themselves would be: "Is the unattended item simply lost or is it suspicious?" This leads to the next acronym component of "O" which is the phrase, "Obviously suspicious?" Questions asked here would be: Does it have wires, circuit boards, batteries, tape, or putty-like substances? Additionally, the observer asks themselves if they think the item poses an immediate threat to life. Lastly comes "T". This is the word "Typical." Is the item "typical" of what you would expect to find in this location? Common sense plays a big factor here. British authorities advise that most lost property is found in locations where people congregate.

If after applying the "H.O.T." protocol, and you believe the item to be suspicious, British Transport Police and NaCTSO advise to call 999 which of course here, would be 911.

British counter-terrorism organizations exercise regularly to remain vigilant for terror threats at inland ports and cargo facilities. The Thames River running through London is often the site for these exercises combining the forces of New Scotland Yard (NSY), MI5 (roughly the equivalent of our F.B.I.), Special Boat Service, Port of London Authority, Maritime and Coastguard Agency, the Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI), London Fire Brigade, and London Ambulance Service. Recently, an exercise took place involving a simulated terrorist hostage-taking incident on a "City Cruises" boat. A detail of armed officers boarded the vessel from fast police boats freeing the passengers from the "armed gunmen".

"H.O.T." is definitely an easily-remembered acronym for a procedure/protocol which might be of benefit as part of our AWW lexicon and strategy for dealing with suspicious activity on or near the water.

Gregg Bollinger, ThD

ADSO-MS (W) D5 NR, Div. 19, Flotilla 19-04



**Gregg Bollinger**  
**Division Staff Officer**  
**Marine Safety**

## *Division 7, continued*

### *Activities Around the Division*



**Clockwise from Top:** Long Level Crew School students pose during the swim qualification exercise at JCC in York. L to R: Kristy Miller, Richard Young, Mark Luckenbaugh, Bill Cookson, and Jan Renga. Instructor Jeff Kuhn stays dry.



On April 22, 2017, members of the Flotilla 19-06 put on display at the Red Lion Sportsman Show held at the Red Lion Fire Department Social Hall. Repeat-edly they were meeting with the many visitors of the show, handing out potential "life saving" literature. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliarist Eric Ferguson performed an on the spot Vessel Exam for an angler who brought his boat to the show, knowing the Auxiliarists would be there.

**From Left to Right:** Auxiliarists Dave Shelton, Eric Ferguson, Harold Col-dren, and new member Mark Snell.



# 5NR

## Notes of

### General Interest

### From COMO Kyper



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## *Welcome Lt. Commander Taylor*

Lieutenant Commander Victoria Taylor is the Director of Auxiliary, District Five North Region (D5NR). The Director serves as an advisor to the District Commander regarding oversight of all D5NR Auxiliary matters in support of operational commands, which include Sector Delaware Bay, Air Station Atlantic City, Training Center Cape May, and the Atlantic Strike Team. D5NR is comprised of approx. 2000 Auxiliarists, 140 small boats, 5 aircraft, and 165 radio facilities and encompass the state of Delaware, most of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. D5NR provides vessel safety checks, harbor patrols, search and rescue, marine environmental response, along with numerous other services.

Lieutenant Commander Taylor previously served in the Office of Personnel Allowance and Reimbursable Division, Coast Guard Headquarters. There she served as the Reserve subject matter expert and was responsible for the review and accuracy of 60,000 active duty, civilian, and Reserve billets with a \$4 billion budget on the Personnel Allowance List (PAL). She ensured PAL reprogrammings were compliant with Congress intent, funding limits, authorized work force caps, organizational initiatives, and Coast Guard policy.

She also served as the Reserve Force Readiness Chief (2011-2014) for the largest Reserve force within the Fifth District and the third largest force within the entire Coast Guard. She was the Reserve liaison between Sector active duty and Reserve forces who advised the Sector Commander and unit CO/OICs on Reserve policy, personnel, and training issues. Impressive management of the Reserve Program resulted in the #1 ranking in operational readiness for Sector and Station, receiving the RADM Bud Sparks Award for Reserve readiness.

Lieutenant Commander Taylor has responded to several disasters to include 2004 Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma; 2008 Hurricanes Gustav and Ike; 2010 Haitian earthquake; 2010 Deep Water Horizon Oil spill; 2011 Hurricane Irene; and 2012 Hurricane Sandy and Paulsboro Train Derailment.

She graduated from Wilmington University with a Masters of Business Administration in Accounting and will graduate from the Naval War College in 2018 with a Master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

Lieutenant Commander Taylor's personal awards include: Commendation Medal, four Achievement Medals, Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, CG Special Ops Service Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and multiple team and unit awards.

She has two awesome teenage boys and was married for 20 years to Rik Taylor, who recently passed.

## *Fall D-Train*

A most sincere thank you to Kevin and Vickie Tyler and their team for their outstanding effort and results in presenting the recent Spring D-Train conference that was held this past March in Reading, PA. Kevin and the committee have worked tirelessly to come up with creative ideas to breath some new life into the training program that is currently offered two times per year in the spring and fall.

### **SAVE THE DATE: September 8, 9, & 10 D5NR Fall D-Train**

Kevin and his team are cooking up another exiting offering for the Fall D-Train conference. If you have not attended one in the past or it has been a while since you participated, please check out the information that will soon be posted on the D5NR website. Friday evening will host the theme night activities with an Auxiliary Trivia contest to be presented at the dinner. Saturday will feature many of the training and informational programs that members always rave about and new this year is the “DEDICATION To DUTY” hallway that was very successful in the Spring and we hope will carry over into the Fall program. The different Auxiliary programs are invited to set up displays and have staff officers in attendance to explain a little about their activities and showcase what’s new in their fields. So please, check out the information, and mostly, plan to attend- you’ll be glad you did!

#### **Spring 2017 D-Train Re-Cap**

The team is to be commended for the Friday evening presentation by Dr. Tim Dring who spoke on the role of the Auxiliary in the D5NR during the second world war. The presentation outlining the activities of Auxiliarists from the area who provided service during the war years, supplementing the active duty in performing duties to keep America safe throughout the war years. The presentation was augmented with photos showing the Delaware river and port of Phila. as it appeared at that time, along with photos of the boats used to provide service and support to maritime activities to keep much needed commerce and war materiel moving in and out of the Delaware Bay and River. It was very interesting to see and hear about the very important role that the Auxiliary provided in support of the war effort.

New to the conference this spring was the “Dedication to Duty” hallway where the different departments were provided the opportunity to put up displays and have personnel available to talk about their activities and share their experiences with their shipmates. It was very gratifying to see those departments who participated and to observe the response to the visitors at the different booths during the presentations. A hearty “**Bravo Zulu**” to those departments who displayed throughout the day on Saturday. We are hoping to build on this success and have this activity continue at future events.

Another thank you goes out to Steve Marthouse and the excellent cadre of instructors he has assembled to provide the instruction for the many classes that were presented throughout the weekend. Steve is always looking for new ideas for programs. If there is a particular program you would like to see presented or if you have something you would like to share or present at one of our district training events, please contact him at [marthouse@inner.net](mailto:marthouse@inner.net) and let him know so he can schedule you for presentation at upcoming trainings. Special thanks also go out to Bob Babezki for the outstanding effort with the awards presentation this year. Bob has taken over the reins from long-time awards chairman Harry Dyer who laid the groundwork and established a high bar for achievement in this area. Bob has done a very credible job during his first attempt as he learned the ropes from Harry and put together an exceptional awards luncheon and banquet presentation honoring the many members whose superior achievements were recognized at these venues. As a sidelight, over 25 major awards were prepared for presentation along with the hundreds of state and district awards presented to members by the state organizations with whom we work hand in hand for the boating public.

A note of gratitude is extended to Jason Flynn and Phil Walmsley, the DCO aides who work quietly behind the scenes to ensure that all goes smoothly with this major event for the district.

#### **CONFERENCE REPORT BOOKLET:**

Because the reports submitted by the board members contain PPI, it was decided not to post the Conference Report Booklet on the D5NR website. Subsequently, you may request a copy by emailing the DCOS Tom Dever at: [tdever@deverarchitects.com](mailto:tdever@deverarchitects.com) and he will provide you with a copy of the reports. We will review the procedures to insure that future reports can be submitted without incorporating the PPI so they can be posted on the website.

## *Commander Gunter Retires*

As many of you may know, CDR Gunter has recently retired from the Coast Guard to begin his new career in the environmental field in Houston Texas. CDR Gunter has been a stalwart supporter of the Auxiliary, and it has been our honor and privilege to have had the pleasure of working with him in his capacity as Director and we will miss his advice and commitment. CDR Gunter started his Coast Guard career as an Auxiliarist having joined as a young man at the urging of his parents who were both members at one time. It is only fitting that he end his career serving as advisor and counselor to the organization he has known and supported throughout his life.

As DCO, I have had the pleasure of working with the Director on a different level than many of the members and have truly developed a bond and a friendship that I hope we can maintain. I thank him for his wisdom and advice and wish him, his wife, son and daughter well in their new adventure. God speed, Commander- smooth winds and following seas to you!!!

## *Auxiliarists Participation in Political Activities*

While the climate in the U.S. has been heightened by the recent presidential election and resulting political actions, this is a reminder that Auxiliarists are advised that we may not engage in political activities that would implicate the Coast Guard or the Coast Guard Auxiliary in these actions as noted in the AUXMAN, COMDINST 16790.1G Chapter 5: "Regulations and Policies," Section C- "Public Appearances for Political Affairs," C.1- C.2.c. Understanding the passions that are aroused in individuals, it is important that we maintain composure and dignity. Should you notice that members are becoming overwhelmed by concerns over rumors or innuendo, please look out for your shipmates and try to calm their concerns. Auxiliarists may also utilize the Coast Guard Work/Life program to assist members facing adversity in many areas that may require professional help appropriate to employee assistance programs. Information for these programs can be found by accessing the Auxiliary national web site, click on the "Coast Guard" tab, "Spouses and Families" "Work Life Program" or directly at [www.cgsuprt.com](http://www.cgsuprt.com) or by calling 1-855-247-8778.

## *Help Wanted #1- OMOS "Our Members, Our Strength"*

There are several members in the District who are currently undergoing personal struggles, whether it be dealing with health concerns, family matters, or mourning the loss of a loved one. You are asked to please remember those members and keep them in your thoughts and prayers that they may find solace in the camaraderie of their shipmates knowing that they are not alone in their tribulations. A telephone call or card to those in need would be greatly appreciated and would serve to brighten their days knowing they are being thought about, especially the following members:

If you know of anyone in your Division or Flotilla who is experiencing difficulty or has recently passed, or if some monumental event has graced their lives which is cause for celebration, please notify ADSO-SR Marilyn Hughes at [mhughes213@comcast.net](mailto:mhughes213@comcast.net). Marilyn will in turn notify Rita Kratzer and me so that appropriate responses can be sent (e.g.: "Get Well" wishes, "Congratulations," "Thinking of You" or condolences) We want to take care of our shipmates and with your help we can let our members know that we are there support them and to share "Joy and Sorrow."



# Help Wanted #2- Position Openings

The following ADSO positons are open and available if you are interested in serving in any of these slots. Please send a short letter of interest to either the appropriate DSO or to DCOS Tom Dever at [tdever@deverarchitects.com](mailto:tdever@deverarchitects.com):

Opening	Contact	E-Mail
ADSO- PV Central Area-	DSO-PV Russel Galson	<a href="mailto:galsonrm@comcast.net">galsonrm@comcast.net</a>
ADSO-IS Eastern Area	DSO-IS Lorraine Cannata	<a href="mailto:lcann99@hotmail.com">lcann99@hotmail.com</a>
ADSO-HR Western Area-	DSO-HR Tom Brouiliard	<a href="mailto:dachrci@yahoo.com">dachrci@yahoo.com</a>
ADSO-PB Eastern and Western areas-	DSO-PB Tim Marks	<a href="mailto:tpmarks@comcast.net">tpmarks@comcast.net</a>
ADSO-LP Central and Western areas-	DSO-LP Martin Mooney	<a href="mailto:mmooneysr@hotmail.com">mmooneysr@hotmail.com</a>

# Operations Workshop

OTO CW4 Rick Clark has delivered the 2017 Operations Workshop at the recent D-Train conference. This is a mandatory training program for all Coxswains who are required to participate for the upcoming patrol season. Copies of the slides and information is available on the D5NR website. Go to “Member Area” click on “Member Training.”

Coincidental to the workshop, DSO-OP, OTO Clark, and other operations personnel have been busy reviewing and revising operational procedures in the D5NR to improve efficiency and safety in operational activities. Thanks to all for their efforts in this endeavor.

# Everbridge

Everbridge drills have continued throughout the district during the transition with the change in EXCOM Administrations. The most recent drill showed a sharp decline in response rate. The district had been achieving responses in the high 80 – 90 percent rate. This past month’s drill showed a response rate of approximately 75%. In speaking with some of the members, it was noted that the message stopped prior to the response section preventing members from replying to the message. This information was reported to the IM department who conducts the drills. Hopefully, the issue was an anomaly and will be corrected so we can return to our normal response rate.

A reminder that messages are sent using a variety of methods including text message, telephone calls, and e-mail. If one process fails, please respond using one of the other methods so member response can be logged. These drills are critical to the district to gauge readiness in the event of an emergency where our members need to be contacted in short order. Member response is needed and requested.

## ***MUTT Leadership Training (Mobile Unit Training Team)***

Thanks to past DNACO Ken Brown, Steve Marthouse, members of the PDCO Advisory committee for their efforts and hard work in developing and presenting the leadership training program held throughout the district over the past few months. Overall comments regarding this program have been extremely positive and productive. Plans are already underway for the next series of trainings as the traveling teams complete their final sessions in the remaining divisions in the district.

## ***Legal Determinations***

Several legal determinations have been handed down recently from the Chief Legal Counsel for the Auxiliary. These determinations encompass Flotilla payment of dues for members, Auxiliary participation in State Boating classes, and right to membership. It is advised that members read these decisions and abide by the results.

Copies of the decisions are shown below:

### **1) Flotilla Payment of dues for members:**

Gentlemen:

Below, I have reprinted a communication from Bruce Kelton, Deputy Chief Counsel on the subject of flotillas paying dues for members. Chief Counsel's position comports with mine. Since this is the official position of CC, **it is my opinion that this practice, anticipated or exercised, must cease immediately.**

I do not recommend any appeal of this position.

*Martin C. Mooney, Sr.*

*DSO-LP 5NR*

*US Coast Guard Auxiliary*

*Martin,*

*On the issue of Flotillas paying dues for their members, AUXMAN, Ch. 5 section N.3 provides that "Disbursement of funds must always be used to further the general purpose of the Auxiliary."*

*Yes, an argument can be made that paying the dues for members could encourage members to stay in the Auxiliary. However, the general purpose of the Auxiliary is not to retain members. That of course is not a guarantee that they will do anything to further the general purpose of the Auxiliary. The argument can also be made that paying the dues, or some portion of the dues, for members who are more active than other members could encourage members to be more active." However, we do not pay members to perform the mission and we do not encourage members to serve the public with promises of financial reward. Therefore, it is the opinion of the Chief Counsel that flotillas may not disburse funds belonging to the flotilla for the purpose of paying the dues of their members.*

*The above position is the official position of the Chief Counsel. You may cite the aforementioned AUXMAN section as well as the above opinion of the Chief Counsel.*

*V/r,*

*Bruce*

*Bruce Kelton, CCd*

*Deputy Chief Counsel*

*U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary*

## *Legal Determinations, Continued*

### 2) Auxiliary participation in State boating classes:

Gentlemen,

This is a quick note on the Legal Webinar last night.

On the first, and most important to us in D5N, concerns the question brought up by the DCO on PE where a state's course and materials, including final exam, was taught by Aux members in uniform and a fee collected. I submitted the question to National and Chief Counsel verbatim from DCO's e mail to the undersigned. Doug Cream, CC, answered indicating without much doubt that the practice described does not violate AUX regulations concerning public education provided the course is approved by NASBLA. His rationale was that AUX members teaching a state's boating safety course leading to qualification for a Boater's Education Card was within the mission of the Auxiliary, that is, safe boating. As you know, I had, and still have, reservations about the legitimacy of this practice, but the practice is widespread. The collection of fees is important as a method of raising funds for the flotilla.

I would caution that when the AUX is teaching a state course with state materials in uniform, that intent to teach be filed and it would be a good idea if the course was advertised by the AUX and run in a location chosen by the AUX. Then an administrative fee can be legitimately be charged. A course material fee cannot be charged nor a registration fee unless the course is part of an education program offered by a BOE. An administrative fee can be charged to cover expenses preparatory to the offering. Monies collected here can be placed in a flotilla's treasury to be used to advance the mission of the Auxiliary. Social activities are excluded. Reading between the lines suggest this broad interpretation will save an area for raising funds when flotillas must compete with private offerings of boating safety courses. [I believe there exists a MOU between the states within the district and the USCG that should give cover to any public education endeavor. A copy should exist at Sector.]

*Martin C. Mooney, Sr.*

*DSO-LP 5NR*

Discussion:

While this decision addresses the question raised regarding teaching boating safety classes using only State provided materials, presenting these classes while in uniform and charging administrative fees, it is important to note that the District encourages the teaching of Auxiliary boating classes using Auxiliary prepared and provided materials. The Auxiliary receives a percentage of the cost of books and materials for Aux. provided courses, assisting all levels of the Auxiliary from National to the Flotilla. These classes and accompanying materials are NASBLA approved for the states incorporated in the D5NR and are in keeping with Auxiliary policies established for Public Education programs on boating safety. **Auxiliarists who engage in teaching state boating classes as agents of the state must adhere to the letter of the law regarding published directives that are part of the state certification process. Failure to adhere with state directives places Auxiliary members in jeopardy to lose their state certification or to run afoul of state regulations.**

### 3) Right to Membership:

Good morning All,

The attached Memorandum filed yesterday in the Ninth Circuit affirms the District Court's grant of the Coast Guard's motion for summary judgment, dismissing the complaint and holding that the Auxiliary Manual granted the DIRAUX discretion to disenroll members for cause without conducting any particular investigation. The Court further held that Plaintiff-Appellant V\_\_\_\_\_ did not have a Constitutionally protected property interest in remaining an Auxiliarist.

The case stemmed from a disenrollment of Verbil following allegations of sexual harassment by an Auxiliarist. The facts of the case are set out in the District Court's Order granting summary judgment which is also attached. The appeal was pending for more than two years.

Thanks go to Joanna for sending it along. Thanks Joanna!

V/r

Douglas S. Cream

Assistant National Commodore

Chief Counsel

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

## ***Topside Magazine- Spring 2017 edition***

The latest edition of the Topside district publication is available on the D5NR website. Click on the “TOPSIDE” tab on the home page and then “Spring 2017” to view the latest issue. DSO-PB Marks has identified the goal of publishing the magazine four times per year. To accomplish this goal, he needs articles suitable for publication from the membership. We are asking that Divisions and departments provide information to include in upcoming editions. Division information can include discussions about demographics, AORs, special features peculiar to each unit, and other information that would give the general membership an idea of the uniqueness of the Division. Pictures may be used to supplement textual material. Departments may wish to include information about activities, training, schedule of events, personnel, and specifics about coordination with national initiatives. Again, textual information may be supplemented with photos of D5NR Auxiliaries in action in each department.

The next issue will be published in June of 2017. If you are reading this paragraph, then you know that the issue has been published and is available for view. Divisions slated to submit articles for the upcoming issue are Div. 4, 8, & 19. Departments asked to submit articles for the upcoming issue are: Human Resources, Member Training, Public Affairs, Communications, and Incident Management.

Thanks to DSO-PB Tim Marks and his staff for an outstanding issue and best wishes for continued success in future issues.

## ***D5NR Strategic Plan***

The D5NR Strategic plan for the next two years has been approved by National and is in the implementation phase in the district. The plan aligns with the National Strategic Plan and will be posted to the district website for all to review. There may be some revisions as the implementation moves forward and we would welcome input as to the success or concerns.

## ***Awards***

In accordance with the emphasis on members (OMOS), we would encourage suggestions and recommendations for awards for deserving members. There are several categories for awards from recognition developed by individual Flotillas and Divisions, to the Commander's award for “Auxiliary of the Week,” to Coast Guard and Auxiliary recognition, we strongly urge our leaders to submit nominations for awards. There are several templates that can be used for writing award citations that can be found on the National website and D5NR website as well. The pat on the back for a job well done is greatly appreciated by the recipients who serve as an inspiration for all of us to strive a little harder, not for the recognition, but to show what is possible.

Bravo Zulu to all award recipients over the past year, keep up the good work.

## **Thank You:**

In closing, thank you for all that you do on behalf of the Auxiliary, the Coast Guard and most importantly on behalf of the boating public. It is for their safety and well-being that we do what we do and volunteer so many hours. Rest assured that your efforts are recognized by the Director, the OTO, the EXCOM and myself!

# Information from Around the District





## *Coast Guard Command Visits Auxiliary Watchstanders*

By John Burns, Flotilla 08-02 Cape May, NJ (5NR)  
johnburns2@comcast.net

As events unfolded, there were two commissionings of the NEW 154' Fast Response Cutters (FRC) at USCG Training Center Cape May (TRACEN) over the past few months. These were the ROLLIN FRITCH and the LAWRENCE LARSON. There are a number of qualified Auxiliarist Watchstanders on the 87' Cutters that are berthed in Cape May, New Jersey. Other Auxiliarists are still in training but all, in training and qualified, are quite active on the Cutters IBIS and MAKO under the Command of Senior Chiefs Brennan and Brown respectfully. These Auxiliarists also look forward to getting qualified on the 154's.

The first commissioning was for the FRC ROLLIN FRITCH which was held on November 19, 2016. It was a near perfect day weather wise for November in Cape May and a large crowd witnessed this wonderful event. Former Vice-Commandant of the Coast Guard, Vice Admiral Sally Brice-O'Hara, who at one point in her career was the CO of TRACEN, has over the years been a remarkably supportive friend of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. VADM Brice-O'Hara is now retired but she is still quite active with the Coast Guard, as well as serving as a member of the Executive Committee of the Coast Guard Foundation Board; she was present and in attendance at the commissioning. Senior Chief Brown was so kind as to allow an Auxiliarist to serve as Officer of the Deck (OOD) that morning on the MAKO. Following the ceremony Vice Admiral Sally Brice-O'Hara visited the MAKO and was accompanied by Rear Admiral Meredith Austin who is the Commander of the Fifth Coast Guard District. What an honor it was for the Coast Guard Auxiliary to have an Auxiliarist welcome them aboard as the OOD of the MAKO on that special day.

The commissioning of the LAWRENCE LAWSON was held on March 18, 2017. On that day an Auxiliarist also was serving as OOD on the Cutter MAKO and Vice Admiral Sally Brice-O'Hara was once again present....and invited Admiral Charles D. Michel, the Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard to visit the MAKO. On board were Auxiliarists Joseph Giannattasio, Michael Hamilton, Chuck Devlin, Robert Lamendola, and John Burns. Bob Lamendola is the Ombudsman for the MAKO; John Burns is the Auxiliary Unit Coordinator (AUC) for the Cape May based Cutters.

It should also be noted that on March 16<sup>th</sup>, RADM Meredith Austin held an all-hands meeting aboard the Cutter MAKO. The Auxiliary Unit Coordinator (AUC) for the Cape May based Cutters was invited by Senior Chief Brown to attend. In turn the AUC inquired if the other Auxiliary Watchstanders and trainees could attend. The Admiral replied that all would be welcome. Subsequently, on the morning of 16MAR at 1000 hours, Auxiliarists Joe Giannattasio, Jim McClellan, Michael Hamilton, Chuck Devlin, Don Dobson, Robert Lamendola and John Burns met on the Bridge of the MAKO with RADM Austin, CAPT Benjamin Cooper of Sector Delaware Bay, their Aides, the OIC of the MAKO and the crew. Of interest is that senior crew members were attending various schools and Auxiliary personnel actually outnumbered regular crew. Admiral Austin spoke and was inclusive of the Auxiliary members present. She was open, gave much information and entertained all questions. This meeting gave total credibility to the fact that Team Coast Guard is a reality for Auxiliarists.



**(left to right)** MKC Matthew Ladnier, RADM Meredith Austin USCG, Auxiliarist John Burns, VADM Sally Brice-O'Hara USCG (Ret.), Auxiliarist Joseph Giannattasio, BMCS Eric Brown USCG onboard USCGC MAKO.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by James Consor.*

# Photographs from 5NR







INTERCEPTED! - District 5NR Coast Guard Auxiliary pilot Howard Davis is "intercepted" by a Coast Guard MH-65D helicopter based out of USCG Air Station Atlantic City during Rotary Wing Air Intercept (RWAI) training. Auxiliary aviators from the District 5NR Air Program volunteer their time and aircraft to participate in these air intercept drills to help improve response time and provide a "moving target" to sharpen flight interception techniques.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by  
Joseph Giannattasio  
ADSO-PB Photography*



CAPE MAY, NJ - Coast Guard Auxiliary Judy Dempsey (FL08-02) assists a student during a Boating Safety Class conducted by the Cape May flotilla (5NR). Coast Guard Auxiliary boating courses provide instruction to boaters at all levels, from the fundamental to the advanced; classes are taught by experienced and knowledgeable instructors committed to the highest standards of the U.S. Coast Guard.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by  
Joseph Giannattasio  
ADSO-PB Photography*





Flyover of Station CAPE MAY from an AUXAIR flight

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by  
Joseph Giannattasio  
ADSO-PB Photography*

(left to Right) BMCS Eric Brown USCG, SCPO Amy Peterson USCG, Auxiliarist John Burns, Admiral Charles D. Michel, Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard, Auxiliarist Charles Devlin, Auxiliarist Robert Lamendola, Auxiliarist John Burns, Auxiliarist Michael Hamilton, VADM Sally Brice-O'Hara USCG (Ret.) on board USCGC MAKO during the commissioning ceremony of USCGC LAWRENCE LAWSON.

*Coast Guard photo by  
VADM Staff.*







Photographs from the Atlantic City Boat Show.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by  
Joseph Giannattasio  
ADSO-PB Photography*





# *A Message from the Editor*

Thank you to all the people who contributed to this newsletter. There would not be a newsletter without all your support. If you missed submitting anything, please send me what you would like to add and I will add it to the September newsletter.

This newsletter is online on the 5NR website. Please go there to see back issues.

I hope everyone has a safe, fun, and productive patrol season. I know I am excited about this time of year. Thank you for your service and for all you do for the Coast Guard, Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the boating community.

Have a Super summer. Enjoy the weather, your family, and your friends.

Semper Paratus,  
Timothy Marks  
DSO-PB



Timothy Marks  
District Staff Officer -  
Publications



## United States Coast Guard Auxiliary 5th District, Northern Region

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## Come Visit us on the Web

Coast Guard Auxiliary homepage:

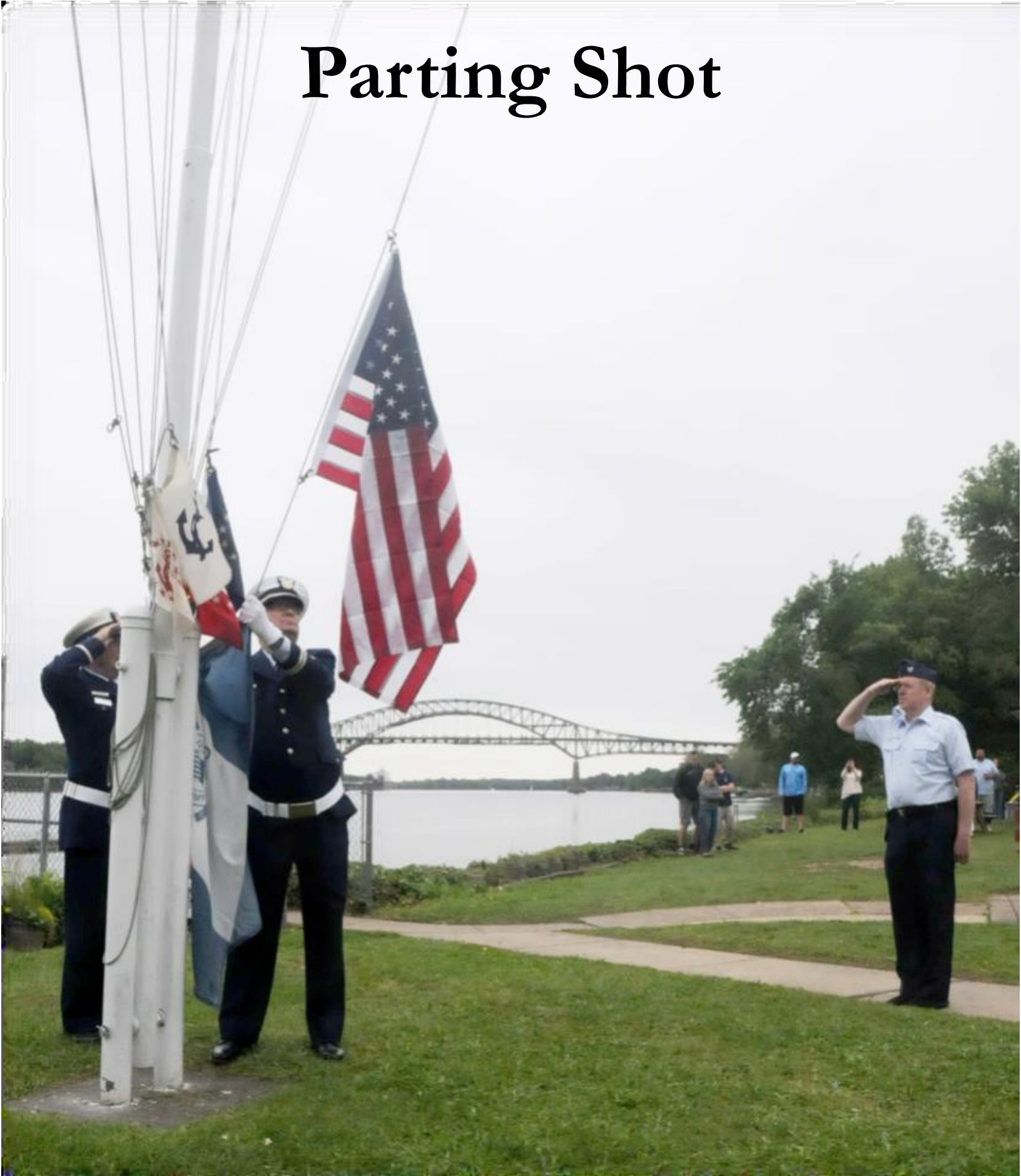
<http://www.cgaux.org/>

5NR Website:

<http://www.5nr.org/index.php>



# Parting Shot



Flag Raising at Opening Day Ceremonies at Bristol Yacht Club.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by  
Ray Robson*