

Summer 2017

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United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

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



# topside





## Inside this issue:

<i>Table of Contents</i>	2
<i>5NR Leadership</i>	2
<i>Commodore's Message</i>	3
<i>Chief of Staff's Message</i>	4-5
<i>Director's Message</i>	6
<i>Focus on 5NR Departments</i>	7-9
<i>Focus on 5NR Divisions</i>	10-13
<i>Information from Around the District</i>	14-17
<i>Photographs</i>	18-20
<i>Message from the Editor</i>	21
<i>Contact Information</i>	21
<i>Parting Shot</i>	22

## *Leadership of 5NR*

**Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX)**  
LCDR Victoria Taylor

**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**  
Lionel F. Crossman

**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** COMO 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-MS** Laurie L. Huselton

**DSO-MT** Steven J. Marthouse

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

**DSO-PA** COMO 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-OP** Douglas L. Smith



### Cover Photograph:

Chesapeake Bay - During a MOM patrol in the Chesapeake area bay Kurt Sarac, Coxswain and owner, is at the helm of the 41Utility Boat (UTB), a twin diesel capable of up to 26KNTS. The boat was constructed between 1971-1973. Only 156 were commissioned and this one was the 5th to the last. Crew member J. Berkmier stands on stern watch.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Barbara Sama*

## *From the Desk of the Commodore*

### **I'VE GOT YOUR BACK!**

We hear these words spoken to signify our support to our fellow Auxiliarists and other friends, family members, or acquaintances in their time of need. We hear it a lot more recently in response to our offer of support to our fellow shipmates who were impacted by Hurricane Harvey and to those who are in the forefront of the relief effort in the Houston area.

These folks are relying on our help to overcome an obstacle that at times seems insurmountable. Knowing that they are not facing the adversity alone provides relief and strength for them to move forward to conquer the challenges confronting them.

Closer to home, it is important for all to know that we are not alone in facing problems that present trials to be overcome whether they require resolving simple procedural matters in managing our lives and responsibilities or facing real life or death issues.

In the D5NR, the EXCOM has made a dedicated effort to provide needed support to the respective officers at all levels and to offer support and recognition to our individual members as well. It is crucial for our members to know that their leaders are there to provide needed assistance and backing to insure their success in their endeavors as productive members of our organization.

Of course, this support is predicated on our members becoming educated in the ways, customs, and ethics of the Auxiliary and uphold the core values that we pledge to live by. Making the effort to learn and engage with the group encourages others to lend a helping hand when the need arises. Kindred spirits are unified in goals and aspirations and form alliances to combat adversity and help one another when the need arise.

For me personally, I am stronger knowing that I have the trust and backing of my shipmates to provide the leadership to make the hard decisions that impact our membership. There is nothing that can't be accomplished having the knowledge that I am not alone and can rely on others to come to my aid in times of need. I have come to count on my friend and colleagues to help face the problems and tribulations that confront the District. There is nothing we can't accomplish if we all work together. The strength that comes from unity is insurmountable.

I would hope that our members all feel that sense of camaraderie and encouragement that comes from the unity of purpose and togetherness evident among throughout the district. We are dedicated to our members and will go to great lengths to help where needed. Our goal is to be welcoming and inclusive for all of our shipmates. As you all engage in your activities and participate in programs I encourage all to support your fellow Auxiliarists and to be sure that all know:

### **WE'VE GOT YOUR BACKS!**

Barry M. Kyper,  
District Commodore,  
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary,  
Fifth District-Northern Region



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

***HONOR; RESPECT; DEVOTION TO DUTY***

## *Message from the Chief of Staff*

Thank you once again for the opportunity to serve you as your District 5NR Chief of Staff! On your behalf, I have attended N-Train (National Training and board meeting) in St Louis in January, the US Coast Guard Academy for ASOC (Auxiliary Senior Officer Course, AUX-07) training for a week in April, meetings with the Eastern Area EXCOM in Baltimore in May and NACON (the national conference) in Orlando in August. I have also enjoyed visiting flotillas throughout the district with Commodore Kyper and look forward to visiting more soon.

This training and these events have given me an insight into where our Coast Guard may be heading that I want to share with you. While recreational boating safety will always be “job one” for the Auxiliary, the Coast Guard is increasingly looking to the Auxiliary to support them in many other ways. In order to provide that support, we’ll have to be prepared. The response to the recent hurricanes is just the most recent example. When the call for assistance for Hurricane Harvey came out, some otherwise well qualified Auxiliarists could not be considered because they had not completed the mandated training. Please stress to your members the importance of completing this relatively easy requirement. The most

recent requests were for Auxiliary Pollution Response Specialists and Auxiliary Facility Inspectors. Encourage your members to keep training and to work toward these qualifications, this won’t be the last time this help will be needed.

One of the great things about the ASOC class I’m in with the other DCOSs from around the country is the chance to work together as a team and to really get to know one another. District 8 Central Region DCOS, Chuck Maricle is in Houston working with many other Auxiliarists and this is what he reported on 31 August - as Tom Mullally, DCOS for D8WR notes: “it might be an eye opener for our own AOR’s. If any of your members wonder why we take ICS classes, just look at the pictures. Here, in Chuck’s own words, the situation in Houston:

“...So what is the status?

The event stood up on August 24 and rescues are still going on. On the first 2 days we (USCG) received over 72,000 calls for help (not a typo). This continued at a rate of 1000 an hour and now that we are on the back end, the emergency call center was moved to Washington DC. The call center was mostly auxiliary run and we would only let people work 30-45 minutes at a time, very stressful effectively taking panic emergency calls.

Two response areas are operating for a total as of yesterday of 1000+ personnel from literally all over the country.

On the air side we have been working as air controllers, comms and today our auxair members are on board the helos as observers for SAR cases. USCG has 38 helos on site for SAR as of yesterday plus many others from other agencies. AUXAIX is also expected to fly logistics missions moving forward - non-stop flying.



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

*Continued on the next page...*

## *Message from the Chief of Staff, continued*

In the main ICP on any given day we have 15-30 AUX staffing several positions in JIC, OPS, Planning, Resources, Galley FS, communications / command center, remote liaisons to EOC's etc. etc.

We also have many in their local neighborhoods as eyes/ears and other divisions that have received evacuees in their areas are looking to service as AUX volunteers in their shelters. One story is a member in Dallas met a boy in the shelter that was rescued by one of the CG helos.

The highest staffing request we have has was for 100 AUX yesterday.

One interesting mission was 21 AUX members transporting government vehicles from San Antonio and Dallas to Houston.

On the surface side we are starting to go out for damage / pollution assessments in the intercoastal waterway. The USCG has deployed at least 4 flood teams and we have started to have the opportunity to work with them as well. Identified weakness is the real need for an AUX flood team that can be deployed.

Appreciate the thoughts and desire for support of everyone affected but if anyone want to donate we would always suggest the CGMA, they will be the most engaged.

Chuck Maricle, DCoS DC8CR, USCG Auxiliary..."



The Auxiliary is needed more than ever and the Coast Guard would like to continue to integrate us into "Team Coast Guard" more closely than ever before. Let your members and prospective members know – if they are properly trained and have the right qualifications and certifications, there are more opportunities than ever before to serve our country and the Coast Guard. Please make sure that your members have their Mandated Training and especially, ICS courses. There is also a need for clergy assistance, financial planning assistance, construction assistance and many of the other skills that we are more familiar with – coxswains, crew, air crew, pilots, instructors, educators, vessel inspectors, marine safety specialists and so on!

Thank you for everything you do for the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Coast Guard and our country!

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



## *Message from the Director*

I am honored to be your Director of District Five Northern Region. I am in awe and am very proud that so many people want to give away their most precious commodity of time and give to others in their community.

The District Five Northern Region DIRAUX staff is amazing – each team member (CWO Clark, Ms. Kain, SK2 McIntyre, and YN3 Gonzalez) have been most supportive while I ease into this new role. I can say first hand that they truly love the Auxiliary program.

I reported to duty as your Director on July 24<sup>th</sup> and met a good amount of you at NACON and DTRAIN but still looking to meet more when I attend Division Meetings. I am blessed that you voted for an excellent EXCOM, which not only are respectable people that work smart but are also fun people to be friends with.

As I say that, elections are now upon us. From the DIRAUX perspective, we ask that you work together and respect new leadership's perspectives and directives. At the same time, make full use of the immediate past officers' experience and counsel. Please give our newly elected leaders the respect they need to carry out existing and new directives that come from our Commandant, as required in your Auxiliary oath.

You have to forgive me but I am a mother of two teenage boys and watch many marvel movies..... Uncle Ben said to his nephew Peter Parker that with "great power comes great responsibility". As a Coast Guard Auxiliarists, you have the great power when you wear the uniform to influence, lead, council, and be a positive role model in your community and to our youth. You also have the responsibility to carry yourself with respect and holding yourself and others to our Core Values and carrying out the primary mission of Recreational Boating Safety and other missions set forth by our Commandant.

I saw this at NACON and it rang true in my heart. There is a reason why the Coast Guard Auxiliary wear silver and that is because they are the silver lining for the Coast Guard. You are that silver lining.

I am honored to be your Director for District Five Northern region for a minimum of the next four years.

Thank you and Best Wishes.

LCDR Victoria L. Taylor  
U.S. Coast Guard  
Director of Auxiliary  
Fifth District - Northern Region



**LCDR Victoria L. Taylor**  
**Director of the Auxiliary**  
**U.S. Coast Guard**  
**5th District-Northern Region**

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Semper Paratus

# A Focus on 5NR Departments



## *Marine Safety*

It was my privilege to ride along with Auxiliarist Tony Madonna in his facility on 24 JUN 2017. This was, however, no "joy ride" as its purpose was to retrieve debris from Lake Clarke (Susquehanna River) in Division 19's AOR during the patrol weekend of Flotilla 19-04 of which Auxiliarist Madonna and myself are members.

The clean-up began at 0930 with a sweep of the Division's dock area yielding plastic trash, a long re-bar, as well as a discarded boat fender. After getting underway, we kept eyes peeled for any debris in the water or near the shoreline. I am pleased to report that the waters and shoreline of Lake Clarke for the roughly 4 mile round-trip are relatively clean.

When we did encounter a bottle or two or a plastic bag, it was scooped-up in a fishing net

Retrieval of two items, did, however, present problems. First, on the York County shore, we spied a lid to a children's sandbox. I won't mention the brand, but it is green and in the design of a turtle. If you have children or grandchildren, you probably are familiar with the type. Auxiliarist Madonna displayed expert seamanship and boat-handling skill, maneuvering us so that with the use of an extendable grappling pole, the lid was hauled onto the vessel. Venturing over to the Lancaster County shoreline, we saw a propane tank which again, through Auxiliarist Madonna's skill, we were positioned to retrieve from its resting place on the shore employing the pole once again.



We spent the remainder of our time on the water assisting the other 19-04 facility practice stern-to-bow, side-by-side towing, and carrying-out a "man overboard" drill. Plastic recovered will be taken to a plastics recycling facility while the same will be done for the metal debris at a separate facility. Other trash items were properly disposed-of.

I extend my thanks to Auxiliarist Madonna for all that he did before, during, and after our debris clean-up activity.

Semper Paratus,

Gregg R. Bollinger, ThD

ADSO-MS (W), SO-MS Div. 19, FSO-MS Flot. 19-04



# ***Publications***

## **DISTRICT CALENDAR**

Thanks to Linda Skvarla, ADSO-PB, the 5NR District Calendar has been updated through February 2019.

As you are aware, the printed District Calendars have stopped. The information has been transferred to the 5NR website. This way the information can be updated as needed throughout the year. Please let us know if something needs to be changed.

To access the calendar, click on the link below:

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=053&category=CALENDAR>

## **TOPSIDE ARCHIVES**

Thanks to the work of the TOPSIDE Restoration Team, which includes Linda Skvarla, Joe Giannattasio, and Tim Marks TOPSIDE editions from 1998 through 2005 have been put of PDF format. As a result of this, all of 5NR will have access to these old issues, thus preserving some of the history of the district. With this initial phase completed, the publication team will proceed in an attempt to obtain as many old issues of TOPSIDE as possible, convert them to readable PDFs, and get them uploaded so the membership can view them.

These TOPSIDE issues and any other we obtain and convert to current formats will be accessible on the 5NR website for everyone to view. A special thank you to Linda Skvarla for her tireless work in restoring these old issues.



**READING, PA** – The TOPSIDE Restoration Team receiving the Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation at D-Train for their work restoring some of the history of 5NR. Right to Left: COMO Kyper, Joe Giannattasio, Linda Skvarla, Timothy Marks, CAPT Sanial.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Barbara Sama*

# A Focus on 5NR Divisions



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## *Division 16*

Division 16 is situated in the most northeastern section of our 5<sup>th</sup> Northern District. We cover an area in New Jersey that it is spread across multiple counties, from Toms River to the south and Eatontown to the north. It is a somewhat diverse area in that the most eastern portion of the AOR is filled with very active Boating Communities where there is access to the Atlantic Ocean, Barnegat Bay, several Rivers as well as lakes as you head west. It is a varied community with individual boating needs. We are called “Jersey Shore North” as we cover approximately many miles on the Atlantic Ocean and the corresponding beaches.

Our Division is comprised of 178 members forming 6 Flotilla’s. Our members provide direct support for the Coast Guard in the following areas: 5 members – Helo Ops; 3 members – Atlantic Strike Team; 4 – AUXFS, 217 hours; 5 – Watchstanders providing over 1500 hours; 1 – Ombudsman, 137 hours and 1 member Boat Crew/General maintenance with 517 hours.

Our Division is very active in operations as we have 19 Operational Facilities helmed by 26 Coxswains and manned by 31 Boat Crew members. We also have 3 Qualification Examiners. We support Station Manasquan and Station Small Shark River performing MOM Patrols promoting boating safety and respond to situations as directed by Station Manasquan. We provide security zones for Firework Displays at Windward Beach and the Offshore Powerboat races. We assist Station Manasquan with two boat OPs Training weekly.

About 30% of our members are certified Vessel Examiners and even if that is their only certification they act as ambassadors for the Auxiliary and carry the Recreational Boating Safety message to the Public. They treat the examination of a vessel not only to assure that the boater has the correct safety equipment in place but as an opportunity to speak with them and their family about all aspects of boating safety and what the Auxiliary has to offer. The Vessel Examiner understands that the most important part of the Vessel Exam whether Boat, Paddle Craft, wave runner etc. is the dialogue you establish with that person. They, the boaters, are often only concerned about the decal but we are concerned about their Safety. That is why often the most important part of the form may be “Other Recommendations”. These items are not required to receive a decal but could make a big difference when they are on the water and these are things that need to be stressed. Each Vessel Examiner brings their own knowledge and skill set so they will go into different levels of discussion but explaining how the Distress Button works on their brand new VHF radio or in some case will not work because it is not linked to their GPS or explaining the importance of a Float Plan even if it is only a note left on the dashboard of their car. Again, small details but they could be critical in an emergency. Some boaters are more sophisticated and pay attention to tools like NOAA, Local Notice to Mariners but most, especially many within the “High Focus” target group are not. The Vessel Examiner can establish this during the dialogue, share tools, events and issues specific to our Boating area. The Flotillas in the Division have established partnerships with marinas that they visit each year where they have scheduled VE/PA events and try to establish more partners each year. For the most part the flotillas work independently of each other but there are Division wide events and they will solicit assistance from each other during their busy events. There are over fifteen Marinas that we will visit this year with formal VE/PA days along with individual inspections that are completed through dock walking, individual relationships and our participation in the “I Want A Vessel Safety Check” online program. Another are we are active in is CFVE’s. A recent survey has shown we have at least 73 commercial fishing vessels in our AOR consisting of the Shark River (Belmar & Neptune) and Manasquan (Pt. Pleasant, Brielle & Manasquan) Inlets. Uniform safety standards and equipment requirements have been established for all commercial fishing vessels operating beyond 3 nautical miles of the coastline. Effective October 15, 2015 all commercial F/V’s in our District are required to complete a mandatory dockside safety exam at least once every 2 years. Our Commercial Fishing Vessel Examiners (CFVE) conduct these safety exams year round, with a minimum of 2 examiners at each exam. They also assist with exams in other major fishing ports such as Barnegat Light and Cape May. There is an extensive hands-on qualification process to become a CFVE. It includes attendance at exams, a 2 day F/V Drill Instructor’s Course and culminates in a Qualls Board held at District/Phila.

*Continued on the Next Page...*



## *Division 16, Continued*

About our flotillas:

16-07 Nominated by the D5NR DCO for the National Association of Commodores “Outstanding Public Education Flotilla” award.

16-10 During mid-2016 we achieved 93 then 100% Mandatory Training, first in district Fifth Northern gaining us the NACO 3 Star unit award.

We have participated in 51 Public Affair events, we have 50 Instructors, 49 VE's and 19 PV's. We have provided a total of 1994 hours of Operation support to the Coast Guard and 480 hours of Marine Safety awareness. One of our primary objectives is growth through recruiting and Public Affair events. We may be small, but we are very proud of our accomplishments and of our support to the Coast Guard.



Flotilla 16-05 at Wooden Boat Festival



Manasquan Station



## *Division 12*

### *Recent Awards from the District*

#### **Sustained Service Hours:**

Harry Otto - Over 15,000 hours

#### **Membership Service Awards:**

12-08 Cyndi Chaimowitz - 10 years  
 12-02 Thomas Mann - 5 years  
 12-09 James MacGuire - 5 years  
 12-01 Douglas Deiss Sr - 10 years  
 12-09 John Ghougasian - 10 years  
 12-02 Sheila Bowden - 15 years  
 12-01 Charles Woolson Jr. - 20 years  
 12-05 Peter Branker - 10 years  
 12-09 - Ernest Stevens - 15 years

#### **Sustained Aux Service Award:**

12-01 Francis Doyle  
 12-01 Robert Adams  
 12-01 Dennis Burgard  
 12-01 Stephen Straneva  
 12-02 Kenneth Steinmann  
 12-02 Joseph Tridente  
 12-02 Tim Precht  
 12-02 Thomas Mann  
 12-02 Robert Lippman  
 12-05 Harry Otto  
 12-08 David Nagle  
 12-09 John Umbel  
 12-05 Thomas Roberson  
  
 12-09 Lewis McCullough - New Member  
 12-05 Thomas Roberson - PV



# Information from Around the District





*D-Train, Fall 2017 - Photos taken by Paul Casalese*





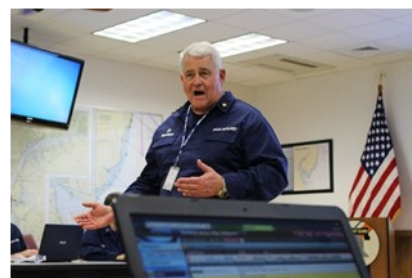
## IMAST

Article and photos by Auxiliarist Barbara Sama

Once again, we have been fortunate enough to team up with the Active duty and Reservists with the goal of supporting our team through Incident Management Auxiliary Support Team. Sector Delaware Bay was the site of intense training as 30 volunteers gathered to learn and qualify when an Incident Command Post becomes necessary during any event. We were invited to participate in the morning briefing with the Reservists as well as meet our fellow team. Our volunteer efforts during these types of operations will be invaluable.

Auxiliarists had actual hands on exercises with IMSS software that is used for actual events. The team proved to be strong as we helped each other to learn the system.

Tom Roberson (Right) lead the training on March 18, 2017 in the General Green Conference room at Sector Delaware Bay. Tom was well supported by several volunteers who were there to help us connect with the new software.



Current world situations demand that we be prepared to act in any situation. Prior incidents have shown us that we must be able to communicate quickly and efficiently. Incident Command Posts has proven to be a vital force. As Auxiliarists, we have the ability to support our fellow shipmates in time of need. The training that we are receiving will free up our fellow team members for other duties. After all, no job is finished till the paper work gets done!

Incident Command Posts are used not only for emergency situations, but also for various other events. A simple event as a football game or a political convention cannot happen without the coordination's of various organizations. The average consumer will never be aware of the behind the scene activities and they never will if the event goes smoothly. The simple act of having all participating groups such as Police, EMTs, etc. coordinate is a monumental task. Having a command post where all the agencies can communicate on the same wave length and know where each other are could save a life.



We will be the starting point. Knowing who is here is just as vital as knowing where they are. The ability to account for all participants can save time, money and worry.

Kaitlyn Wojtanowski (Left) was one of the five volunteers that assisted us. Kaitlyn certainly has unbelievable knowledge of the system that enabled us to continue forward in our training. The left photo was taken at the beginning of our training. She never faulted as two to three of us would call her over for help. Enthusiastically she would resolve all the problems we had! The photo to the right, was after the training was over. Kaitlyn was a bit overwhelmed but she never showed it.



Our training will continue with on line assignments. The class was just the beginning of many more to come. Our goal is to be a vital force and assist our active duty fellow shipmates, so we will continue our training efforts. Tom Gorman and Ernest Stevens (Left) hit the keyboards as fast as the instructor gives out the commands.

Homework is going to be a challenge!

## *Faith, Hope, and Love*

Article and photos by Auxiliarist Barbara Sama

### **TO HONOR IS TO HAVE FAITH**

D5NR was recently honored to have participated with the TEBOW Foundation to brighten the lives of wonderful special needs people. On February 10, 2017, the 50 states of America plus another 11 countries participated in the “Night to Shine”. Close to 400 churches worldwide held a prom night above and beyond the expectation of the crowds. Kids and adult with special needs were honored. Everyone became a Queen or King for this one night. The active duty Coast Guard and the Auxiliary united in another adventure at the Glasgow Church, in Newark, De.. Minutes before the Red-carpet entrance, hundreds of the volunteers gathered for a briefing to make this night special.



### **TO RESPECT IS TO HAVE HOPE**

Auxiliary members D.CLENDENING, McINTYRE MERRILL, HORAN AND SARAC line up along the Red-carpet, for the arrival of the honored guests, dressed in their stylish tuxedos and evening gowns. Each side of the church entrance was flanked by the Coast Guard Team to show respect, and with the hope of making this evening, their night to shine!



### **DEVOTION IS LOVE**

The parents watched from the balcony with smiles and pride. An empty chair was occasionally filled by an exhausted dancer. There is no stronger love than the devotion of the parents of special needs children. The true hero here, is not the Coast Guard active or the Auxiliary. Neither is the Glasgow Church, TEBOW Foundation, or the hundreds of volunteers who got the kids ready or the hall decorated. Nor are the parents who take these challenges every day to help their child. But the truth is, the child who wears the crown/tiara is the real hero.

Every day is a challenge and you would never know it as they dance the night away. They don't see it as a struggle as we do. Instead, it's the joy, and wonder that is expressed. You see and hear it in the endless smiles and laughter of the evening, filling the ballroom with so much noise, you could barely hear the D.J. An emotional parent explained to DDC/DSO of Operations Sarac, how their “daughter may never go to a prom or get married, you all have provided these kids AND us parents a moment we will never forget!”



D5NR humbly volunteered that night without realizing that they got more than they gave. Additional members present include Palermo and Sama. The active duty volunteers include; McNaughton(in headline, picture by Sarac), Kaufman, Martin, Kirkham and Alejandro-Mar.

We danced the night way with everyone and a few were seen singing. (OUCH!) But in all, every one of us agreed that we would happily do it over and over.



# Photographs from 5NR





District Fifth Northern Auxiliary Air Observer Bill Fithian participating in the Air Program's Surface/Air (SURFAIR) vectoring exercise. Coast Guard Auxiliary Aviation (AUXAIR) Observers generally perform observation and communication duties aboard Auxiliary aircraft facilities. They also participate in mission planning and are a critical part of the team supporting a mission. The observer's role in the many multi-mission profiles with which AUXAIR is tasked is in looking for targets, both specific and non-specific, while keeping alert for incidental discovery such as an oil leak or disabled boat. They must then communicate with the pilot, as well as the Coast Guard unit guarding the working frequency and/or the Auxiliary unit providing assistance, to relay this information.

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



NEW YORK - A 5NR Auxiliarist Kurt Sarac bids farewell to NYC Lady during the conclusion of a Fleetweek Auxiliary patrol. Now in its 29th year, Fleet Week New York is the city's celebration of the sea services. It is an unparalleled opportunity to meet Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, as well as witness firsthand the latest capabilities of today's maritime services. The weeklong celebration has been held nearly every year since 1984.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by  
Barbara Sama*





POINT PLEASANT, NJ-USCGA 16-07  
Public Affairs Staff Officer Dave Witherspoon shows off the Vessel Safety Check decal awarded to those who pass the Vessel Inspection.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by  
Christopher Orlando*



*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by  
Barbara Sama*



# *A Message from the Editor*

Greetings 5NR!

This is the summer edition of TOPSIDE. I realize it is a bit past summer, but never-the-less, here it is.

The next edition (Fall 2017) will be coming out in early December. All of these editions put on the 5NR website. I also am submitting the link on the 5NR website.

If you think of it, please check out the district calendar that is on the 5NR website, as well. There you can find lots of information including deadlines for paperwork and when Division Change-of-Watches are being held.

Finally, thank you to all who contributed to this newsletter. Please remember, you are all welcome to submit articles and photos to this newsletter. If possible, they will be included in a future edition.

Have a great fall!

Semper Paratus,  
Timothy Marks  
DSO-PB



Timothy Marks  
District Staff Officer -  
Publications



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

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
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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



New York City - Crew member R. Palermo paying respects aboard the USS Kearsarge in NYC Fleet Week this year (May, 2017).

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Barbara Sama*