

Official news letter of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. It originates in the Director's Office at Auxiliary Headquarters, 3 CGD, SA, 805 Custom House, 2nd and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

## MAY-JUNE, 1955

## Summer Rendezvous May Triple In Size; Program Set for Bordentown Yacht Club

The program is tentatively set for the biggest Summer Rendezvous ever for Third District, Southern Area, on August 20 and 21 at the Bordentown Yacht Club. Last year's successful Rendezvous at the same place brought out 128 members and 25 boats. This year, at least 200 are expected-with 300 believed possi-ble-and at least 60 boats.

Hosts for the Rendezvous will be Flotilla 26 and its commander, Robert J. Bailey, and Division II, New Jersey, John S. Black, Jr., captain. Plans now call for tickets at $\$ 5$ each, to include dinner, dancing and breakfast. A reception hour may be added into the price.

Boat trips are contemplated for the Saturday afternoon, August 20. There will be a late showing of the film, "The Secret Land," obtained especially from CG Headquarters, for the benefit of night owls and insomniacs.

The host flotilla announces it has offered to berth official guests on boats for Saturday night. The guest list is impressive, indeed, headed by Admiral Louis B. Olson, commander of 3rd District; Captain Harold B. Roberts, new national chief director; Captain Chester M. Anderson, director, 3rd District Auxiliary; J. Webb L. Sheehy, new national commodore; Pete Bauer, Southern's own immediate past national commodore; Bliss Woodward, commodore of Northern Area of the 3rd; the director and commodore of the 5th District, Norfolk and their ladies.

Awards again will be featured. Last year, for example, there was a prize for the flotilla commander having most members present at the Rendezvous, and the much-coveted trophy for the biggest navigational boner enroute to the conclave. Don't try for the latter-these things just happen.

## On Your Toes-Assist Season Is Here

Last year, Southern had 67 "assists" reports. This is a major function of Auxiliary, and it is hoped this year will show a greater number. Here's a good rule-of-thumb to follow: Before passing a line to a boat in distress or in trouble, ask the owner or operator if he requests assistance. Where possible, have him pass you the line. This will help considerably to relieve you of responsibility for damage during an assist. Remember, we still have some "stinkers" on the water.

## CME Program-Needs More RPM's

Southern's courtesy motorboat examination program so far this year needs a little more revolutions per minute . . . on the part of the examiners. So far, 370 examinations have been reported, against 322 last year on 1 July. Examiners are urged to send in reports, even if less than eight have been made. With 2,500 decals on hand and only 370 shown, District Office is not justified in ordering more to keep active examiners in stock.

## Get Hep to the New Manual

All flotilla commanders now have parts A, $B$ and $C$ of the new Auxiliary manual. Headquarters has standardized procedures in all districts, and made instructions more explicit and more workable. The manual supercedes any conflicting instructions in 3rd District's own handbook for flotilla commanders. Although we've had much easier administration in recent years because of the handbook, it is always a little harder to adjust to a change than to start with a new policy. Flotilla commanders should do everything possible to make this adjustment easy for themselves and their members.

## Tut! Tut! "Over the Bow"

"Over the Bow," published by 3rd District, Northern Area, says in its most recent issue Northern just installed the first woman staff officer in the U. S. Southern District begs to differ-we've had Mrs. Oliver G. Cross as special services officer since last March.

## One-Lecture Course on Outboards

Headquarters has bowed to the clamor from many districts for a new one-lecture course for outboarders. Allan A. Atchison, national instruction officer, has completed a pamphlet for this course now available through the Director's Office at a cost of 5 cents. It should be noted that Class A motorboats are not eligible to be Auxiliary facilities, but owners may join as nonfacility owners if flotilla ratios permit.

A brand new outboard film, 28 minutes, is now being prepared by CG headquarters. Meanwhile, other material for the lecture includes the older film, "You Are Being Boarded," as well as the pamphlet "Motorboats-Minimum Legal Requirements."

## Lancaster Stimulates Outboards

Lancaster Flotilla 52 is sponsoring a competion among outboard clubs, first of its kind in Southern Area. An award is being donated to the outboard club doing the most for water safety in the Lancaster area during the coming season. Greatest weight is directed to percentage of club's boats awarded courtesy examination decal.

## You Gotta Do It, Why Not Now?

Facility owners must have their facilities inspected before 1 October, 1955. The new manual spells out the definite policy that there will be $100 \%$ inspection each year of member-owned facilities. For members, decals and certificate of inspection now are mailed out in the same envelope, with an expected week to complete the action from the time it reaches the district office until mailing. Actually, the inspection certificate expires 1 January, 1956. Southern's director, A. B. How, says he will seek to have this extended to the cut-off date in 1956-but only after Southern has $100 \%$ inspection.

## In The Sick Bay

Topside is sorry to report that Vernon McCall, district publicity officer, is in the Jeanes Hospital, Philadelphia, after suffering a heart attack. George D. Savage, boat inspection and examination officer, also is just out of the hospital. Milton E. Baker, commander of Flotilla 44, Newark, Del., is reported recuperating at home after suffering a heart ailment. We wish them all a speedy and full recovery.

## How to Process' New Members

Flotillas are advised that three items must come in to Director's Office for approval of new members. These are: (1) Application for enrollment. If proposed member is a non-facility owner, a letter must be submitted stating his qualifications. (2) Facility characteristics re-port-accurate and in full. (3) Facility inspection report.

## On the Subject of Topside

Material of interest to members may be sent directly to Harris Vennema, The Eastern Banker, 502 Commercial Trust Building, Philadelphia, 2, Pa., for editing and inclusion in Topside. An effort is being made to publish Topside regularly, at least 9 times a year, within the limited budget available. Deadline for material is the 10th of each month.


