

t pside

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in this issue... President Bush Visits Group Philadelphia
District Awards... Spring Conference 2003
State of the Coast Guard Address



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topside spring issue
NEXT DEADLINE
31 August 2003

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Commandant ADM Thomas H. Collins

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

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On the Cover: President Bush recently visited Group Philadelphia and during his remarks he rendered honors to the Auxiliary. The President specifically singled out Emanuel "Manny" Greenwald (13-5) and his contributions to the Auxiliary and our country. Manny (left) was photographed on the VIP stand seated next to U.S. Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA).

photo by M. Philip Stamm, PRCO, D5-NR

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Hospitality And Shopping!

A perfect combination
of fellowship and fun.

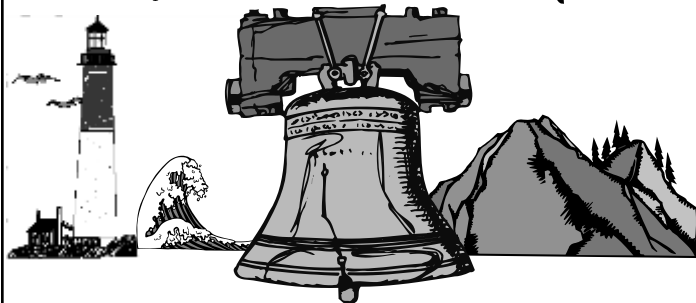


the towns of Reading,
York and Lancaster
surround the
fall conference
and afford many
opportunities for
adventurous
bargain hunting.

Plenty of information
and guides will be
provided at our
Saturday morning
coffee get together.

Please join us..

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary 5th Northern District



DIRECTOR OF AUXILIARY

What four words, when linked together, generally strike the greatest fear in most organizational units? “We’re here to help?” Nope. “Tell me your goals?” Uh-uh. Try... “Solid measures of effectiveness.” A solid measure of effectiveness is like the mercury in a thermometer...when it’s properly bounded and identified, it can give you a lot of useful information – when it’s loose and out of its bounds, it can prove to be nothing but elusive...and you’ll spend a lot of time corralling information that does not tell you what you really want to know.



A good measure of effectiveness is not necessarily just a number that reflects an amount of effort.

A good measure of effectiveness is not necessarily just a number that reflects an amount of effort. For example, a Division may point to an annual growth in membership by 20 new members as a great achievement – and it would be right to do so...up to a point. The value of the achievement would certainly lose some of its luster if it turned out that all 20 new members were enrolled in the same Flotilla, as opposed to across the five or six other Flotillas that comprised the Division. Similarly, if D5-NR were to post a five percent annual increase in total operating hours, then that would seem to be a remarkable accomplishment – and statistically, it *would* be remarkable. But more operating hours might not mean that more crew members were trained, or more property was assisted or more

lives were saved. So “more” is not necessarily “better”... unless some truly positive *impact* of any increase was articulated.

Ah, “impact”...a wonderful word that is inextricably linked to any self-respecting measure of effectiveness. D5-NR posted some amazing performance data in 2002 – top flight national performance, as usual, in operations, vessel safety checks and training. But what were the impacts of such performance...besides just the fact that high numbers were posted? Well, some of the best measures of true effectiveness stem from our State counterparts. For example, all three D5-NR states (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware) had better overall boating safety records in 2002 than in 2001. Notably, both Pennsylvania and Delaware had near-record lows in the numbers of boating accidents and related fatalities. Further, in Delaware, under provisions of the still-new Vessel Safety Check (VSC) Memorandum of Agreement between the Auxiliary and the State, more state

conservation officers were trained by Auxiliarists to conduct VSC’s in 2002...and they, in turn, checked more boats for safety than in 2001. That’s commonly referred to as constructive program expansion...and that’s what we all strive for through Auxiliary service (whether we realize it or not...). While such outcomes surely result from a combination of efforts by many organizations that are involved with boating safety, you can be just as sure that the efforts of D5-NR, one of the largest organizations of boating safety practitioners in the region, significantly contributed to great achievements...supported and validated by these solid measures of effectiveness.

So what’s your point, DIRAUX? Simple – if you really want to feel good about what you are doing through Auxiliary service, don’t be satisfied with standard Division and Flotilla performance numbers...because there are some even greater stories you should know about that result from your efforts - you just have to dig a little to find them. Many of them can be found by communicating and interacting with your State counterparts, your Power Squadron counterparts, other boating safety organizations, and your local community leaders. And they all stem from solid measures of effectiveness. I guess they’re not so bad after all...✿

*CDR Stephen J. Minutolo
Director of Auxiliary, D5-NR*

AUXILIARY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



CDR Stephen J. Minutolo, USCG, (L) presenting the Auxiliary Achievement Award to **Jan Robert Munroe**, past District Information Services Office for his work in implementing the new AUXDATA system into the District.

Photo by M. Philip Stamm, PRCO-C

DISTRICT COMMODORE

I wish to take this opportunity to correct a statement I made in my comments in "Topside", vol. 103, No. 1, Winter 2003. In paragraph two I stated "...with emphasis on recruiting and sponsoring Sea Scout ships." I gave the impression that the Auxiliary should sponsor Sea Scout Ships. We should not sponsor them, but we are encouraged to assist in the training of Sea Scouts in the presence of their leaders. My sentence structure was incorrect.



Auxiliary staff. The Auxiliary supported the surge operations admirably. The details of the response varied from district to district, ranging from increased air and surface patrols to additional marine dealer visits, to support of Coast Guard personnel and to a table top exercise. This last was initiated by a Captain of the Port and included Auxiliarists, and other agencies.

Commander Crawley from Seventh District is assembling a "Tiger Team" to investigate methods of improving Auxdata with automation of processes and simplification of data entry, to reduce errors and save money, time and postage. He hopes to improve the quantity and quality of Auxdata entries and information. With these improvements he hopes to enhance Operation Patriot Readiness as part of the overall process.

Competition by one team from each district in Atlantic Area East to be one of the two teams to represent Atlantic Area East at ISAR 2003 competition will be held at Cape May on 25 and 26 July 23003. Like last year, there will be six events in the competition, however, there will be differences from last year. I hope the team from 5NR will be one of those teams to represent Atlantic Area East. This will require some intense training because the competition will be fierce. With some effort, we can win! ❀

*Eugene A. Bentley, Jr., DCO-D5-NR
Newtown Square, PA*

I believe you will be interested in a few highlights from the Joint Area National Planning Meeting held in Mystic, Connecticut, on 25 and 26 April 2003. In addition to the National Commodore, the National Vice Commodore, Chief of Staff, National Vice Commodore Atlantic Area East and West and representatives from the Chief Director's Office, the Director of Auxiliary, District Commodore and Vice Commodore from each district in Atlantic Area East and West were present. The sharing of ideas and methods was extremely helpful.

The National Commodore, Bill Edgerton, made it a point to ask us to circulate to all Auxiliarists just how much the added efforts by Auxiliarists was appreciated by the Active Duty Coast Guard and by the National

HELPFUL HINTS IN CARING FOR YOUR FLAG

- Fly ends:** Watch for signs of fraying. Flag can be trimmed and re-hemmed, greatly prolonging the life of the flag.
- Windy days:** High winds are extremely tough on flags. If at all possible, take down when winds exceed 30 MPH.
- Rain or snow:** After a heavy rain or snow storm, take flag down and wash in mild detergent or soap solution. Let dry thoroughly and replace on pole.
- Indoor or parade flags:** Soil is the greatest enemy to these flags. Dry cleaning is recommended for them. If a parade flag is out in the rain, do not fold away wet. Allow to dry before storing.
- Air pollution:** To minimize the effects of dirty air, smoke, car emissions, etc., keep the flag clean. Having two flags and interchanging at stated intervals is highly recommended.
- Flag pole care:** Keeping your flag pole in good condition will prolong the life of the flag. Rust, scale or corrosion can both abrade and stain the flag.
- Boat flags:** Do not allow the flag to trail in the wake of the boat. Do not handle flags after working on the boat. Grease, gasoline and oil are not good additives to flag material.
- Storage:** Do not store flags near harsh cleaning compounds or strong chemicals. Fumes can cause discoloration and "rotting" of flag fibers.
- General care:** You purchased a fine flag and invested good money in it. Considerate, sensible care can give your flag a longer life and thereby provide a greater return on your investment.
- Cleaning:** Nylon flags should be washed in warm water with mild detergent. Cotton flags should be dry cleaned.

VICE COMMODORE

The Commodore, Director, and I attended the Commanding Officers conference in Portsmouth, VA. During that conference, a great deal of discussion and information was given out about the Homeland Security Act. I realized during the conference that the Auxiliary did not know a great deal about this important Act.

I had a chance to read the entire 240 pages of the Act. Here are some of the highlights.

Last November, President Bush signed into law the Homeland Security Act of 2002 that established a new cabinet-level Department of Homeland Security consisting of more than 160,000 employees and the merger of many existing Federal agencies and entities. Among the Federal entities scheduled for transfer to the new department was the United States Coast Guard, which in peacetime had been a component of the Department of Transportation.

The new law provides that the Coast Guard will remain a distinct entity within the Department of Homeland Security and the Commandant of the Coast Guard will report directly to the Secretary of Homeland Security. The Secretary will have no authority to abolish or significantly reduce the capabilities of the Coast Guard. All of the Coast Guard's current personnel and assets have been transferred to the new Department under a reorganization plan submitted by the President.

The transfer of the Coast Guard was to take effect on a date specified in the President's reorganization plan, but not later than 14 months after the date of enactment of the Homeland Security Act of 2002. On March 1, 2003 the transfer occurred.

The new law also recognizes the dual nature of the Coast Guard's missions consisting both of homeland security missions such as ports, waterways, coastal security and drug and migrant interdiction and other missions not related to homeland security. These "non-homeland security missions" involve marine safety, search and rescue, aids to navigation, fisheries, law enforcement, marine environmental protection, and ice operations.

The Homeland Security Act of 2002 is careful to ensure that the non-homeland security missions of the Coast Guard are not sacrificed for the purpose of strengthening homeland security missions.

Finally, the Coast Guard will still operate as a service

of the Navy in wartime.

In conclusion, the new Department of Homeland Security will maintain the historical role of the Coast Guard as a distinct entity of the Federal Government performing both security and non-security related functions while holding the prospect of increased coordination and cooperation with the immigration enforcement, customs and other functions that will also be performed by the new Federal department.

The challenge now is that the Auxiliary must step up and fill in where needed.

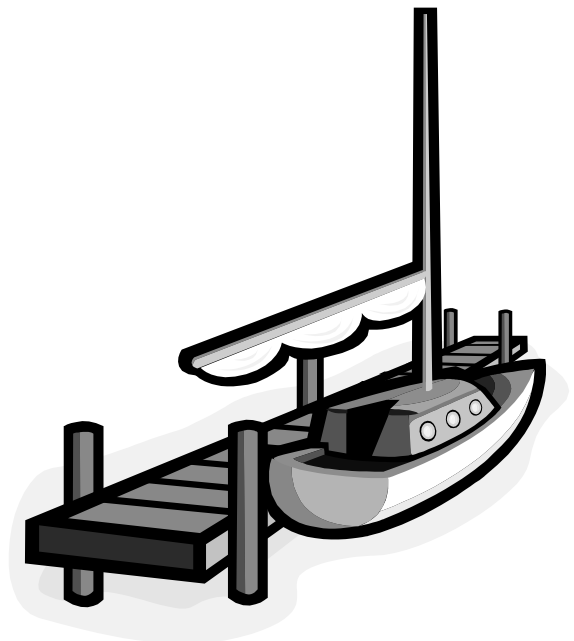
I hope you were one of the many that attended a very successful, informative and fun-filled District Spring Conference 2003. If not, perhaps you will hear about it enthusiastically from those who did attend, and you will plan to make the Fall Conference 2003.

My sincere thanks to the District Staff Officers and other presenters for the meaningful presentations and instruction they prepared and delivered.

The Fall Conference 2003 will be held at the Host inn, Lancaster, PA on September 12 -14, 2003. Mark your calendars now.

Remember our CHALLENGE. Step Up and Fill In. We can do it. ✻

*Leon Kehr, VCO D5-NR
Souderton, PA*



REAR COMMODORE-CENTRAL

After taking office as ARCO-C and getting my feet on the ground, I noted that some Flotillas and Divisions do well and others flounder. There has to be a root cause for this success or lack of it in each case.

One thing I did begin to notice is that planning plays a key role in everything we do, in and out of the Auxiliary. If we plan well and follow up on our plans, in most cases we succeed. If we go through life without planning and having goals, in most cases we don't do very well.

In the case of the Auxiliary, having a plan is very important to the success of our Flotillas and Divisions. It gives our people something concrete to follow and a good sense of direction. We should sit down and map out our yearly plans for the Flotilla/Division if we want our people to produce and feel the pride of accomplishment. We should have a budget, plans for patrols, PA booths, VE stations, and PE classes we want to teach. We should also plan picnics or outings as a group to solidify our sense of belonging and comradeship.

We shouldn't wait for the last minute to start looking for leaders (Flotilla Commanders, Vice Commanders or Division Captains and Vice Captains). Start the grooming process early, before you have a need for their services. Set the stage for the success of the Flotilla/Division. Last minute drafts for leadership rarely work to the advantage of the group and cause a lack of confidence in the organization. Unprepared and uncommitted leaders lead to bad results, cause dissention among members, and loss of membership. Energetic, prepared leaders spur the group on and give energy to the organization.

We need to plan for the replacement of aging staff officers. Each staff officer should train new members in their job thereby passing on their experience and expertise when they step down.

As a leader, constantly check your plans for the year to see if you are on track. If you are falling off, get the group back on track and spur them on toward their goals. Offer constructive criticism, not judgmental sarcasm, and pitch in to help. People are more inclined to follow someone who works with them than someone who acts as a figurehead.

Conducting constructive, productive meetings will help members get behind the organization. Good meetings get good results. Conduct member training - even if only for 20 minutes. It gives members a reason to

(Continued on page 8)



REAR COMMODORE-WEST

Much has happened in the West lately and we have more planned.

4th CORNERSTONE (Fellowship): We have completed all of the Western changes of watch (COW) for the year 2002 and 2003. They were all very successful, and a lot of fun was had by all. The last COW was in Division 14 and nine past and present Commodores were in attendance. They were current District Commodore Gene Bentley, and past Commodores Bob Perrone, Bob Wecker, and Clyde College, our present Vice Commodore Leon Kehr, and Rear Commodores Ken Bashore, Don Bowes, Dudley Gallup and yours truly, Henry Reeser.

OFFICER'S TRAINING: Our training workshops were very informative and helpful to the new officers. The elected officer's training (EOT) was held in Shamokin Dam, PA. 48 new officers attended. The appointed officer's training (AOT) was held in Grantville, PA. There were 120 members in attendance and that course was also a success. Many thanks to all who attended.

BOAT CREW TRAINING: We have training in progress or in the planning stage in several areas of the West. We started a crew course at Raystown Lake and SARDET Long Level with 16 and 10 members, respectively, in each class. Coxswain training will follow. A lot of planning went into both of these courses. We have a second class starting at SARDET Long Level with 8 members in attendance. We are also planning to have the mobile unit training team (MUTT) at Long Level on June 21 and 22 for basic crew and coxswain training.

BOATING SAFETY FAIR: We have a boating safety fair planned for June 7 & 8 at SARDET Long Level. We will feature boat examinations, safe boating booths, a yard sale and plenty of demonstrations. Yes, we will have food.

U S ARMY ON CITY ISLAND: The US Army displayed much of their equipment in an effort to recruit men and women into the Army. They asked the Coast Guard for boats to patrol around the island and guide them to the marina. The Auxiliary was asked to do the job, and we had four boats there on the 17th of May for this purpose.

NEW MEMBERS: I have saved the best news for last. Division 14 has taken in 21 new members within the last month. I suppose that you would like to know how

(Continued on page 8)



REAR COMMODORE-EAST

My article in the last issue of TOPSIDE stated, "member training is the cement that holds our Auxiliary together." Here in the East we proved that statement "in spades." We showed that if we provide the training opportunities, the faithful will come. Our elected officer's training session had 80 attendees, our appointed officer's training had close to 200, our operations clinic and workshop had almost 100, and our new member/all member workshop drew 75.



Whew, that's quite a bit of math (over 450 Auxiliarists overall), but the time and effort was well worth it. My sincere thanks and bravo zulu to all who participated, either as facilitators, planners or attendees. I am proud to say that each and every Division in the East was deeply involved in every phase. You guys and gals are the best!

As most of you are aware, I am a Team Coordination Training (TCT) facilitator. There are many lessons to be learned in its seven elements. One is aptly named SITUATIONAL AWARENESS. Defined as "knowing what's going on around you all of the time." With the summer season rapidly coming upon us, "situational awareness" must be the order of the day. On the water, on the road, stay vigilant 100% of the time.

Thankfully, the war footing in the Middle East is drawing to a close, but the terrorist threat to each and every one of us still looms large. We must be constantly alert to our surroundings. Whether on patrol, or just out for a day of cruisin' and fishin' we have to keep a watch for things that aren't "just so." An unattended boat, somebody fishing without evidence of the same, someone taking photos of "unattractive" scenery, power plants, etc., allow your common sense to rule.

If you have to err, err on the side of safety, if it doesn't look right, if you get that "something's wrong, but I don't know what" feeling, if the hairs on the back of your neck decide to stand up for no apparent reason, REPORT what you see or suspect to your nearest Coast Guard unit or marine police. If you can, use the telephone (or cell phone) to report your sighting. Remember, bad guys have VHF radios too. Above all, be safe out there. *We really need you!* SEMPER PARATUS ❀

*Mel Borofsky, RCO-E D5-NR
Little Egg Harbor, NJ*

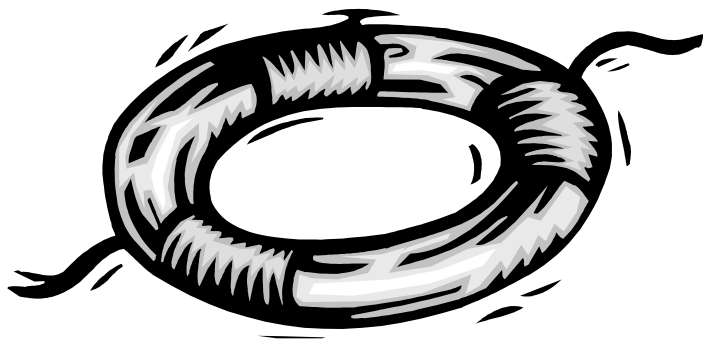
REAR COMMODORE-CENTRAL CONT.

(Continued from page 7)

keep coming.

Remember, we want our organization to grow, and to do that we must plan for it to happen. ❀

*Robert P. Amort, RCO-C D5-NR
Dover, DE*



REAR COMMODORE-WEST CONT.

(Continued from page 7)

we did this. One new member wanted to be part of the Academy Introduction Mission (AIM) program so he joined. Two of the new members were his parents, they wanted to be with him. One new member took a course last year and wanted more training. One new member took a recent BS&S course and wanted crew training. Seven new members were in our BS&S Course and they wanted more training.

There are still two more who could not make the new member course. Five were recent members from Flotilla 14-5. Four people were in our 13 lesson Sail course. I taught lessons two and three and I finished a little early, so why not give them a pitch for the Auxiliary? It worked! I may have four people interested and they asked if I would come back and give them more information about the Auxiliary. There are 65 in this class, so who knows how many want to join?

We will see. ❀

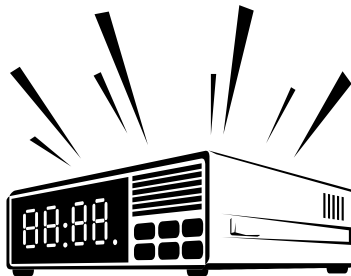
*Henry L. Reeser RCO-W
Mt. Wolf, PA*

COMMUNICATIONS

The Auxiliary comes through again!

Due to recent security levels, a requirement for a UHF radio transceiver located at the Group Philadelphia Communications Center was called into use. The URC-200 radio allows Group Philadelphia communications people to communicate in a secure mode to the various Coast Guard cutters that have been called up to patrol the Delaware Bay and lower river. Electronics Support Detachment (ESD) from Atlantic City, NJ temporarily installed a unit to be tested in the Philadelphia area. The problem was that Group Philadelphia didn't have compatible UHF radios installed in any of their patrol facilities.

TCC Michael Tornari, Communications Officer for Group Philadelphia, contacted several radio vendors and was told that no radio was available that would transmit on the assigned frequency which the Coast Guard requires (for security reasons we won't divulge the frequency). For several weeks, Chief Tornari searched high and low for a portable unit that could be used for the test with no success, and the test unit had to be returned to ESD the following day.



The Coast Guard Auxiliary to the rescue... Chief Tornari contacted Joe Rzucidlo, District Staff Officer for Communications for the 5th District Northern Region, and explained the situation. Auxiliarist Rzucidlo called upon his twenty years experience in the Two-Way Land Mobile Communications field and his Amateur Radio background. Within 30 minutes, Rzucidlo had a radio programmed and operational on the required frequency. The radio was loaned to Group Philadelphia for an operational radio test the following day. The test was very successful, but the distance of the test was hampered by heavy icing conditions on the Delaware River. A future test will be conducted when the weather improves, and is also expected to be successful.

Chief Tornari commented to Rzucidlo, "I should have talked to you first." He's correct. We have a lot of assets and experience in the District communications department to offer to the gold side. It's not the first time Auxiliarist Rzucidlo has been called upon for his input to unique communications problems.....and he has come through every time. ☼

*Article by Dan Amoroso, ADSO-CM
Media, PA*

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Boater: "I am looking for a boating course."

Me: "What kind of boat do you have?"

Boater: "A 28-foot motor boat I've had for 5 years."

Me: "So you're a pretty experienced boater."

Boater: "Yes."

Me: "So you just want a course to update your skills."

Boater: "Yes."

This recent interchange points to an important finding of a marketing study for the America's Boating Course (ABC). This study, commissioned jointly by the Auxiliary and the Power Squadron, found that those who owned boats consider themselves experienced boaters. In marketing a course like Boating Skills & Safety (BS&S) to this group, it is critical to convey the message that the course will build on their experience. If these "experienced" boaters perceive that BS&S is designed for the neophyte, they will not take it. The word "Basic" in BS&S presents a marketing challenge.

In recent years, states have made the passing of a boat safety course mandatory for many boaters. Often these boaters are only interested in finding the easiest path to a state certificate and care less about learning anything.

Another market for our courses is adults who do not currently and have never owned a boat. These individuals want an introductory course that will expose them to what it means to be a boater. Yet, many are not willing to devote the time for the complete BS&S course.

The National Education Department has addressed these challenges with a program that simultaneously meets the needs of these various markets. It starts with an introductory course of eight or slightly more hours, followed by a series of elective or advanced courses.

There are three options for the introductory course: ABC, Boating Safely (BS), and the first eight chapters of BS&S. Marketing one of these introductory courses requires advertising that appeals simultaneously to each of these markets. To the "experienced" boater, the course updates his knowledge of state and federal requirements. To those seeking state certification, the course is the easiest available path. To those without boats, the course provides an introduction in a limited number of hours.

The options for elective courses are numerous. Each of the last five chapters of BS&S constitutes a stand-alone course: navigation, weather, radio, knots, and engines. National also has a neat CD for knots that can be used in place of, or in addition to, the BS&S chapter.

The challenge of today is to repackage our courses to meet the changing demands of our market place. Boaters deserve the education that the Auxiliary provides. ☼

Marshall E. Blume, DSO-PE, Villanova, PA

COMMUNICATION SERVICES

E-mail etiquette – the proper protocol.

E-mail communication is a primary communication process for the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. It is not something in the future, but is here today and is destined to remain for the foreseeable future. It is a great way to send reports and keep members informed on a regular basis.

Although e-mail has made it simpler for members to communicate, it hasn't necessarily made communication clearer. And there's also the question of what's appropriate to communicate via e-mail. E-mail is still relatively new to the Auxiliary and there are no written rules about when and when not and how and how not to use e-mail. However, some rules for correspondence for the Auxiliary do exist and some of those rules apply to e-mail. Other rules are still evolving, but in the meantime let's explore some guidelines:

1. Auxiliary e-mail address lists must never be used for personal correspondence i.e., non-Auxiliary correspondence, chain letters, personal and political viewpoints, etc.
2. If you receive warning messages, messages that state that you will receive some type of remuneration for forwarding to your friends, etc. always check to verify that the message is not a hoax because in all probability it is.
3. Always keep your e-mail address current by notifying everyone who has your e-mail address with changes and keep your own e-mail lists up-to-date. A major faux pas is inadvertently putting in the wrong e-mail address, which can be embarrassing for all parties involved.
4. If you commit a faux pas, don't forget to send a mea culpa.
5. Check your e-mail frequently. You should reply when you finish reading the message or as soon as possible if required to research an answer or perform a task.
6. If you receive information, a report, or a message that does not require a response, reply with a short note that you received the message. "Got it - thanks" will suffice.
7. Always be careful when you put something in writing. Never send an e-mail message with contents that you may later regret.
8. Do not reply to a message if you are upset or in emotional turmoil. Take time to assemble your thoughts in a cohesive manner. Road rage on the cyber highway is not good.
9. If a subject matter requires a human moment or human emotion, e-mail is the wrong vehicle – do not use it.
10. Be concise and to the point and prepare your message

in a professional and structured manner.

11. Rereading your message before sending will guard against misunderstandings. Sometimes what you meant to express comes across the wrong way.
12. Do not expect an e-mail recipient to read your mind. State details in a manner that does not require interpretation or guess work.
13. Use a spell checker to avoid misspelled words.
14. Be careful forwarding or cutting and pasting to prevent copyright infringements.

These are but a few of the many caveats regarding e-mail. Sending e-mail is similar to being out on the water in your boat. Courtesy and common sense will help keep you out of trouble.



There are various web sites available where you can check e-mail messages for viruses, hoaxes and scams. The Coast Guard Auxiliary has comprehensive list of available sites at <http://www.cgaux.org/cgauxweb/infoserv/virus.htm>

When your e-mail address changes, you should notify your FSO-IS with the proper form - ANSC 7028 Change Of Member Information. The FSO-IS will forward the information to the SO-IS who will enter the change in AUXDATA. You can find e-mail addresses for all Auxiliary members who have e-mail by accessing the National E-Mail Directory. Go to the National Web Site, <http://www.cgaux.org/>, click on "Members' Deck" and then "E-Mail" and follow the instructions. You can search by office, district, division, flotilla, name, etc.

In conclusion, e-mail is an excellent way to communicate and is cheaper than using the telephone. Use it for sending reports, information, contacting members and requesting information.

And always remember - "Communication – the thread that binds and keeps an organization from unraveling at the seams." ❀

*Harry Dyer, DSO-CS 5NR
Washington Crossing, PA*

VESSEL EXAMINATIONS

The following provides several good questions and answers.

*Alfred O. Grimminger DSO-VE D5-NR
Middletown, DE*

I have received several messages related to fire extinguishers, so I combined them in this reply.

1a) Does the owner of a boat with a fixed fire extinguishing system have the option to not count this system towards meeting the fire extinguisher requirements?

Answer. Yes.

1b) If this is the case, is the owner still required to satisfy the requirements with the correct number and type (B1 or B2) and condition of Coast Guard approved fire extinguishers for the size of their boat?

Answer. Yes. The vessel would have to have on board the correct number of fire extinguishers as a boat without any fixed system.

2) Must a fixed fire extinguisher system be removed if it is not annually certified/approved in order to pass the fire extinguisher VSC criteria?

Answer. No. The regulations are clear that in order to be counted towards meeting the fire extinguisher requirements, a fixed fire extinguishing system (Halon or its modern equivalent) must be weighed annually and be within limits.

3) Will documentation from any certified scale with the proper resolution (e.g., dated sticker attached to the tank with the weight from a certified deli scale) be acceptable? Or must it be from a certified fire extinguisher service center/company?

Answer. No. The VE Manual states (page 17): "All CO2, Halon, FE-241 and other extinguishers with replacement compounds for Halon must be weighed annually to assure that the minimum weight is as stated on the extinguisher label. These units must be inspected and tagged by a recognized authority within one year of

the VSC." Although the VE Manual does not state who is a recognized authority, the definition can be found in the old VE Manual (page 3-14): "Where an inspection tag is required, it must be provided by a recognized firm such as a fire extinguisher servicing company or a local fire department, and must show the signature of the inspector."

4) Are there requirements for hydrostatically testing a Halon (or its modern equivalent) bottle to pass the fire extinguisher VSC criteria? For example, after 10 years and every 5 years thereafter even if the tank has never been discharged.

Answer. The VSC does not require it. The competent authority may require it for legal or other reasons that are beyond the reach of the VSC program.

5) In the case of a fixed fire extinguisher system, is there a requirement that a certified fire extinguisher technician/company must annually test and document that the system "audible and visual alarms and engine shut-down circuitry are operational" in order to pass the fire extinguisher VSC criteria?

Answer. No. The requirement in the VE Manual is that the inspector verifies the weight. However, the competent authority may require such checks for legal or other reasons that are beyond the reach of the VSC program. The VE Department is not aware of the requirements to become a Fire Extinguisher inspector. I recommend you speak with your local fire department or fire extinguisher servicing company. Please keep in mind that inspecting fire extinguishers is beyond the scope of duties of a VE. You cannot perform this service as a USCG Auxiliarist while under orders or in uniform. ☸

*Hal Leahy, DVC-VT
USCG Auxiliary*

*National Vessel Examination Department
<http://www.cgaux.org/cgauxweb/NVED/>*

Fall Conference 2003

September 12-14, York PA

Register today.... Forms are in this issue!

NEW DISTRICT COMMANDER

Rear Admiral Sally Brice-O'Hara returns to the Fifth District having just completed her duties as the Director of Personnel Management for the Coast Guard for the period July 2001 to April 2003. In this position, she was responsible for planning and administering an extensive range of human resource programs. She oversaw service-wide military and civilian personnel matters, including workforce management, recruiting, assignments, uniforms, housing, compensation, morale, well-being and recreation, and the Coast Guard Exchange System.

Throughout her career, Rear Admiral Brice-O'Hara has enjoyed a wide variety of assignments. At the time of her selection to flag rank, she was Commanding Officer of Training Center Cape May, the site of the Coast Guard's recruit training program. Previous operational duties included two commands of Station Cape May, NJ, and Group Baltimore, MD, as well as a short assignment as Deputy Commander of Activities Baltimore where she was also the Alternate Captain of the Port. Earlier positions of significance were Assistant Director of Admissions at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT, Planning Officer at Support Center Kodiak, AK, and duty as one of four members of the Commandant's Strategic Planning Staff.

Rear Admiral Brice-O'Hara is a native of Annapolis, MD. She graduated from Goucher College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology in 1974, and received her Coast Guard commission from Officer Candidate School in Yorktown, Virginia in June, 1975. In 1993, she earned a Master of Arts Degree in Public Administration and was named a Littauer Fellow by the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. In 1997, Rear Admiral Brice-O'Hara graduated from the National War College with a Master of Science Degree in National Security Strategy, and the following year, participated as a fellow in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's prestigious Seminar XXI.

Rear Admiral Brice-O'Hara's personal awards include a Legion of Merit, a Meritorious Service Medal, six Coast Guard Commendation Medals, a Coast Guard Achievement Medal, and the Commandant's Letter of Commendation.



Congratulations and welcome back to D5-NR

Remarks of RADM Sally Brice-O'Hara Fifth Coast Guard District Change of Command Ceremony

21 April 2003

Good afternoon Admiral Collins, Vice Admiral Hull, distinguished guests and friends, my family, and men and women of local Coast Guard units, the Fifth District and Atlantic Area. This assembled audience reminds us that we do not come alone to moments like this. We're supported and accompanied by colleagues, mentors, lifelong friends and classmates, and loved ones who inspire, prod, challenge and sustain us. Thank you!

I'm very proud for this opportunity to revitalize the Fifth District as a distinct command. For the better part of a decade, oversight rested in the capable hands of several distinguished Coast Guard Vice Admirals... who also bore the burden of Atlantic Area command, and Maritime Defense Zone Atlantic. Yes, their leadership garnered many successes. However, division of responsibility is absolutely the right answer in these

dynamic times...to properly support our people, to maintain our readiness, to ensure responsible stewardship of the public's trust and resources, to fulfill our role within the new Department of Homeland Security.

Although today marks a separation of duties, I also recognize how closely integrated Admiral Hull's and my staffs will remain here at the headquarters levels. Where these relationships continue, it makes sense to capitalize on strengths and synergies derived from a cohesive operations center, united planning staffs, integrated waterways management. Whether overseeing independent district operations or supporting Atlantic Area initiatives, I can assure you that our Service motto *Semper Paratus, Always Ready* will embody the spirit of the men and women who comprise the Fabulous Fifth.

When I entered the Coast Guard some two-plus decades ago, I never dreamed of standing here in this position. I feel as if I have come full circle from my first assignment as the Fifth District Fisheries and Maritime Law Enforcement Officer. Back then, a very senior officer's welcome was blunt—he'd

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NEW DISTRICT COMMANDER

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been on a group that considered opening regular service to women - and he had recommended against it. Fortunately, his opinion was overlooked.

How differently our Service accepts and values diversity today. Many organizations say that people are their most valuable asset but then squander this resource. We can never achieve operational excellence without winning the hearts and minds of our people, for they, you - active, reserve, civilian and Auxiliarist - are the Coast Guard. Recruiting has never been better, retention is at record high levels. We've invested millions of dollars to create an environment that offers opportunity, promotes personal and professional growth, and provides the responsive force needed for 21st-century challenges. Yet, this investment is merely the foundation.

My foremost priority is to ensure that every unit within the District continues to nourish this precious resource, our men and women. Once newcomers arrive in the field, it's up to us to help them develop their professional talent. Every commanding officer, officer in charge, chief petty officer and senior civilian has a special responsibility to create a sense of identity and belonging for each member; to foster learning, to energize commitment to the Coast Guard and our core values. Engaged motivation, ongoing feedback and coaching must be central in our day-to-day leadership. In the press of duties as emergency responders, we need to stay attuned to our team's health and well-being, so be alert for warning signs and intervene to short-stop stress. We take care of one another!

We'll couple this focus on people with a high level of readiness to protect our nation.... to safeguard the maritime sector with vigilance and provide the American people superior services. These are times of transformation, in which missions are increasingly complex, and where we confront a new kind of enemy.

Our foremost operational concern is building our maritime security capability while preserving traditional missions. We'll continue leveraging new ways to conduct multi-mission operations to get the most from our deployed units. As marine safety and shore operations grow more tightly integrated we will ensure that any change improves the organization and enhances performance in all areas. I'm willing to innovate as long as the outcome leads us to operational excellence through best use of resources.

Auxiliarists, our steadfast volunteers, you have already dramatically increased patrols, watchstanding and vessel safety examinations. I know your level of competence and value your insights, so get ready, for I'm going to continue to seek your expertise on and off the water.

Recent events have highlighted the essential and unique capabilities we can provide to support the Department of Defense. I look forward to improving interoperability and cohesion in our roles as force providers to the combatant commanders and as the lead federal agency for maritime homeland security.

As vital members of the new Department of Homeland

Security, the Fifth District will promote unity of effort through shared responsibility, partnerships and mutual support. I realize that we're working collaboratively at unprecedented levels with state, local and federal agencies, and the marine industry. I recognize that I have many new faces to meet and relationships to cement. It's only from a foundation of mutual trust that we can readily share intelligence and information, and conduct joint operations to meet our strategic and tactical needs.

Looking forward, we already have several key issues clearly in focus:

✿ By the end of this fiscal year, the pre commissioning detachment for Station Washington will arrive for duty to heighten and sustain Maritime Security operations in the metropolitan DC area.

✿ We are poised to execute the full integration of the Joint Harbor Operations Center at the Coast Guard Hampton Roads Command Center to preserve the safety and security of this most vital strategic port.

✿ We're ready with personnel and resources to support safe Liquefied Natural Gas cargo deliveries to Cove Point later this summer.

✿ We are set for the delivery in the weeks ahead of 20 new small boats to augment harbor operations in three key ports.

✿ We anxiously await installation of the Rescue 21 equipment - a powerful new communications system that will further enhance maritime domain awareness and command and control along our coasts and waterways.

During introductory briefings, I was impressed with the breadth and scope of Coast Guard missions in the Fifth District. Substantial work lies ahead, but if the professionalism, pride, and expertise demonstrated by my staff and field commanders are any clues to the future, it will be bright and fulfilling. Together, we will deliver results that exemplify the Fifth District motto of Dedication, Devotion, and Service. As your District Commander, I salute you and look forward to working with you.

And let us not forget our shipmates and all the soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen who are deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, may they be home soon - safe and successful. ✿



ATLANTIC STRIKE TEAM

"They Also Serve Who Sit and Wait."



Pictured from left are: Atlantic Strike Team Auxiliarists Ellen Voorhees, Tom Murray, Cosmo DeFazio, Larry Voltz, William McCarthy, William Francen and Kathleen G. S'fer.

All of us undoubtedly remember the adage from an older family member that states: **"They also serve who sit and wait."** Do you remember Grandma saying that to you at some point and wondered what the heck she was talking about? Many of us have stored that in our memory banks from years ago but did not understand the connotation of those words that seemed to be saying something noteworthy and alluded perhaps to the solution of a cosmic conundrum; and the true meaning lay just beyond our grasp. **"They also serve who sit and wait,"** exemplifies the Auxiliary Watch Standers of the Atlantic Strike Team. What are we talking about and what is the Atlantic Strike Team (AST)?



Pictured from left: Atlantic Strike Team Operations Officer Frank Cesario, congratulates Auxiliarists William Francen, Cosmo DeFazio and William McCarthy as they receive their watchstander qualification letters and orders during a ceremony held at Headquarters, Ft. Dix, NJ.

The USCG Commissioned Officers and Petty Officers who are selected from a list of candidates to be part of the Strike Force Team are an elitist Division within the Coast Guard and respond to chemical, biological and nuclear clean-up of hazardous wastes. The Atlantic Strike Team was key in their response to the anthrax alert during the 9-11 World Trade Center disaster last year. The U.S. Coast Guard National Strike Force (NSF) was created in 1973 to respond to oil and hazardous chemical incidents and has expanded since then to include biological and nuclear clean-ups and was detailed during our country's recent involvement in the Mid-East. The USCG AST is likened to a high-caliber fire squad that are on call 24-7, and have been repeatedly recognized by the President of the United States for its instrumental and valiant performance in the World Trade Attack Clean-up. They are key players in today's Homeland Security efforts.

How does the Auxiliary figure in this scenario? On an Auxiliary level, accepted members are required to complete and train for 10 watches and are held to the same standards as the USCG AST itself, including completion and sign-offs of qualifications. In addition, the preparation received by Auxiliary members in many ways mirrors the same training the Coast Guard mandates for its military.



Auxiliarist Ellen Voorhees (79) proudly displaying the Auxiliary Achievement Award she received for her work at the AST on 9/11.

The National Strike Force Command Center, located in Elizabeth City, North Carolina serves as the Headquarters and Coordination Center for all three Strike Teams.

- The Atlantic Strike Team at Ft. Dix, NJ
- The Gulf Strike Team (GST) in Mobile, AL
- The Pacific Strike Team (PST) in Novato, CA.

It should be noted that the 5TH Northern is proud to acknowledge and has implemented a seven person team to provide administrative assistance and support on a volunteer basis to the AST in Ft. Dix, allowing for USCG military to be assigned to other key and critical duties and deployment. Auxiliarists who serve in this capacity are officially recognized as members of the AST as it pertains to the Incident Response Center (IRC), the hub of all incoming reported cases. The Auxiliarist watchstander is the first face or voice that meets and greets all who enter the facilities or call the USCG AST Hotline.

The Auxiliarists who are currently part of this team

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ATLANTIC STRIKE TEAM

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and proudly volunteer their time are: Tom Murray (7-11), Ellen Voorhees (79), Larry Voltz (7-11), William Francen (16-5), Fred McCarthy (16-7), Cosmo DeFazio (16-8) and Kathleen S'fer (16-8).

The following excerpts are from the *Overview Pamphlet* approved by AST that outlines the objectives, disciplines and methods of response regarding the AST mission, its mandatory training of AST Corps and the logical and balanced structure within the AST, utilized to contain and eradicate toxic, chemical, biological and nuclear waste.

All response equipment is palletized, loaded, and ready for immediate deployment by truck or by aircraft.

All Strike Teams meet these standards:

- 2 members may be dispatched immediately
- 4 members may be dispatched within 2 hours
- up to 12 members and equipment may be dispatched within six hours

The NSF qualification program includes four levels. While these levels are unique to the NSF, our personnel meet training and skill requirements similar to those established in Federal regulations.

Response Member (RM) is trained in over 50 areas of oil and hazardous materials response operations and attains an awareness level of all NSF-equipment. This allows the RM to perform a number of vital functions in pollution response, primarily assisting the RT.

Response Technician (RT) is a significant level beyond RM and is the position reached by most Strike Team members. An RT is qualified to operate all NSF equipment. An RT has also attended pollution response specialist courses and obtained significant field experience on both oil and hazardous material incidents.



The "Welcome Mat"

Response Supervisor (RS) is a level beyond the RT that supervises the technical aspects of NSF response operations at oil or hazardous materials incidents. This includes the preparation, deployment, and operation of all NSF equipment. The RS helps a response in many areas including direction operations, response planning, resolving site safety issues, and solving technical problems.

Response Officer (RO) is a senior leadership position filed by a commissioned or warrant officer. An RO manages all aspects of any size NSF response, including response planning, mobilization, and operations. An RO receives significant resident and unit training, and field experience. An RO can fill key positions in a spill management team, direct operations, liaise with senior countermeasures, explain policies, and solve crisis management problems.

NSF-SUPPORT AREAS

Pre-incident Support

Spill Management

Assessment

Containment, Countermeasures,

Removal & Disposal

Alternative Countermeasures

Administration, Documentation, & Cost Recovery

Public Information Assist Team

Small Boats

Lightering/Pumping Equipment

Communications Equipment

Oil Discharges

Damage Control and Support Equipment

Special Monitoring Equipment

Photographic Equipment

Vehicle/Command Post

*Article & Photos by Kathleen S'fer FSOPA/VE 16-8
Forked River, NJ*



Auxiliarist Kathleen S'fer, AST volunteer watchstander and author of this article shows off the uniform of the day at AST Headquarters. Auxiliarists who have qualified for duty at AST wear the same "duds" as their active duty counterparts.

PRESIDENT BUSH VISITS GROUP PHILADELPHIA

Editors note: The following article is reprinted from the Flotilla 43 Newsletter "Blasts From The Bridge," Ron Cohen, FSO-PB 43. The photos were chosen from the many supplied by Bob Layton, IPDCP 6, Joe Diodato (14-4), PRCO Harry Petersen and Mel Borofsky, DSO-PB.



President Bush on the Delaware

On March 31, a group of Auxiliarists joined a larger number of active duty and reserve Coasties, and had the opportunity to observe President George W. Bush in person at the Coast Guard Base in Philadelphia. The occasion was a Presidential visit to honor the Coast Guard and to thank the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary for their work in keeping the country safe.



It was a chilly, windy day, following a brief "spring break." All but the most "gung ho" Coasties wore jackets--a good thing considering the weather and a wait of several hours for President Bush to arrive.

The event took place on the Landing along the river behind the Coast Guard Base. There were about 2,000 present, mostly in uniform, with a few civilians, Secret Service personnel, and journalists. There also was a representative of the Merchant Marine, resplendent in a Captain's uniform--indeed, our own Tony Vraim. The Coasties were from Portsmouth, Atlantic City, and New York, as well as from Philadelphia. Dozens of police officers were stationed near the Base for crowd control,

and Coast Guard ships and boats patrolled the adjacent waters. The site was cordoned off by rows of containers piled two high. Riflemen were stationed on the roofs of nearby buildings.



The President paid special tribute to Auxiliarist Manny Greenwald, who many of us know from seeing him at the Reception Desk at the Coast Guard Base on Delaware Avenue. President Bush commended Manny for his many years of service, and remarked, "Though he's only 92, he's still working." He went on to thank "all the Mannys" in the Auxiliary.

The President spoke for about 15 minutes. He delivered a familiar message--the necessity to protect ourselves against dangerous intruders, and the link between that and the war in Iraq. He also expressed hope that the Iraqi people would benefit from



their liberation. His demeanor was relaxed, sincere, and forceful. After he spoke, he "worked" the crowd briefly, and there were a number of hands that were not washed for a few days.

Other dignitaries present included Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, Admiral James Hull, Coast Guard Commander for the Atlantic Area, Lt. Governor Knoll, U.S. Senator Specter (R-PA), several congressmen, and Mayor Street of Philadelphia.



Of course there were some protestors, 75 to 100 in number, which the Philadelphia Police kept away, across Delaware Avenue.

It was a privilege to be able to view and evaluate our President at such close range. I am sure all who did will remember the occasion for a long time.

*Article by Mel Buckman, IPFC 43
Philadelphia, PA*

STATE OF THE COAST GUARD ADDRESS

Admiral Thomas H. Collins
"This Is Our Time"
State of the Coast Guard Address
As Delivered 4/1/2003

A year ago, if we had tried to imagine how much our world of work might change in the period of just twelve months, I doubt that we could have anticipated the scope and scale of the changes that were in store for us.

The events of the past week alone have been breathtaking in the speed and power with which they have taken place. Our nation has gone to war half a world away - a war that has extended to our own shores in a way that no previous war ever has.

Coast Guard forces have been valiantly engaged in support to the combatant commanders overseas in the Persian Gulf and in the Mediterranean. We have deployed 2 high endurance cutters, 8 patrol boats, 1 buoy tender, 4 port security units, strike team personnel, and 2 maintenance support units.

And here at home, Coast Guard units have been providing a significant security presence, patrolling vigilantly, working side by side with our partners in the Department of Homeland Security and other federal, state, and local agencies and the private sector to ensure the security of our nation.

We've activated nearly half of our selected reserves in support of Operations Neptune Shield, Liberty Shield and Iraqi Freedom. And our Auxiliary continues to provide an awesome presence throughout our Coast Guard - truly a model American volunteer organization.

I salute every member of our Coast Guard for the sacrifice, selfless courage, and professionalism that have been so clearly evident throughout the past year, and especially during the past week. Our thoughts and our prayers are with those who remain in harm's way, and whose inspiring service compels me to say that I have never been more proud to wear the uniform of our great nation. I know there are many here who feel the same way.

The vivid images of the past week are still fresh in our minds. Although our attention has been drawn forcefully to the events of war and to the hope for nothing less than our complete victory, I'd like for us to think for just a few minutes about all the other accomplishments of the past year.

Each of these accomplishments alone might easily have caused us to be absolutely amazed in less turbulent times.

As I recount our most significant accomplishments please know that this speech is one of the easiest, and at the same time, one of the hardest to give. It's easy in that there's so many things to talk about, especially this year, that describe noteworthy accomplishments by Coast Guard men and women. And it's hard for the very same

reason ... there's so much to talk about. My challenge is to hit the highlights in the time allotted.

Think about it. Just 25 days ago, we reported to Secretary Ridge and became part of the Department of Homeland Security, an arm of the executive branch of our government that did not even exist a year ago. The enormous effort involved in that single transition - the largest reorganization of the federal government in sixty years - should be enough to mark this year as historic.

But there is so much more.

On November 24th of last year, the very same day that President Bush signed the law that established the new Department of Homeland Security, he also signed the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002.

The Maritime Transportation Security Act, or MTSA, is an extremely important law, both for the security of the global maritime transportation system and for the impact it will have on the Department of Homeland Security and the United States Coast Guard.

The MTSA addresses the critical need to focus on the security of America's 361 seaports and the maritime transportation system.

It creates a comprehensive legislative framework to enhance the security of the global maritime transportation system. It does this through a systematic approach of defining responsibilities, creating standards, assessing vulnerabilities, and authorizing funds to address those vulnerabilities.

Furthermore, the MTSA provides a clear and fresh legislative mandate for the Coast Guard to initiate new rulemaking for maritime homeland security.

The Coast Guard worked very hard to lead the way to ensure MTSA's provisions are consistent with port and vessel security regimes hammered out in another remarkable effort by the Coast Guard at the International Maritime Organization this past December. Yet another major success story of this past year.

Last summer, the President also unveiled the National Strategy for Homeland Security, which outlines plans to accomplish three broad objectives: to prevent terrorist attacks within the United States; to reduce America's vulnerability to terrorism; to minimize the damage and



Admiral Thomas H. Collins
Commandant of the Coast Guard

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STATE OF THE COAST GUARD ADDRESS

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recover from attacks that do occur.

It is a sound strategy that depends primarily on preventing future attacks by sharing information, securing our borders, protecting vital infrastructure, partnering with others at home and abroad, and preparing to respond quickly if necessary.

That sounds a lot like bracing for a coming storm at sea, doesn't it? I think that's why it makes so much sense to us.

Like a gathering storm, threats to our security at home have grown. Separately and collectively they pose dangers to our sovereignty, our economy, our environment, and our safety. All of them have a distinct maritime dimension.

We obviously need a maritime security strategy that supports the President's broader homeland security strategy We have developed a comprehensive one in close cooperation our Department one that will enable us to provide enhanced security in our ports and waterways while concurrently facilitating commerce.

The six principal elements of our maritime security strategy call us to:

- a.. conduct enhanced security operations;
- b.. strengthen our port security posture and reduce the vulnerability of strategic economic and military ports;
- c.. create a more comprehensive awareness of threats and activities in the maritime domain;
- d.. acquire and build Critical Security Capabilities, to include re-capitalization and modernization of our aging fleets;
- e.. prepare our forces to transition easily between homeland security and homeland defense operations;
- f.. and sustain a lasting partnership between the military and law enforcement communities, and between the public and private sectors, both at home and abroad.

We are executing this strategy aggressively, including currently supporting a code orange presence in our ports and waterways.

This is our time and we must rise to the challenge.

Our non-homeland security missions remain vitally important. And despite the enormous effort required to build and improve our Homeland Security capabilities- and that alone has been a tremendous lift- we have had some real successes in terms of operational excellence in performing our other vital missions.

For example, we had a near-record year in cocaine seizures. Our total amount for the year was the third largest of any previous year, including a 25,000 pound seizure that was the second largest maritime seizure ever recorded.

Search and Rescue continues to be vitally important to our seafaring nation. Just about two weeks ago, two

New Bedford fishing vessels arrived safely back in port after encountering serious trouble at sea in stormy winter weather. One of the boats was in serious danger of flooding. The other had been left powerless and drifting by a broken drive shaft. Coast Guard cutters and aircraft assisted both of them safely back home.

I think it is also worth noting that the numbers of deaths in our nation's most hazardous industry-offshore commercial fishing-decreased by nearly half in 2002 compared to the yearly average from the previous six years. That good news can be attributed at least in some part to partnerships we've developed with industry to improve safety, as well as the dedicated efforts of Coast Guard men and women around the country.

The icebreakers Polar Sea and Healy are now homeward bound from Antarctica, after smashing through 50 miles of ice more than a story high, and leading resupply ships into McMurdo Station to sustain scientific studies of the Earth's climate.

Our icebreakers in the Great Lakes and along the East coast had their toughest winter in a quarter century. The lake shipping season opens this week-about a week later than planned. Our crews have been instrumental in facilitating commerce, both on the Lakes and in the Northeast.

Shifting our attention for a moment to environmental protection, last year a grand jury indictment charged a corporate director, two corporate managers, a ship's captain and first engineer for their roles in discharging oil directly into the pristine waters of Alaska from a fleet of large refrigerated cargo ships. The Justice Department and the Coast Guard are making it clear that environmental crimes will continue to result in criminal prosecution.

These are just a few of many examples that clearly illustrate the constancy of the operational excellence of our missions in the midst of dynamic change. Clearly, we must continue working diligently at all our missions, and with the continued support of the President, the Secretary, and Congress, we can...and we will.

This is our time.

The flexibility to embrace necessary change, while maintaining vital continuity in service, is crucial to our enduring commitment to operational excellence.

How do we sustain our operational excellence in this environment?

I believe firmly and without hesitation that the answer remains consistent in the watchwords of the Commandant's Direction, which I set out upon taking the helm of the Coast Guard nearly a year ago. You know those watchwords very well by now, I'm sure:

Readiness ... People ... Stewardship.

We have been attending to those themes diligently during the past year with very, very good results.

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STATE OF THE COAST GUARD ADDRESS

(Continued from page 18)

America expects nothing less.

We will be ready in all our mission areas, with particular emphasis on maritime homeland security and search and rescue.

The current and future readiness of the Coast Guard is determined by the attention we give to properly training and equipping our units. It depends entirely on the obtaining the right capabilities, the right capacity, and right partnerships with others.

How have we done with improving readiness in the past year? My assessment is that, due in large measure to the strong support from the Administration and the Congress, we've made tremendous progress... but we still have a long way to go.

In the past year-for the first time in many years-we have restored our maintenance funding base, which will enable us to properly maintain our electronics and communications systems. That's making a huge difference in readiness.

We've increased our investments in our search and rescue mission, by adding nearly a thousand new billets across the nation over the last several years and by re-establishing an active duty "A" school for boatswain mates.

The "A" school training system overall has increased to maximum capacity through night classes, hiring additional contract instructors, installing temporary classrooms, and training at contractor facilities.

Cape May is operating at maximum training levels to meet expected growth. Officer Candidate School has increased accessions by 50 percent, and Academy accessions have increased 12 percent this year. That's great news, especially to our troops in the field.

In fact, we have added 2200 new billets this year, and the best news is that our retention rates are higher than they have been in many years.

In FY 02-03 we've added over 100 new boat allowances and 13 patrol boats ... more are on their way.

Increased capacity will allow us to become as much a "presence" organization, as we are a response organization. We can't afford to simply respond to emergencies. We must be in place to prevent them. It's all about awareness, deterrence, and prevention.

This is our time.

In addition to increased capacity, we have seen real improvements in capability.

For instance, we have added four new Maritime Safety and Security Teams in key ports around the nation. Two more are coming this summer and, hopefully, six more in FY04.

Our out-conus (Continental US) counter-drug HITRON is batting a thousand! We have decided to build on that success by expanding that capability to in-conus

homeland security applications and expanding our airborne use of force policy to apply to other rotary wing aircraft, as well.

We are continuing to improve our maritime domain awareness by increasing our capabilities to share information and by strengthening our partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies, as well as our industry partners.

In particular, our new status as a member of the National Foreign Intelligence Community gives us greater access to national systems. And I have established a new Assistant Commandant for Intelligence-into which we have folded our Coast Guard Investigative Service. We are also increasing our capabilities with two new Maritime Intelligence Fusion Centers, and with new Field Intelligence Support Teams in major ports.

But our readiness does not just depend on better capacity and capability. As much as we need them, we need the key partnerships that have already proven so valuable to our effectiveness. We need to further strengthen these relationships-both within the new Department of Homeland Security and throughout government and industry, at home and abroad.

We'll need them to increase our readiness and to sustain our operational excellence across our mission portfolio.

Building effective partnerships was the key reason for our success at the International Maritime Organization this past December. Partnership will continue to be essential as we develop and implement our MTSA rulemaking effort over the next year. And our partnership with DOD/USN allows an effective two-way flow of capability to meet both expeditionary and domestic security imperatives ... all in the national interest.

Capability ... Capacity ... and Partnerships-three key ingredients to being ready and sustaining operational excellence. We are more ready today than we were a year ago ... and we'll be more capable in the months and years ahead.

Good stewardship also contributes to operational excellence. Good stewardship means managing our resources with effectiveness and efficiency.

We have earned good marks here. The Comptroller General of the United States, Mr. David Walker, recently referred to us as "one of the best managed agencies in the federal government." We have received clean financial audits three years in a row.

We must continue to earn and keep the trust of the American people by doing the very best with what we have.

We must also continually look to the future, and determine what we will need to answer the call. Good stewardship means developing and maintaining performance based plans...and we're beginning to realize

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STATE OF THE COAST GUARD ADDRESS

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the fruits of our planning efforts in this area.

This is our time.

With the increases proposed in the President's fiscal year 2004 budget, the Coast Guard will be better positioned to respond to the Nation's future maritime homeland security and safety needs. The proposed budget is part of a multi-year plan that emphasizes modernizing, building, and sustaining both capacity and capability in all our mission areas—a plan that is vitally important to achieving our goals.

President Bush and Secretary Ridge have been strong advocates of this plan. We are working very hard to keep their support through measurable performance and operational excellence.

If the budget is enacted, by the end of FY04 we will have grown by over 4100 personnel and increased our overall budget by over \$1.6B—a 30% increase over FY02. That should come as welcome news to anyone with interest in our ability to conduct our many missions, and with interest in preparing us for the future.

We are putting these increases to excellent use through sound stewardship. I think two major projects that we have in the works illustrate that point clearly.

In particular, the Integrated Deepwater System project will re-capitalize the Coast Guard's aging cutters, aircraft, and offshore Command and Control network to help push out the U.S. borders and increase our Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA). It is a flexible program, able to meet emerging requirements for maritime security.

Our Rescue 21 project will serve as a maritime 911 system that provides both a distress network, and an integrated coastal command and control system, which will aid communication among agencies responding jointly to emergencies.

Both Deepwater and Rescue 21 will be interoperable. These programs and others are at the heart of providing a ready Coast Guard having the competencies and capabilities to respond to our missions across the board.

When Deepwater is complete, no longer will our cutters and aircraft operate as independent platforms, with only limited awareness of what surrounds them in the maritime domain.

Instead, they will have the benefit of receiving information from a wide array of mission capable platforms and sensors, and will be able to work easily in tandem with other cutters, boats, and aircraft.

That capability will truly transform our work.

One of our 110' patrol boats, the Cutter Matagorda is now in the shipyards, becoming the first of our cutters to venture into Deepwater, so to speak. This historic occasion marks the advent of a new era. The changes that Matagorda will undergo in this yard period, as she is converted into a 123' patrol boat, will make her stronger,

faster, and far more capable of performing the many missions required of her in this new century.

In a similar way, the changes that the entire Coast Guard will undergo in the coming years will make us stronger, faster, and far more capable of performing our many missions, both here at home and abroad, when needed.

There are other examples of good stewardship and innovation that we should take note of.

In the past year, for example, we have engineered a high-speed data link that allows cutters to access the world wide web via satellite. That's critically important to their ability to share information and conduct business at sea through e-Coast Guard.

We have also created assessment teams to measure the effectiveness of e-Coast Guard initiatives and the progress being made toward achieving the reality of an electronically integrated Coast Guard.

Furthermore, the Innovation Council sponsored a one-year pilot project aimed at using hand-held computers to support our boarding officers, inspectors, pilots, and others with a portable job performance aid. This new tool will enable field operators to record essential data digitally and allow it to be uploaded later to a central database, saving time and increasing the accuracy and speed of our operations.

These are but a few examples of dozens that I could give you to illustrate our efforts to maintain good stewardship.

Readiness and stewardship both really depend on one thing: the capability of our people to achieve them. Ultimately, our operational excellence depends on the men and women of the Coast Guard.

We cannot improve readiness and maintain good stewardship simply by building better ships, airplanes, and equipment. We can't do these things without retaining the quality, depth and diversity of our people. Together, we must be willing and able to stand strong, though days ahead might be very hard—and I assure you, we will stand strong.

Our chiefs, our officers, and our civilian leadership will be essential to the sustained growth in depth and numbers that we must achieve in the next few years. They are all necessary to help every one of our members, but especially our junior members, achieve the professionalism our Service requires.

For example, we are paying keen attention to crew endurance management to ensure the safety of our people, while meeting the demands of a huge increase in operational tempo. To do that, we have developed state-of-the-art techniques for assessing crew endurance risks; we have instituted new crew endurance management principles into our operational doctrines; and we have established crew endurance management training at the

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Leadership Development Center for all prospective command cadre.

This year, we increased tuition assistance by 28 percent, to bring our program into parity with the Department of Defense.

We are also using technology to develop the skills of our people to the "point of use" in new and unprecedented ways, such as the E-Learning Initiative, SOCCOAST and SMARTFORCE.

The Joint Ratings Review is nearly complete, changing the ratings and advancement standards for more than a third of our petty officers, to bring them in alignment with the needs of the future.

There is a whole host of other changes that I could talk about if we had all day, such as the new Operational Dress Uniform, the Enlisted Professional Military Education Program, changes in age and training policies for selected reserve recruiting programs, changes to the Gliding Flexible Work Schedule, and service-wide leave carryover policies to make sure our people have the opportunity to rest and recover from the demands of the workplace.

All of these changes, and more, are designed to improve the quality of work and life for our people. There will be more coming.

Readiness...People...Stewardship.

Each of these is essential to our operational excellence...and none of them is independent of the others. They are intricately intertwined.

Most of us are familiar with the wide use of rope-or line, as we call it in our service. These three elements-readiness, people and stewardship-are like three strands twisted together to form a line, such as a mooring line, used to secure a boat or a ship to the pier.

The boatswains among us will know that three-stranded synthetic line is very resistant to abrasion, and although it may stretch a lot under load, it quickly returns to its proper length and shape when the load is released. The more stretch the line has, the better it can absorb impact.

Every once in a while, especially after the line has been used under heavy load, it is a real good idea to inspect each of the strands carefully along the entire length of the line to make sure it hasn't weakened or deteriorated, and it is ready for the next big strain.

We have all been under a great deal of stress and strain lately. I know how hard everyone in the Coast Guard is working, whether active duty, reserve, auxiliary, or civilian.

We must continue to pay close attention to the three strands of Readiness, People, and Stewardship to make sure that we have the strength and flexibility that we need for the future.

This is our time.

I wish I could tell you exactly what tomorrow will bring.

If the past year is any indication, then we have many more changes in store. We have many initiatives on the table, and others to follow.

We have much to do to implement MTSA and the security amendments to SOLAS and the ISPS Codes designed to ensure better information sharing, better security plans, and more effective means of inspection and control of commercial vessels.

There is much yet to do to build out our homeland security capabilities and capacity, to integrate as a true team player with the new department, to develop mission standards of performance, and to increase our 7 by 24 presence in our ports and waterways. What is at stake here is not only our ability to meet security demands, but to sustain operational excellence across all our missions.

We must tend to our fisheries and other law enforcement missions, including counter-drugs and migrant interdiction, to ensure that our nation's borders and resources are fully protected against potential violation-not just against terrorism.

We must realize our strategies and goals for MDA, if we are to provide the maritime security that our nation requires.

As part of that effort, we must make absolutely certain that our Deepwater and Rescue 21 programs stay on track, and that we vigorously pursue the goal of modernizing and re-capitalizing our aging fleets.

We should view all these challenges as glowing opportunities...especially the opportunity to grow and manage our workforce in a smart way. We must do so by keeping the training, professional development, education, and well being of our workforce as the highest priority. The "CG committed to our people and our people committed to the Coast Guard" -- the most important phrase in my "Direction".

We must keep our quality advantage by investing in our people.

Ladies and gentlemen, this IS a time of enormous opportunities, as well as enormous responsibility and change. Our men and women ... active duty, reserves, civilian and Auxiliary are clearly equal to the task at hand.

This is our time ... We have much to contribute to both the safety and security of our great nation. It's our calling ...It's our responsibility.

And while we have been ... and will be ... faced with transformational change, what has not changed, and what will not change, either in this time or in the future, are the things that must remain constant-our character as a maritime, multi-mission, military service, and our core

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values: Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty.

America needs a Coast Guard that will not change its ability to be always ready for anything-even the enormous changes that we have seen in the past year.

Change within Continuity...that is the key to remaining Semper Paratus!

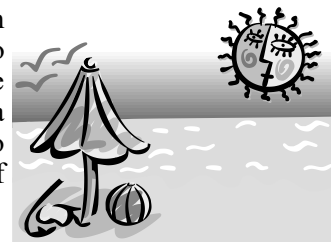
And Semper Paratus we will remain!

Thank you very much. ☼

SUN SCREEN PROTECTION

Those of us who are out in the sun on boats or on the beach worry about protecting ourselves against the damaging effects of ultra violet rays on our skin and preventing skin cancer.

We know we should always apply a sunscreen with at least a sun protection factor of 15. The number on your favorite bottle of sunscreen may be in the double digits, but you may only get about half that amount of protection unless you know how much to use. That's why some researchers are calling for a simple "two finger" method to help you get the most out of your sunscreen.



The sun protection factor, or SPF, that a sunscreen delivers is determined by testing skin that's been generously slathered with a thick coat of sunscreen. But studies have shown that most people apply only 25% to 75% of this amount.

The proper way to apply sun screen is based on a "rule of nines" that divides the body's surface area or skin into 11 areas that each account for about 9% of the total. The areas are:

Head, neck, and face

Left arm

Right arm

Upper back

Lower back

[Upper front torso

Lower front torso

Right upper leg and thigh

Left upper leg and thigh

Left lower leg and foot

Right lower leg and foot

The right amount of sunscreen can be



applied to each these 11 areas if people use the "two finger" method. That means two strips of sunscreen should be squeezed from the tip to the base of the index and middle fingers and applied to each of these areas. Remember like PFD's, sunscreens don't work if you don't wear them. ☼

Gil Finkelstein, IPDCP 8
Linwood, NJ

FELLOWSHIP... A PROUD MEMBER'S THOUGHTS

I have been a proud member of the Auxiliary for almost 2 years now. In that time, my husband and I have learned lots.... we took the new members course at the Spring Conference in York, PA in 2002, went to the vessel examiners course at Bald Eagle State Park, PA, in May 2002. We attended the boat crew school at the Philadelphia Coast Guard Station last June, and we took all seven AUXOP courses over the past winter at the AUXTOC in Audubon, PA. We have also become officers, both at the Flotilla and Division levels. Since becoming officers we have attended many workshops in Philadelphia, and we have added Division meetings to our schedule.

What concerns me now, is that when we joined we learned that there are the "Four Cornerstones" of the Auxiliary. These are the "missions" of the Auxiliary, and are; vessel safety checks, public education, operations, and fellowship.

I understand the vessel safety checks and the fact that we not only check private boats, but we now have a very successful program in which Auxiliarists can train and now perform vessel safety checks on commercial fishing vessels. We do some of these at marinas where we also perform marine dealer visits, providing free information to boaters. This program has helped to save many lives!

The second cornerstone is public education. This has been a staple for our organization, providing the public with classes and, now, safe boating certificates. This is now mandatory for many states depending on the age of the individual and type of vessel being operated. Also, we provide our own members with some very technical and highly specialized forms of training. Again this program has saved countless lives.

The third cornerstone is operations which includes many aspects of our roles. These include; patrols on the water in our own vessels or along with the active duty Coast Guard on their vessels. We patrol in the air as pilots and air observers, we are aids to navigation verifiers, and we even act as watchstanders in which Auxiliarists man the radios at Coast Guard stations or man their own at-home or mobile radio facilities! The benefits from this can be counted in the lives as well and property saved, as well as the support we provide to our

brothers and sisters wearing the regular Coast Guard uniform, often referred to as the "Gold side"!

Now for the forth cornerstone...fellowship. I am curious as to why we have so many officers, all holding positions important to our organization and roles, but no officer positions for fellowship, at any level! I know that some flotillas have committees to plan flotilla activities, such as picnics, Christmas parties and change of watch ceremonies. But what about all the other possibilities? Dinners on the USS New Jersey for all members, a trip to the local ballpark, a brunch with your neighboring flotilla? Through our training courses and attendance at Division seminars/workshops, both my husband and I have met many fantastic and interesting members! So, why doesn't the Auxiliary have official Fellowship officers?



When I organized a booth at a local home show, I realized that many of the visitors would be coming from some of the surrounding communities which also had their own flotilla. I met with that flotilla and despite the fact that they were from another Division, they sent 6 members to join us. We shared lots of good stories, learned what the other flotilla was doing and had some fellowship!

We learned that many hands make light work, and that boundaries shouldn't exist when we put on the same uniform! Especially in these trying times, we must remember that we are all in it together and that we do wear the same uniform! Let's try working more with our neighboring flotillas. Invite them to join you at your vessel examination stations, public education booths, and classes. You might just find the Auxiliary even more fun and rewarding! ❀

Kate Taylor, SO-OP 10
Pottstown, PA

2002 AWARDS - SPRING CONFERENCE 2003



DISTRICT AWARDS

Recognition of Individual Achievement

Vessel Safety Check Award

Greatest number of safety checks in the District...John R. Cathcart (7-12)

Marine Dealer Visitor Award

Greatest number of dealer visits in the District.....John R. Cathcart (7-12)

Operations Program Award

Greatest number of operations exclusive of support missions and chart updating.....Carol L. Owens (14)

Aids to Navigation/Chart Updating Award

Greatest number of ATON/CUs reported.....David Berlin (13-3)

Support Missions Award

Greatest number of support missions.....Emanuel Greenwald (13-5)

Instructor Award

Greatest number of education missions.....Eric L. Pennell (49)

Topside Photo Award

Best photograph in TOPSIDE depicting Auxiliary activity.....Francis A. Lombardi (13-6)

Assists Award

Greatest number of assists in the District.....Howard F. Guest (95)

Amos Hope Outstanding Assist Award

Outstanding assist during the award year.....Richard L. Garrish
.....with civilians; Eugene Kray, Paul Anderson, and Frank Fisher

Edmund Morton Member Training Award

For outstanding membership training.....Melvyn A. Borofsky (72)

Flotilla Publication Award

Best regular flotilla publication.....Harry F. Dyer (26)

Division Publication Award

Best regular division publication.....Gilbert Finkelstein, Division 8



2002 AWARDS - SPRING CONFERENCE 2003



DISTRICT AWARDS

Recognition of Flotilla and Division Achievement

Flotilla Membership Award

Flotilla with greatest membership increase.....Flotilla 11-9

Flotilla Operational Support Award

Flotilla with greatest number of support missions.....Flotilla 65

Flotilla Operations Award

Flotilla with greatest number of operational missions.....Flotilla 12-5

Flotilla AN/CU Award

Flotilla with the greatest number of aids to navigation missions.....Flotilla 69

Flotilla Vessel Safety Check Award

Flotilla with greatest number of VSCs.....Flotilla 7-12

Flotilla Marine Dealer Visit Award

Flotilla with the greatest number of marine dealer visits.....Flotilla 7-12

William Ross McDonald Award

Flotilla with greatest number of public education missions.....Flotilla 7-12

Past District Commodore's Plaque

Flotilla which won the PDCO Trophy in 2000.....Flotilla 7-12

Past District Commodore's Trophy

Flotilla with the greatest number of missions overall in 2001.....Flotilla 7-12



COAST GUARD AWARDS

Director's Administrative Awards

Flotilla and Divisions meeting specific program goals:

Flotilla 21	Flotilla 23	Flotilla 24	Flotilla 33	Flotilla 35
Flotilla 49	Flotilla 52	Flotilla 65	Flotilla 69	Flotilla 72
Flotilla 7-11	Flotilla 7-12	Flotilla 83	Flotilla 10-2	Flotilla 11-3
Flotilla 11-4	Flotilla 11-6	Flotilla 11-9	Flotilla 12-5	Flotilla 14-2
Flotilla 15-5				

Director's Certificate of Appreciation

For outstanding service to the Director's office:

Lionel F. Crossman	Dudley D. Gallup	James Lafferty
James Brennan	Helen and David Berlin	

Flotilla Meritorious Achievement Award



2002 AWARDS - SPRING CONFERENCE 2003



auxop members

Adrienne DeGregaro (34) ☆ ☆ Thomas Morrissey (34)

coxswain badges

☆Carol L. Owens (14) ☆



state awards

Pennsylvania Flotilla Awards:

Public Education.....Flotilla 49
Vessel Safety Checks/Marine Dealer Visits.....Flotilla 14-1
Operations.....Flotilla 15-5
Top Flotilla in Pennsylvania.....Flotilla 49 (West Chester, PA)

Pennsylvania Individual Awards:

Public Education.....Eric L. Pennell (49)
VSC/Marine Dealer Visits.....John Williams (14-1)
Operations.....Donald E. Bowes (15-5)

New Jersey Flotilla Awards, by Division:

Operations (Assists)..... Flotillas 35, 61, 79, 82, 13-3, 16-8
Public Education (Nr. of classes)....Flotillas 35, 66, 79, 82, 13-5, 16-7
VSC and MDV..... Flotillas 35, 61, 7-12, 82, 13-5, 16-6

Delaware Awards are on the next page



2003



2002 AWARDS - SPRING CONFERENCE 2003

state awards

Delaware Awards by Division:

Most Operations Hours	Division 1.....Carol L. Owens (14)
	Division 12.....Thomas Mitchell (12-1)
Most Support Mission Hours	Division 1.....Richard Hudson (14)
	Division 12.....Robert P. Amort (12-5)
Most Public Outreach Hours	Division 1.....Adrian R. Teaf (11)
	Division 12.....John P. Bernath (12-2)
	and Joseph C. Phillips (12-2)
Most Vessel Safety Checks	Division 1.....Adrian R. Teaf (11)
	Division 12.....Jack Korbobo (12-2)
Outstanding Auxiliarist from Division 1.....	Carol M. Owens (14)
Outstanding Auxiliarist from Division 12.....	Robert P. Amort (12-5)

Auxiliary membership awards

30 YEARS

☆ John R. Kratzer (65) and Rita H. Kratzer (65) ☆

25 YEARS

☆ M. Philip Stamm (10-6) ☆

auxiliary achievement award

☆COMO Richard L. Raudabaugh (53) ☆

☆Jan Robert Munroe (4-11) ☆

☆Harry F. Dyer (26) ☆



Conference photos by M. Philip Stamm



2002 AWARDS - SPRING CONFERENCE 2003

2002 INDIVIDUAL AWARDS - VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS

Vincent Maciborka
J. Donald Coggins
Leo E. Daley
Arland H. Costley
Ronald J. Vanzile
Kenneth J. Kendall
Donald J. Ball
Lester C. Fisher
Russell M. Galson
Paul V. deFerrari
Clarence Dichiaro
Diane C. Pepper
Clyde Reynolds, Jr.

Joseph C. Phillips
Richard O. Hays
Arthur W. Cattell
Richard A. Deason, II
Samuel K. Pascarello
Philip Greco
Henry A. Wood
John Williams
William A. Michalski
Lawrence M. Brooks
Jack K. Korbobo
Charles D. Lamarr
Russell P. Friedrichs

Melvyn A. Borofsky
John P. Gallagher
Thomas J. Morrissey
Richard J. Price
Arthur M. Talley, Jr.
Oscar D. Bailey
Joseph F. Farber
Martin D. Blumenthal
Robert J. Herr
John W. Sneddon
David J. Holeman
Robert A. Fumanti
David O. Becker

Sam J. Porcello
Oliver D. Compton
James N. Cox, Jr.
Raymond O. Batten
Thomas E. Critelli
Adrian R. Teaf
Paul C. Lamanteer
Edward W. Rearick, Jr.
F. Kenneth De Soo
David C. Kapp
William P. Ruppel
Richard S. Wayne
Robert Neiman

Roderick E. Griffin
Hansel E. Harrell
Harold J. Gerhab
Lawrence F. Cripe
George L. Hartman
Florence A. Ewasko
John W. Jurgensen, Sr.
Stanley B. Butler

2002 INDIVIDUAL AWARDS - INSTRUCTION

Ralph J. Onesti
Michael B. Redmond
Daniel B. Charter
Joseph R. Domalewski
Frank Rizzo
Ray E. Forrester
Vincent L. Kipp
Richard B. Hudson

Arthur C. Miller
Maurice J. Keegan
Ralph J. Giunti
Ralph A. Gilgenast
James S. Brennan
Dominic Biscardi
William F. Early
Patrick M. Cunningham

Ruth A. Jopling
Bruce J. Long
Melvyn A. Borofsky
James E. Lafferty
Marilyn F. Hughes
John D. Borzell
Harvey C. Cook
Kathleen C. deFerrari

Stanley S. Friedman
Charles E. Lyman
Bruce W. Baumann
Francis A. Lombardi
Raymond O. Bartell
Adrian R. Teaf
Vincent J. Paone
Betsy A. Levy

Claire A. Lovoi
James N. Cox, Jr.
David O. Becker
Patricia N. Charter

2002 INDIVIDUAL AWARDS - OPERATIONS

Howard F. Guest
Miriam Compton
Gilbert Finkelstein
Robert A. Batta
Robert P. Amort
Joseph C. Phillips
Kenneth Eisenberg
Michael J. McKenzie
Ronald J. Boice
Robert M. Brereton
James E. Lafferty
Jane G. Brereton

Oscar D. Bailey
Zane C. Irving
Harry W. Otto
Charles R. Andree
Lewis H. Keenan
William P. McPhail
Carolyn J. Otto
Donald E. Bowes
Michael A. Ventura
Joseph Witkoski
Donald E. Welker
David Berlin

Linda S. Boice
Betsy A. Levy
Edward S. Schutzki
Herbert A. Gomberg
George A. Matuszewski
John M. Kennard
Rosa Neff
Diane L. Josseerand
Kenneth G. Turngren
Aston C. Smith
George A. Greeby, Jr.
Kerry I. Ames
Carla Kiwior

Oliver D. Compton
Robert E. Balke
Robert J. Fritz
Nicholas S. Matchica
Robert J. Sloboda
Philip B. Walmsley
Michael L. McGurl
Maurice A. Simpkins
Walter W. Wubbenhorst
Alfred O. Grimminger
Joseph A. Cummings
Rinaldo Didaniele

Alice Drew
John T. Lincoln
Bernyce A. Wubbenhorst
Linda W. Tunney
Raymond J. Panfile
James D. Gotthelf
Stacy D. Cooper

2002 INDIVIDUAL AWARDS - MARINE DEALER VISITORS

Vincent Maciborka
Charles R. Andree
Eric L. Pennell
Joseph M. Tridante
Winvert J. Jarrell
Seymour A. Roth
Norman L. Montoy
Edward W. Rearick, Jr.
F. Kenneth De Soo
Robert J. Herr

Stacy D. Cooper
Thomas E. Critelli
Rosa Neff
Richard O. Hays
Miriam Compton
Kenneth J. Kendall
Dona C. Turner
Lester C. Fisher

Alois J. Essig

Leo E. Daley



Melvyn A. Borofsky
Gilbert Finkelstein
James E. Frederick
Joseph C. Phillips
Jack K. Korbobo
Oliver D. Compton
Charles A. Woolson, Jr.
Russell M. Galson
Anna M. Herman

Linda D. Foster
David O. Becker
James E. Lafferty
Herbert E. Hoeger
Alfred O. Grimminger



SPRING CONFERENCE 2003—YORK, PA



SPRING CONFERENCE 2003—YORK, PA



*Candid photos by:
Mel Borofsky, RCO-E
M. Philip Stamm, PRCO-C
Kate Taylor, SO-OP 10*



SPRING CONFERENCE 2003—YORK, PA



SPRING CONFERENCE 2003—YORK, PA



TRAILERING MISHAPS

Editor's Note: This edited message was directed to all Coast Guard units, including Auxiliary. The contained information should prove useful to each Auxiliarist and may be included in public education presentations.

R 111851Z FEB 03

FM: COMDT-COGARD WASHINGTON DC

TO: ALCOAST

SUBJ: Analysis of Towing/Trailing Mishaps.

a. Nov 02/ALCOAST 519/02

b. COMDT-COGARD Washington DC Nov 02 (notal)

c. Non-standard boat operators handbook, M16114.28

1. Refs a and b were sent as a result of two catastrophic trailer hitch failures due to the use of under-rated hitch equipment.

2. An analysis of towing/trailing operations mishaps depict a dramatic and alarming increase in trailering mishaps from FY 1999 through first quarter FY 2003.

3. If this trend is not corrected or it continues at the current rate, we are looking at 68 mishaps for FY 2003. The analysis of towing/trailing operations mishaps was broken down into six categories/types with a preliminary list of immediate causes (see paragraphs 4. through 9. below) for each type:

- a. 34 percent - Close quarter maneuvering (CQM).
- b. 11 percent - Highway driving.
- c. 16 percent - Preventative maintenance (PMS).
- d. 12 percent - Pre/post operational checks.
- e. 12 percent - Injuries.
- f. 15 percent - Launch/recovery.

The analysis not only depicts an increasing trend in mishap frequency but also severity ranging from minor property damage to a total loss of tow vehicle/boat/trailer assets. Our people have been fortunate not to sustain any serious injuries or fatalities and fortunate that the mishaps which have occurred on roads and highways have not involved multiple vehicles. The Office of Boat Forces has already distributed this analysis data by email to all Districts for further dissemination to all units involved in boat towing/trailing operations, however, the issue of towing safely applies to all towing/trailing evolutions, not only boats.

4. Close Quarter Maneuvering (CQM) immediate causes:

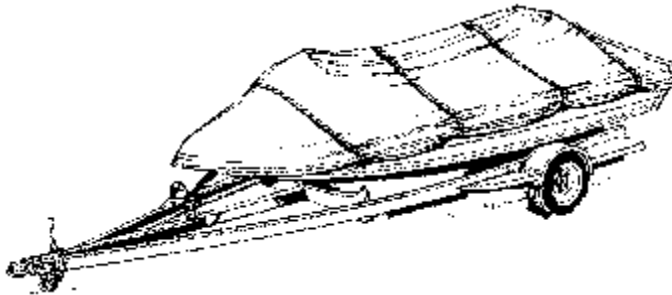
- a. Misplaced or no spotters used during close quarter maneuvering (driving forward or in reverse).
- b. Misjudged distances from side/side and front/back.
- c. Miscalculating turning radius.
- d. Failure to ensure or maintain a clear path of travel in any direction as well as clearance overhead (bridges, tunnels).

5. Highway driving immediate causes:

- a. Following too close and not affording a safe braking distance.
- b. Operating too fast for road, weather, traffic conditions.
- c. Failure to yield.
- d. Failure to plan travel route and account for overhead obstructions.
- e. Failure to maintain adequate spacing and clearance during lane changes.
- f. Failure to yield to traffic signals.

6. Preventative Maintenance (PMS) immediate causes:

- a. Failure to inspect/service trailer wheel bearing, hub, spindle, and brake assemblies.
- b. Failure to inspect tow/trailer nuts, bolts, and attachment points.
- c. Failure to inspect hitch and tow ball.
- d. Failure to inspect trailer and its components monthly and quarterly.



7. Pre/post operational checklists immediate causes:

- a. Undersized tow ball for trailer hitch.
- b. Failure to properly seat the hitch onto the tow ball.
- c. Failure to use safety chains or improperly installed chains.
- d. Failure to check for installation of boat plugs.
- e. Failure to check trailer tires.

8. Injuries immediate causes:

- a. Failure to use proper equipment to access and egress trailered small boats.
- b. Failure to maintain dry walking/working surfaces.

9. Launch/recovery immediate causes:

- a. Failure to inspect the launch ramp for steep drop-off, slippery areas, and sharp objects.
- b. Failure to maintain the rear wheels of the tow vehicle out of the water.
- c. Failure to set the parking brake and chock the wheels.

As stated in Ref a and repeated in this message, there is a **tow vehicle matching guide** that can be used to assist units in assessing their requirements. The guide and additional information about towing procedures and laws can be viewed by clicking on:

<http://cgweb.comdt.uscg.mil/g-ocs/nsb/nsbhandbook.htm>.

2003 FALL CONFERENCE

One of the nation's most popular destinations, historic Pennsylvania Dutch Country serves as the backdrop for our Fall 2003 conference. The Lancaster Host Resort and Conference Center will serve as our "operational base" from 12 through 14 September. Responding to comments from the Evaluation Form distributed at the Spring Conference, the agenda for the upcoming conference is as diverse as the local landscape. Take a look at some of the agenda items scheduled:

GPS Course: A practical course with hands-on navigation exercises (i.e. outside the classroom), unit set-up and using waypoints, map page set-up and more.

SAR Refresher: A joint active duty/Auxiliary presentation on a "nuts & bolts" approach to Search and Rescue; review of search patterns. Partial preparation for the AUXSAR specialty examination.

Marine Safety/Security/Environmental Protection Workshop: Joint active duty/Auxiliary presentation on marine safety, environmental protection, pollution investigation, harbor patrols, Sea Partners, and more.

Instructor Course: Will cover lesson plan preparation, visual aids usage including PowerPoint (Sunday Morning session will cover hands on use of PowerPoint and laptop computer/LCD projector), team teaching. Will *not* include instructor qualification examination or demonstration teaching.

Swim Test for Crew Qualification: Use the hotel's indoor pool for boat crew and aviation swim test requirement sign-offs.

Small Boat Damage Control Simulator

Add to the above, workshops for Career Candidate, Coastie, as well as a Boat Show Public Affairs session and you have a "cracker jack box full of goodies" to tempt one and all. For non-auxiliary family members who will not be attending any of the conference sessions, the area offers immense outlet shopping and entertainment opportunities. One possible destination is Dutch Wonderland Park, which will be open on the weekend of our conference.

The hospitality room will be open at various times throughout the conference. On arrival, check the schedule included in your "welcome" registration packet. A great place to step back and relax a bit.

We look forward to seeing you in Lancaster amidst the rolling farmlands, fresh air and the great fellowship of D5-NR membership ☼

*Conference Coordinator Team
Kevin Hurst, Arline & Ira Dolich*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FALL CONFERENCE 12-14 September 2003

Friday, 12 September 2003

1500-1930	Registration Desk Open
1600-1800	GPS Course
1600-1800	Instructor Workshop
1800-1930	Members' Dinner
1900-2300	District Materials Center Open
1930-2030	Division Captains' Meeting
1930-2030	District Staff Officers' Meeting
2030-2100	District Board Meeting (RCO Elections)
2100-2330	"Welcome Aboard Party"

Saturday, 13 September 2003

0630-0830	Members' Buffet Breakfast
0730-1130	Registration Desk Open
0800-1600	District Materials Center
0800-1200	District Board Meeting
0800-1000	SAR Refresher Workshop
0800-1000	Instructor Workshop (Repeat of Friday PM Session)
0800-1000	Career Candidate Workshop
0900-1600	Spouse/Guest Program (Outlet Centers & Local Attractions)
0930-1030	Swim Testing
0930-1530	Damage Control Simulator (Outside Event Weather Permitting)
1015-1030	Coffee Break
1030-1200	Marine Safety/Security/Environmental Protection Workshop

1215-1330 Lunch

1330-1530	GPS Course (Repeat of Friday's Session)
1330-1530	SAR Refresher Workshop (Repeat of AM Session)
1330-1530	"Coastie" Training
1500-1600	Swim Testing
1530-1630	Public Affairs/Boat Show Protocol

1730-1830 Cocktail Hour

1830-2130 Banquet

2200- Casino Night

Sunday, 14 September 2003

0700-0900	District Materials Center
0800-0930	Members' Breakfast
0830-1000	Past Captains' Breakfast
1000-1100	Hands-On PowerPoint/Lap Top/LCD Projector Use
1000-1200	EXCOM Meeting

FALL CONFERENCE 2003 REGISTRATION

FALL 2003 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM NON-FUNDED ATTENDEES

12-14 September 2003

Lancaster Host Resort & Conference Center

2300 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster PA 17602

Use this form to make your conference meal and event selections

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 12 AUGUST 2003

FORMS RECEIVED BEYOND THIS POSTMARK DATE WILL BE RETURNED

Note the name, meal and function selection for each attendee, total the cost, and submit a check for that amount.
Please use additional forms for more than 2 attendees.

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____made payable to **USCGAUX 5NR**.

MAIL

Kevin Hurst, USCG Base, 1 Washington Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19147

TO:

Division Number: (Required)_____

	#1	#2	Amount \$
Name			
E-mail Address			
Registration Fee for each person 17 years of age and over @ \$5.00			
Friday Night Buffet @ \$21.00			
Saturday Buffet Breakfast @\$12.00			
Saturday Luncheon @\$13.00			
Saturday Commodore's Banquet			
Sliced Sirloin of Beef @\$21.00			
Chicken Parmigiana @\$21.00			
Sunday Buffet Breakfast @ \$12.00			
Past Captain's Breakfast Member of PCA (No Charge) Guest @ \$12.00 (A PCA member must make PCA guest reservation)			

CHECK MADE OUT TO

"USCGAUX 5NR"

FOR TOTAL AMOUNT: _____

FALL CONFERENCE EVENT REGISTRATION

IMPORTANT
PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF THIS FORM

Workshop/Event Selection

Name(s) →→→→→→→→		
GPS Course and Workshop Friday Afternoon 1600-1800		
GPS Course and Workshop Saturday Afternoon 1330-1530 (Repeat)		
Instructor Workshop Friday Afternoon 1600-1800		
Instructor Workshop Saturday Morning 0800-1000 (Repeat)		
Search and Rescue (SAR) Refresher Workshop Sat. Morning 0800-1000		
Search and Rescue (SAR) Refresher Workshop Sat. Afternoon 1330-1530 (Repeat)		
Career Candidate Workshop Saturday Morning 0800-1000		
Swim Testing Saturday Morning 0930-1030		
Swim Testing Saturday Afternoon 1500-1600		
Marine Safety/Security/Environmental Protection Workshop Saturday Morning 1030-1200		
Coastie Training Workshop Saturday Afternoon 1330-1530		
Public Affairs/Boat Show Protocol Saturday Afternoon 1530-1630		
Hands-On Power Point/LCD Projector Use and Hook Up Sunday Morning 1000-1100		



FALL CONFERENCE HOTEL RESERVATION

FALL CONFERENCE ROOM RESERVATION FORM *

12-14 SEPTEMBER 2003

**Lancaster Host Resort & Conference Center
2300 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 17602**

Phone: (717) 299-5500 Fax: (717) 295-5139

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please reserve ☐ Single ☐ Double ☐ Non Smoking

I have HANDICAP requirements.

Specify: _____

Rate: \$65.00 Single or Double
Check in time: 1500

If you wish to arrive earlier, please check with hotel for room availability

Deadline for reservations: 12 August 2003

One night's deposit required to guarantee room.

Make checks payable to, and mail to the Lancaster Host Resort, **with this form**,
at the above address or call with a major credit card.

State that you are with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

Arrive Date: _____ Depart Date: _____

Credit Card: A/E _____ DISC _____ MC _____ VISA _____

Number: _____ Expiration: _____

***Use this form only for hotel room reservations.
All conference registration forms and money are to be sent
to the Conference Coordinator.**

WELCOME TO 5NR

Commodore Eugene Bentley, Jr, DCO 5NR and Commander Stephen J. Minutolo, USCG, Director of Auxiliary 5NR, welcome the following new members to Team Coast Guard and the 5th Northern Family

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FLOTILLA</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>FLOTILLA</u>
Steven B. Abrahams	14-2	Carl S. Longenecker	11-9
Robert W. Andacht	16-1	Janet K. Malzone	16-7
Steven B. Bennett, Sr.	15-7	Christopher F. Malzone	16-7
Jeffrey M. Bixby	54	Dorothy A. Matz	74
Rebecca A. Black	14-5	Brian D. McCleef	14-4
Phyllis B. Blackeby	13-6	Paula J. McDaniels	54
John L. Bondarchuk	11-9	Gail W. Merrill	14
Robert H. Boyd	82	Steven J. Miller	2-76
Robert J. Bradley	24	Michael G. Mixon	12-2
Jon Burger	82	Roy E. Mooney, Jr.	14-4
George Burns	77	David J. Moran	16-8
Ingrid A. Callaghan	19	James R. Mullican, Sr.	12-4
Patrick F. Callaghan	19	James R. Nagle	2-76
Andrew J. Carmine	12-1	Andrew J. Navalance	7-12
Jim W. Cattell	35	Griffith M. Noon	35
Debra Clifton	79	Peter J. Oriente	79
Joseph J. Cusumano	72	David J. Pagerly	11-9
Patricia K. Cusumano	72	David G. Parker	49
Michael T. Davoren	16-8	Kevin S. Peek	35
James S. DeFazio	16-8	David Pfingst	6-10
Curtis P. Dias	35	Lawrence R. Phillips	49
Hugo U. Dirks	11	Eric M. Popp	72
Cherilyn M. Domalewski	48	Joan M. Powell	16-8
Edwin B. Fay	13-6	Harry T. Reed	34
Joseph J. Forsythe	35	Brian T. Reese	79
Cliff R. Frankenfield	14-5	Henry S. Rynkowski, Jr.	12-3
Shannon N. Fuller	14-5	Walter G. Sandell, Jr.	13-3
Terry L. Fuller	14-5	Samuel J. Scalleat	15-3
Vincent J. Fumo	2-76	Joseph R. Schneider	48
Ruth E. Fuqua	10-8	George J. Schneider	16-8
James C. Gardner	53	Janet K. Schneider	16-8
Lawrence B. Geldof	49	Andrew V. Sexton, Jr.	13-3
Jason M. Giraud	77	Thomas A. Seybold	92
Lucinda J. Gumbaz	79	Matthew Shields III	52
Joyce L. Hamilton	48	Gavriel Y. Sigoly	14-1
Roy R. Heinz	2-76	Christine J. Smith	48
Linda E. Hillanbrand	77	Richard D. Snow	82
Kimberly T. Horn	2-10	John Stewart	19
Frank H. Huber	16-1	Philip A. Stone	86
James L. Keller	14-2	Gerald L. Sweet	16-8
Karissa M. Korpita	79	Scott Taylor	82
Robert J. Kuhn	14-2	James T. Taylor	7-12
Kevin X. Kuhn	14-2	James G. Taylor	14
Patricia D. Kuhn	14-2	Frank M. Terranova	79
Ronald A. Lalli	95	Kenneth W. Wallis	16-1
Patricia C. Lambariello	7-12	Kimberly A. Wiater	12-1
Belmont M. Leone	4-11	Michael F. Wiater	12-1
Robert F. Lesperance	12-1	Keith B. Williams	69
Louis D. Lomagro	12-1	Gary M. Zelna	79
		Jennifer S. Zimmerman	7-12

PROFILES IN SERVICE

Editor's note: Vice Admiral James D. Hull, then Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District, in his keynote address to the 5th Northern's Spring Conference, highlighted the outstanding accomplishments of individual Auxiliarists from each area. The following are excerpts from his address:

FIFTH DISTRICT NORTHERN AUXILIARY REGION (D5-NR) "UNSUNG HEROES"

Auxiliarist John McVey (Eastern Area)

John McVey has covered a lot of ground during only five years of Auxiliary membership. A retired police officer, John never lost his penchant for public service – and the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary have been all the better for it. To use an appropriate baseball analogy, John is the utility infielder of his Glen Cove, New Jersey Flotilla Team – ably filling any capacity called upon. He has served faithfully as its Flotilla Commander, logged hundreds of hours training recreational boaters and Auxiliarists alike in boating safety and operations, and then overlaid several hundred more hours in direct support of Coast Guard Group/Air Station Atlantic City where he diligently reports for duty each week to assist with administration and special projects. The enthusiasm, dedication and spirit that you find in the kilt-clad John McVey when he helps out each year at New Jersey's annual Scottish Highlands Games are the same personal traits that you find in him as he tirelessly works behind the scenes to ensure the success of so many Auxiliary training events throughout the year. John McVey – a true friend to the Coast Guard and an Auxiliarist for all seasons. ❀

Auxiliarist Debra Taylor (Central Area)

Debra Taylor joined the Auxiliary in her Philadelphia neighborhood almost exactly eight years ago to this day. Embracing the Coast Guard's multi-mission ethic, Debra quickly qualified in several Auxiliary program disciplines and logged nearly 2,000 hours of service as a vessel safety examiner, public education instructor and radio communicator. She took on Flotilla and Division staff support roles such as communications services officer to handle her Flotilla's web-watcher functions, materials officer to help members obtain everything from uniform items to course materials, information services officer to process all Flotilla activity data reports, and recording secretary for both her Flotilla and Division. She can always be found in the thick of fellowship activities and has unselfishly given her time to lead the planning and execution of several Change of Watch functions. Almost forgot...she has also served as Flotilla Commander the past two years and has answered the call of Operation Patriot Readiness, lending her skills, availability and enthusiasm to the Coast Guard in metropolitan



(l to r) Auxiliarist John McVey, VADM James D. Hull, Auxiliarists Diane and John Houseman. Missing from the photo is Auxiliarist Debra Taylor.

Photo by M. Philip Stamm, PDCCP 10

Philadelphia. Debra Taylor – a 21st century Philadelphia patriot. ❀

Auxiliarists Diane and John Houseman (Western Area)

Diane and John Houseman have been mainstays for their Flotilla, which happens to be based right here in York, Pennsylvania, since they joined the Auxiliary in 1998. Diane presently serves as the Flotilla's public affairs officer and personnel services officer while John has served as its Commander the past two years. Avid boaters and helpful neighbors, Diane and John have both immersed themselves...figuratively...in the boat crew program. Diane quickly qualified as a boat crewmember while John pressed on to coxswain qualification. And although John completed the distinguished Auxiliary Operator program last year, Diane is not far behind, having completed five of the seven specialties. Between them, the boating public in south-central Pennsylvania has benefited from nearly 3,000 hours of their dedicated efforts. In last month's edition of the Flotilla's newsletter, "Tilla Talk", John laid out this year's challenge to his Flotilla by saying, "The boating public is depending on us to be there. Let's make this one of our most successful years ever." With Auxiliarists like Diane and John Houseman leading the way, 2003 will undoubtedly be successful – and the Coast Guard is indeed fortunate to have them on its team. ❀

GLANCING BACK

Editor's note: reprinted with permission from the Cape May Gazette, February 6, 2003

By Robert W. Elwell Sr.

No federal organization has had as many personality changes as the United States Coast Guard.

It started out as our first federal custom officers enforcing the revenue laws. The next thing they knew they were saving those who were in peril on the sea.

Next, they were installing and maintaining aids to navigation, including lighthouses.

When foreign countries began to invade our fishing grounds they became fisheries law enforcement. Because of many boating tragedies they also took on a personality of inspecting ships, to make sure they were safe on the high seas.

With the onslaught of controlled dangerous substances being smuggled into our country, our Coast Guard became the police officers of the seas to interdict drugs.

With the advent of Sept. 11, 2001, and homeland security, Coast Guardsmen now have the awesome task of providing security in our ports and along our coasts. Not to mention the fact that they have been ordered overseas to help with the possible wartime activities, which may result in the near future. These are some of the many tasks that befall our Coast Guard personnel, whose numbers are spread so thinly around the world.

For this reason, one group of volunteers has been organized for the last 64 years - the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. The Coast Guard Auxiliary is made up of approximately 40,000 volunteers throughout the United States.

They are best known for the safety courses and safety inspections they give to the general public free of charge. These courses include boat familiarization, distress signals, mooring preparation, anchoring, man overboard training, emergency equipment use, and many other boat and seamanship-related subjects. Now with homeland security becoming a big issue, the Coast Guard Auxiliary may again become as integral a part of the Coast Guard as it was in World War II.

In 1939, Congress established a "United States Coast Guard Reserve" administered by the Commandant of the Coast Guard and comprised of unpaid, volunteer US citizens who owned motorboats or yachts.

In 1941 Congress created a military reserve of the Coast Guard and renamed the original volunteer reserve the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

In 1990 Congress passed the first major revision, which authored the Auxiliary. The revisions were made when it became apparent that the existing statutes were antiquated and changes were required to permit the Auxiliary to meet the needs of the service. These changes expanded the Auxiliary's missions. The Coast Guard now



Though old and worn, this copy pictures the 1960 Auxiliaries of Cape May Flotilla 82. Standing second from the left is Andy Knopp.

uses Auxiliary resources in any mission, with the exception of combat and direct law enforcement activities. The law clarified the status of Auxiliaries. While on duty, they are considered federal employees.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla in Cape May was organized in December 1943. The first Cape May Flotilla was comprised of 27 members with Ensign Donald W. Lear, Commander; Frank W. Hughes, Vice Commander; and Harry J. Collins, Junior Commander. Andrew F. Knopp was its first president.

The Cape May Flotilla operates out of a boathouse on Yacht Avenue. The property was acquired by the US Lighthouse Establishment in 1890 to be used as a boathouse and waiting point for lightship personnel. It came under the administrative jurisdiction of the Coast Guard in 1939 when the lighthouse service was amalgamated with the Coast Guard.

Since 1947 the property has been used by the Cape May Flotilla 82 under a license from the Third District, (initially it was Cape May Flotilla 35). The United States passed legislation making the Coast Guard Auxiliary an official branch of the Coast Guard.

Many of the locals, during World War II, used their own boats for patrolling, and received only a fuel allotment for their services. Another duty during the war included watchtower duty, manning the tower at the Cape May Point Lifeboat Station 24 hours a day.

After World War II the nature of the Auxiliary activities changed from wartime to peacetime, but members' service to their country did not end. It was through the safety courses and boat inspections that seagoing recreational Americans got to know the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Besides its safety work, which indirectly took a load off the Coast Guard, the Cape May Auxiliary was called upon many times. The more notable times were during hurricanes and Nor'easters. During one hurricane the Schellenger Landing Bridge became stuck in the open position, and the Auxiliary ferried people across Cape

(Continued on page 41)

GLANCING BACK

(Continued from page 40)

Island Creek.

During the Nor'easter of 1960 the Coast Guard Auxiliary assisted the local fire department in taking people out of flooded areas. Their small motorboats were conveniently used throughout the evacuation.

Over the years, the Auxiliary has also been close to the community in non-emergency situations. They have sponsored the Sea Scouts. They organize and carry out the launching of the Memorial Day flower boat, which is a Cape May tradition. At one time when the sand dune was washed out at South Cape May beach, they installed snow fence and planted dune grass.

Glancing back, anyone who has been around Cape May for any length of time would remember the Coast Guard Auxiliary's boat parade, which used to be held every summer. The Auxiliary sold tickets on the boardwalk, and the boat parade was led by a Coast Guard Cutter along the Cape May beachfront. Returning to the Cape May Harbor, the boats anchored and the spectators enjoyed a memorable night of fireworks.

The most recent memorable activity for Flotilla 82 was recognizing that Cape May is the most southern tip of New Jersey. To accentuate this point, the Auxiliary had the Coast guard donate an old buoy and installed it on the promenade at the foot of Gurney Street to mark the furthest point south in New Jersey. This is something similar to what was done in Key West to mark the most southern point in the continental United States.

Following is a list of past Flotilla commanders: Donald Lear, 1943-48; Andy Knopp, 1949-50; Charles Young, 1951-

52; Elmer Blomkvest, 1953-54; Clifton Reeves, 1955; Beech Fox, 1956; Fred Maurer, 1957; Ellery Bowman, 1958; Len Needles, 1959-60; Robert Welsh, 1961; Mike Trusiak, 1962; Lou Ridgway, 1963; Lucius Peterson, 1964-65; Melvin Bouboulis, 1966-67; Francis Driscoll, 1968; Athel Hays, 1969; Ralph Peterson, 1970; William Crouse, 1971-72; Jim McIntyre, 1973-74; Ed Forler, 1975-76; John Richardson, 1977; Ken Hull, 1978; Les Bieberbach Jr., 1979; John T. Lincoln, 1979-81; Bernard E. Wright, 1982; Mel Ellis, 1983; Bob Hill, 1984; Ed Zimmerman, 1985; Lewis S. Hazell, 1986; Mel Ellis, 1986; John T. Lincoln, 1987; Ed Baskin, 1988-89; Bill Caviston, 1990-91; Dave Wick, 1992-93; Ed Baskin, 1994; Francis M. McDermott, 1995-96; Dave Wick, 1997; Ken Desoo, 1998; Bill Wenker, 1999; John Bums, 2000; Bruce Long, 2001; and John Bums, 2002-03.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is made up of men and women who may be your next-door neighbor. A good friend of mine, Dave Sagers, is very active in the Auxiliary, and he enjoys the time he devotes to the organization serving his country. Some of the information used in this article has been supplied by John Lincoln of the Auxiliary.

HOW TO SIMULATE SHIPBOARD LIFE FOR THE OLD SALT WHO LONGS FOR THE GOOD OLD DAYS

- Sleep on the shelf in your closet. Replace the closet door with a curtain. Have your wife whip open the curtain about three hours after you go to sleep. She should then shine a flashlight in your eyes and mumble, "Sorry, wrong rack."
- Renovate your bathroom. Build a wall across the middle of your bathtub, and move the shower head down to chest level. When you take showers, make sure you shut off the water while soaping up.
- When there is a thunderstorm in the area, find a wobbly rocking chair and rock as hard as you can until you are nauseous. Have a supply of stale crackers in your pocket.
- Put lube oil in your humidifier and set it to "high."
- Avoid watching TV with the exception of movies which are played in the middle of the night. Have your family vote on which movie to watch, and then show a different one.
- For ex-engineering types: leave the lawn mower running in your living room for eight hours a day.
- Have the paperboy give you a haircut.
- Once a week, blow compressed air up your chimney, making sure the wind carries the soot onto your neighbor's house.
- Get up every night just before midnight. Have a peanut butter and jelly sandwich on stale bread. (canned ravioli or cold soup.)
- Make up your family menu a week ahead of time, and do so without looking in your cabinets or refrigerator.
- Set your alarm clock to go off at random time during the night. When it goes off, jump out of bed and get dressed as fast as you can, being sure to button the top button on your shirt. Run out into your back yard and uncoil the garden hose.
- Once a month, take every major appliance completely apart, and then put them back together.
- Use eighteen scoops of budget coffee per pot, and allow each pot to sit at least five hours before drinking.
- Invite eighty-five people to come and visit for a couple of months.
- Install a fluorescent lamp under your coffee table, and lie under it to read books.
- Raise the thresholds and lower the top sills of your front and back doors, so that you either trip over the threshold or bang your head on the sill every time you pass through one of them.

IN MEMORIAM



It is our sad duty to report that the following members of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary have departed our shores and crossed over the bar.

Donald C. Albright 14-2

George L. Cole 3-6

Victor D. Coskey 16-10

Thomas F. Quinn 4-8

Al Prant 13-6

Hunter C. Rees 4-8

James J. Fowler 16-8

Gomer Hillman 15-3

Charles R. Yocum, Jr. 6-5

Sailors Rest Your Oars

Listing provided by DIRAUX, through 11 May 2003



John "Andy" Kratzer

1936 - 2003

**District Staff Officer - Aids to Navigation
Past Captain, USCG Auxiliary**

"Andy" Kratzer served the USCG Auxiliary and his nation for over 30 years, always with pride in himself and his uniform. His limitless vigor, dedication to duty and his service to the Group Philadelphia "Aids to Navigation" team will be sorely missed.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

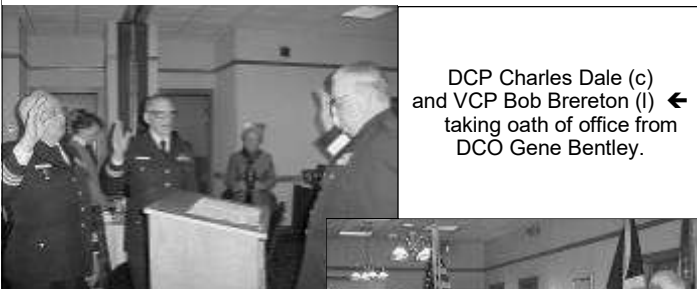
Division 1 North Delaware

DON MERRILL NAMED DIVISION 1 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR



District Commodore Eugene Bentley, Jr. (L) presenting the Division 1 Auxiliarist of the Year award to Don Merrill, Flotilla Commander 14.
Photo by CDR Stephen J. Minutolo, DIRAUX D5-NR

DIVISION 1 CHANGE OF WATCH



DCP Charles Dale (c) and VCP Bob Brereton (l) ← taking oath of office from DCO Gene Bentley.

DCP Charles Dale administering oath of office to elected officers. →



DSO-CC Dick Hudson with Division 1's Paul Owens Award ←



The Paul Owens Award winners, Jane and Bob Brereton →

*COW photos by
CDR Stephen J. Minutolo,
DIRAUX D5-NR*



AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 2 Philadelphia, PA

DIVISION 2 CHANGE OF WATCH

February 9, 2003- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 2, D5-NR, held its annual change of watch with special guests, Congressman Joseph M. Hoeffel and Captain Jonathan Sarubbi, USCG, Captain of the Port, Philadelphia. The luncheon was held at North Hills Country Club.

Representative Hoeffel outlined the Homeland Security Act. He commented on how it will impact the United States Coast Guard and the USCG Auxiliary.

*Article and photo by Stan Morantz, FSO-PA 24
Huntingdon Valley, PA*



(Left to Right) Harry Dyer, VCP 2, Cliff Dunn, DCP 2, Commander Stephen Minutolo USCG, Director of Auxiliary District 5NR, Rear Commodore-C Robert Amort, Congressman Joseph M. Hoeffel, Vice Commodore Leon Kehr, Captain Jonathan Sarubbi USCG, Commodore Eugene Bentley



Division 2

Letter received from Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell in commemoration of the Division 2 Change of Watch.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

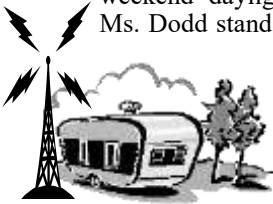
Division 3
West New Jersey

JUDY DODD NAMED DIVISION 3 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR

For each of us, it is a pleasure to know a fellow Auxiliarist, who quietly works behind the scenes, never asking anything for themselves, who are reliable, dedicated and understanding.



This year we wish to recognize such an Auxiliarist, Judy Dodd. Judy has been the glue of our operational communications. For over ten years Judy has been driving three hours on each mission towing a mobile travel trailer that also serves as a watchstander station, to assure the safety of recreational boaters and the vessels of the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Generally, these missions run the length of the full weekend daylight hours during the summer season. Ms. Dodd stands night and relief watch on the radio at Station Fortescue and has been serving as the Auxiliary Radio Operations Officer for the Delaware Bay day event for 10 consecutive years. I want to mention Judy Dodd has served despite great personal hardships with out complaint.



Ms. Dodd has also served as an Instructor, Vice Flotilla Commander, Flotilla Commander and an Assistant District Staff Officer, always ready at every meeting with a detailed written report of our readiness and mission count.

Judy has extensively supported Public Affairs inside and outside the Division and holds the AUXOP designation. Judy has served as a crew member and as a coxswain.

It is with our gratitude and admiration to announce JUDITH C. DODD as the Division 3 Auxiliarist of the Year 2002. ✿

*Russell M. Galson, DCP 3
Turnersville, NJ*

HARRY PETERSEN RECEIVES AUXILIARY COMMENDATION MEDAL



CDR Stephen J. Minutolo, DIRAUX D5-NR, presents the Auxiliary Commendation Medal to Harry P. Petersen, Jr. in recognition of his years of service to the 5th Northern District in the capacity of District Staff Officer-Member Training (DSO-MT).

Photo by Mel Borofsky, RCO-E, DSO-PB

CANDID SHOTS FROM DIVISION 3's CHANGE OF WATCH



*Photos by Mel Borofsky,
RCO-E, DSO-PB*



Photo by Mel Borofsky, DSO-PB

Division 3 District award recipients receive their awards from CDR Stephen Minutolo (l) at a recent Division meeting.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 3

West New Jersey

SARDET WILMINGTON **My first experience**

Although I have been an Auxiliarist for a short six years, I had the opportunity to perform some patrol time on a Search & Rescue Detachment (SARDET) facility out of Wilmington, Delaware.

I arrived at 0730 hours, on what was to be a 12 hour shift, and reported to the duty hut and introduced myself to my coxswain for the day, Jim. He advised me that our other crewman, Ken, would be along shortly and he proceeded to show me our orders and what equipment we would need and together we proceeded to get our equipment in order. Our watchstander, Vic, arrived and he gave us a preliminary briefing on frequencies and channels that we would use..

Vic is a fairly large individual with a flowing white beard that sort of gives him that Santa Claus look. Don't let this fool you. Although he might be "jolly," the man knows his stuff and is more than willing to assist. During the day he had several members who were getting the feel of the radio and knowledge of their geography.

Ken arrived next and after introductions all around we proceeded to load up. Jim took us through the pre-launch checks which took us from stem to stern while Ken kept track of our progress on the check out list. So far, so good. I thought that this was going to be another day with two guys I just met and a long 12 hours of gazing forward or rearward and watching the clock tick ever so slowly.

The day was fairly nice as we set off on our "routine" patrol. We did a little of this, a little of that, and after twelve hours what did we accomplish? Well, Ill tell you. During this patrol, we touched on each one of the 4 cornerstones. Member training; I certainly learned a lot. Public education; we spoke to lots of people and left them with a positive feeling toward the Auxiliary. We checked aids to navigation and we certainly communicated with each other. Last but not least, FELLOWSHIP- what better way to spend the day than to meet new people and exchange information. I went home tired but a better person for having done this day's work. If you've never tried it, give it a shot. All branches of the Coast Guard are in need of help - be it one hour, one day or whatever. Reach out, give them a call and help out. It's not all patrol work. You do have a skill to assist in some area. Come on, off your sofa, on your feet, and give a hand. ☼

Eugene Morris, VCP 3
Wenonah, NJ

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 4

Southeast PA

JAN R. MUNROE NAMED **DIVISION 4 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR**

Jan R. Munroe has been a positive influence to all members of the Auxiliary, from his vanity license plate "DSO-IS" to his readiness to help all those members in need of his expertise, especially new members.

As Chief, National Communication Services Division (DVC-IC), he is responsible for the ongoing maintenance and security of the Team Coast Guard National Email Directory. Besides being a source of email contacts for all Auxiliarists, the directory is used for other purposes, one being the authenticating of Auxiliarists who take part in online examinations.

As the Fifth Northern's District Staff Officer for Information and Communication Services (DSO-IS), Jan has been responsible for the management of approximately 250 Information Systems (IS) and Communications Services (CS) staff positions at District, Division and Flotilla Levels.

Jan has been a member of the District Commodore's Staff since 1997, DSO-IS since 1998.

Jan is a Past Flotilla Commander, 4-11. He is an AUXOP member, currently certified and active as an instructor, vessel examiner, boat crew, and recently qualified as coxswain. ☼

Robert Roetz, FC 4-11
Media, PA



LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON



J. Robert Munroe (ADSOC-S, Tech) receiving the Auxiliary Achievement award from CDR Stephen Minutolo, DIRAUX, D5-NR, for service provided to D5-NR since 1999 in creation, maintenance and modification of its regional web site.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 5
Harrisburg, PA

BRUCE HENRY NAMED DIVISION 5 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR



Bruce Henry was selected as the Division 5 Auxiliarist of the year, recognized for his efforts in maintaining the Board Inc boat, being the baseball commissioner for Division 5, and the overall support he's given to the Auxiliary. Shown receiving the award from District Commodore Eugene Bentley, Jr.

ARMED FORCES DAY FESTIVITIES



Photos from Saturday, 17 May when CDR Stephen J. Minutolo, DIRAUX, D5-NR rode with Denis Rossiter, VCP 5 and Ralph Gregory, VFC 52 as part of Division 5's patrol support for the Armed Forces Day festivities at City Island, Harrisburg, PA.(center of Susquehanna River), Harrisburg, PA - as you can see, weather was cold/damp/dismal but thousands of folks toured the island's Armed Forces exhibits and Division 5 had four total surface patrols running into the evening.

DIVISION 5 CHANGE OF WATCH

Division 5 Change of Watch, in Harrisburg, had a very nice turnout, 43 members and guests. Hank Demler, a former DCP for Division 5 who transferred a few years ago to Division 14, returned to perform the duties of Emcee for the event.

Jeannie Brenner, FC56, was selected as Division 5's Flotilla Commander of the Year, based on the overall performance of the Flotilla.

Other award recipients were: Operations Award – Bill Gardner; Instructor Award - Bill Gardner; MDV Award - Norm Montoy; VSC Award, Dianne Pepper; and Division SO of the Year was awarded to both Les Abbott and Bob Schneider. The duel award was given this year because of the work Les has done with ironing out the kinks in AUXDATA, and working with the Coast Guard in Martinsburg to tweak the software. Bob was recognized for his diligence and efforts in getting back the meeting room for the Division. The Division also has two traveling awards transferred each year to the winning flotilla. The George Smyth Award for Operations was awarded to Flotilla 56 and the Globe Award for net membership gain was awarded to Flotilla 53.

Along with all the awards given by Division, they furnish an award to each flotilla for their selection of Flotilla Staff Officer of the Year. ✪

*Article by Jeannie Brenner, FL 56, Chambersburg, PA
Photos by CDR Stephen J. Minutolo, DIRAUX, D5-NR*



AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 5
Harrisburg, PA

THE FIELD STATION BREAKFAST CLUB

A day's training (crew & coxswain training at Raystown Lake, PA)- anchoring, towing, running courses, and radio call drills -- we were ready for a light supper and then, after sundown, the night search & rescue.



At the completion of the night training, I delivered my two students, Jack and Karen Fessler, and the Qualification Examiner (QE), Don Bowes, to the James Creek launch ramp dock. Next task was to find my way to the Juniata College Field Station dock, where I would tie up for the night. In the dark of the moon the lake surface and shoreline blended perfectly -- enter spotlight use, and I picked my way around to the Station lagoon.

Expecting to be one of three boats there, the lagoon had the appearance of a Homeland Security version of D-



Day -- boats all over! Threading through, my vessel, "The Mockingbird" found a piece of dock next to "Aqua Therapy." Two able seamen helped tie up. Stage one complete. A field house was said to be in the area, and so it was, about a half mile up the hill. After a flashlight-



guided trip there, it was back down to the boats for the remainder of the night, (it's now 2300).

Deciding NOT to put the canvas up, I turned in for the night, soon to be awakened by rain on the roof. Rolling out in the rain, the sun top was opened as a partial measure of protection. It was still raining the next morning.

A call of "Hey Seth, come on over ", moved me across the docks to the aft deck of the Station pontoon boat, where Norm, Skipper of the "Janice K," and George Stewart and Doris Smith, of "Aqua Therapy," were set up for breakfast.

Norm had successfully defended his Golden Spoon Award title (given to him at the Flotilla change of watch) with a skillet of SPAM and POWDERED EGGS!

Reflecting on the Dogwood tree blooms on shore, Norm told us about the legend of the Dogwood tree and The Cross. As the story goes, the Dogwood was once a large tree, and The Cross was made from its wood. Following that nefarious use, it was decreed that the Dogwood would henceforth be no larger than a shrub. Apt reflections for a Sunday morning. But I wondered -- what had we done that Ham & Eggs Sunny-side-up had become Spam and Powdered Eggs???? ☼

*Photos and story by: Seth Shafer
FSO-PA, Flotilla 56, Chambersburg, PA.*

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 6
West Trenton, New Jersey

CHIP STEWART NAMED DIVISION 6 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR



DCO Eugene Bentley, Jr. presents the Division 6 Auxiliarist of the Year award to Charles Stewart, Jr., at the recent Division 6 change of watch.
*Photo by Jerry Sowa, SO-PA 6
Hamilton Square, NJ*

NEW AUXILIARY AIRMAN RECEIVES HIS WINGS



CDR Stephen J. Minutolo, DIRAUX, (L) presents Auxiliarist Dino Rulli, SO-MS 6, his newly earned aircrew wings.
*Photo by Jerry Sowa, SO-PA 6
Hamilton Square, NJ*

DIVISION 6 CHANGE OF WATCH

On Sunday, January 19, USCGAUX Division 6 held its annual Change of Watch at Carlucci's Waterfront Restaurant in Mt. Laurel, NJ. After the social hour and meal, Robert S. Coon and Charles W. Stewart Jr. were sworn-in as Captain (DCP) and Vice Captain (VCP), respectively, by CDR Stephen J. Minutolo and DCO Eugene Bentley, Jr. The Division staff officers, Flotilla elected officers, and Flotilla staff officers were sworn-in by Leon Kehr, VCO; Robert P. Amort, RCO-C; and Robert S. Coon, DCP 6; respectively.

The following Division 6 awards were then presented: Most Vessel Exams, Joseph Farber (Flotilla 61); Most Vessel Exams (Flotilla), Flotilla 61; Most Hours Instructing, Jay Brandinger (Flotilla 69); Most Hours Instructing (Flotilla), Flotilla 65; Most Hours in Operations, H. William Schmitz (Flotilla 6-10) and Francis Colucci (Flotilla 61); Most Hours in Operations (Flotilla), Flotilla 61; Overall (Flotilla), Flotilla 61

Special thanks were given to the Change of Watch Committee, June Layton and H. William Schmitz. The Change of Watch was a great success, with everyone enjoying their time together. ❀

*Submitted by: Charles Stewart Jr., VCP 6, Yardley, PA.
Photos by: Jerry Sowa, SO-PA 6, Hamilton Square, NJ*



AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 6

West Trenton, New Jersey

OPERATION LIBERTY SHIELD



(l to r) Auxiliaries Frank Gilbert, Don Wallar and Norberto Perez.

On 17 Mar 03 Division 6 received a call asking the Division to begin patrolling their area of responsibility on the Delaware River in support of Operation Liberty Shield. Norberto Perez, Don Wallar, and Frank Gilbert then began patrolling the upper Delaware River. Enduring 40 degree air temperatures and chilling rain, Norberto, Don, and Frank maintained a vigilant watch over the area in a 17 foot, open boat. Even wearing Mustang suits, these patrols required an unwavering commitment to the mission.

Additional patrol boats later become available, allowing other personnel to shoulder more of the load. Norberto, Don, and Frank, however, provided the necessary rapid response to the call, demonstrating again that Division 6 is always ready. Semper Paratus. ❀

*Article and photo by Charles Stewart Jr., VCP-06
Yardley, PA.*

FLOTILLA 6-10 CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

Flotilla 6-10 celebrated its 10th Anniversary on September 10, 2002. Past Division Captain and Flotilla 6-10 Commander Bill Schmitz accepted an award to the Flotilla from then Division Captain Bob Layton. Over the years, Bill was told many times, "the Flotilla would not last." Did we show them, or what!



The following Auxiliaries "stayed the course" over those 10 years....Bill Schmitz, Fred Stangl, Thomas Diamond, Weldon Harris, Eugene Pester, Fred Willing, Harry Scarlett, Robert Dennis, Gary Kunnas, Alan Most, Mike Reynolds, Bob Miller, George Mueller, Steve Metcalf and Doug Bomeisler.



Because of their dedication and faithfulness to Auxiliary missions, the Flotilla has been able to sustain and flourish.

I am proud to have come aboard and become a member of Team Flotilla 6-10. Semper Paratus. ❀

*Article and photos by Bob Liebel, FSO-MV 6-10
Bensalem, PA*

New Enhancements made to the National eDirectory

An all new resource for finding people within the Auxiliary is now available, the National eDirectory. This greatly enhanced resource is quickly becoming an advanced system for locating members (both with and without an email address). New capabilities have been added to the various search tools, and it even sports new graphics!

Please take a moment to log onto <http://www.auxforum.org/search/> and "Activate" your account if you are a new user. Try out some of these search capabilities for yourself! Remember that you need a current email address, and a correct zip code in AUXDATA to have access. If you have changed your email, or never entered your email into AUXDATA, please take a moment to complete Form 7028 <http://216.167.73.185/~forms/archive/a7028f.pdf> (Change of Member Information) and submit it to your FSO-IS.

We encourage you to try it out and discover just what the new eDirectory can do for you! ❀

Jeff Mahl, Deputy Chief, Department of Information & Communication Services

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 7
Southern Ocean County, NJ

FLOTILLA 7-12 REPEATS WINNING PAST DISTRICT COMMODORE'S TROPHY



TOP: Presentation of the Past District Commodore's Plaque for the best Flotilla in District 5NR for the year **2001**, (L to R) Division 7 Captain Mickey deFerrari, Flotilla Commander Tony Durner, Immediate Past Flotilla Commander Aldo Guerino, Asst. DIRAUX CWO Joe Hartline and Rear Commodore-East Mel Borofsky.



BOTTOM: Immediate Past and Current Flotilla Commanders receive the Past District Commodore's trophy as the best Flotilla in District 5-NR for the year **2002**.

*Photos by Walt Domanski, SO-PA 7
Ship Bottom, NJ*



DIVISION 7 HOSTS OPERATIONS WORKSHOP

As part of the "de-centralization" of District to Area workshops, Division 7 hosted the 1st Eastern Area Operations workshop. Over 75 Auxiliarists representing the five East Area Divisions attended.

Participants received the mandatory operations workshop and were also afforded presentations in the form of "hands on" clinics. A search and rescue clinic was presented by CWO Geoff Pagels, then Operations Officer, Group Air Station Atlantic City and a chart work clinic, presented by CWO David Umberger, Commanding Officer, Station Barnegat Light and Small Station Beach Haven, NJ.

Auxiliary workshops were presented by Lyn Thomas, DSO-MS and Harry Petersen, PRCO. ☼

*Article and photos by Mel Borofsky, RCO-E
Little Egg Harbor, NJ*



CWO David Umberger



PRCO Harry Petersen



AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 7
Southern Ocean County, NJ

AUXILIARY APPRECIATION NIGHT AND AWARDS DINNER

What has become a traditional annual event in Division 7, a joint CG/CGAUX appreciation night was held in May in Barnegat Light, NJ. The evening has become a celebration of mutual appreciation and admiration. Hosted by Division Captain Mickey deFerrari, over 60 awards were presented to deserving Auxiliarists. CWO Dave Umberger, Commanding Office Station Barnegat Light quipped, "there were so many awards it looked like they were brought onstage by the wheelbarrow full."

A fun part of the event is the meal shared by "Coasties" and Auxiliarists. The Auxiliary provides the food and the fantastic mess staff of the station cooks it up and serves it in regal style. The evening event is a great team effort between Division 7 and the men and women of CG Station Barnegat Light. ❁

*Article by Mel Borofsky, RCO-E
Photos by Walt Domanski, SO-PA 7*



FLOTILLA 7-10 TRAINING



Auxiliarists Ray Panfile and Mike Ventura offer Flotilla training.
Photo by Edna Frederick, FSO-PA 7-10, Whiting, NJ

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 8
Southeast New Jersey

CHIEF COOK AND....



Jim Earle, the second most important man at Station Great Egg, NJ.
Photo by Dick Keast, DSO-AN, Ventnor, NJ

FLOTILLA 84 ON REQUAL DAY



Group photo on "requal day."
Photo by Dick Keast, DSO-AN, Ventnor, NJ

DIVISION 8's RESIDENT ARTIST



"Bonnie Bonner's FAC" - An original painting by Dick Keast, DSO-AN.

FLOTILLA 82 EARNS AWARD

On 3 April, Ken DeSoo DCO Division 8 presented John Burns FC 82, Cape May, the coveted Flotilla Meritorious Achievement Award. The award is given annually to one flotilla in each district and region deemed to have made the most significant contributions to the broad Auxiliary program in that year. The winning flotilla is subjectively judged by the DCO and District Coast Guard Director, and being voted #1 for superior performance out of the 97 flotillas in District 5 is a distinct honor.



Auxiliarists who have been flotilla members for at least six months plus one day during the award period were presented with the designated miniature medal and ribbon, and received an award certificate. Multiple awards may be added to the ribbon with a 5/16" gold or silver star. ⚙

Photo by Bruce Long, VCP 8, Del Haven, NJ
Article by Thom Weber SO-PA 8, Cold Springs, NJ



←
Something to remember in the middle of August.
Photo by Gil Finkelstein, IPDCP 8

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 8
Southeast New Jersey

CULTURAL AND HERITAGE FESTIVAL



On March 29 Ken DeSoo DCP 8, Ray Bartell SO-MS 8, and Thom Weber SO-PA 8, all of Flotilla 82, manned a display booth at the 2003 Cultural and Heritage Festival held in the new Wildwood, NJ Convention Center overlooking the Atlantic Ocean.

Continuous stage performances were presented by local talent including a concert by the US Coast Guard Recruit Band playing a variety of music, ending with - of course - "The Coast Guard Marching Song." Semper Paratus.



ON GUARD

Joe Skutlin,
Vice Commander 81,
At the wheel.
Photo by
Dick Kleast
DSO-AN

DIVISION 8 AT CAREER FAIR



Division Captain Ken DeSoo discussing Coast Guard opportunities with a student at the career fair. The Auxiliary Academy Introduction Mission (AIM) was widely discussed.

Article and photo by Thom Weber SO-PA, Cold Spring, NJ

TRAINING EXERCISE WITH CG STATION ATLANTIC CITY



I received a call from CG Station Atlantic City asking if I could provide a training platform using my vessel "Misty Blue" for a law enforcement boarding team training exercise.

On May 2nd, with Bob Balke, Zane Irvine and George Morris, we headed over to the station for "Good Guy-Bad Guy" training with the CG. The day's training was better than a TV action movie. The training scenario consisted of a boating while intoxicated (BWI) situation. A belligerent captain bad mouthing the boarding team, a concealed weapon situation and more. The instructors were awesome. ❁

Gil Finkelstein, IPDCP 8, Linwood, NJ

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 9
Western Lakes, PA

WESTSYLVANIA HERITAGE FOUNDATION



(L) Randy Cooley, Director of the Westsylvania Heritage Foundation receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from Richard Deason III, Division 9 Captain. The ceremony took place at the Huntingdon, PA fair grounds.
Photo by Larry Irvin, VFC 95, Huntingdon, PA

DIVISION 9 IS "ON THE AIR"



TOP: Lead Instructor PRCO Don Bowes (15-5) during the taping of a "spot" for a local ABC affiliate. This took place during a Boating Safely class at US Army Reserve Headquarters, Johnstown, PA.

Bottom: Jim Gotthelf (L) and Larry Irvin, both of Flotilla 95 preparing for an Auxiliary recruiting taping session at Adelphia TV studios. The segment was to aid recruiting for the Raystown Lake Flotilla.

Photos by Jim Gotthelf, SO-PA 9, Herndon, PA



TAKING "AIM" ON THE ACADEMY



(L) Martin Rusnak, SO-CC 9, explaining the Academy Introduction Mission (AIM) to a student at the "Westsylvania Adventures Expo." Auxiliarist Rusnak's talented and professional efforts in AIM promotion are well known throughout the Division. His experience on CG Cutters and Bases make conversations interesting and informative with prospective applicants at the booth.

Photo by Jim Gotthelf, SO-PA 9, Herndon, PA

TRAINING AND QUALIFYING



Candid photos taken during crew school at the Juniata College Swim Pool and Raystown Lake. Qualification Examiner Dave Edinger had some excellent candidates.

*Photos by
Jim Gotthelf, SO-OP 9
Herndon, PA*

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 10
Allentown, PA

THE POTTSTOWN HOME SHOW "HOMETOWN AMERICA"

The Pottstown Home Show, 2003 version. Flotilla 10-5 started working on this project last September and the theme this year is "Hometown America." We felt it would be worth our participation, since our flotilla is in need of more members and we have not had a booth at this show during the past 10 years. After meeting with the organizers, we learned that the show attracts anywhere from 17,000 to 23,000 visitors! After a small bit of persuasion, they then agreed to give us a location on the center aisle!!

I started with the idea of a display that created a mast with signal flags from the front to back (this only took about 8 arguments for my husband to get right....if he would have only listened from the beginning...only kidding).

I contacted Mike McGurl, District public affairs officer,, and arranged through him for us to use the robot boat "Coastie." I also contacted the active duty Coast Guard recruiters from Philadelphia, and although they couldn't join us this weekend, one did stop by and dropped off some handouts for us to distribute.

I also contacted Vice Commodore Kehr and Assistant Director of Auxiliary CWO Joe Hartline. VCO Kehr came by the first evening and Mr. Hartline visited us on the second afternoon.

I also invited our neighboring flotilla in Phoenixville (4-4). Their Commander George Greeby invited me to their flotilla meeting. I went to the meeting and met with their members. This resulted in some of their members joining us at the show (isn't that what this is all about...working together and fellowship??).

I am proud to say that our booth was a great success. We have the possibility of 3 new flotilla members and about 6 people signed up for classes. We even spoke to a student who is interested in the Coast Guard Academy or at least the regular Coast Guard!!!! We were awarded a ribbon for our display (which you will see added to the front of our display on our Flotilla sign!!!

Needless to say, we had fun (the name of the game). We met Auxiliarists from our neighboring flotilla, enjoyed some fellowship and, best of all, we were able to interest people in our classes. We definitely increased the potential of signing on some new members. We even supported the active duty Coast Guard with the potential of a new recruit and a possible future officer! I guess it doesn't get any better!!!! ☸

*Article and photos by Kate Taylor, VFC 10-5
Pottstown, PA*



AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 10
Allentown, PA

50 YEARS OF COMBINED SERVICE



Receiving their 25 years of continuous service to the Auxiliary are (L to R) Alice Stamm and M. Philip Stamm from CWO Joseph Hartline, Asst. DIRAUX. Vice Commodore Lee Kehr (background) looks on. During his years of service Mr. Stamm has served in the capacity of Rear Commodore and Division 10 Captain. He is also a very familiar sight at D5-NR conferences. He is the senior staff photographer for TOPSIDE. It's nice to get his face in a picture at least once every 25 years.

FLORAL FLAG



The story behind it is as follows:

Between the field where the flag is planted there are 9+ miles of flower fields that go all the way to the ocean. The flowers are grown by seed companies. It's a beautiful place close to Vandenberg AFB (CA).

The 2002 floral flag is 740 feet long and 390 feet wide and maintains the proper flag dimensions as described in Executive Order #10834. This flag is 6.65 acres and is the first floral flag to be planted with five pointed stars, comprised of white Larkspur.

Each star is 24 feet in diameter; Each stripe is 30 feet wide. The flag is estimated to contain more than 400,000 Larkspur plants with 4-5 flower stems each for a total of more than two million flowers. You can drive by this flag on V Street south of Ocean Avenue in Lompoc, CA. 🌸

*Dan Murphy, Flotilla Commander 10-6, Lansdale, PA
Help Build A Safe And Secure USA*

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 11
Reading, PA

TERRY HILBERT NAMED DIVISION 11 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR

Terry joined the Auxiliary on March 20, 1997 and became a member of Flotilla 11-6. He qualified as a vessel examiner and he performs patrols at Blue Marsh Lake as a crewmember.

Terry served his flotilla as a staff officer for public affairs and public education. He helped to organize his flotilla's "Boating Safely" one-day classes. His many hours of support in public education, without being an instructor, have surpassed many certified instructors.

Terry has an interest in public affairs and has promoted the Auxiliary in missions on the Flotilla and Division level. Terry has represented our Division in a very professional manner.

Terry was Commander of Flotilla 11-6 during the years 2000 and 2001 and during that time he tried new programs for his flotilla and through his leadership they became more active.

On January 1, 2002 Terry assumed the responsibility of Division 11's communication services officer. He helped our members and their flotillas that did not have computer support. Several months into 2002, Terry volunteered to accept secretarial duties when our recording secretary needed relief. When settling into that position he discovered that he and the Division Captain had different software. He made every effort to update his software and in the end he purchased a new computer to further his abilities.

Terry Hilbert received this award not only for the effort, time, and support he has given Division 11 but also for the many times his imagination and ingenuity were applied to many tasks. Terry never wavered and his efforts made his projects proceed with success. An example of this was when the Blue Marsh Water fest exhibition area was moved off a beach area and into a cove area. This led to a major communication problem. Terry was scheduled that day to conduct a patrol on a facility which had plenty of crew,



AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 11
Reading, PA

DIVISION 11 DAY



On 22 March Division 11 conducted their annual "Division Day." On this particular day many workshops were offered. The instructors name follows the workshop: Operations, Carl Sheetz (SO-OP); Instructor, Dianne Bossler IPDCP 11; Vessel Examiner, Stanley Dutt (SO-VE); Marine Dealer Visitor, Carolyn McElwee (SO-MV); Information Services, William Lewullis (SO-IS); Captain's Corner, Robert Walley (DCP 11). ✱



Operations, Carl Sheetz (SO-OP)

Article and photos by Terry Hilbert, VCP 11 Fleetwood, PA

NEW UPV CAPTAIN SWORN IN



Richard Christ (11-6) is being sworn in as an uninspected passenger vessel (UPV) captain by CWO Joseph Hartline, Asst. DIRAUX. Richard studied for and passed the stringent exam to earn the license (slang term... six pack). He is allowed to carry up to six paying passengers on his vessel, not more than 100 miles offshore.

Photo by Terry Hilbert, VCP 11, Fleetwood, PA

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 12
Southern Delaware

TAKING UP THE CHALLENGE



(L to R) Ralph Gilgenast, Chuck Woolson and Tom Mitchell are taking a specialty course exam on the road to becoming an AUXOP member. BM2 Andrew Stauffer, USCG, is serving as exam proctor.

Photo by Elaine Gilgenast, DCP 12, Selbyville, DE

FLOTILLA 12-9 TRAINING ON PATROL



While on patrol last summer Auxiliarist Rinaldo DiDaniele, FC 12-9, and his crew offered their services to a vessel from Cape May for some on the water training. (above) Rinaldo's crew of (L) Linda Tunney and Susan DiDaniele did themselves proud.

Photo by Richard Stevenson, FSO-PB 12-9, Lewes, DE

FLOTILLA 12-2 CHANGE OF WATCH



Pictured enjoying the evening along with 64 attendees on 4 Dec 2002 are (L to R) Joanne Perrone, CDR Stephen Minutolo, DIRAUX, Gloria A. DeMartino (FSO-SR), John A. DeMartino (FC), John Bernath (VFC), Jean Amort, and Robert Amort (RCO-C).

Submitted by John Bernath, FSO-PB 12-2, Millsboro, DE

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 12
Southern Delaware

DIVISION 12 ASSISTS TRAINING AT CG STATION INDIAN RIVER



Auxiliarists Bill McPhail (L) and RCO-C Bob Amort representing the "Silver Side" in this training venture.
Photo by Ralph Gilgenast, SO-OP 12, Selbyville, DE

Needing to keep sharp, Coast Guard Station Indian River, DE, routinely requests equipment and manpower from the Auxiliary to help conduct some of their on the water training requirements. Auxiliarists from Division 12 assist by providing "victims" for towing evolutions, etc. In this series of photos we were practicing long tows, short tows and "man overboard" drills. To add a bit to the realism, the drills were conducted offshore in 4 to 5 foot seas.

The Auxiliary was represented in this set of drills by RCO-C Bob Amort, SO-OP Ralph Gilgenast and Bill McPhail (12-5). Coast Guard personnel on this mission were BM2 Steve Whalen, coxswain, and crewmen Jason Moore and Wicks Dickson. ☼

*Article and photos by Ralph Gilgenast, SO-OP 12
Selbyville, DE*



AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 13
Central New Jersey

CELEBRATING EARTH DAY



On Saturday, April 27th, a public affairs booth was staffed by members of Division 13 at the Palmyra Cove Natural Area, located next to the Tacony-Palmyra Bridge. The building is new and the an Earth Day exhibit was planned to show off the site.

The booth next to ours was manned by "The Turtle Lady," a delightful woman who tries to save turtles. Her display included a whole bunch of snapping turtles and other types of turtles.

One of her associates (pictured above) came with a very large snapping turtle by the name of "Ugly." The turtle was raised by hand from the egg and was never aggressive. Children enjoyed the opportunity to pet "Ugly" and the turtle remained docile throughout. ☼

*Article and photo by Dave Berlin, IPDCP 13
Mt. Laurel, NJ*

VOLUNTEER FAIR



A Volunteer Fair was held at the Senior Center in Mt. Laurel, NJ. Answering questions about the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary are (l to r) Marianne Simpkins (SPO-National Safe Boating Week), "Butch" Simpkins, DCP 13 and Dave Berlin, IPDCP 13.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 14
Susquehanna, PA

FLOTILLA 14-2 (FORMERLY FLOTILLA 54) - THE EARLY YEARS

For several years during the early 1960's, US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 54, (presently York's 14-2) utilized the US Naval Ordnance Plant in York, PA, for its yearly boating safety exhibits in celebration of Armed Forces Day. In the picture, Flotilla Commander David M. Good, York, PA, is second from the right. Seated is Edna Henninger, Vice Commander. Her husband, Paul Henninger stands to the left of Mr. Good. The boat is a 16 ft. Penn-Yan.



David M. Good, the last surviving charter member of the York Flotilla spoke with me at my home in May. Mr. Good told me some of the history of the Ordnance plant in York. "They assembled the 40 mm gun mounts - build and rebuild was the main purpose." He continued, "The plant was opened during World War II. I worked there 13 1/2 years; started in 1951." Today, the plant is owned by Harley-Davidson, manufacturers of motorcycles.

Mr. Good stated that Flotilla 54 exhibited their boating safety equipment, distributed literature, and informed the public of the purpose of our organization. In a 1962 letter thanking the Auxiliary for their participation at the Armed Forces Day celebration, the Commanding Officer wrote, "Your appealing display of safe boating practices added impetus to this plant's *Open House* program. The effort expended by the US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 54 personnel augmented interest in the Armed Forces Week celebration."

Just what sparked Mr. Good's interest in the Auxiliary? His personal history can attest to it. In 1943, when the United States was smack in the middle of WWII, Mr. Good joined the Navy. His career in the Navy was at the home front and in the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre. Mr. Good also instructed sailors who were assigned below deck. "I taught engineering rates.", he quipped. "I found that 20 is about all you can handle." It was this experience he drew on when he became an instructor in the Auxiliary.

Mr. Good couldn't tell me exactly when the York Flotilla was chartered. He thought it was about 1955 or 1956. He said, "When we began the Flotilla, we were required to have at least 10 facilities, we had 12. We patrolled Lake Clarke." When I asked where they held

their monthly meetings, he replied, "We met at the Lake Clarke Boat Club, then we moved into York and had meetings in a building down in the basement. After the Henningers' joined, we grew by leaps and bounds." Because of the success in York, flotillas in several counties in Pennsylvania were subsequently chartered. The Hanover, Williamsport and Sunbury Flotillas were among them.

Mr. Good's career in the Auxiliary spanned 20 years, including service as Flotilla

Commander. He completed the seven Auxiliary operations specialty courses, and was recorded as the 13th Auxiliarist in Pennsylvania to complete the Operational Auxiliarist (AUXOP) requirements. As an instructor, member trainer, vessel examiner, coxswain and secretary at the Division level; his belief was that of doing, not just being in the organization. He explained, "If you're a card carrying member, then do something... even if you just help at the picnics. Don't just carry the card."

Mr. Good parted with these words: "Before we gave the boating classes, there were 4 or 5 deaths a year on the river (Susquehanna). Then it began to drop. This showed that we really did do a good job of educating the people."

Thank you, David M. Good and Flotilla 54. You realized the need for boating education, and you did something about it. To lend a quote from the 1962 congratulatory letter, "The visitors and plant employees were duly impressed." Thank you, Flotilla 54 for your dedication and salient contributions to our organization and community. We are duly impressed! And, not to forget, thank you for the wonderful picture of York's Flotilla in action. Picture: photographer unknown - taken at the US Naval Ordnance, York, PA, 1962.

by Alba D. Thorn, ADSO-PB, Dover, PA

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 14
Susquehanna, PA

INFORMATION SYSTEMS TRAINING

Sandy Reck, FSO-IS, Information Systems Officer, 14-4, traveled to Miami Florida in March to attend the AUX-02 Information Systems class (AUXDATA/AUXINFO). She was interested in the course because it offered information on how to enter data into the newly created AUXDATA system. Sandy said, "I wanted to learn how to enter information into AUXDATA and the system in general. In the future, the Flotilla information officer (FSO-IS) will enter member information. The Division officer (SO) will then only have to approve it. I wanted to know what happens to the information after it leaves me."



For three days, Sandy and her 21 classmates were involved in learning the system. She is prepared to put this information to good use when the AUXDATA system is ready to be implemented into her Flotilla's information management system.

Not only was the AUXDATA course exciting and interesting; her hotel accommodations offered the same. "It was the greatest," she said. Her hotel overlooked a waterway where boaters and large cargo ships kept steaming back and forth.



When the session ended, Sandy found herself with a whole day for herself. "Now what to do?" She decided to visit the nearby Coast Guard Station Miami Beach. When she spotted the USCG Cutter Maui, she asked the officer of the day if he could take a picture of her on the Cutter and he agreed! "I pretended to spray the ship with a hose," she said, and then laughed and said, "Now I can tell people I worked on the cutter! It was a wonderful experience. I learned much and had great time visiting the base." ❁

*Article submitted by Alba D. Thorn, ADSO-PB
Pictures submitted by Sandra Reck, FSO-IS, 14-4*

COXSWAIN TRAINING

Last May, Ron Thorn, Vice Flotilla Commander 14-2, along with several other members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary's 5th Northern Region trained for four weekends for his coxswain rating. Quite accidentally, as the trainees were involved in their final on-the-water training session, they were greeted by the Coast Guard, who requested their help in their training for the day.



Excited by the invitation, the trainees agreed to participate in the training. In this picture, Ron steadies himself on the Coast Guard cutter ready for the command to "heave ho the line!"

Needless to say, when Ron came home that day, he had a few tales to spin about his adventures on the cutter! Ron completed all phases of coxswain training except for the navigation rules test. Ron plans to complete this phase in time for the new boating season. ❁

*Article and photo by Alba Thorn, ADSO-PB
Dover, PA*

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK PREP



Preparations for National Safe Boating Week (NSBW) on Lake Marburg, PA, at Coldorus State Park are discussed by (l to r) Vincent Patterson, Joseph Diodato (SPO-NSBW) Ed Clautz and Fred Reck, FSO-OP 14-4.
Photo and caption by Helen Diodato, VFC/FSO-PA 14-4, Hanover, PA

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 14
Susquehanna, PA

FRED RECK NAMED DIVISION 14 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR



District Commodore Eugene Bentley presenting Auxiliarist of the Year award to Fred Reck of Flotilla 14-4, Lake Clark, PA, at their recent Division change of watch.
Above and below photos by CDR Stephen J. Minutolo, DIRAUX, D5-NR

CANDID SNAPS FROM THE DIVISION 14 CHANGE OF WATCH



AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 15
Frontier (PA)

CARLA KIWIOR NAMED DIVISION 15 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR



District Vice Commodore Lee Kehr [r] presenting the Division 15 Auxiliarist of the Year award to Carla Kiwior (SO-SR 15) at their recent change of watch ceremonies.
Above and below photos by CDR Stephen J. Minutolo, DIRAUX D5-NR

DIVISION 15 INSTALLS NEW BRIDGE



District Vice Commodore Lee Kehr administering oath of office to Division Captain Harold Miller [c] and Vice Captain Dave Edinger [r]. The traditional ceremony took place at the Division's change of watch at Shamokin Dam, PA.



AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 15
Frontier (PA)

EAST STROUDSBURG UNIVERSITY PUBLIC EDUCATION COURSE



Flotilla 15-2 conducted a Boating Skills and Seamanship Course (BS&S) at East Stroudsburg University, in Stroudsburg, PA. The course lasted 10 weeks beginning in January and, because of snow, ended in April. Dave Edinger (left side of center leaning on chart) reviews charts during a course session with students.

Caption and photo by Ralph Young, FC 15-2, Stroudsburg, PA

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK PROCLAIMED IN MONROE COUNTY, PA



The Monroe County (PA) Board of Commissioners issued a proclamation that in part stated, "residents and visitors to Monroe County should 'Boat Smart, Boat Safe and Wear It,' by wearing their life jackets and practicing safe boating habits throughout the boating season." Members of Flotilla 15-2 received the proclamation. (left to right) Past Captain Richard Lord, and County Commissioners James Cadue, Patrick Bull, Rick Bull, Robert Nothstein.

Caption and photo by Ralph Young, FC 15-2, Stroudsburg, PA

FLOTILLA 15-1 SHINES AT TV OUTDOOR SHOW



Karen Fessler, FSO-FN 15-1 at the outdoor show.

On April 3-6, at the Lycoming Mall, Williamsport, PA, Flotilla 15-1, staffed an information booth at the television Channel 16 (WNEP) outdoor show. The booth was manned continuously from 1000 until the Mall's closing.

The show was well attended. Many pamphlets were distributed and many questions were asked and answered. Our presence made many people aware of the Flotilla's existence in Williamsport. ❁

Article and photos by Barb and Joe Kustanbauter, 15-1 Williamsport, PA



Flotilla 15-1 Commander Bob Brown (L) and Vice Commander Jack Fessler answer questions at the Flotilla's information booth.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Division 16
Northern Jersey Shore

DIVISION 16: PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The public affairs office of the Coast Guard Auxiliary provided media assistance to the US Coast Guard Station at Manasquan Inlet.

Monmouth TV Cablevision recently videotaped USCG Station Manasquan Inlet as part of program on local military units in Central New Jersey area. The coordination of this video was provided by the public affairs officers in Division 16.



Division 16; routinely provides administrative and operational support to Coast Guard Station Manasquan. In this instance, the public affairs department worked closely with the Station personnel and the USCG Group Public Affairs Detachment in preparation and facilitation of the Cablevision video.



A team of Auxiliary public affairs officers coordinated the event, handled logistics and escorted media on station grounds. Moreover, media professionals in the Auxiliary provided media guidance to station personnel. This assistance enabled the event to move along smoothly with minimum disruption to station operations.

The video included interviews with a boat coxswain, a boat crewman the Station Commander as well as Auxiliary Division Captain Jack Witemeyer.

By the Auxiliary handling this media event, it enabled the station's active duty and reserve personnel to focus on their normal military, law enforcement and homeland security missions

The members of Auxiliary Division 16 are at the ready to support Coast Guard forces and the nation.

Special thanks go out to the following Flotilla public affairs officers for their assistance during this event., Slade Carter, Kay Sfer. and David Clark. ❁

*Article and photos by Joseph M. Coccozza, SO-PA 16
Freehold, NJ*

FLOTILLA 16-10 ON THE WATER AND THE POINT PLEASANT, NJ DIVE TEAM UNDER THE WATER

The "Point Pleasant Beach, NJ First Aid Squad and Emergency Dive Team" plot their course mainly under the sea while the Coast Guard Auxiliary does just the opposite. Following a meeting between squad members and Brenda Wirth of Flotilla 16-10, the dive team agreed to give a presentation to the Auxiliary members about its capabilities.

Slade Carter, public affairs officer for Flotilla 16-10 called the demonstration "educational and fascinating."

The flotilla decided to offer a "Boating Skills and Seamanship" course to the squad as a way of expressing their appreciation. Twelve members of the emergency squad completed the seven week course.



All of the squad members passed the course with the lowest score still in the 90's.

Tom Conroy, of the dive team, said, "Taking this course makes a lot of sense. Now that we know the rules, we can anticipate where and what type of accidents may occur." This can only help in the dive team's service to the community.





While providing instruction during the course, Roger K. Brown, chairman of the State of New Jersey Boat Regulation Commission, and a member of Flotilla 16-10, talked at length about the value of children's life jackets (PFD's). He said, "My heart drops every time he sees a child on a boat without one, and it does happen far too often."

"The dive team and Auxiliary Flotilla 16-10 are proud of the cooperation and cross training provided by these activities," said Auxiliarist Slade Carter. "We plan on working with them throughout the summer."

*Article based on material submitted by
Slade Carter, FSO-PA 16-10
Point Pleasant, NJ*

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

Fifth Northern District - 2003 Calendar of Events

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
4 INDEPENDENCE DAY  7 EXCOM Meeting 15 Unit Meeting Reports Due 19-25 AIM Week #1 26-8/2 AIM Week #2 25-26 International Search & Rescue (ISAR) Competition Preliminaries at TRACEN Cape May	2 AIM Week #2 Ends 4 EXCOM Meeting 4 Coast Guard Day 15 Unit Meeting Reports Due 22 Eastern Area EXCOM 24-31 NACON 2003 Gaylord Opryland Hotel Nashville, TN 31 Fall topside <i>Deadline</i>	1 LABOR DAY  11 Patriot's Day <div style="border: 2px dotted black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 12-14 FALL CONFERENCE YORK, PA </div> 15 Unit Meeting Reports Due 27 ROSH HASHANA 	3-5 International Search & Rescue Competition, St. John, Newfoundland Canada 6 YOM KIPPUR 12 COLUMBUS DAY  15 Unit Meeting Reports Due 24 UNITED NATIONS DAY 26 Eastern Standard Time Starts 31 HALLOWEEN



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
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