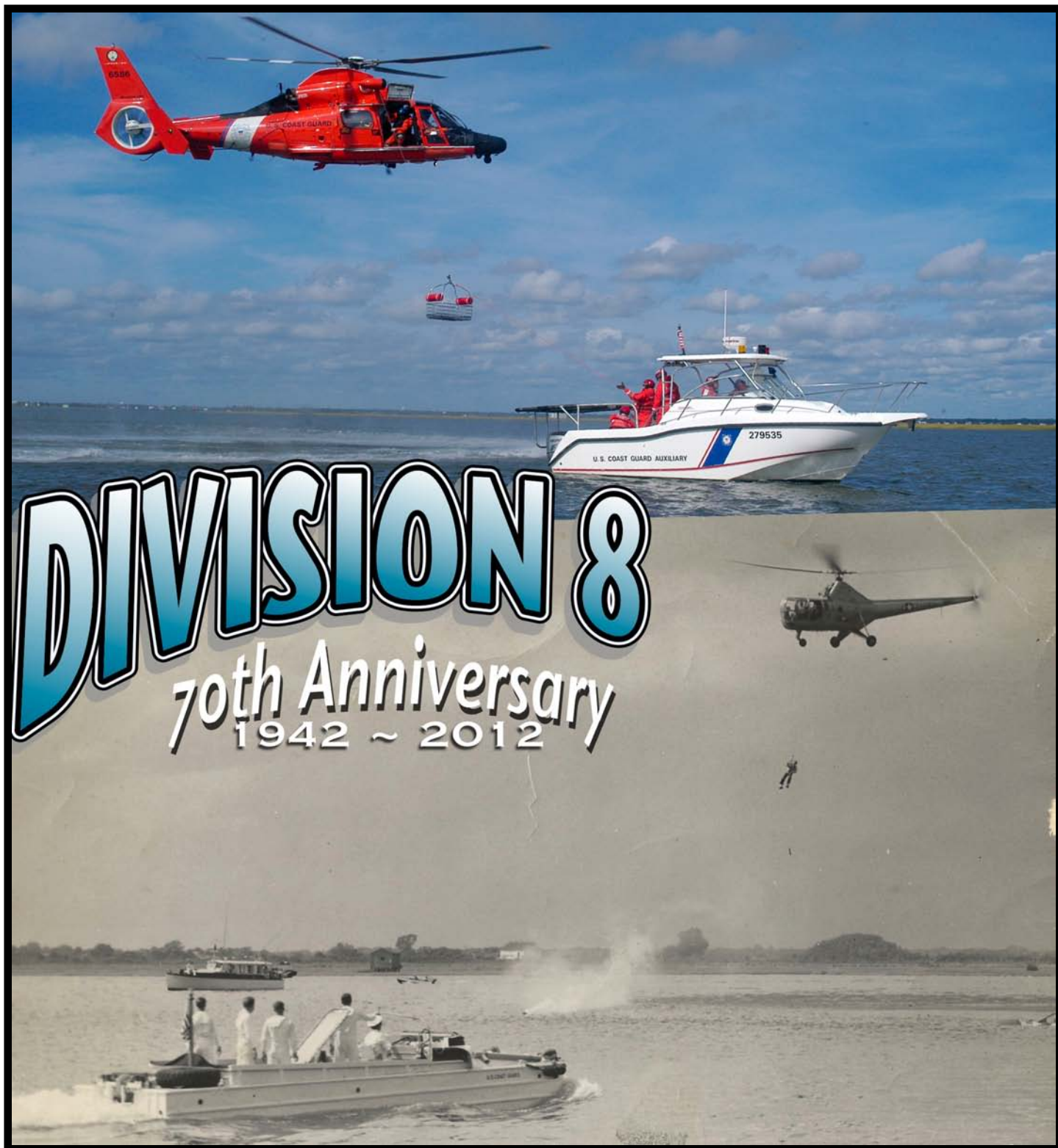


Published by 5th Northern District - U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Vol. 111, No. 1 *Spring 2012*

topside



District Spring Conference and Awards Banquet



PHOTO CAPTIONS (Left to Right from Top)

CDR Johns DIRAUX introduces the new 5NR Policy Manual.

Russ Vreeland is awarded the Auxiliary Achievement Medal from DCO Robinson and CAPT Austin.

Richard Raudabaugh, SLO presents the Pennsylvania Award to DCO Robinson.

DCOS Ken Brown receives his Pennsylvania Award from Richard Raudenbaugh SLO.

Joe Giannattasio DSO-PB at the Awards Banquet.

District Board meeting.

Ken Kendall DCDR 07, Jim Wintrode FL13-

1, and Bill Skelly DCDR 13 doing research.

Bill Skelly DCDR 13.

Gene Morris DCAPT-East.

Photos: Judy Redlawsk FL53, Joe Giannattasio DSO-PB



topside

USCG Auxiliary
Fifth Coast Guard District NR
1 Washington Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19147

Our Staff...

Joseph Giannattasio	DSO-PB, <i>Editor</i>
Carolyn J. Dunch	ADSO-PB Central
Allison Revy	ADSO-PB East
Phillip P. Stamm	ADSO-PB Historian

Topside is published at no expense to the U.S. Government or the U.S. Coast Guard. Cost of publication is borne by the dues paying members of the 5th Coast Guard District Auxiliary (Northern Region), a volunteer, unpaid civilian body whose mission is to assist the regular Coast Guard in promoting and maintaining safety on the water.

Reprints of pictures or copies of articles appearing in *Topside* may be made by other publications provided proper credit is given and a copy forwarded to the Editor of *Topside*.

Table of Contents

Lubber's Line	3
What's New	4
District PB Awards	4
Extra Fathom	5
Around the District	6,7,8
District Photo Scrapbook	9,10
District Auxiliaries in Action	11,12
Profile in Commitment	13
Profile in Service	14
In Memoriam	15
Topside Guidelines	15
Division 8 70th Anniversary	16
History Corner	16
Pictorial	17,18



Editorial...

WELCOME BACK!

AS THE TEMPERATURE rises and the excitement builds, we prepare ourselves for another eventful missions season within District Fifth Northern. With many newly elected Division and Flotilla Commanders at the helm, we are expecting this year to be one of the best yet.

I also want to take this opportunity to welcome Allison Revy as our new ADSO-PB in the eastern area. Al has been an active Auxiliarist for many years; he has a wealth of experience in Public Affairs and Publications in his Flotilla and Division. Welcome aboard Al!

With a fresh layout and popular sections like *Lubber's Line*, *Members Going the Extra Fathom* and *Profile in Service*, there is so much to read in these pages. Of course, we'll also keep you up-to-date on the latest news from various Flotillas and Divisions with featured articles in *What's New* and *Around the District*. As always, we have plenty of photographs featuring members in action throughout the magazine.

Look for advice and direction on how to make your Auxiliary participation more valuable to the Coast Guard and Boating Public - and your membership personally more worthwhile and fun - than ever.

We look forward to spending this summer with you. See you !

Joseph Giannattasio, DSO-PB
Editor-In-Chief



On the Cover: We Celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Division 8 this year with a photographic comparison of Division 08 Auxiliaries onboard Auxiliary Utility Boat Light (UTL) #279535 conducts rescue basket training evolutions with a MH65-D Coast Guard helicopter offshore of Atlantic City, NJ. and a Coast Guard HO3S helicopter lowers a rescue swimmer as a Coast Guard Auxiliary vessel (in background) and a Coast Guard DUKW amphibious boat looks on in Cape May harbor during 5NR's first DCON hosted by Division 8 on August 4, 1949.

Read the story of Division 8's history on page 16.

Color photo by Arthur Zack FL81.

B&W photo from Division 8 archives.

Lubber's Line

Charting the Course Ahead

Harold T. Robinson, District Commodore

Shipmates,

2011 has been written into the history books and I congratulate you on the amazing and outstanding amount of work all of you have contributed to the District. Some of our accomplishments over the past year brought the Auxiliary to new heights. For the first time in my 15 years as an Auxiliarist we were written into a Major Coast Guard contingency plan (SOPP). On September 21st five Auxiliary facilities with 18 Auxiliarist and two Active Duty members got under way from Cape May, NJ and Lewis, DE to participate in the Delaware Bay Mass Rescue Operation that was unfolding in the middle of the Delaware Bay near Brandywine Light. We worked side-by-side with the Coast Guard, New Jersey and Delaware State Police, Bowers Beach Fire Rescue, and other area first responders. In all, 35 vessels were utilized. Auxiliarists from throughout the Eastern and Central Areas participated in the drill. The Auxiliary distinguished itself for their segments of the exercise and was commended by CAPT Meredith Austin, Commanding Officer Sector Delaware Bay.

Thanks to CAPT Austin and the outstanding work of the MRO crews, we will participate in the next drill centered around the Philadelphia and Chester, PA areas. This drill will be more administrative (ICS) and will test the skills of our Marine Safety members as they help monitor an oil spill in the Delaware River.

Other operational events we successfully conducted during 2011 include Operation Striper Swiper, Operation Bow Rider, Operation Dry Water and Operation Parasail. The Atlantic City Air Show saw participation by 55 Auxiliary crew members on 11

Facilities in support of Station Atlantic City over three days. SARDET Wilmington accomplished another Surface/Air Drill, "Exercise Morning Mist" in an effort to hone our skills in Search & Rescue, both on the water and in the air with our Aviation Group (AuxAir).

In an effort to promote Leadership (Succession) and accomplish one of our strategic Goals, the district held an EOT conference and conducted AOT sessions in the beginning of 2012. We sponsored the Flotilla Leadership Course at both Spring & Fall Conferences along with AUXLAM and AMLOC held at TRACEN Cape May.

Member Training at our conferences set a new record for both number of classes offered and the amount of participants. Classes offered included an AUXOP Specialty course, NavRules, AuxChef, Coastie training and an overview of the Everbridge Notification System.

The aforementioned accomplishments are only the tip of the iceberg; many more programs were initiated and several are in the planning stage. Remember, we can come up with the ideas and programs, but You, the Members, are the ones that make them work.

As we look forward to 2012, my goal will be to ratchet up our operational skills, prepare for emergencies, and be ready for any mission the Coast Guard needs the Auxiliary to handle. Here is a brief look at what is in the works for this year: Seven Surface/Air Drills to be held in the Delaware Bay, Delaware River, Barnegat Bay, and Lake Wallenpaupak. I would like to see members from all over the District participate in these drills. Our Surface/Air committee is finalizing these training scenar-

ios.

Surge plans will be tested. Already Division 7 is working on backfilling Coast Guard Station (Small) Beach Heaven for a three-day period. This will include a Boat Crew, Watchstander, and AuxChef. I plan to activate at least three more surge plans during the summer. As of this letter, our Paddle Craft facilities are being readied for the summer. Paddle Craft (canoes & kayaks) will be working with other operational facilities in places our motor vessels can't go.

And, I am confident there will be much more.

For some time now I have had the feeling that the Coast Guard will be requiring more assistance from the Auxiliary. They are short-handed in many areas and we must be ready to support them to our upmost abilities. Only time will tell, but considering the state of the Country and the world, we do not know what will be asked of us. My job is to ensure that we are prepared for any task required of us, and I am committed toward that goal. Remember, SEMPER PARATUS isn't just a group of letters on wood, medal or paper; it is our motto and our duty as members of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Again, I thank all the members of District 5NR for their continued work in supporting the Coast Guard and the recreational boating public through our RBS programs. As we go forward in 2012, it is my hope that we will all join together to continue achieving these common goals.

Good luck to us all,

Harold T Robinson, DCO

What's New

Operation: FIRESIDE



Opening your Home to Recruits for the Holidays

Article by J Giannattasio DSO-PB

Photos by Tom Campana FL82 and Steve Haas FL82

Since 1981, the Cape May County Chapter of the American Red Cross has sponsored Operation Fireside with USCG Training Center Cape May. This community relations event is a way for local community members and military families to host recruits in their home on Thanksgiving and Christmas day.

Recruits in training weeks three through eight are eligible to participate in Operation Fireside. If possible, the training center staff tries to graduate the week eight company early so they can spend the holidays with their families.

Many Auxiliarists participate in this amazing program and

TOPSIDE is happy to share experiences from two members who participated in OPERATION: Fireside:

"This was our first time hosting recruits, and it definitely will not be our last. The day spent with these fine young men was very enjoyable and we were honored to be involved." - Tom and Carol Campana, FL82 Cape May

"I've hosted recruits over the years but this year was quite special as I followed the progress of these two gentlemen from our initial meeting Thanksgiving morning up through graduation day. After attending my first graduation last month and meeting the families of these young men, I truly was honored to be part of this wonderful community outreach program."

- Walter "Steve" Haas, FL82 Cape May



District Publication Awards



Congratulations Winning Flotilla and Division Publications 2011

Robert Roetz, DCAPT-C presents Edna Winans 07 the Division Publications Award. Harry Dyer FL69 is awarded the Flotilla Publication Award from Robert Roetz DCAPT-C.

Correction: In the previous issue; District Awards / AUXOP, James Bemiss' (FL 18-8) name was miss-spelled. Congratulations AUXOP Bemiss and I regret the error. - Editor

Members Going the “Extra Fathom”

Dedicated to Outstanding Members

Feeding Our Future:

Auxiliarists Support TRACEN Cape May
Article and Photos by Paul Scheidecker FL 10-6
Additional photos by Elaine Silverlight FL82

On Friday September 2nd, Paul Scheidecker, FSO-PV/SR from Flotilla 10-06 Lansdale, pitched in with other Auxiliarists to support nearly 300 family members of recruits from Kilo Company 185 as they graduated from the Coast Guard Training Center in Cape May. Friday is graduation day at the nation's only Coast Guard enlisted accession point and recruit training center. TRACEN will hold 47 of them this year while sending about 4,000 of America's finest young men and women off to their first duty assignments across the country.



Left to Right:
Command Master Chief Dawn Smith, Judy Dempsey FL82,
CAPT William Kelly, CO Training Center Cape May

Division 8 Auxiliarist Awarded TRACEN's Auxiliarist of the Year

Article by Joe Giannattasio, DSO-PB
Photos by Walt Niwinski FL82

As Coast Guard Training Center Cape May's Auxiliary Tour Coordinator, Judy Dempsey FL82 was the primary point of contact for 1,833 visitors participating in 86 different tours in 2011. She coordinated, trained and facilitated more than 20 tour guides who contributed more than 70 man hours to the Auxiliary Tour Program that year. Judy ensured many high-visibility and influential groups within the Coast Guard and the community have had safe and secure access to TRACEN Cape May. This included coordinating 23 tours for more than 350 military veterans, which helps ensure the legacy of the Coast Guard and the military is maintained. It also educates authorized beneficiaries about the various support services available to them aboard TRACEN Cape May.

Coordinating 46 tours for 1,181 youths within the Coast Guard's target recruiting age in 2011, Judy took it upon herself to acquire recruiting materials to distribute to those young people interested in a career in the Coast Guard. These efforts greatly enhance the pool of qualified applicants for recruiting efforts for our Service.

Always looking for opportunities to serve, Judy also organized a meeting with volunteers from Flotilla 82 to aid in the implementation and maintenance of a TRACEN Cape May Facebook page, which is scheduled to go live in 2012.

In recognition of her exemplary volunteer service, Judy Dempsey received a citation from CAPT William Kelly, CO of TRACEN, a plaque and a command coin to recognize you for your exemplary volunteer service. Congratulations Judy!



The Auxiliary is one of the secrets to a successful graduation day. Auxiliary members greet the families, prepare them a hearty breakfast and drive them in vans to the next event, which includes speeches and a short film on boot camp at the Ida Lewis Auditorium. At any given time, there are eight companies of recruits in different stages of training at the center. Even as one company leaves, another is arriving and getting ready for the first chapter of their Coast Guard career - boot camp.



From Top:
CAPT William Kelley and Jim McClellan FL82. The “Breakfast Club” at TRACEN. Steve Hewitt FL72 applies ensures proper presentation.

Around the District

Happenings within 5NR submitted by our Members

Don't see your Flotilla or Division featured?

Just submit a digital photo or article so everyone can enjoy the accomplishments within your unit.

Division 4 members are "Santa's Elves in Blue."

Article and Photographs by
Linda Skvarla VFC FL 44

On December 3, for the fourth year, Division 4 assisted with the Toys for Tots campaign at Toys R Us in Exton, Pennsylvania. This year, as with the previous years, it was a huge success! We were able to obtain 7-1/2 shopping carts filled to the brim (almost overflowing) with donated toys. The store manager told us that the only time they get this many donations is when the US Coast Guard Auxiliary (Division 4) is there. They are lucky if they get half a bin during the rest of the Christmas season. The Toys R Us manager said she is looking forward to seeing us next year!

some time out of his busy schedule and join us! Of course, Santa always wears an inflatable life jacket! He brought a lot of joy to the men and women here!



Left to Right:
Bob Hudler, Jr., Moria Wikstrom-Fischer,
Jack Morrison

We visited the Coatesville Medical Center Building 138 on the 11th of December. It was a very exciting day for the veterans here because there were a lot of festive activities planned. First of all, they always welcome us with open arms. We also were able to enjoy some of the Lukens Steel Company's Band Christmas music with some the veterans who were able to attend. We visited all the floors including the hospice and thanked each and every veteran for their service and wished them happy holidays. While visiting one former Air Force veteran (who always remembers us from previous visits), he chatted with us and then requested, "Well, what are you going to sing for me?" So, we broke out in a rousing rendition of "Jingle Bells!" We have never seen a bigger smile.

Between the two veteran's medical centers, Division 4 was able to split \$8,500 in donations of basic needs items such as clothing, toiletries and 72 lap throws. We look forward to being "Santa's helpers" next year!

A New Year and Firm Resolutions

Article by Ed Wandell, VFC 10-6

Every New Year hope springs eternal and everyone make a resolution to do this, that, or the other thing. They mean to do it. What is the problem? Maybe people are trying to do too much too quickly. It is not the goals themselves, it is trying to accomplish them too fast.

Set goals for yourself.

Shoot for a qualification or award you are interested in. And then take small, consistent steps to get you there. Say you want to get your AUXOP qualification... wow, you say, that is seven classes, it will take forever. Intimidating! Instead, try and look at it like this; I plan to start one Specialty class and complete it by the Spring Conference. Then maybe take another at the conference. Now you are working your way to your goal and it is still early in the year!

Small bites work well with balancing your work, family, and efforts to assist the Coast Guard. I always have study material with me at work. During lunch I would read one of the manuals, take practice exams, and catch up on my Auxiliary emails.

Resolve to grow as an Auxiliarist and work on additional qualifications. Mentor new members. Spend time interacting with your neighbors, you never know who will want to help us out. Work a little bit each week. Take small steps forward and you will be surprised where you end up in 2013.



Left to Right:
Bottom row. Kathy Eltz, Tom Dever, Linda Skvarla, Maureen Lucas, Tierney Tubbs
Top Row. Ray Simms, Jack Morrison, Dick McConnell, Paul Bonnes, Bod Hudler, Jr.

At the Southeastern VA on the 10th of December, we were able to visit with many of the veterans and veteran's wives who live there. We also spoke to a few of the veterans we remembered from previous visits and had an opportunity to speak with not only veterans from Korea, Vietnam but also World War II. We had a "Guest of Honor" at the Southeastern VA, Santa Claus (aka A. Lindsay) was able to take

Is your Flotilla or Division participating in events which may be interesting to other Auxiliarists in the District? Just send articles or photos to TOPSIDE

Around the District

Happenings within 5NR submitted by our Members

Don't see your Flotilla or Division featured? - Just submit a digital photo or article so everyone can enjoy the accomplishments within your unit.

Walt Porter - 55 Years as an Auxiliarist

Article and Photo by Jim Holefelder FL 47

This past December Walt Porter was awarded his 55-year Auxiliary Dedicated Service Award at our Flotilla Holiday Dinner held at a local restaurant. Presenting the award was our 5NR Coast Guard Director of Auxiliary, CDR Terry Johns and our DCO Robby Robinson, Bob Roetz DCAPT-C and Ken Brown DCOS.

Walt Porter is considered "The Best of The Best" in his service to the Auxiliary having held most all elected officer positions from District Rear Commodore, Division Captain to Flotilla Commander, Division and District Staff Officer Positions, Coxswain and too many committees and teaching assignments to list.



Above: L to R - Chief of Staff Ken Brown, CDR Terry Johns, DCO Robby Robinson, Walt Porter, and Bob Roetz DCAPT-C

As a very short Bio of Walt Porters life - he was born on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, he served in the Army during WWII and fought in Europe, worked as First Mate on a Seagoing Tug Boat, spent a career as an industrial electrician and enjoys being known as a "Waterman". And not to mention he served his country

and his Coast Guard for 55 years (And counting I may add).

Recently Walt beat a cancer illness but suffered a stroke from the therapy, about a year ago, but he is progressing well to recovery. Walt has been very active in Operations over the years as Coxswain but has recently dropped his qualification. Of course Walt says he owes all his success to his wife Vi of 63 years. I for one cant express all my gratitude to Walt as my Auxiliary Mentor for a short fifteen years but I know that his entire Coast Guard Family extends to Walt a sincere and heartfelt Bravo Zulu!

Flotilla 72 Members Host Exchange Student For Summer

Article & Photos by Al Revy, Jr.; ADSO-PB(E)

Auxiliarists Ruth Hallem and Tom Van Horn FL72 are hosting Ryoto Matsuguchi this summer. Ryoto is a seventeen year old high school student from Fukui, Japan; a city of over 250,00, about 240 miles due west of Tokyo.

The stay is part of a program, sponsored by PEO-PLELINK in Petaluma, CA; designed to promote global understanding.



Flotilla 72 FC Bob Adams (right) and Tom Van Horn presents a "Welcome Certificate" to Ryoto Matsuguchi.

To qualify as a host; Ruth and Tom had to undergo a series of interviews, reference checks and a home walk-thru. Tom believes that he, and Ruth, being a member of the Auxiliary helped to expedite the process. Ryoto also had to undergo tough qualification process to claim a place in the program.

The Japanese place a high value on mastering both traditional classroom and conversational English; which comprises a significant factor in their international business approach.

While in the U.S.A., in addition to improving his English Ryoto will attend class in the Toms River area; make day trips to Trenton, Rutgers, government facilities and schools; and interact with the host family.

Ryoto arrived in New York on March 16th and attended Flotilla 72's monthly meeting that night. By coincidence, he celebrated his 17th birthday in March and was included in the flotilla's monthly birthday fete.

The new D5NR Policy Manual and Paddle Craft Operator Program Guides are available for Download

The Paddle Craft Operator (PCO) Program was approved this year and 5NR will be the only District East of the Mississippi to have such an approved program. Paddle Craft patrols will serve as a Coast Guard Auxiliary presence in a new way.

Both manuals can be downloaded from the 5NR website:

<http://www.5nr.org/member/forms/manuals.php>



Around the District

~ Continued ~

Happenings within 5NR submitted by our Members

Division 12 Members featured on WBOC TV



Flotilla 84 participates in USCG Memorial Service

Article and Photos by
Thomas Klein FC FL84

It has been 80 years since a rescue attempt at sea claimed the lives of five U.S. Coast Guard surfmen – the only members ever lost out of the Atlantic City Station.

The Coast Guard honored the crew and the lone survivor of that attempt, Capt. Jim Turner of Longport at a ceremony in Longport on March 6, the anniversary of the incident with memorial brick placed at the town's Veterans Memorial.

In attendance was Tom Klein and Paul Rudolph of FL84, LCDR Jeff Craig CO Station Atlantic City, and Active Duty Coasties from USCG Air Station Atlantic City. Turner lived to the age of 69, passing over the bar in 1972.

PHOTOS:

Above, a group picture taken during the ceremony.

Below is a photo of former Army Lt. Colonel and Longport American Legion member John Stroebele explaining to LCDR Craig, and Auxiliarist Klein & Rudolph the heroic efforts of Turner and the location where the memorial brick with CAPT Turner's name will be placed.



Pictured top left Cindi Chaimowitz, Harry Otto, Nancy Otto, Jimmy Hoppa (WBOC), Art Wollschlager, seated left to right Nate Chaimowitz, Bill Wright, Joy Nagle, Lisa Bryant (WBOC) Dave Nagle. Photo Taken by Joseph @ WBOC-TV

Fidelity and Membership

Editorial by Charles J. Miller, SO-PB 04

We in the Auxiliary should be aware of making other members feel welcomed. How often have you encountered a new face and wondered if that new person feels at home amongst the group of people gathered? Are we doing everything possible to reach out, introduce ourselves and others to him/her? Oftentimes, we assume they have already gone through the process of being made to feel welcomed, but in fact, they may be slightly nervous being in a new situation and not sure how to approach you or others. Another thought might be, due to protocol, they aren't sure what the "strips or bars" means and maybe apprehensive to reach out.

I'd like to think that we are doing everything possible to welcome new members into the fold. It can be a little intimidating for some people, and not for others. I ask that we keep the principles of Fidelity and Brotherhood in mind. This is a volunteer organization and what attracts some into it is the sense of making a positive impact on the general public. Let's not lose sight of that. We are only as good as the whole of the membership. A smile, a handshake really does make a difference. I know firsthand.

We are the Auxiliary and we are United!

Reading this issue in B&W?
topside is always in **color**
on the 5NR website:
www.5nr.org/topside



District Photo Scrapbook ...



PHOTO CAPTIONS:

(Clockwise from Top Left) Eileen Koehler FL84 and daughter YN3 Jesse Barringer, USCG. DCO "Robby" Robinson and DCOS Ken Brown welcome members to the Spring Awards Banquet. Laurie Huselton FL32 shares information at the A.C. Boat Show. Howard Friedman FL83 dazzles attendees at the A.C. Boat Show attendees. CWO4 Sean McGarigal OTO enjoys training Coxswains in the Eastern Area. Participants of the Mass Rescue Operation in Delaware Bay last year are formally recognized. DCO Harold Robinson presents the Flotilla Meritorious Achievement Award to John Morrison FC FL49. Ken Kendall DCDR 07 at the District Board Meeting. Shannon Burns and Joe Giannattasio enjoying standing watch onboard USCGC IBIS. A Coast Guard Helicopter and a Auxiliary Air Program Helicopter at USCG Air Station Atlantic City, NJ.

Photos: Bob Babezki ADSO-PA, Howard Friedman FL83, Ron Kripas FL53, David Lau FL26, and Joe Giannattasio DSO-PB



... picture yourself in **topside**!

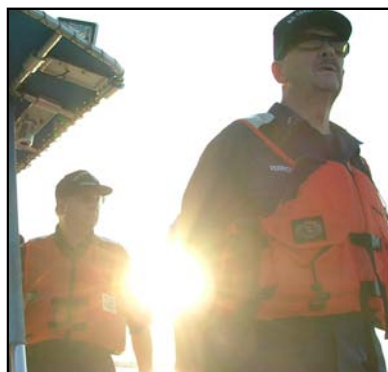
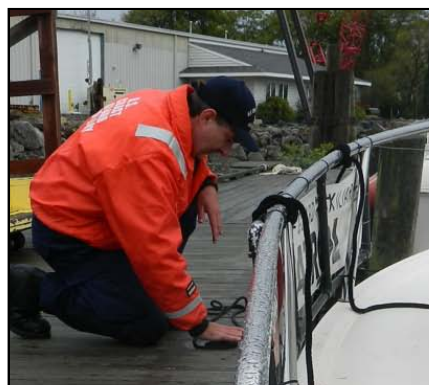


PHOTO CAPTIONS: (Clockwise from Top Left) Dennis Nield DCDR 12 receives the Massman Award for Activity from Gene Morris DCAPT-E. Judy Redlawsk, Aircraft Commander and Rick Huber, Aircrew prepare for takeoff for an Air Patrol. The District's Color Guard in formation. ADSO-PA Bob Babezki at the 2011 Strathmere Safety Day on Sunday, August 14th, at the Strathmere Fire House. DIRAUX Open House Celebration in December. Jim "Santa" McClellan FL82 is Santa for STA CAPE MAY families. Attendees of the Mandatory Coxswain session - Eastern Area. Edward Wandall, FL 10-6 securing an OPFAC after a patrol. Lou Altobelli and Frank Verrichia (foreground) of FL82 on patrol at dusk offshore of Cape May.

Photos: Amy Lau, David Lau FL26, Ron Kripas FL53, John Yowell FL10-6, Jim Scarpa FL43, and J. Giannattasio DSO-PB



Send us your photos!

We need pictures of members in your area.
Just email them to
topside.
joetasio@verizon.net

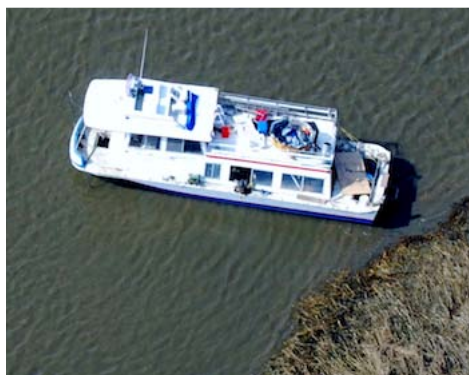
District Auxiliarist in ACTION

Auxiliarists Making a Difference within the District

Research and Photos by
Joseph Giannattasio, DSO-PB



Taking their "Show on the Road" - Flotilla 83 Wildwood, NJ came up with an innovative idea to facilitate their Auxiliary Information Booth efforts. Last year the membership bought and modified a box-trailer that operates as a mobile interactive PA Booth for their Flotilla's promoting and recruiting missions. The trailer houses and displays various Auxiliary materials and the members are presently installing an audio/visual system. Great idea!



In February, the District Air Program's members and aircraft converged at New Castle / Wilmington Airport, DE for their annual Air Safety Workshop. All pilots must pass recurrent flight checks and undergo annual safety training. Although AUXAIR does not offer flight training for pilots, it builds on what certificated pilots already have learned. Non-pilot crew positions must pass annual air operations training and egress/water survival training. Judy Redlawsk, Safety Officer provides updated mission safety information and shared some photos taken from an air patrol following a major storm.



At the Spring Conference, David Lau FL26 and his wife Amy were on hand to take portrait photographs of members in uniform between training classes and break-out sessions. David also took photographs of member receiving citations during the Awards Banquet. All this was provided at no cost to members! David is a world-class professional photographer whose work can be seen at - <http://www.dlauphoto.com/> Thanks Dave and Amy, BRAVO ZULU.

District Auxiliarist in ACTION

Auxiliarists Actively Participating in Missions within the District

Submitted by our Shipmates

A day of Vessel Exams, Public Education, and Downpours

Article by Gregg Wheeler, FSO-PB
Photos by Heather Wheeler, FSO-CS

In 2010, a CG Auxiliary flotilla held a Public Affairs/Vessel Examination (PA/VE) event at Summit North Marina near Newark Delaware under blue, sunny skies, warm air and crowds of people. This year, the same flotilla returned to the same marina for a similar mission, with slightly different conditions.

Flotilla 1-4, of Newark DE, was invited to set up a joint PA/VE event at the marina on 14 May, and later added a Public Education (PE) event to the program. For the first time, the flotilla was able to schedule a "Suddenly-in-Command" (SIC) seminar at the marina's restaurant. Although the weather was less than cooperative, the event was well-attended.

At the entrance to the Dock, next to the Marina's office, the members set up their tent, table and banners and stocked it with PA and VE reading material. The "Public Affairs Tent" was a highly effective meeting point for the members who came to represent the flotilla's VE mission, a great point of contact for PA and also served to direct participants to the SIC seminar. The day began around 0900 with the tent set-up and arrival of the staff members. As the PA and VE teams prepared the displays, the weather began to deteriorate into a cloudy drizzle. Despite the foul weather, there were still numerous slip-owners who took advantage of having the Auxiliary at the marina and scheduled VSC's. Others, including several families, stopped off at the



tent to socialize a little and pick up some safety information. By the middle of the afternoon, the downpour had decreased the traffic on the dock and to the PA tent.

As the day progressed, two of the flotilla's instructors held the "Suddenly-in-Command" class at the

marina's restaurant. The four-hour seminar, geared toward those who are not usually in charge of the boat on the water had approximately fifteen students, and was well received.

The event started early and concluded in a downpour; but was very successful in continuing to bring the safe boating message to the people of Delaware. Members of Flotilla 1-4 who were involved in the PA/VE/PE day at Summit North Marina near Newark Delaware on 14 MAY 2011.

Division 13 Takes Part in Marine's Welcome Home

Article by Linda Goldkrantz, FC 13-10

Photo by Jerry Goldkrantz, FL 13-10

When Gibbsboro Marine, LCPL Douglas J. Biemiller returned home "from the sandbox" recently, he was not expecting a hero's welcome. But that is exactly what he got.

Bill Skelly DCDR 13, Flotilla 13-10 members FC Lin Goldkrantz, Jerry Goldkrantz, Paul Whitman Jr, and Paul Whitman Sr, participated in a hearty surprise Welcome Back ceremony, held at LCPL Biemiller's home on 27NOV2011. Among the flag-waving crowd that was there to greet him were also Ira and Arlene Dolich of FL 6-06.

Among others who acknowledged LCPL Biemiller's sacrifice, service and bravery, DCDR-Elect Skelly and 13-10's FC Lin Goldkrantz, presented him with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of Division 13.



PHOTO CAPTIONS (From Top):

Bill Skelly, DCDR 13 and Lin Goldkrantz, FC 13-10 present a certificate of appreciation to LCPL Douglas Biemiller of Gibbsboro, NJ. LCPL Biemiller was redeployed January.

Profile in Commitment

Eugene Bentley
Past Commodore (2003-2004)
In honor of 40 Years of Auxiliary Service
Article by Jim Scarpa FL43
Photo by Joseph Giannattasio, DSO-PB

This is a summary of activity by the Auxiliary from someone deeply involved in promoting it. This is a view from the Bridge at an organization beginning a course change in a Beaufort 5 following sea.

From the earliest days spent boating on Union Lake near Millville, NJ, to one of the most challenging endeavors of his career, Auxiliary Diversity, Gene Bentley has worked with the Auxiliary ever since his maritime adventuring led to a BS&S Course offered by Flotilla 4-2 in the fall of 1971. By year's end, Gene was applying and accepted for membership.



As member, instructor, private aids verifier, District Commodore, and Coxswain Gene has witnessed many changes, notably in the "cornerstone" missions. PE, long one of his favorites, has declined precipitously from the early days and this is troubling for both boating safety and future Auxiliary membership. Perhaps the newer short courses will introduce more of the public to our missions and the benefits of in-depth boating education in the future. The Sailing Skills & Seamanship Course was Gene's favorite and he was

ably assisted in this by John Johansen in earlier days. The course evolved into a lesser program over time from its origins. Fortunately this is no longer the case, so SS&S remains a viable and exciting opportunity in Gene's mind for PE. Vessel Examinations are more difficult to secure as well. And this should not be the case with more boats and more training needed for newer equipment. But the level of training and execution in Operations seems to be much improved from the program that founded our organization.

Commodore Bentley is convinced we will remain a key resource in the future and must keep working at letting the public know who we are. Currently serving as the District Diversity Officer, his mission is to steer this traditional team of service oriented members to understand, and execute the next great mission: Diversity. And with help from the ADSO Jim Deleon, this team has a mission that will mean defining our role as deeply as the previous cornerstones. The facts are stunningly clear: our District is changing fast, and always has. But the assumptions of the past need to evolve into the contemporary realities of who and what service to recreational boaters, and the Coast Guard itself, will mean. Like so many organizations we look up to, we must ourselves adapt to the new century that is not that new anymore. Gene has offered to take us there. Congratulations on 40 years of reaching out to people with a continuing commitment for Safety and Inclusion.

topside

Who was recognized for their service in your Flotilla or Division?

Why not share the honor with the rest of the District - just email the citation and a picture of your unit's deserving Auxiliarist to **topside** at: joetasio@verizon.net

New ODU Ballcap

Researched by Joe Giannattasio DCDR-08

The new ODU cover (Ball Cap) is now available for Auxiliarists. Only three sources of Auxiliary ball caps are authorized: the CG Auxiliary Center (AUXCEN), the USCG Uniform Distribution Center (UDC), and the CG Exchange System (CGES). Oak leaves & acorns (scrambled eggs) will no longer be authorized on any Auxiliary ball cap after 2012. Insignia and markings on Auxiliary ball caps remain as otherwise prescribed in the Auxiliary Manual.

I recently received mine and tried it on for a "Shakedown Cruise": The material fabric is the same as the ODUs... much higher style... and reinforced in the front to prevent sagging over time. It is very comfortable, but be advised that they come in different numerical head-sizes so you will look more "squared away" and professional.



Profiles In Service

Outstanding Members of Division 12

Photos by Alfred O. Grimminger FL12-05, DDC-P



PHOTO CAPTION: (Left to Right) Michael J. Geletej FL12-01 receives his "Sustained Service Award" for a total of 853 hours from Dennis Nield DCDR.

Cynthia (Cindi) C. Chaimowitz FL12-08 receives her "Sustained Service Aware" for a total of 2000 hours from Dennis Nield DCDR.

Your membership in the Auxiliary allows you to take advantage of this high benefit card as well as other benefits in being a member of the Pentagon Federal Credit Union.

About Pentagon Federal Credit Union

Over 937,041 members worldwide
More than \$13.9 Billion in assets
Full range of financial services
Superior rates, proven service

Top Rates & Offers

Member Benefits *

Coast Guard Auxiliary Association Visa Platinum Cash Rewards

Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association are eligible to apply for an *exclusive* Coast Guard Auxiliary Association credit card. Support your Coast Guard Auxiliary Association while reaping these rewards:

- 5.00% Cash Back on Gas Paid at the Pump
- 2.00% Cash Back Paid Monthly on Supermarket Purchases
- 1.00% Monthly Cash Rewards on all Other Purchases
- 0.25% Goes towards your Coast Guard Auxiliary Association to support USCG Auxiliary programs

5-Year ARM. Fixed for 5 Years

4.500% / 3.612% APR

New & Used Auto Loans

3.99% APR

Fixed Home Equity Loans, up to 120 months

4.99% APR

Have you applied for yours yet?

* Offer subject to change at any time. Additional terms and disclosures

<https://www.penfed.org/productsAndRates/overview.asp>

In Memoriam

DECEASED SINCE LAST CONFERENCE

Raymond Heffernan	2-04
Arthur Cattell	3-05
John E Petrone	5-03
Michael J. Maneri	7-02
Russell VanLuvender	7-04
Phillip Appenzeller	8-02
Richard D. Martin	10-01
Howard "Hops" Lorah	11-04 (retired)
Warren Boyer	11-09
Harry Henkel	12-01
Edward Tynan	12-05
Lee A Simonds	12-08

TOPSIDE Submission Guidelines

1. KEEP IT SIMPLE: Articles and stories of any length up to 700 words are welcome. TOPSIDE has no set minimum number of words.
2. Every article or photo caption should answer the basic questions: Who is this about? What is this story or photo about? Where and When did the story take place? Why is the action being done? and How is this performed? Always provide the name of the photographer and author's name.
3. Take pictures from NO MORE than 10-12 feet away from your subject. Set your camera for the highest resolution possible. Check your camera's documentation on how to do this.
4. When writing an article for submission never use all capital letters unless you are typing an acronym, and always spell out the complete name the first time followed by the abbreviation or acronym in parenthesis after it. Thereafter, the acronym may be used.
5. All submissions to TOPSIDE should be forwarded to your respective regional ADSO's.

All of this information and more can be found on the Public Affairs website. www.auxpa.org.

Joseph Giannattasio DSO-PB, Editor

In Memoriam Warren L. Boyer

Article and photos by Victoria A. Remo,
FSO-PB FL 11-09

Warren L. Boyer, an active member of the Auxiliary since 1979, "crossed the bar" on 13 September 2011. Warren served Flotilla 11-07 as Flotilla Commander, and he later served 11-09, to which he transferred, as Flotilla Staff Officer for Information Services and Vessel Examinations. Warren was qualified in Vessel Examinations and Administrative Procedures and was also dedicated to the idea of fun and fellowship, for he attended most social events with his lovely wife, Barbara.

Outside the Auxiliary, Warren was involved in many aspects of the local music business, both in sales and as a musician. Warren played professionally a variety of instruments, including the accordion, piano, and organ, and displayed a natural talent in doing so. Once he even had a "gig" as a strolling violinist at a dinner party of affluent people. Warren willingly socialized at the Reading Flotilla Training Base and told many similar anecdotes about his career in music. He was once the leader of the "Cat-A-Lacs" and a member of many other music groups.

Warren was born in Wernersville, Pennsylvania, Berks County, and laid to rest there in Hain's Church Cemetery. Those who attended Warren's "Celebration of Life" service know that Warren shared the sentiments found in the famous words of Alfred Lord Tennyson:

*For though from out our bourn of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.*



History Corner

Division 8's 70th Anniversary 1942 - 2012

Researched by Joseph Giannattasio, DCDR 08

In 1942 Division 08, initially designated Division 03, was officially inducted and comprised the Auxiliary Flotilla Units from Atlantic City south to Cape May, NJ.

With the need for tremendous expansion of the Coast Guard during World War II, most Auxiliary members were assigned offshore patrols, patrolling the fish docks in Cape May and Wildwood, ensuring that radios were sealed, checking food and fuel loaded and expended, and security duty at area Coast Guard Stations.

As one of the Nation's oldest Coast Guard Auxiliary units the 340 men and women of Division 08 still maintain the proud tradition of actively assisting the Coast Guard including missions never contemplated in 1942.

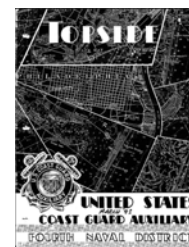
RADM Sally Bryce O'Hara dedicates the Auxiliary Memorial

Photo by Allison Revy, ADSO-PB (East)

Photo was taken at the dedication of the the USCG Auxiliary memorial monument at Training Center (TRACEN) Cape May, NJ in the Spring of 2002. Vice Admiral Sally Brice-O'Hara (pictured below) dedicated the monument.



Vintage pictures of the first District Conference and students from a Boating Safety Course from 1944.
- Photo from Div. 8 archives.



Read the very first issue of TOPSIDE from March, 1943. Just view or download from the 5NR website:

www.5nr.org/topside/topside.php

OLD TOPSIDES NEEDED
the District's collection is incomplete.

If you have old issues of TOPSIDE (pre-date 1995) please send them to the Editor. We are in the process of digitally archiving all past issues so everyone can enjoy them.

Just email the Editor:
joetasio@verizon.net
and we'll arrange shipping.

**Do you have any old photos depicting Auxiliary or Coast Guard events and missions?
Help preserve them by sending originals or scanned digital copies to us at **topside**.**

Parting Shots



PHOTO CAPTIONS:

(Clockwise from top left) Frankford Arsenal hosted the Central Area AOT. The District Color Guard practices for the Spring Conference ceremony. 5NR Auxiliaries manning the Auxiliary's Information Booth at the A.C. Boatshow. LCDR Jeffrey Craig, CO of STA Atlantic City receives the Auxiliary Certificate of Appreciation from Bob Babezki FL81. Antoinette Marina, Aircraft Commander is presented the Auxiliary Achievement Medal from CDR Terry Johns DIRAUX, LT Neal Corbin, and LT Ryan Popiel. USCG MAKO Auxiliary Watchstanders (LtoR) Jim McClellan, Don Dobson, Victoria Wells-Manlandro, John Burns and Tom Campana. Bob Babezki ADSO-PA, Toni Renner ADSO-PA, Alan Moose VFC FL85, Fred Ruddick FL82, and Ernie Phillips IPFC FL84 at A.C. Boat Show. DCO Robinson presents the Past District Commodores Trophy to Richard Weiss, FC FL82.

Photos: Amy Lau and Joe Giannattasio DSO-PB



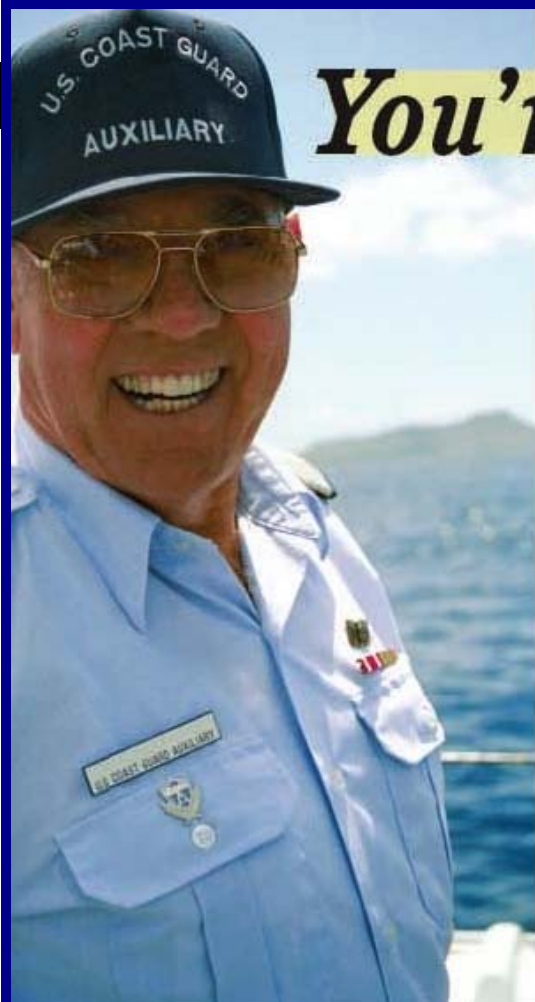
Parting Shots



PHOTO CAPTIONS: (Clockwise from top left) Edward Ross' FL14-2 beautiful hand-built-from-scratch model of the USCGC EAGLE. Tom Callahan, Aircraft Commander gets fitted for his water-emersion flightsuit. Shannon Burns FL82 underway onboard USCGC MAKO. Dottie and Frank Verrichia VFC FL82 enjoying their Flotilla's COW. AUXCHEF members at TRACEN. Harry Norcross FL81 preparing to heave a line. Auxiliary metal Plaques and Grave Markers on display in a member's garden - plaques are available through Flotilla 83. Tom Klein FC FL84 and his family (LtoR) Staff Sergeant Thomas Klein Jr. Army National Guard, his wife Krystal Klein, and Tom's wife Ann at their Flotilla COW.

Photos by Eileen Silverlight FL82, J. Giannattasio DSO-PB.





You're smart.



We know you look for the best deal.

Coast Guard Auxiliary Assoc. VISA Platinum Cash Rewards

- ▶ **5%** cash back on gas paid at the pump*
- ▶ **2%** cash back on groceries*
- ▶ **1%** cash back on everything else
- ▶ **.25%** of your purchases supports Coast Guard Auxiliary programs

Apply today.
800.247.5626
PenFed.org/CGAuxA



If you can find a better deal, take it!

All rates and offers current as of December 1, 2009 and are subject to change. *Visa USA determines which transactions are classified as paid at the pump and which stores are classified as supermarkets. Military commissaries are considered supermarkets. Fuel purchases for airplanes and boats receive 1% cash back.

The Pentagon Federal Credit Union now offers membership to Auxiliarists. The agreement includes allowing members to obtain a special Auxiliary VISA Platinum Cash Rewards credit card that provides 1% cash back to you-paid monthly as well as 0.25% going to the organization to support Auxiliary programs.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
DIRECTOR OF AUXILIARY 5NR
FIFTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
1 WASHINGTON AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19147-4393

Address Service Requested

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

DSO-PB D5-NR

