

Lifeline

November 2011 Vol. 36 No. 11
Newsletter of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 2-76 5NR

Hank Harrison, FC Jose Roman-Rivera, VFC

Liz LeFever FSO-PB/Editor
elefever@msn.

**Reminder: Elections for the 2012 Bridge will be held at the
November Flotilla Meeting November 15 at 7:30pm**



VFC Jose Roman swears in new members Judi Blue and Brian Lynch at the October meeting

Flotilla Staff Officer Monthly Reports:

Communications (CM)

Objective of the Aids to Navigation System:

Aids to Navigation Systems are developed, established, operated and maintained by the United States Coast Guard to accomplish the following:

- (1) Assist navigators in determining their position.
- (2) Assist the navigator in determining a safe course.
- (3) Warn the navigator of dangers and obstructions.
- (4) Promote the safe and economic movement of commercial vessel traffic.
- (5) Promote the safe and efficient movement of military vessel traffic, and cargo of strategic military importance.

Matt O'Brien, FSO-CM mobrien12@aol.com

Information Services (IS)

Happy November, everyone! Auxdata is sending notices to all members who are in danger of REYR status. Those include Instructors, Vessel Examiners, Boat Crew members and marine dealer visitors. Please do not panic at this point in time, the paperwork has been sent we just need for the system to be updated. And most of you will clear the REYR status. There are a few members, however, that are in danger of REYR and as of yet no hours / 7030's have been turned in. Please make it a point to turn in any hours that you may have as soon as possible.

Jose Roman, FSO-IS romanj692@aol.com

Materials (MA)

All members that are in need of any materials please e-mail me at jimmyde46@aol.com. It is important that you e-mail or send by text or letter any material request. Please provide name, address, id number, and what you are requesting to be ordered. Allow three weeks for delivery although you may receive an order earlier.

Jimmy Deleon, FSO-MA jimmyde46@aol.com

Marine Safety

FEMA, FCC Announce Nationwide Test of the Emergency Alert System
Similar to local Emergency Alert System tests, this test is scheduled for November 9, 2011

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will

conduct the first nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). The national test will occur on Wednesday, November 9 at 9 a.m. (HAST) will last 30 seconds.

The EAS is a national alert and warning system established to enable the President of the United States to address the American public during emergencies. NOAA's National Weather Service, governors and state and local emergency authorities also use parts of the system to issue more localized emergency alerts.

Similar to local EAS tests that are already conducted frequently, the nationwide test will involve broadcast radio and television stations, cable television, satellite radio and television services and wireline video service providers across all states and the territories of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and American Samoa. On November 9, the public will hear a message indicating that "This is a test." The audio message will be the same for both radio and television. Under the FCC's rules, radio and television broadcasters, cable operators, satellite digital audio radio service providers, direct broadcast satellite service providers and wireline video service providers are required to receive and transmit presidential EAS messages to the public. A national test will help the federal partners and EAS participants determine the reliability of the system and its effectiveness in notifying the public of emergencies and potential dangers nationally and regionally.

"A national test of our Emergency Alert System, with the vital communications support and involvement of participants, is a step towards ensuring that the alert and warning community is prepared to deliver critical information that can help save lives and protect property," said Damon Penn, FEMA's Assistant Administrator of National Continuity Programs. "Because there has never been an activation of the Emergency Alert System on a national level, FEMA views this test as an excellent opportunity to assess the readiness and effectiveness of the current system. It is important to remember that this is not a pass or fail test, but a chance to establish a baseline for making incremental improvements to the Emergency Alert System with ongoing and future testing. It is also important to remember that the Emergency Alert System is one of many tools in our communications toolbox, and we will continue to work on additional channels that can be a lifeline of information for people during an emergency."

"The upcoming national test is critical to ensuring that the EAS works as designed," said Jamie Barnett, Chief of the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. "As recent disasters here at home and in Japan have reminded us, a reliable and effective emergency alert and warning system is key to ensuring the public's safety during times of emergency. We look forward to working with FEMA in preparation for this important test."

Over the past two years and as part of ongoing national preparedness planning efforts, FEMA, the FCC and other federal partners, state, local, tribal and territorial governments, Emergency Alert System participants and other stakeholders have been working toward making this test a reality.

Caroline Shipsey, FSO-MS ces93@drexel.edu

Member Training (MT)

The weekend college continues, although the fall semester is seeing turnouts at 25% of the spring semester. If these resources aren't going to good use, perhaps we should reconsider holding the fall semester. Regardless, classes have been going well, with AUXWEA passing 3/4 and AUXPAT passing 2/2. AUXSC&E is being held the next two weekends, AUXSEA on 27 - 28 November. We take a break, then a session of FLC 17 - 18 December. The spring semester schedule will be propagated at the next meeting. Boat Crew School will also be held starting in January, registration will open this month at a date to be determined.

Dan Toms, FSO-MT dtoms@ymail.com

Operations (OPS)

Patrol season is over and we are looking forward to the next boat crew program.

Answer to question - While on patrol an AUX Crew spots what may be Haz Mat (drum, container, tank) in the water way - what to do? Think safety first! The safety of the crew is primary importance and we have all learned about risk assessment in TCT.

Also we must remember most AUX Crew are not trained in HAZ MAT / HAZWOPER or qualified / authorized to remove suspected Haz Mat.

Best advice - Stay up wind and up river - Immediately report the situation and provide as much data about the object to the USCG.

If there is an NFPA diamond or DOT label - record and relay this information from safe distance (use binoculars) do not get close.

Please keep in mind to accurately report position of object and if this situation presents a potential Hazard to Navigation.

How to learn about HAZ MAT - I highly recommend (especially crew members) to complete the following free course online (excellent course):

FEMA / Emergency Management Institute Course - Introduction to Hazardous Materials IS-00005.A

Hope this helps!

Looking forward to Crew School!

Brian Lynch, FSO-OPS brian.lynch@drexel.edu

Public Education (PE)

The Fall 2011 season of PE classes is underway; thanks to those who have volunteered to teach sessions.

Weekend Navigator, with several student enrolled, is running Thursday evenings with Pat Cunningham and Hank Harrison sharing the teaching load.

Boating skills and seamanship, with approximately seven students, continues on course on Monday evenings and, thus far, sessions have been taught by Dot French, Ed Poznek, Lee Roach, Pat Cunningham, Phil Giangiardano, Matt O'Brien, Janis Hawes, and Jim Taylor--thanks to all who are generously supporting the PE mission. Note that auxiliaries who are new to the flotilla are welcome to take courses, and the PE mission is always interested in members becoming IT - certified so they can join the team of instructors who teach these courses. Planning is underway for the upcoming 2012 PE course offerings, and it is planned to list the schedule soon on the Flotilla web page.

Dot French, FSO-PE frenchdot@gmail.com

Human Resources

Flotilla 2-76 now has 68 full members, plus 8 in AP status. The last boot camp saw two new members fingerprinted.

Dan Toms, FSO-HR dtoms@ymail.com

Vessel Examinations (VE)

I'd like to remind our qualified VE's that I have **NO** records for our Flotilla VE Inspections for this year and to please turn in the proper paperwork to be recorded no later than Nov. 15, 2011. Also, I would like to take this opportunity to invite new members to take part of this fun and exciting adventure with the Coast Guard Auxiliary while promoting Boat Safety and assisting the general Public with crucial Safety Tips. If you are interested or need further information, don't hesitate to contact me at (215) 582-2972 or by e-mail: carioca@comcast.net. Thank you.

Paul Parravicini FSO-VE carioca@comcast.net

The KYW school closing # for meeting cancellations due to snow is 1253

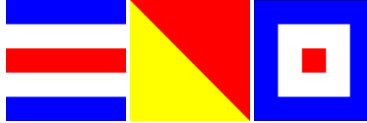
CHANGE OF WATCH, SATURDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2011

"I happened to be reading another magazine and came across an article on Volunteerism, and thought I'd see what other groups do to motivate their the members. The author wanted to know what words she would use to explain her thoughts, and some of them were elation, joy, inspiration, optimism, education, team work, respect for all people no matter their race or religion, etc. However, to be honest these feelings are tempered by small doses of frustration, impatience, and disappointment. It helps to remember that whatever challenges we face, being part of Flotilla 2-76 means being part of an organization that is doing tremendous good in the world, right now, today."

This was in the magazine, HADASSAH, and is a small part of an article by Lucy Maislin.

Why am I using it here? To remind you that the Change of Watch is a very important event in the life of an Auxiliarist, and we'd like to see as many of you there as possible. We need to have 30 reservations in before the end of this month. Please come to the meeting on Tuesday, November 15th, with your check for \$35.00 per person, made out to Flotilla 2-76, USCGAUX. It is tax deductible.

Muriel Lewis, Past Commander 2-76 (610) 642-2442



CHANGE OF WATCH: Reserve now!

CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

SATURDAY, December 10, 2011, 1200-1600

Luncheon Buffet

MENU:

TWO SALADS

House Blended Lettuces, assorted dressings

Fresh Seasonal Diced Fruit Salad with Honey Ginger Dressing

THREE ENTREES

Roast Top Round of Beef au jus

Honey Glazed Salmon Fillet

Penne Pasta with Vodka Sauce

DESSERT BUFFET TABLE

Coffee, Tea, Decaf and iced Tea

Reserve your spot by 30 November!

The cost will be \$35.00

**Please send your check made out to Flotilla 2-76 to Phil Giangliordano,
817 Fernon St. Philadelphia, PA 19148**