

# Lifeline

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Newsletter of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 2-76 5NR

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Commodore Robinson presenting Pat Cunningham with his 10th Sustaining Service Award for contributing over 7,748 Cumulative Hours.

*photo courtesy Dave Hayward*

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## Flotilla Staff Officer Monthly Reports:

### Communications Services (CS)

I am updating our website to comply with USCG Auxiliary National initiative of having national security alerts on flotilla home page.

Darryl Stevenson, FSO-CS

### Materials (MA)

All members that are in need of any materials please e-mail me at [jimmyde46@aol.com](mailto:jimmyde46@aol.com). Please include your full name, address and member ID number, and allow 2-3 weeks delivery time when placing an order.

Jimmy Deleon, FSO-MA

**Next Flotilla meeting is Tuesday 19 April at 7:00PM**

### **Member Training (MT)**

The Weekend College continues to be a success. So far, one flotilla member has achieved all tests required for the AX2 version of AUXOP. This April, the courses are coming to a close with anticipation of patrol season. The Summer and Fall schedules for the Weekend College have been posted to the website.

Dan Toms, FSO-MT

### **Operations (OP)**

The 02-76 Boat Crew School is in final stage.

Last year the Patrol Season had begun in mid April by providing safety patrol to the Penn Treaty Park - Shad Festival. There has been no request this year as of this report.

Hopefully members were able to participate in the patrol workshops at the Spring Conference.

Brian Lynch, FSO-OP

### **Public Education (PE)**

The April 2 scheduled session of **About Boating Safely** (ABS) took place as scheduled, with six students, including 1 minor. Five students successfully completed the examination. David Hayward did introductions and teaching staff on Apr 2 were David Hayward, Dan Toms , Marc Batt, and Dot French. Thanks to all who made this ABS session a success.

Our message is getting out, mainly via our website presence, but there are no registrations (!) thus far for May or June sessions of ABS. Hopefully we will not have to cancel this one, due to lack of interest....

The Spring 2011 series of the **Sailing Skills and Seamanship** (SS&S) course, which began the week of Feb 7 with six students, is nearing its completion.

**Weekend Navigator** (10 week course) began on March 3 with about six students enrolled, is still underway. Staff for these courses included Pat Cunningham (HRNC, WN and SS&S) Dot French (SS&S). Thanks to all for making these sessions a success.

There are still copies of the colorful new flyer advertising Spring 2011 PE courses available for distribution. Auxiliarists should take copies and give them to friends and/or place copies at marine stores, libraries, marinas --wherever they can be seen. Also, Auxiliarists who are new to the flotilla are invited 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.

Dot French, FSO-PE

## **Human Resources (HR)**

Last month the flotilla has seen an additional three members join. Efforts continue, as always to find new inroads to new recruits. An HR plan for the flotilla is in the works including the creation of new member training session the week before boot camp.

Dan Toms, FSO-HR



Philadelphia is the first port visit for the Eagle this year, as the Coast Guard celebrates the 75th anniversary of its construction in Hamburg, Germany, in 1936.

The Eagle is the largest tall ship flying the Stars and Stripes and the only active sailing square-rigger in U.S. government service. The Eagle originally served as a training vessel for the German Navy in the late 1930s. Since 1946, the Eagle has sailed each summer in support of United States Coast Guard officer training programs, providing an unparalleled at-sea leadership and professional development experience for future officers of the U.S. Coast Guard. The 75-year-old Eagle is a 295-foot, three-masted barque, with more than 23,500 square feet of sail and six miles of rigging.

*5th District Public Affairs  
photo by Brett McGill*

U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY  
Fifth District Northern Region



**FLOTILLA 2-76 + DIVISION 2**  
**2011 WEEKEND COLLEGE ❄️ MAY-DECEMBER**  
Location: Sector Delaware Bay, 1 Washington Avenue, Philadelphia

DATE	DAY	MORNING 0800-1130	AFTERNOON 1230-1600	EVENING 1900-2100
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SNOW CANCELLATION - KYW 1060 AM - #1253

14 May	Saturday				
15 May	Sunday				
21 May	Saturday	<b>Patrol Season Begins</b>			
22 May	Sunday	Boat Crew On-The-Water Training			
28 May	Saturday	Qualifications Examiner Reviews			
29 May	Sunday	Contact Your Local Coordinator / Coxswain			
30 May	Monday	<b>Through OCTOBER</b>			
03 Jun	Friday			ICS 100 + NIMS 700	
04 Jun	Saturday	New Members Boot Camp			
08 Jul	Friday			ICS 100 + NIMS 700	
09 Jul	Saturday	New Members Boot Camp			
10 Jul	Sunday	1st Aid, CPR & AED For Boaters (\$45 fee)			
05 Aug	Friday			ICS 100 + NIMS 700	
06 Aug	Saturday	New Members Boot Camp			
09 Sep	Friday			ICS 100 + NIMS 700	
10 Sep	Saturday	New Members Boot Camp			
09 Sep	Friday	<b>DISTRICT CONFERENCE - Location TBA</b>			
10 Sep	Saturday				
11 Sep	Sunday				
17 Sep	Saturday	Flotilla Leadership Course			
18 Sep	Sunday				
24 Sep	Saturday	<b>AUXNAV 2 of 4 Days (all req'd)</b>			
25 Sep	Sunday	Heavy Workload (Homework and Charting Exercises)			
30 Sep	Friday			ICS 100 + NIMS 700	
01 Oct	Saturday	New Members Boot Camp			
01 Oct	Saturday	<b>AUXNAV 2 of 4 Days (all req'd)</b>			
02 Oct	Sunday	Heavy Workload (Homework and Charting Exercises)			
08 Oct	Saturday	AUXNAV Exams	ICS 200 + NIMS 800		
09 Oct	Sunday	1st Aid, CPR & AED For Boaters (\$45 fee)			
15 Oct	Saturday	Celestial Navigation (CelNav)			
16 Oct	Sunday				
22 Oct	Saturday	AUXCOM			
23 Oct	Sunday				
29 Oct	Saturday	AUXWEA			
30 Oct	Sunday				
04 Nov	Friday			ICS 100 + NIMS 700	
05 Nov	Saturday	New Members Boot Camp			
06 Nov	Sunday	Mandatory Seminars			
11 Nov	Friday			<b>AUXSC&amp;E (ALL DAY)</b>	
12 Nov	Saturday	<b>AUXSC&amp;E (5 Days)</b> <b>Prerequisite: AUXNAV</b> Heavy Workload (Homework and Charting Exercises)			
13 Nov	Sunday				
19 Nov	Saturday				
20 Nov	Sunday				
26 Nov	Saturday	AUXSEA			
27 Nov	Sunday				
02 Dec	Friday			ICS 100 + NIMS 700	
03 Dec	Saturday	New Members Boot Camp			

**AUXSC&E Deadline: Sunday, 9 OCTOBER 2011**

**Registration by E-mail only - Deadline is Sunday prior to class.  
SEND E-MAIL TO: hawsingham@comcast.net  
SEND A SEPARATE E-MAIL FOR EACH COURSE**

**Information to be included in e-mail:  
First, MI, Last Name; EMPLID #; Flotilla #;  
Address, City, ST, ZIP; Home & Cell Phone #s**

### **COMMERCIAL POSTAGE STAMP TRANSITION -009/11**

1. Effective 29 May 2009, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) stopped printing penalty mail stamps (i.e. - the eagle stamps commonly received from the Auxiliary National Supply Center (ANSC)). The USPS continued to provide these stamps as long as stocks were available, but ultimately shifted to commercial postage stamps. Commercial postage stamps are no different than the stamps that the USPS offers consumers.
2. ANSC still has a considerable supply of penalty mail stamps in stock and will continue to distribute them for Auxiliary use until that stock is depleted. At that point, ANSC will begin providing commercial postage stamps in response to Auxiliary orders. This is expected to begin later this summer, 2011.
3. Commercial postage stamps shall be subject to the same policies and practices for usage as penalty mail stamps. They shall only be used by Auxiliarists for the support of official business associated with their Auxiliary activities. Because commercial postage stamps obtained from ANSC can be so easily integrated with personal mailings, it will be even more incumbent upon Auxiliarists to exercise utmost care, attention, and integrity in their restricted application for official business purposes. As with other material orders submitted to ANSC, flotilla level authority to order stamps remains limited to the Flotilla Commander (FC) and Flotilla Staff Officer for Materials (FSO-MA) (see the ANSC Catalog at <http://www.uscg.mil/auxiliary/publications/default.asp> for a complete listing of ANSC ordering authority). Provisions of section 5.F. of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Manual (Commandant Instruction 16790.1 series), which deals with official business mail, also remain applicable.
4. On behalf of the Coast Guard's Mail and Shipping Manager, the following information is provided to help guide usage and handling of official

business mail in the course of your Auxiliary activities:

- a. Insufficient postage will result in either the recipient paying postage due upon delivery, or the mail piece being returned to the originator for additional postage.
  - b. Pricing and shape structure guidelines that went into effect in May 2008 affect all units that generate official mail. Previously, the first class rate was the same for all types of mail. Nowadays, a distinction is made for letter, flats, and parcels. The new shape-based rates reflect the difference in processing costs unique to each mail shape.
  - c. The maximum weight for letter-sized mail is 3.5 oz at a cost of 95 cents. Any letter-sized piece exceeding this limit, will be charged at the first class "flats" rate, which is almost double the cost of the letter rate.
  - d. A letter printed on an 8.5 x 11 inch paper weighing 1 oz or less and mailed unfolded costs the mailer 88 cents. If the same letter were folded and placed in an envelope measuring no more than 6-1/8 inches by 11-1/2 inches, the cost would be 44 cents - a savings of 50 percent. All documents that can be folded without negative impact should be folded to fit into smaller envelopes. Use envelopes measuring 6-1/8 x 11-1/2 inches, as this keeps the mail piece in the "letter-sized" rate category, provided you do not exceed the weight limit of 3.5 ounces.
  - e. More detailed information about USPS shape-based rate can be found on the site: <http://tinyurl.com/2odtrd> ( Long URL - [http://www.pb.com/cgi-bin/pb.dll/jsp/Postalinfo.do?sitelet=RCEducation&catOID=-19118&editorial\\_id=ed\\_ECEd\\_Shape\\_Based\\_Price&lang=en&country=US](http://www.pb.com/cgi-bin/pb.dll/jsp/Postalinfo.do?sitelet=RCEducation&catOID=-19118&editorial_id=ed_ECEd_Shape_Based_Price&lang=en&country=US) )
5. Point-of-contact for Coast Guard postal matters is Mr. Ed Larson at (202) 475-3517 or [edwin.b.larson@uscg.mil](mailto:edwin.b.larson@uscg.mil).

## **Spring 2011 PE courses**

**About Boating Safely Courses:** First Saturdays, April to June: Each is a 1-day course, 8:00-5:00 pm. Registration begins at 7:30am. Dates: May 7, Jun 4, 2011  
Cost: \$65.00 to public, \$25.00 to Auxiliary (includes lunch). Location: USCG Sector Delaware Bay --USCG AUX Flotilla 2-76--Penn's Landing, Washington & Columbus Blvd.

Recognized by the US Coast Guard and approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, each course is a unique 8-hour study program covering the fundamentals of boating. Individuals successfully completing a course qualify for the PA Safe Boating Certificate. Course is taught by trained,

qualified CGAUX instructors with many years of experience. Pre-registration recommended.

**FIRST AID, CPR and AED Courses:**

Five sessions of the First Aid, CPR and AED course are planned to run on Sundays as a 1-day course, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Apr 17, July 10 and Oct 9. Cost is \$75.00 to public (\$45.00 to Auxiliary) and includes lunch. Mr. John Mosley, a Red Cross certified instructor /flotilla member/instructor will teach these courses.