

Lifeline

March 2012 Vol. 37 No. 3
Newsletter of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 2-76 5NR

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Vice-Flotilla Commander's Report

1. Program Updates: None to report.
2. Accomplishments: PE reports that the 3 MAR ABS class had a 100% pass rate, 8 out of 8 students passed the exam.
3. Upcoming: We have reserved a space at the Fishtown Shadfest, 28 APR. We will need volunteers to man MS, RBS, and HR segments of the booth. Coordination is being made at the division level to man the ramps on the Delaware with VEs from Neshaminy through Penn's Landing. 16 MAY will also see the flotilla have a booth at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory – volunteers are also needed to man the booths there. A University Recruitment Drive is in the planning stages as well. We will have a staff officer meeting on 20 MAR at 1730. We will discuss the above plans as well as the need for our website to be fixed and VE/PV plans for the summer and NSBW.
4. Problems: Still do not receive reports from the majority of staff officers, so I am in the dark regarding the majority of things going on in the Auxiliary. Flotilla is still undermanned in VEs, PVs, and has no facility or coxswain.
5. Other: I will be in Rome from 16 MAY through 29 JUN. I may need someone to step up and act as a “vice-vice” for me while I am away. Also, I will not be able to coordinate our training activities on the water during that time, and may also need an assistant operations officer during that time.

Dan Toms, FSO-OPS danielandrewtoms@gmail.com

The next flotilla meeting is Tuesday, 20 March at 7:30pm

Flotilla Staff Officer Monthly Reports: Communication Systems (CS)

I had a late start this year as FSO-CS, due to graduate school obligations that I am finalizing. However, I am looking forward to putting in my by best efforts to move our Flotilla's CS program forward, with the goal of establishing it as one of the premier programs within the Auxiliary.

I am also looking forward to conversing with my fellow staff officers about new ideas and suggestions this month. I recently purchased software called Depiction which is used to supply forecasting and realtime geographical, weather and other information which can be used during crises situation. This software may be an ideal addition to our future communication trailer/mobile command center project.

In addition, I will be compiling a list containing these ideas along with other ongoing items and explore the feasibility, practicality and capability (current and future) of setting these initiatives into motion.

Finally, I hope to usher in a new era of cohesion, between Division 2 Flotillas as it relates to Communication Services to establish a consistent level of capability, information sharing, and service, by having our Flotilla level officers work together to achieve these goals.

If anyone needs to get in contact with me before this month's meeting, please do so by using the contact information provided below.

Darryl Stevenson, FSO-CS dnetman@gmail.com 276-971-5366

Finances (FN)

I have nothing to report at this time.

Phil Giangjordano, FSO-FN pgjazzpro@aol.com

Information Systems (IS)

My Aux-10 class in Atlanta went off without a hitch. I am now fully trained in the details of AuxData. One of the interesting things I learned is about how to use AuxInfo to view individual records. The link to AuxInfo is <http://www.auxinfo.uscg.gov> and an introduction to its use is on the auxiliary website http://itgroup.cgaux.org/documents/howto/auxinfo-track_your_activity.pdf. Try it out! If you have any problems, please let me

know.

As soon as I get together with Matt O'Brien to demonstrate my newly acquired AuxData skills I will begin entering data for the year. Thanks to all of you who have sent reports in. I will be entering them soon. Those who have not sent in reports know who you are.

If there is anyone among you who would like to help me out with my FSO-IS duties, please let me know. I would like to start training an assistant to take over in the event that I get hit by a bus. Someone who is detail oriented and familiar with using computers would be perfect for the job. You would get a chance to learn lots about the auxiliary and who is doing what kind of work for the flotilla.

Hank Harrison, FSO-IS knah8@attglobal.net

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


Member Training (MT)

This ad appeared many times in various publications. Some of you may have seen it and been influenced by it. We should all be influenced by this ad.

We're all proud Americans since we have joined the Auxiliary. But what about the other three items. Are you doing them also?

One way of accomplishing these would be to consider taking the Instructor Development Course (IDC). This course prepares the member to become an instructor or proctor in the

**JOIN
THE COAST GUARD
AUXILIARY**



Promote Recreational Boating Safety
—
Help Your Fellow Boaters
—
Increase Your Boating Knowledge
—
Be a Proud AMERICAN...Volunteer!

Flotilla's education program. That can be in Public Education where our safe boating classes directly promote Recreational Boating Safety. Or it could be in Member Training, teaching and preparing new members to the Flotilla. Either way, you will increase your boating knowledge.

The knowledge and training obtained in the IDC will make you a better presenter, whether it be one-on-one during a vessel safety check, conversing with shopkeepers and store managers in the RBS visitation program, dealing with crew and public boaters in the boat crew program, or standing before a class of students.

Promote recreational boating safety, help your fellow boaters and Auxiliarists, increase your boating knowledge, and be a proud Auxiliarist – take the Instructor Development Course.

Pat Cunningham, FSO-MT hawsingham@comcast.net

Navigation Systems(NS)

There is nothing to report on NS for 02-76 this month.

Matt O'Brien, ADSO-NS mobrien12@aol.com

Operations (OPS)

1. Program Updates: Boat Crew School continues to run with a stable group of 12 trainees. Currently working on navigation. Trainees are having difficulty and the program may have to run over to support all scheduled topics.
2. Accomplishments: None to report.
3. Upcoming: Participation in Fishtown Shadfest on 28 APR should involve an Auxiliary facility. Would require permission of DIRAUX for a pre-season patrol. Could prove a good opportunity to “show the flag” as well as get trainees some on the water time.
4. Problems: Will not be able to participate in crew program from 16 MAY through 29 JUN do to study abroad in Rome. Need to find underway time for trainees in a division with only one coxswain and two facilities.

Dan Toms, FSO-OPS danielandrewtoms@gmail.com

Public Affairs (PA)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. E-Mailed “Help Wanted” document to make sure that those members who did not attend February's meeting were aware of the need for staffing, etc., at future PA events.

2. Enlisted the help of four Flotilla members so far (Re. Item 1), one of whom (Shipsey) is taking photos of events she attends. News releases with accompanying photographs are far more effective than those without.
3. Have made preliminary contact with SO-PA Division 2, David Lau, and, D5NR DSO-PA, K.C. Murphy
4. Investigated potential locations for MS, PA, PE, and VE brochures/bulletins. Park managers at six (6) Pennsylvania State Parks have been contacted to one degree or another and we have received preliminary approval. I await receipt of form to be submitted for official approval. If approval is granted, and I see no reason why it shouldn't, it will be necessary to obtain the necessary literature, purchase literature holders and install, and set up a literature maintenance schedule.
5. Set up preliminary plans to meet with MX, PV, and VE Staff Officers to formulate a coordinated plan of action to raise public awareness and stimulate the publics' interest in our activities.

IMMEDIATE PLANS

1. Continue enlisting assistance from Flotilla members.
2. Continue PA State Park literature distribution efforts.
3. Investigate other literature distribution locations (marinas, retail sporting goods stores, convenience stores, etc.).
4. Assist MS, PV, and VE efforts in the design and/or selection of appropriate literature for distribution. The failure to redesign the PE brochure as recommended will continue to have an adverse effect on its effectiveness.

LONG TERM PLANS

1. As no feedback regarding local publications has been received from members, I will begin publishing news releases based on my limited knowledge of same.

POLICY DECISION: Are there any objections to participating in MS, PA, PE, and VE efforts outside our AOR (Area Of Responsibility)? I don't have a problem with doing so as long as we keep the local units in the loop.

2. Recommend changes to our website to support our PA efforts.

Dan Murphy, FSO-PA uscgmur@aol.com

Public Education (PE)

The Spring 2012 season of PE classes is now underway. The third and final session of "How to Read a Nautical Chart" took place on Wednesday February 22, with 6 students in the final count. The "Weekend Navigator" course, staffed so far by Cunningham and Harrison, began on February 29 with 10 students enrolled. It will continue to run for the rest of its 10 week term. "Sailing Skills and Seamanship" began on February 13, and there are now about 6 students enrolled therein. The first session of "About Boating Safely" was held on March 3rd. Eight students were enrolled and all eight passed the exam --this total included two persons aged under 17 yrs. Instructors for that all-day session were Dot French, Hank Harrison, Lee Roach, Marc Batt, Matt O'Brien and Paul Parravicini. Thanks to all who made the mission a success.

All IT qualified staff who have been assigned to teach are requested to confirm their assignments before meeting their classes. PE thanks all IT and other members for their support of the PE program.

More flyers were distributed to all attending flotilla members at the February meeting. Thanks to Jimmy DeLeon for providing more flyers for distribution. Auxiliaries are urged to help publicize these courses by taking flyers to local marinas, bookstores, recreation centers, and marine supply stores. The courses are also currently listed on Craigslist Philadelphia.

Scheduled Public Education courses for Spring 2012 are listed on the www.cgau276.org website. Note that the ABS series begins in March and is projected to run through August, subject to demand and instructor availability. Also, Weekend Navigator and How to Read a Nautical Chart will run on Wednesday evenings, while Sailing Skills and Seamanship will run on Monday evenings. To register for a course, students can send email via the sign-up form on the www.cgau276.org website, or send an email to public.education@cgau276.org.

Dot French, FSO-PE frenchdot@gmail.com

Program Visitor (PV)

As Boating season approaches, it's the perfect time to Visit our existing Partners and make new ones. Our Flotilla is in desperate need of Help to spread the word. This could be a good way to meet new people while promoting boating safety,

Vessel Inspections, Public Education, and much more. If you are interested or think you could spare a few hours in the weekend, Please contact me at (215) 582-2972. Thank you for your help and support.

Paul Parravicini, FSO-PV carioca@comcast.net

Vessel Examination (VE)

Dear Shipmates,

The 2012 VE Stickers are in and we're ready for the Boating season ahead. This is the time to help your Flotilla while promoting Boat safety and interacting with the general Public. For those interested, don't hesitate to contact me at (215) 582-2972. Thank you.

Paul Parravicini, FSO-VE carioca@comcast.net

New Jersey State Police Urge Safety for Early Season Boaters:

West Trenton, NJ – New Jersey has been fortunate this year with unseasonably warm weather. The spring-like days after a tame winter has already brought anxious boaters back out onto the frigid waters. Sometimes those adventurers pay for their enthusiasm with their lives. This year, State Police have received no notifications of cold-water-related deaths, but in 2010, five fatal boating accidents occurred in March alone in New Jersey.

The off-season months are very dangerous for boaters because of the increased speed at which hypothermia sets in when mishaps occur. Despite recent 60+-degree days, water temps on the Delaware River in the in the Trenton area are still in the mid 40s. The Atlantic Ocean is only in the low 50s, and deeper lakes in the state are about the same.

Falls overboard are the most common types of fatal boating accidents, and boaters hitting that frigid water quickly find their strength sapped and their movements slowed down. The human body cools down 25 times faster in cold water than in cold air. Within minutes of being in the water, people can lose manual dexterity, muscle coordination and breath control. Even strong swimmers can become drowning victims without the aid of a personal floatation device (PFD).

To read the rest of the story go to <http://njssp.org/news/pr031212.html>

MS – TSUNAMI

A constructive tidal wave of 5NR MS – EP Information



January 2012

Welcome to the first issue of 5NR Marine Safety – Environmental Protection’s newsletter

Our Mission Statement: “We are the Coast Guard Auxiliary’s core team of specialist in the Marine Safety and Environmental Protection. Our principal Mission is to support the marine safety and environmental protection programs and activities of the United States Coast Guard and to train and support members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary who join us.”

Happy New Year to all 5NR auxiliaries. My name is Michael Bennett, newly appointed DSO for Marine Safety. As I accept the obligations of this position, I intend on reaching every division to share my enthusiasm for the Marine Safety and Environmental Protection (MS-EP) issues our district encounters. Together with my experienced and knowledgeable staff it’s my goal to make our district shining examples within the Auxiliary.

My staff consists of:

Gene Morris – ADSO – Trident Program

Jim Lafferty – ADSO – Commercial Fishing Vessel Exams (CFVE)

Ron Zuggi – ADSO - American Waterway Watch

Frank Williams – ADSO – Seapartners/Environmental Outreach

And my wife, Debbie Bennett – ADSO – Special Projects

One of my major issues is communications and sharing information. This forum, hopefully will bring my and my teams message to all members of our district. When we each took the oath and were sworn into the Auxiliary, we accepted the responsibility and obligation to assist the Gold side in their mission. Well, Marine Stewardship is one of the Coast Guards ethos. There are only so many staff positions within the flotillas, divisions, etc. But just like each flotilla may have multiple Vessel Examiners, Program Visitors, Instructors and Boat Crew members. Each flotilla should have multiple MS – EP educated members. My goal is for each auxiliarist to have an arsenal of MS-EP knowledge, so that at any opportunity, that knowledge can be shared with the public. Remember boating safety, but also environmental awareness.

We have approximately 317 million people across our nation; with approximately 17 million registered boats. This amounts to about 5.5% of the population we may come in contact with and only during the boating season. This is an opportunity to educate 100% of the population, 365 days a year. The environment touches everyone and everything – human, animal and plant.

This newsletter will be multi-purpose. Bringing MS-EP information to our members. Highlighting “Team-MS” member’s activities and a schedule of upcoming events. This newsletter will reach each auxiliary member with access to a computer. Mary Bethea (flotilla 05-03) graciously offered her help get us started with social media. Using social media will increase our MS-EP reach outside the Auxiliary. We not only will be able to share MS-EP information, but hopefully attract new interest in joining the Auxiliary. Our environmentally conscience population will have another outlet for helping the world we live in.

Marine Safety Environmental Protection Workshop - We will be traveling to each division, showing a sample of our presentation along with educational booth material. We hope to motivate members to come up with ideas for their own presentations specific to their AOR and public event displays.

At the upcoming Spring Conference, we will be presenting the Good Mate course (this is one of the required courses for the Marine Safety Training Ribbon). We will be having an Introduction to Marine Safety Workshop, where we hope our enthusiasm will be infectious to recruit auxiliarist to be part of “Team-MS”. For

our non-boating members, this is a great opportunity to join us in spreading the MS-EP message to the public. We give you information, tips and suggest on how to help accomplish this vital mission. Also don't forget to visit our Marine Safety – Environmental Protection educational booth. Lots of information for all, with games and small prizes for our younger visitors.

Commercial Fishing Vessel Examiners - In 2015, the CFVE's will be become mandatory. Currently we have 7 qualified examiners, with 19 auxiliary in training. Because of the 2015 requirement, more examiners will be needed. Information regarding this program can be found at:

<http://pdept.cgaux.org/Documents/Active/MPRO/Training/CommercialFishing.pdf>

For additional information contact, Jim Lafferty (ADSO-MS-CFVE) at ,
malafferty@verizon.net

The **American Waterways Watch** (AWW) is a very important program. It's a great program for your Member Training needs. Ron Zuggi (ADSO-MS-AWW) recently attend the three day SeaPartners workshop which dealt mainly with the AWW. Educating your member on this vital program so they can then spread this important information to the public. Information regarding this program can be found at: http://aww.aww-sp.com/Americas_Waterway_Watch/Home.html For additional information Contact Ron at, amber6240@comcast.net.

Trident Program - The Auxiliary Trident Training program is designed to train Auxiliarists to support Coast Guard Sectors in their legacy Marine Safety and Environmental Protection programs. Training for most qualifications is done by active duty or reserve Coast Guard personnel, not by Auxiliarists. Training opportunities and policies vary from Sector to Sector so members should check with their MS Staff chain of leadership to determine the opportunities and policies in their Sector. This is a very prestigious award which takes a minimum of five years of training. It takes a real commitment on the part of the auxiliary to fulfill the requirements necessary to obtain the qualifications and this device. If your willing to invest the time and devotion, contact Eugene Morris,
genem63@comcast.net

SeaPartners/Environmental Outreach – The SeaPartners Campaign is an environmental education and outreach program focused on communities at large to

develop community awareness of maritime pollution issues and improve compliance with marine environmental protection laws and regulations. (1) The effects of oil, hazardous chemicals, waste and debris on the marine environment. (2) How marine environmental protection laws and regulations apply to various marine users. (3) Ways groups and individuals can take action to protect the marine environment. Information concerning this extremely vital program can be found at: <https://homeport.uscg.mil/mycg/portal/ep/channelView.do?channelId=-24887>

For additional information contact: Frank Williams (ADSO-MS-SeaPartners/Environmental Outreach)

Attention: Division Commanders, SO-MS and/or SO-MT – If we haven't already done so, please contact us to schedule our visiting your division.

Upcoming Events:

January 26th, 7pm – Marine Safety (MS) workshop, Division 7, family and friends, at the Bayville Community Center, Bayville, NJ

February 1st, 8am – Marine Safety – Environmental Pollution presentation being given to the “Gold side”, at Sector Delaware

February 11th, 9am – MS workshop, Division 8, at TRACEN, Cape May

February 11th - Good Mate Course, part of the weekend college, at Sector Delaware

February 20th – MS presentation, Division 13

February 21st – MS presentation, Division 3

February 22nd – MS presentation, Division 1

March 7th – MS workshop, Flotilla 03-02, Westville, NJ

March 13th – MS Presentation, Division 2,

March 14th – MS Workshop, Flotilla 08-04, Abescon Island

March 24th – Spring Conference – Good Mate Course, Intro to Marine Safety Workshop and Marine Safety – Environmental Education display booth

The environmental protection area of Marine Safety needs a lot of work, but together we can get the job done.

Respectfully,
Mike Bennett
DSO – MS, 5NR

“ Everything Eventually Ends Up in the Water ”

GOOD SAMARITANS COME IN ALL SIZES

EAST MORICHES, N.Y. - Any school child knows, or at least believes, that if you see a person or boat in distress on the water, the “law of the sea” demands that you render assistance. Simple human decency would require no less and from time immemorial, this has been the law of the sea. But we live in a modern and litigious world...What are the facts?

To read the rest of the article go to: <http://live.cgaux.org/?p=1069>

SIGN UP FOR COAST GUARD EXCHANGE EMAIL NOTIFICATION

Sign-up for Coast Guard Exchange email notifications. This is a great way to get advanced notifications of their promotions and give auxiliarists the best chance possible to take advantage of them. Sign up at:<http://www.cg-exchange.com/> Auxiliarists can also go to the Coast Guard Exchange on Facebook to get the latest and greatest and also tell the Exchange likes and dislikes.

Do this by clicking "Like" at:<http://www.facebook.com/CoastGuardExchange>

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT SCHOOL 2012 NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

WASHINGTON - Students may now apply for the Coast Guard Auxiliary Leadership and Management School (AUXLAMs), scheduled to be held in a variety of locations around the country. The course is based on the Leadership Competencies, which lay the foundation for all leadership skills necessary to successful leadership in the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary. This is a facilitated and interactive course dealing with self awareness, motivation, strategic leadership, team building, ethics, conflict management and performance problem solving. AUXLAMs is the foundation course of the Auxiliary Leadership Continuum. More information can be found regarding the Coast Guard Auxiliary Leadership and Management School at:

<https://sites.google.com/a/cgauxnet.us/universities/news/archive/auxlams12>

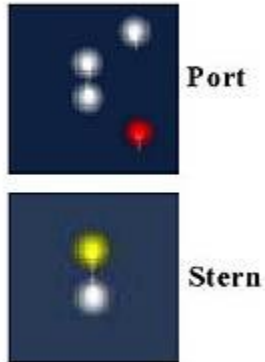
2012 A [GP] DIRECTORATE SURVEY RESULTS POSTED

WASHINGTON - In January 2012, the Coast Guard Auxiliary Government and Public Affairs Directorate conducted a survey of Auxiliary members designed to glean insight to help enhance and develop public affairs mission programming over the next 12-24 months. The data from this survey was evaluated by "A" [GP] directorate leadership at the division level and above, and key findings were

identified. To see the survey results go to:

http://www.auxpa.org/documents/AUXPA_2012_Survey_Interpretation.pdf

Navigation Quiz submitted by Matt O'Brien



Power-driven vessel 50 meters and upward in length Towing
ASTERN. Length of tow LESS than 200 meters.

RULE 24: