

Lifeline

April 2012 Vol. 37 No. 4
Newsletter of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 2-76 5NR

Jose Roman-Rivera, FC Dan Toms, VFC

Liz LeFever FSO-PB/Editor
elefever@msn.com

"The Diversity Mission Of The U.S.Coast Guard Auxiliary----The U.S.Coast Guard Auxiliary values diversity, teamwork & responsiveness. Our mission in valuing diversity is to build a positive work environment for all personnel, regardless of their similarities or differences, and a climate of respect for people of all backgrounds." *from the uscgaux.strategic plan for managing diversity, submitted by Jimmy Deleon, ADSO-DV*

The next flotilla meeting is Tuesday, 17April at 7:30pm

Flotilla Staff Officer Monthly Reports:

Communication Systems (CS)

The Flotilla WebSite redesign is in progress. PE classes and Email link are currently unavailable during this upgrade.

PE information is slotted to be available on the evening of Friday April 6th, 2012

Here is the temporary Web link to access Flotilla 2-76 email accounts

https://hermosa.statussecure.com:2096/?login_theme=cpanel. Copy and paste this, or type this, in the address box of your internet browser.

Darryl Stevenson, FSO-CS) dnetman@gmail.com

Finances (FN)

Nothing to report at this time.

Phil Giangjordano, FSO-FN pgjazzpro@aol.com

Human Resources (HR)

Proposed day trip on www.Megabus.com June 16, 2012 to Baltimore for the War of 1812 Bicentennial Celebration:

Megabus goes to the Whitemarsh Mall in Baltimore and then folks could catch the 15 bus or the 35 bus to within a couple of blocks of the Inner Harbor in Baltimore. See the Coast Guard Cutter Eagle and the Blue Angels.

Here's more info:

War of 1812 Bicentennial Celebration in Baltimore

The War of 1812 Bicentennial Celebration will launch in Baltimore on June 13, 2012. The week-long event will begin with an international flotilla of ships sailing into Baltimore Harbor and will feature land and water tours, a variety of rich family and group activities, and an amazing air show featuring the Blue Angels on June 16 and 17, 2012. Visit the historic shrine at the Fort McHenry National Monument, tour the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House, and see the original draft of the Star-Spangled Banner at the Maryland Historical Society.

As of 4/9/12 @ 10pm the pricing on Megabus for this journey roundtrip is \$10.50 leaving 30th Street, Philadelphia at 5:50 AM, returning at 11:00 PM.

Recruiting: 4 out of 19 people who contacted us via e-mail between January and March 2012 who were interested in joining Flotilla 2-76 have responded to the e-mail I sent on 4/3/12 and have expressed that they are coming to our April meeting.

Judi-Lynn Blue, FSO-HR jujublue2002@verizon.net

Information Systems (IS)

All reports that have been submitted to me have now been entered into the AUXDATA database. 33 people have sent in reports which bring our hours for the 1st Quarter of 2012 to 1800 as compared to the 1st Quarter of 2011 at 1715. That is an increase of 5%.

If each of our members were to report hours, I am confident that we could show a much greater number.

I am still searching for someone to assist me with my FSO-IS duties. The job requires a small amount of computer literacy and will enable someone to develop a good knowledge of what our fellow flotilla members are doing.

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

Marine Safety (MS)

I went to the MS presentation given by DSO-MS Mike Bennett at March's Division meeting. SO-MS Frank Williams will be giving a similar presentation at our April Flotilla meeting at 1900. Shadfest and Delaware River Day are both coming up, we should have an MS component at these events. Personally, I'm working towards the Prevention Outreach Specialist PQS to become more involved with bringing MS information to the public.

Caroline Shipsey, FSO-MS ces93@drexel.edu

Member Training (MT)

INSTRUCTORS WANTED – All Should Apply

This is a call for additional Flotilla instructors (IT) to assist in the Public Education (PE) and Member Training (MT) areas.

As of 1 April 2012 the following are listed as instructors in AUXDATA:

BATT, CUNNINGHAM, FRENCH, GIANGIORDANO, HARRISON, HAWES, HAYWARD, MOSLEY, MURPHY, OBRIEN, POZNEK, ROACH L, TAYLOR, TOMS

If your name doesn't appear above and you think it should, please contact me.

Want to become an Auxiliary IT in 2012? Contact me and we'll get you started. The Instructor Development Course (IDC) consists of a 34-page text and 3 appendices. With me or another IT mentor you would read the text and go through Appendix B. When you feel you're ready, you take the open-book exam online and then schedule teaching sessions (total of 2 hours required) under a current IT. These sessions can be arranged through Dot French or me.

The IDC texts can be found at <<http://www.cgauxed.org/elib/idc.htm>>
The exam can be taken at the National Testing Center at
<<http://ntc2.cgaux.org/NTC/>>. A proctor is not required to take this exam.
BECOME AN INSTRUCTOR – YOUR FLOTILLA NEEDS YOU!

Pat Cunningham, FSO-MT hawsingham@comcast.net

Navigation Systems(NS)

As of 04 April 2012 and as ADSO-NS, a program within District 5NR Central to begin training fellow Auxiliarists as Aids Verifiers has been initiated. As a first step, a presentation on the subject was made at the AOT on 11 February 2012. As a next step, the DIRAUX Officer, CWO3 S. McGarigal will highlight the need for boat crews to observe ATONSs and PATONs while on patrol at the coxswains meeting on 14 April. At this time it is likely that a member from Station Philadelphia ANT will provide an overview of the mission assigned to the ANT within Sector Delaware Bay (SDB). They are tasked with the responsibility of assuring all aids are on station and functioning according to their description in the Light List and on the Charts.

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

Operations (OPS)



The 2-76 Crew School had their swim test on 07APR12. 10 trainees took the test, 10 passed. The school is also down to 11 trainees.

Patrol season starts 12MAY12. Trainees will need facilities for patrols, especially those in Division 02. Our Delaware River Day (19MAY12) needs a patrol on that day as well. 07MAY12 we will have an ops workshop and 1 hour TCT refresher as part of the crew school, however anyone is welcome to attend.

The lack of facilities and coxswains continues to limit 2-76's operational capability. We currently can only support other flotilla's operations programs.

I will be out of country from 16MAY12 through 03JUL12 and unable to support operations at that time.

Dan Toms, FSO-OPS danielandrewtoms@gmail.com

Public Education (PE)

The Spring 2012 season of PE classes continues. The "Weekend Navigator" course, staffed by Cunningham and Harrison, began on February 29 with 10 students enrolled, and 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 six students enrolled therein. John Mosley conducted the first CPR/AED /First Aid workshop on March 11. There were 5 students who participated. Thanks to John for making the CPR sessions a big success.

The next session of "About Boating Safely" will be held on Saturday April 14. Although flyers were distributed to all attending Flotilla members at the February and March meetings, registration for upcoming ABS courses has been slow so far. Unfortunately, problems with the Flotilla 2-76 web site resulted in the deletion of all the PE course listings. Although requests were made at the Flotilla meeting on March 20 to have the PE material links restored, for whatever reason, the PE listings are still MIA at the current time. This may result in lower enrollment for the April ABS session.

Meanwhile, scheduled Public Education courses for Spring 2012 are listed below. If the website links are restored soon, prospective students will be able, as before, to sign up for courses via the form on the www.cgaux276.org website, or enroll via email by contacting PE at public.education@cgaux276.org.

All IT qualified staff who have been assigned to teach during the upcoming ABS sessions are requested to confirm their assignments before arriving for their session. Thanks to all IT and other members for their support of the PE program.

Auxiliarists 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 under the "boats" category.

Dot French, FSO-PE frenchdot@gmail.com

Who has the right of way in the Inland Water rules of the road? A vessel not under command or a vessel constrained by draft? This is a trick question! Answer next month.

Auxiliary 2012-2016 Strategic Plan Updated; Changing Roles Cited

Commodore Vass's United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Strategic Plan 2012-2016, originally issued in November 2010, has been updated effective March, 2012.

According to Assistant National Commodore for Planning and Performance Fred Gates, Auxiliary leadership has re-examined the roles our organization plays in support of the U.S. Coast Guard, and is re-emphasizing the organization's role in recreational boating safety -- without diminishing the Auxiliary's contributions to maritime safety and security.

A downloadable copy of the revised Strategic Plan may be found on the *Leadership Page* under "Auxiliary Strategic Plan".

Source [Fred Gates ANACO-PP]