



FLOTILLA 04-76  
March 2020

LIFELINE NEWSLETTER  
Volume #14



**Shipmates-Greetings. 04-76 is getting off to a busy start. Several classes are being setup to enhance your skills and improve our knowledge base. Several Boat Shows have occurred and hopefully many of you had an opportunity to visit & or participate. New membership interviews are being conducted and the level of enthusiasm is high thanks in part to Allaire and Ralph. Bravo Zula team. Continue to support our missions and 2020 will be a banner year!**

Semper Paratus

**"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." --Henry Ford**

**Charles J Miller II, FSO-Publications  
Editor**

## DIVISION BOAT CLASS – UPDATE

The previously scheduled boat crew class for Saturday, March 7th, is canceled. This does not mean we are canceling the entire boat crew classes this spring. Our plan is to reschedule the first class to Saturday, March 21st, after D-Train. Although 10 members expressed an interest in the boat crew class in the responses to our survey, very few committed to the scheduled classes. I received some feedback that the schedule was too long and aggressive, and people were reluctant to make a commitment to devote that many Saturdays in the spring. We will be revisiting the schedule and possibly adding some weeknights to clear some of the Saturdays. I invite your input regarding scheduling.

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# The Teaching Point

Flotilla Education News letter of 76... Performance Elite

## March 2020 Fourteenth Edition An Informed Auxiliarist Makes a Better Flotilla

Flotilla Management; a work in progress  
Allaire Corbett and I have just finished up a  
Recruiting and Retention Seminar presentation and  
will be working on a Flotilla Management Seminar.

What is flotilla management? If you try to find that out  
on your own, you may fail. What is usually presented is  
the mechanics of the flotilla, but not really the  
management, and that involves working with our  
resources, AKA the members.

I took the FC position to help teach you what that means so that moving forward will not happen in the proverbial dark.

Of course, there is the usual COLM (Chain of Leadership and Management) within the flotilla:

Member  
Staff  
Vice Flotilla Commander  
Flotilla Commander

You notice I put the member at the top and the FC at the bottom and that is the proper order.

Every position downward supports every position upward

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However, and here is where management comes in, you must be careful to understand what your job is and how to do it.

For this Teaching Point, let's focus on the top two, member and staff.

As a member, you joined to help. That supposes you will get all your training accomplished and then volunteer for one mission or the other.

Missions come under the particular department from which they originate: Teaching missions come from the FSO - PE, Public Affairs events come from the FSO - PA and so on. So, as a member, you will attend missions run by that Flotilla Staff Officer in that AOR (Area of Responsible)

.  
Pretty simple so far.

OK ... moving down the chain, we get to the staff and it gets a bit more complicated here.

The member who accepted a staff position took an oath to perform the duties of that position and be a leader for that mission.

The Staff Officer is responsible to create a mission, produce the mission, gather interested members, schedule the mission, perform the mission, and report hours on a 7030 form, then report back to the flotilla via staff reports and articles in the newsletter. That Staff Officer is also responsible for team debriefing and a fellowship event following the mission.

Let's do one together:

Position Marine Safety

Member in charge: Flotilla Staff Officer for Marine

Safety Mission: the flotilla was asked to aid in the Tinicum Island Clean Up

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Contact: The Philadelphia Water Department

1. Someone in the flotilla was approached to help in the project

2. If that person was not the FSO - MS, then it is immediately turned over to the FSO - MS for consideration

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3. The FSO - MS introduces the idea at a staff meeting for discussion.

4. The FSO - MS introduces the idea at a general meeting, in the newsletter, and via email.

Every elected officer and staff position should have by now, created a mailing list for the entire flotilla.

And remember, please use BCC or blind copy when mass mailing.

5. The FSO - MS remains in contact with the person in charge of the mission at the water department for ongoing logistics.

6. As information comes in, the FSO -MS keeps the flotilla apprised.

7. The FSO - MS gathers members who want to be involved and disseminates the information:

- a. Date of the Mission
- b. Start and stop times of the Mission
- c. Uniform of the day for that Mission
- d. All logistics

8. The FSO - MS will keep the VFC informed of the progress and status of the mission, copying the FC along the way.

9. The FSO - MS will make sure that all equipment, if any (life jackets, etc. ) are available for each member of the flotilla participating.

10. On the day and time of the mission, the FSO MS will have arrived early to make sure there is sufficient coordination among the staff, members, and water department.

11. The FSO - MS will stand ready to continue the coordination of the project and hold the safety and comfort of the member as a priority; remember your Risk Management and TCT training.

12. When the mission is over, the FSO - MS is responsible for a debriefing session, preferably at lunch /dinner where all members can sit, be comfortable , take a breather and discuss and enjoy the close of the mission and the day.

13. The FSO - MS will now get to the computer and make a report to the flotilla of the day's events.

14. The F SO - MS will make a formal report to the VFC as a normal staff report, copying it to the FC. Remember, all reports must be turned in before the monthly staff meeting. If you don't submit a report, you don't get polled at the general meeting. So ... it's just steps ...but they are the steps required by the FSO in that AOR to commit to and complete.

All Staff should copy the person next in line up the COLM on the monthly report. So, in this case, the monthly staff report would be copied to the SO - MS (Division Staff Officer for Marine Safety) .

If you don't already have the name and email of the staff person at the Division level, here is how you find it:

1. Go on [cgau x.org](http://cgau.x.org)
2. Go to the UNITS pull down section
3. Go to District 5 Northern
4. Go to Who We Are
5. Go down to Division and Flotilla
6. Go to Division 4 South Penna Area
7. Go to About Division 4
8. Click on Staff List
9. Find your Division Staff Officer in your AOR.
10. Copy the contact information and save it.



The staff officer is responsible for all the steps outlined above.

People in elected and staff positions are expected to have the initiative to pull off a mission. It is also expected that each AOR leader will use their resources (members) properly. Remember:

Honor, Respect, Devotion to Duty.

If the Staff Officer in an AOR is having difficulty and is in need of assistance, their first line of defense is the Vice Flotilla Commander, remembering that they go up the chain for assistance and not have the VFC do their job for them.

Here is your staff:

FSO - SR/Parliamentarian: Justin Morgan.

AFSO - SR ...working on it.

FSO - PA, Scott Sigman and AFSO - PA William Rex.

FSO - VE, Gary Papouschek and AFSO - PA Justin Morgan

FSO - MA, Jimmy DeLeon, AFSO - MA, the FC by default.

FSO - PE, Ralph Onesti, AFSO - PE Steve Kurowski

FSO - HR, Allaire Corbett, AFSO - HR, Working on it.

FSO - FN, James Campbell, AFSO - FN...working on it.

FSO - IT, Hank Harrison, AFSO - IT...working on it and getting close!

FSO - DV, Kim Robinson - Davis, AFSO - DV, Dot French

FSO - CM, James Weiler, AFSO - CM, James Campbell

FSO - MT, Steve Kurowski, AFSO - MT, Ralph Onesti

FSO -MV, Glenn Oldak, AFSO - MV...working on it.

FSO -PB, Charles Miller, AFSO - PB...working on it.

FSO - OP, Ash Kernen, AFSO - PB, Christopher Davis

FSO - CS, Ash Kernen, AFSO - CS, Justin Morgan

Fellowship Committee, Scott Sigman, Assistants...  
John DelGaiso , Doug DiToro

FSO - AN, Flotilla Supported

FSO - CC, Flotilla Supported

FSO - MSEP, working on it.

Moving on

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If you are approached by someone looking to get our flotilla involved in a project, your first response is: “ I will bring this to the person in that position, give them your contact information, and they will get back to you.”

Do not commit flotilla resources that are not yours to commit

.

Example: The Valley Forge Military Academy contacts me to have 4 - 76 do a presentation. Do I say sure ? No ... I do not. I go to the FSO - PA and connect that office with the VFMA. In my excitement to have our flotilla do that presentation,

and I say ' yes , I failed to see if the PA department could indeed pull that off ... remember no stepping on toes and AOR ' s

The takeaway:

Missions, in total, are the responsibility of the FSO in that AOR.

The FSO takes point and stays there.

The FSO reports to the VFC and the flotilla .

The FSO will maintain a flotilla email list by checking aux officer from time to time for new members or members dropped from the roster.

And speaking of Fellowship ... how 's that for a segue , I would like to thank Doug DiToro and John DelGaiso for taking the lead on providing refreshments at the meeting. And ... just because they did, it doesn't 't mean others can 't offer assistance.

OK ... back to that email list for the flotilla.

1. Go to [cgaux.org](http://cgaux.org)
2. Go to Aux Members
3. Down to Auxiliary Directory

4. Sign in with you EIN and password ... don't have one ... make one.

5. On the right - hand side in the yellow column see the UNIT space.

6. Enter 053 - 04 -76 . The entire flotilla list will pop up

7. You can copy and paste the email addresses, one by one and create your own list.

8. You can also make a list of special members. I have a list of Instructors for PE.

I have reiterated the fact that if the FSO does not turn in a staff report that that office is NOT polled at the general meeting. There is a reason for this . The FC and the VFC have to turn in reports to the division. They can't do that if they don't have one. If the VFC forgets and polls an FSO without a written report, I will stop them at the meeting.

If you have nothing to report, your report is: "Nothing to report" . If you do that and then find you do have something to report, you will have an opportunity to speak at the general meeting.

Now ... go find missions and let's do this!

RJ



# SPRING 2020 DTRAIN—

**CANCELED!**

**Rescheduled DTRAIN Planned for September**

**District Board Meeting is still on and will be online via GoToTraining**

**AUXLAM is canceled with a possible reschedule for September**

***Fellow Auxiliarist in accordance with 5th Coast Guard District Command the D5NR Spring DTRAIN has been canceled as a precaution against the outbreak of the novel CoronaVirus (COVID-19). Work is***

***ongoing to reschedule DTRAIN for September. Please watch for additional email notices.***

***From Our D5NR Commodore***

***"Applying the GAR Model to the decision of whether to cancel this event made it absolutely clear that the safety of our members outweighs the potential gains we would have in continuing forward with this event. We simply do not have enough data to make any other decision but to cancel this DTRAIN and look to find opportunities to have another event later in the year with a target date of September. We have very actively sought out other venues and believe that we have a location well handled. Unfortunately, we will not be able to return to the Crowne Plaza in the fall. The cancellation is a major disappointment for us all—my wife and I even have the perfect costumes for Fun Nite.***

***The disappointment in the news of the reschedule will be felt at all levels—from our***

*newest members to EXCOM and Senior Leadership. I want to thank all of our DTRAIN Staff and the Instructors for all of their hard work in putting together what would have been one of our very best DTRAINS ever. We will be working diligently to keep those efforts and plans in place in September.*

*Please keep watching for additional information via email. This is a fluid situation and we are doing our best to keep you informed as final decisions are made.*

*Very best regards,*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas J. Dever". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

**COMO Thomas J. Dever**  
**District Commodore, D5NR**



From the Bottom UP!

Greetings to all.

Well...this has been a whirlwind year so far and it's only march!



Thanks to Scott Sigman, et al we had a magnificent Change of Watch. If you missed it, there is always next year. I named Scott as point, along with Ash Kernen and Bill Rex as the Change of Watch Committee for next year. I'm not sure how Scott will top his efforts from this year...but it will be fun to see. I am confident! I am told the Valley Forge Military Academy is on board for next year.

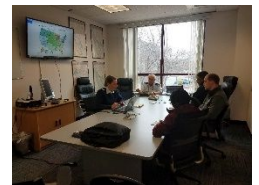


A special thanks to Ash Kernen and his Ops team for pulling off the Missing Man Table Ceremony. If I



have said it before...I say it again. They were overwhelming. How overwhelming...well...by the time Gretchen and I got home, the phone was off the hook. The District Captain told me he was on the phone to Capt. Anderson, and all they could say was, "WOW".

All is in place with Allaire Corbett nailing down the HR position bringing in real, qualified auxiliariest along with Kim Robinson and Steve Kurowski on her flank. When a member comes in 4-76, they know what it takes, what to expect from the Auxiliary, and what the Auxiliary expects from them!



All other AOR's are running on all "eight cylinders" so to speak.

Looking on from my chair, we don't have a weak link in the program and it's all your fault.

We had a tremendous IDC class which resulted in three new qualified instructors; Allaire Corbett (does she seem like she is everywhere these days?), Steve Kurowski, and Jim Campbell. And, we have two others in the wings going through the process. We manage to service the needs of 4-76, division 17 and division 4.

We graduated an ABS class on 7 March, and we have another scheduled for April along with a Suddenly in Command and How to Read a Nautical Chart.

BS&S and Nav are up, running, and having a blast on Mondays and Thursdays.

We have a full VE schedule going thanks to Gary Papouschek. We were able to secure extra VE stickers for the program and we are hoping to run out again this year. The VE program is one of the best ways the public can see us firsthand.

Scott Sigman has PA secured with the American Helicopter Museum's Father Fest, the Philadelphia Canoe Club, and I don't know what all else...I can't keep up!



D-Train is this weekend and I am interested in seeing what the Sea Scouts Program will bring. I will deliver a report to the flotilla to discuss whether or not, we want to do this.

I have three seats available in my vehicle. I am going for Saturday only.



Again, a hearty thanks to John DelGaiso and Doug DiToro for volunteering for the Flotilla Fellowship at the meetings.

We will make sure PA, VE, MV and Ops have PE brochures to push our classes.

And last, for now at least, I was offered the position of DSO-PE. I am hoping to bring new life into a much-overlooked area of the Auxiliary.

So, now my job continues as flotilla trainer in helping to get prospective FC's VFC's and future staff trained to continue our success. I don't have a lot of time so please, keep your hands inside the ride and do NOT take me personally...just learn so you can take over!

With that, Allaire Corbett has refined a Recruiting and Retention Seminar which she will present as a Member Training event after a stated flotilla meeting.

Also, there will be a flotilla management seminar coming up soon.

It's always easier when we know how to do it!

Bravo Zulu all,

RJ