



**FLOTILLA 04-76
May 2020**

**LIFELINE NEWSLETTER
Volume #15**



Shipmates, Greetings and I trust you all are doing well as possible considering the state of the union dealing with the Corona virus. Although we cannot physically be together, please we as a family, are and will be stronger once this pandemic has past. It saddens me to also report that we recently lost one of our valued shipmates – Glenn Oldak. His dedication and commitment to the auxiliary will surely be missed. He was a valued member of 04-76. Once we are able to be together again, we will honor his memory properly. This issue will reflect on his service to 04-76 over the years. Rest in Peace and thank you for your service.



Charles J Miller, II – FSO-PB

GLENN OLDAK



Laughing at the bar...

I first met Glenn when I transferred from 4-11 back to 2-76. He was the Vice Flotilla Commander at the time.

Glenn was quick to extend a welcome hand and show me around my old home. No one better than to conduct the tour.

It was obvious that 2-76 was not the same, and it quickly became clear that Mr. Oldak was the driving force behind the change. The Flotilla was more mission oriented than I remember, and quite a bit larger, and for Glenn's part, a bit stronger.

It did not take long to realize that Glenn and I agreed on little inside the flotilla but agreed on everything outside the flotilla. The friendship began. So did the discussion. Others would call them arguments, but Glenn and I kept it civil and friendly always with the mission, the auxiliary, and the member in mind.

What we did agree on from the very start was the love of the Auxiliary, and the flotilla, the family.

As the years passed and our missions grew, Glenn was always there, especially when the flotilla needed him most. Did he really want to be Flotilla Commander again? No...but he did it anyway and no one knew it was not his first choice. I knew.

First and foremost, Glenn was a good soul, a good friend, and a good man. In the words of the George Gershwin song: "Who could ask for anything more?"

Glenn moved from Flotilla Commander to Human Resources, then Vessel Examinations and the Visitor Program. In every endeavor, the flotilla was well presented and represented. Glenn understood Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty. Glenn was The Auxiliarist.

Worried about me taking the FC job this year, he asked, “Ralph..remember the division meetings”. We laughed..well, at least he laughed.

Today I do not laugh, but today I smile at the thought of my friend, mentor, and fellow Auxiliarist. Tears, by the way, are salty.

It is most difficult during this time of stress in our country with this pandemic, people not being able to visit with family and friends, folks locked in assisted living facilities with no end in sight, friends not being to say goodbye to friends when they pass. This is where we find ourselves. This is where I find myself. But I call this a postponement.

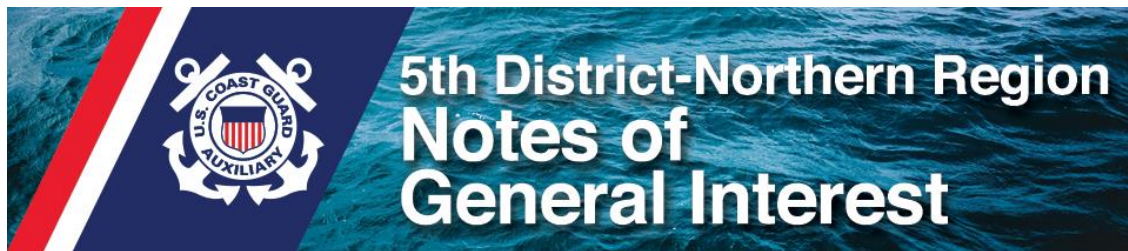
When we find ourselves back at Sector, I will ask my Change of Watch team to come up with an appropriate memorial to our friend, my friend Glenn. Glenn, missing you begins now.



Thanks Ralph Onesti-FC

18MAY20 NOGI—UPDATED AOT INFO: Marine Safety and Member Training Officers

[View this email in your browser](#)



Appointed Officer Training Registration directions for Marine Safety personnel and the proper schedule information for Member Training Appointed Officer Training follows.

Immediate Attention: Marine Safety Officers
District-Wide Offering

Marine Safety Appointed Officer Training (AOT)

Presented by Gregg Bollinger, District Staff Officer—Marine Safety

If you are planning on attending this training **YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE VIA THE LINK BELOW**

Each Registrant will receive a personal confirmation. Included in that confirmation email is your personal login link—there is no single "general login and password." Please follow the directions in the confirmation email.

This is a general overview of the Marine Safety Department and the

duties and responsibilities of Marine Safety Appointed Offices from Flotilla (FSO) through Division (SO) to Assistant District Staff Officer (ADSO-MS). This notice is confirming the email information that you received earlier.

Below is the link to register for the session.

Registration is required for this session.

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information.

[To register for Marine Safety AOT, click here.](#)

Tonight! Tuesday, 19 May, 1930-2030 (7:30-8:30pm)

Attention: Marine Safety Officers

District-Wide Offering

Member Training Appointed Officer Training

Presented by Ted Hall, District Staff Officer—Member Training

This appointed officer training session will focus on the Member Training program. Duties and responsibilities from the Flotilla Staff Officer-Member Training (FSO-MT) to the District Staff Officer-Member Training (DSO-MT) will be presented. Training methods and techniques along with training topics will be outlined. This will be an interactive session. All Member Training officers at all levels are invited to attend along with anyone interested in providing Member Training.

Registration is required for this session. *After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information.*

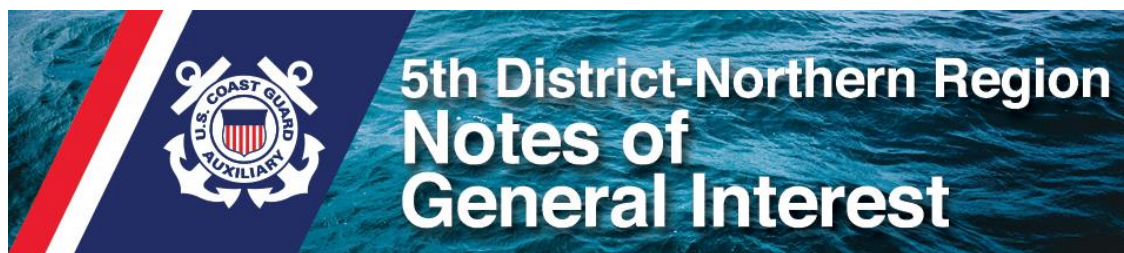
[To register for Member Training AOT, click here.](#)

Corrected AOT Schedule Information:

Monday, 8 June, 1900-2100 (7-9pm)

8MAY20 NOGI—District-wide Distribution to ALL Members

[View this email in your browser](#)



COVID-19 STAND DOWN REMAINS IN EFFECT

Face-to-Face Activities SUSPENDED Until Further Notice

All Auxiliary activities, with the exception of conducting activities via electronic means (in-home online activities), are suspended until further notice. ALL personal contact is prohibited—both public-facing and internal. With the exception of digital communications and virtual outreach, we are to STAND DOWN.

D5NR National Safe Boating Week Is Totally Virtual!

15 May - 25 May (Memorial Day) Check Out D5NR

Social Media

In the interest of keeping everyone safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, all of the partners involved in National Safe Boating Week are going online—no public or private events. Disappointing but also exciting! We will all be delivering the same daily messages across all of our social media including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. Share any or all of the posts to your own outlets, let's all get the message out. Complete information on resources have been

shared with your unit Public Affairs Officers, as well as your Flotilla And Division Leadership. There is strength in numbers, so post, share, and like up a storm! Need help? Email [COMO KC Murphy, District Staff Officer-Public Affairs](#) or email [Chris Orlando, Assistant District Staff Officer-Public Affairs / Social Media](#).

District Online Training

This stand-down provides outstanding opportunities to learn! Take this time for personal advancement and keeping your qualifications up-to-date (many of us are due to renew our Core Value/Mandated Training Courses requirements). National Auxiliary Departments offer a myriad of online courses—check them out as well.

Appointed Officer Training (AOT)

In D5NR we are providing online Appointed Officer Training for each of our Departments. Intended for currently-appointed officers, sessions are also open to all interested in volunteering in any of the departments. If you are an elected officer or you are interested in a program, please take this opportunity to learn from the best!

District-Wide Offering

Marine Safety Appointed Officer Training (AOT)

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This notice is confirming the email information that you received earlier.

Below is the link to register for the session.

Registration is required for this session.

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information.

[To register for Marine Safety Appointed Officer Training, click here.](#)

Tuesday, 19 May, 1930-2030 (7:30-8:30pm)

District-Wide Offering

Communications Services Appointed Officer Training

***Presented by Rick Taylor, District Staff Officer—
Communications Services***

Information will be delivered on the services provided by the Communication Services Officers at all levels. We will discuss communication platforms and the inter-relationships we have with fellow staff officers focusing on coordinating efforts with the Public Affairs and Publications teams. Additional training opportunities will be discussed.

Registration is required for this session.

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information.

[To register for Communications Services AOT, click here.](#)

Tuesday, 26 May, 1900-2000 (7pm-8pm)

District-Wide Offering

Member Training Appointed Officer Training

Presented by Ted Hall, District Staff Officer—Member Training

This appointed officer training session will focus on the Member Training program. Duties and responsibilities from the Flotilla Staff Officer-Member Training (FSO-MT) to the District Staff Officer-Member Training (DSO-MT) will be presented. Training methods and techniques along with training topics will be outlined. This will be an interactive session. All Member Training officers at all levels are invited to attend along with anyone interested in providing Member Training.

Registration is required for this session. *After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information.*

[To register for Member Training AOT, click here.](#)

Tuesday, 26 May, 1930-2030 (7:30-8:30pm)

District-Wide Training Offer

Sponsored by *D5NR Past Division Commanders Association*

Awards Primer

Presented by William Turner, D5NR Special Programs Officer—Awards

How to write Awards, both formal and informal. A quick but thorough online presentation reviewing the recognition available for service contributed by Auxiliarists. Included is how to nominate members for awards, the forms and the deadlines for submissions. The award approval process and a general review of the most common awards will be

covered. Reference links with greater details will be shared. ***Any member may submit another member for recognition.***

Registration is required for this session.

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information.

[To register for Awards Primer, click here.](#)

Thursday, 28 May, 1900-2045 (7:00-8:45pm)

Upcoming Online Training

There are multiple new online training programs in the process of final development within our District these include:

- ***Introduction to Paddlecraft***
- ***Introduction to Public Affairs***
- ***Leadership Training***
- ***Guide to Conducting Virtual Training Patrols***
- ***Auxiliary Social Media—How to use, rules to follow***
- ***And several more***

Watch for Dates and Times and registration information in upcoming ***Online Training Offerings*** and on the District Website 5nr.org.

Important Notice Regarding:

Direct Contact with Sector Delaware Bay & DIRAUX

During the COVID-19 event please channel ***ALL*** Direct Contact Inquiries (especially telephone calls) through Joe Giannattasio, District Chief of Staff. This request includes all Auxiliarists who

would normally be direct reports to the Sector.

Sector Delaware Bay and the Director's Office are both heavily tasked during this phase of pandemic response so your cooperation in this matter will greatly enhance response time and ease the workload overall.

Please keep in mind that the AUXDATA II system is currently being deployed so an extra measure of patience in accepting longer processing times for DIRAUX responses and actions is greatly appreciated.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE CHAIN OF LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT.

Joe Giannattasio Contact Information:

Joe G's best first-line of communication is via email:

joetasio@verizon.net

Joe is an essential business owner. Please respect his time by using email first, then, and only when the issue is time-critical, telephone him:

609-602-1116.

If you get his voicemail, he will get back to you ASAP.

BRAVO ZULU

Well-Deserved Acknowledgements

Recently Lieutenant Commander Victoria Taylor, Director of Auxiliary put out the call for assistance from the Auxiliary to help tutor the children of Sector active duty and civilian personnel. *Semper Paratus*, the Auxiliary answered the call impressively. Commodore Tom Dever, Director LCDR Taylor and Sector Commander CAPT Todd Anderson express their hearty appreciation to the following Auxiliarists:

Frank Bigley—Math—High School

Tom Kelmartin—Math—All Levels

Anthony Quaglia—Math—All Levels

Rose Marie Kettinger—Math—Pre-Algebra through Calculus

Frank Bigley—Chemistry—High School / College

Tom Kelmartin—Science—All Levels

Lorraine Bianco—Science—All Levels

Tom Kelmartin—Mechanical Engineering—All Levels

Justin Abate—Social Studies—High School

Justin Abate—Essay Writing—High School

Doug Mingle has made available the ***Educational Database for Online Learning*** that is free for use to all Team Coast Guard families through June 30, 2020.

- ***Middle and High School Virtual Classroom with Video Service Package***
- ***Elementary Virtual Classroom and Multimedia Package***

Thank you each for sharing your skills and resources so generously when called upon.



Crossed Over the Bar

Rear Commodore William E. "Bill" Weihbrecht, 05-01

Bill Weihbrecht crossed over the bar on May 12th, 2020 with his children at his side. William E. (Bill) Weihbrecht joined the Auxiliary in the Harrisburg Flotilla 05-01 (now 19-01) in November 17, 1987 and

retired with honor December 25, 2005. Bill held numerous Auxiliary elected offices as a Rear Commodore for Fifth District Northern Region from Jan 1999 - 2000, Division Captain for Division Five from 1997-1998, Division Vice Captain, Flotilla Commander and as well as numerous Staff Officer positions. He was a Boat Crew Coxswain, Qualification Examiner, AIDS Verifier, Vessel Examiner, Instructor and held the member status of AUXOP. Bill received three Coast Guard Unit Commendations, CG Bicentennial Unit Commendation, Special Operations Service Ribbon, DOT Secretary's Outstanding Unit Award, Nine Sustained Service Awards (6750+ hours of service reported), and the Auxiliary Membership Service for 10 years of service to the Auxiliary.

A full Celebration of Life will be announced when conditions permit. The Commodore's obituary was posted on PennLive.com and at the link <https://www.hooverfuneralhome.com/obituary/william-weihbrecht>.

Commodore Dever on behalf of the entire District extends our deepest sympathies to Bill's family, his friends and his shipmates.

Soliciting Online Instructors and Course Requests

Volunteer Online Instructors

We are looking for qualified instructors to present online courses or sessions. Not all of our usual course offerings easily translate to online presentations, but we are very willing to conquer the challenges as best we can. We would prefer experienced instructors,

though you do not need to be experienced at *online* instruction. You provide the talent, we will provide the technology. To **submit a course proposal or to offer your services**, please use this link to contact [Ted Hall, District Staff Officer-Member Training](#).

Course Requests

We are also looking for course suggestions or topics to present online. The AUXOP courses that can be smoothly transitioned to online presentations are currently in development or are in the process of scheduling. We are working on scheduling Auxiliary leadership courses, but let's think outside the traditional confines of straight Auxiliary courses and think about sharing best practices, demonstrating a skill (use your phone to do a brief video—we don't need Hollywood production!), you get the idea. To **submit a course request** use [THIS link: Ted Hall, District Staff Officer-Member Training](#).

Soliciting Quick Tips for District *Topside*, Website & Social Media

We are also looking for "Quick Tips" that we can add to our website, and feature in our social media outreaches. These can be specific tips for Auxiliarists or any level of the general boating public—especially tips for new boaters. [Please click here to send your Quick Tips & Ideas](#)

OUR FRIEND-OUR COMRADE-OUR FELLOW AUXILIARIST

Here are some of our memories of Glenn during his service with our Flotilla.



When I took over the bridge as FC with Ash Kernan as my VFC. Glenn was always ready to lend a hand.





At Penn's Landing doing Vessel Exams with Gary and Justin. Scott in the above photo shoot.



At D-Train with –
Scott and Ash.



D-Train Formal

As FC swearing in
new member.



02-19 Sector with
staff members &
Division.