

# D-7 Connection



Human Resources - Summer Issue 2013

Issue 22

Editor: Angela Pomaro





# **USCG Auxiliary**

## ***District 7***



**District Commodore**  
**Commodore John Tyson**



**District Chief of Staff**  
**Robert A. Weskerna, DCOS**



# Logistics Directorate



**James E. Dennen, DDC-L**  
**Directorate Chief**

## The DSO-HR Team



**Angela Pomaro DSO-HR**  
**Human Resources Department**



**Amy Estrela, ADSO-HR**  
**Special Projects**



**Paulette Parent, ADSO-HR**  
**AUXCHEF**



**Tom O'Connor, ADSO-HR**  
**Mentor—North**



**Rich Steinbach, ADSO-HR**  
**Mentor—East**



**Gil Thomas, ADSO-HR**  
**E-Responder Program**  
**Mentor—West**

# South Carolina

# Georgia



John Owen 12



Tom O'Connor 10



Larry Cook 2

# The District 7 SO-HR Team



Bruce McAllister 15



Paul Thomas 14

# Florida



Sharon Breece 17



Harvey Prior 11



Bill Griswold 4



Judith Clapp 7



Kyle Wallace 8



Rich Steinbach 5



Lou Conti 9



Arnold Greenhouse 3



Wilson Iziarry-dehoyos 1



David Richardson 16



Manuel Estrela 6



Dorothy Cain 13

# Puerto Rico

# Virgin Islands



# Thank You

A special thanks is extended to the following SO-HR Officer who has served this past year and will not be returning. Your efforts, dedication and support are most appreciated. It has been a pleasure working with you. Good luck in your future endeavors in the USCG Auxiliary.



**Marla Short—Division 7**



**Bill Sekeres, DCDR-14**

# Welcome



**Judith Clapp—Division 7**

Judith is an member of Flotilla 75. She enrolled in 2004 and presently holds the following offices: FSO-HR, SO-HR and SO-SR. Her certifications include Boat Crew, Telecommunications Operator, Certified CPR Provider, Fingerprint Tech. and a member of the Marine Safety and Environmental Protection (MSEP)



**Paul Thomas—Division 14**

Paul enrolled in 2008 and recently transferred from Flotilla 12-8 to Flotilla 14-8. Along with serving as SO-HR for Division 14, his certifications include Recreational Boating Safety, Telecommunications Operator, Vessel Examiner and Fingerprint Tech.



# THE AUXCHEF



## AUXCHEF NOW AUXFS!

Submitted by Paulette R. Parent, ADSO-HR/AUXCHEF

The Greek philosopher Heraclitus said: "There is nothing permanent except change."

Those words of wisdom resound through the ages even to this day. A very recent example is the ALCOAST and ALAUX released this month (June 2013) announcing the Auxiliary Food Service Program which replaces the AUXCHEF program. You may ask what this change means and how does it affect the current and future members engaged in the program?

Basically, there are no changes to the program per se. There is a change in nomenclature which will align the former AUXCHEFs with the Coast Guard Food Service Program. AUXCHEFs will now be referred to as Auxiliary Food Service Specialist (AUXFS for short). As distinguished as this new position may sound, it will come as no surprise that there is no pay raise (that joke is really getting old but we all still laugh)! The biggest change will be that all certified AUXFS will now have their qualification and pertinent health records entered into the national Coast Guard data base (MMRS - Medical Readiness Reporting System). This will enable an AUXFS to help in any CG location, including areas outside of the continental U.S. The records can only be accessed through a secure Coast Guard wide system. All privacy standards will be maintained. In addition, as the number of AUXFSs increase, the sheer logistics of keeping a vital record base will become untenable on the District level let alone the National level. In District 7 alone there are currently 78 certified AUXFS! Arrangements are being made with the Coast Guard to procure and input the information.

The AUXFS program has continued to grow throughout District 7. What has not changed is the excitement and enthusiasm of the members who have become involved in the program. They take on whatever tasks are asked of them. Currently, there are AUXFS working aboard CG Cutters at sea and at home, assisting with Change of Commands and assisting at over fourteen CG locations throughout District 7. For the first half of 2013, there were five AUXCHEF/FS courses taught in D7. AUXFS Instructors Paulette Parent and Toni Borman have traveled to Station Ft. Lauderdale, Air Station Clearwater (twice), Sector Key West and Station Yankeetown with a total of sixty students participating. The idea of a "roadshow" where the instructors traveled rather than the students made the course available to everyone. Nevertheless, students have traveled from all over District 7 on their "own dime" to take the course. One student traveled from Alabama to attend the course (just slightly outside of D7). Currently, in D7 there are certified AUXFSs in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and St. Croix (USVI).

So the question is: Are there more changes coming for the AUXFS program? Without a doubt! This program is still developing and improving with every class and every student who becomes involved. New ideas, techniques, even new or modified recipes continue to contribute to change the program in a positive manner. Another change is the D7 AUXFS Newsletter (Don Hunt Editor). The premier issue was recently electronically published with a new edition due in July. All of these changes are taken in stride by the AUXFSs because, as they were taught in class, our motto is "Semper Gumby" (Always Flexible).

**For more information on the AUXCHEF program in District 7, please contact:  
Paulette Parent ADSO-HR/ AUXCHEF, [PRPARENT175@AOL.COM](mailto:PRPARENT175@AOL.COM).**





# The Mentoring Gurus



## Retention Guru June 2013

Submitted by Rich Steinbach,  
ADSO-Mentoring, East

It is hard to believe that the D7 Mentor Recruitment and Training Plan has just had its first birthday! One year ago this month the plan was developed and it has evolved many times since. In the last two months the plan has been presented to two additional flotillas in the southern part of our district — Flotilla 52, Jupiter and most recently Flotilla 54, Delray/Boynton Beach.

Mentor training starts next week for Flotilla 56, Vero Beach/Sebastian with eleven new members signed up for the four week training course.

Division 3 Fort Lauderdale, under the leadership of Commander Dan Hess, has already qualified eleven new mentors in four of the Division 3 flotilla's — Bravo Zulu to Dan and his leadership team.

If any other divisions or flotillas would like information or support from the district getting a Mentoring program started, please contact your ADSO-HR Mentoring/Retention at the email address listed below.

Divisions 2-10-12 and 14 Tom O'Connor [tomofssi@gmail.com](mailto:tomofssi@gmail.com)

Divisions 7-8-9-11 and 15 Gil Thomas [gtomas901@msn.com](mailto:gtomas901@msn.com)

Divisions 3-4-5-6-13 and 17 [caneman20@comcast.net](mailto:caneman20@comcast.net)

Rich Steinbach [Caneman20@comcast.net](mailto:Caneman20@comcast.net)

772-569-5348 home 772-643-2067 cell





# The Retention Guru



## The Rubik's Cube???

**Submitted by Tom O'Connor,  
ADSO-HR Mentoring North**

I sometimes view the Auxiliary as a Rubik's Cube – hard to get all the colors (members, Chain of Leadership, etc.) aligned and moving in a positive direction. When asked what he thought about history, Winston Churchill replied, "It's just one damn thing after another." And so it can be with the Auxiliary. There are many factors that contribute to this. First, we are a volunteer organization appended to a military organization with a clear Chain of Command structure. Our Chain of Leadership is filled with members elected and appointed often more for their willingness and time availability than their skills or track record of performance.

Then, there are the Policies, Regulations and Procedures. Comprehending this assemblage, and finding the answer to a simple question can be a major challenge to volunteers, especially ones with no experience in the military. Couple this with the valid requirement to utilize the Chain of Leadership, and it seems there is a conscious effort to prevent the person with the problem from talking to the person who can fix the problem, or at least explain things with authority and knowledge.

And, last but not least, it is only fair to characterize most Auxiliary members, myself included, as suffering from a disease common to mature people, a hardening of the opinions. This last one is not an unreasonable position for a person to take. After all, we all have rich life experiences that are relevant to the challenges we face in the Auxiliary. That was not true in 1968 when I was a new Navy Ensign. Even if I gritted my teeth at times, I understood the officers above me in the Chain of Command had much more relevant experiences than I. That is not necessarily true in the Auxiliary

So what happens all too often inside this Rubik's Cube called the Auxiliary? We get frustrated and possibly mad at each other. We lose trust in each other and the institution. We lose interest in the Auxiliary, maybe temporarily, possibly permanently.

We let others know how we feel. And what was a challenge can become a kind of organizational cancer, eating away at mission performance, and most certainly fellowship.

I've been in the Auxiliary for 11 years now. Have I been above all of this? Absolutely not! I have seen these dynamics from the first person as well as the second and third person. So what have I learned about dealing with all of this? What can I share with you that might help to keep this Rubik's Cube aligned and moving in a positive direction?

First, there is the Buddhist concept of Emptiness. To me, this means to face every moment without any baggage from the past. Focus on the present without grudges or any thoughts from the past that would cloud your evaluation of the present.

Second, accept the reality that while there is no rank in the Auxiliary, it is necessary to have some degree of order in such a large organization. This means that while none of us has any rank, some of us have been given the temporary responsibility to make decisions at the end of the day. Certainly, it could not work any other way.





# "Connie's Comments"

## The Dash Between "Then and Now"

Submitted by Connie Irvin, DSO-PA

I recently attended the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of a flotilla in Division 9. The Master of Ceremonies was Immediate Past District Commodore Walter Jaskiewicz who made an interesting comment about Anniversaries and information relating to one's life.

Jaskiewicz said, "The then or beginning is listed as a date and the interim to the present is indicated by a dash. That dash represents the entire life of the person or in this case, of the flotilla. It doesn't tell us much."

I thought about that as I was driving home and it was sobering. There are flotillas and Auxiliary members who pass milestones and we honor them, but it takes effort to ferret out and flesh out all of the challenges, heartaches and victories that come with that little dash.

And that really is something that all of us should keep in mind. Will our life and our time with the Auxiliary merely be a dash from beginning to end or will we fill in that dash with meaningful endeavors that provide our families, our communities and our nation with lasting memories of a job well done. Will those who come after us be able to look back at our efforts and say, "This person, this flotilla has left this place better for having been here."

We call ourselves Auxiliarists and we join the Coast Guard Auxiliary for various reasons. Those reasons for joining usually reflect some personal goal or mission that we hope to achieve. If we can keep our eye on the dash between then and now, we will be able to recognize that the dash needs to be fleshed out and that the missions we are charged with pursuing are worthy of our time and our effort. To sit on the sidelines and merely be a fixture or a flotilla in a fading uniform is not what the dash should represent.

The dash between then and now should hold all of the challenges, the heartaches and the victories that represent the best of our efforts. As individuals, we fill out the dash when we contribute to the common goals and missions of our organization. The Auxiliary needs dedication, not from just a few, but from the many. In just a short time, the Coast Guard Auxiliary will reach its 75<sup>th</sup> birthday: 1939-2014.

We're not there yet. There's still time left. What did you put in that dash?



# Paperwork! Paperwork!



Submitted by Sue Hastings, DSO-IS

Now that Hurricane season is upon us we need to keep our contact information up to date. The best way to do this is to use the 7028 Webform – Change of Member Information which can be found at [https://auxofficer.cgaux.org/auxoff/Signin\\_7028.php](https://auxofficer.cgaux.org/auxoff/Signin_7028.php) or on the National website, Forms Warehouse, pdf Forms.

To login you use the same login (Member ID) and password that you use for AuxDirectory/AuxOfficer or the National Testing Center.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [https://auxofficer.cgaux.org/auxoff/Signin\\_7028.php](https://auxofficer.cgaux.org/auxoff/Signin_7028.php). The form is titled "7028 Form Help" and contains the following fields and sections:

- Member ID:** 154644
- Unit:** 003-12-1D
- First Name:** JOHN
- Medium:** G
- Last:** AUXILIARIST
- Address1:** 112 AMY STREET
- Address2:**
- City:** GEORGETOWN
- State:** SC
- Zip Code:** 29440-6802
- Source:** DAVID
- eMail:** johnq@email.com
- Home Phone:** (843) 555-1234
- Cell Phone:**
- Work Phone:**
- Office Held:** FSO-IS, SO-IS, FSO-SR, DSO-IS
- Qualifications:** IT, VE, APC, LEA
- Travel:**  Willing to travel outside your home area?
- Fitness:**  Can you physically perform the skills below?
- Admin Missions:**  Willing to do AuxCG admin support?
- Photo ID:**  Do you have a current laminated photo ID?
- Availability:** SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT
- Security Status:** CO
- OCCUPATION:** Choose occupation category here first... Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Me...
- SKILLS (Up to 12):** Skills List: Budget Analysts, Database Administrators, Financial Clerk, All Other, Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants.

Buttons at the bottom include "7028 Form Help", "Return to Previous Page", "Submit Changes", and "National Help Desk".

You can update your address (form will automatically change your information to USPS standardized address). We do have a problem with Division 1 Puerto Rico addresses – be sure to use the Post Office Standardized Address when you update. Also you can change or add phone numbers and email addresses. You can also update your availability times, occupation and skills database.

Once you submit this form, it will go to your FSO-IS to update AUXDATA. It is important that we keep our information, skills, availability and other information up to date. Any questions or concerns, please contact your FSO-IS.



# The Webmaster

## Communication Services

Submitted by Dave Hastings, DSO-CS

How many of you have actually taken the time to look at what is available on our District 7 website? There is so much information that is helpful to both officers and members. The link to this site is: <http://www.uscga-district-7.org/index.html>. The top menu is linked to the National website and the District information is located on the left menu.

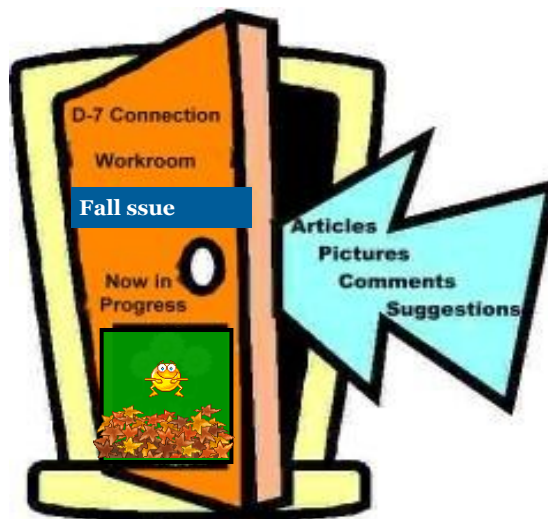
You can check out information from the **Bridge, Directorates** with links to DSOs associated with each directorate, and **ASCs**

If you look in **Member Resources** we have added the HR Corner with procedures for processing paperwork related to Human Resources such as Retirements and Disenrollments and procedures for new members. Also a new Awards link that gives you all the tools you need to write Awards. The D7 Help Desk has a knowledgebase with valuable information on various subjects such as AOM (AUXDATA Order Management), use of Facilities in other Districts, Visitors to D7, etc. There is list of D7 Officers, D7 AuxInfo Quick Access Reports, AuxDirectory/AuxOfficer, D7 Dashboard, and portals to Navigation Systems and Team Coordination Training. You can find forms and manuals that will also help you.

The **Online Magazines** have links to both national and district newsletters such as the D7 Connection. There is information for the Public on joining the Auxiliary and Safe Boating Courses. You can reach the **D7 Store** with just a click. You can also watch videos on the **Video** link.

The first place you should check is the **What's New** link. Here you will find new information added to the website as well as the D7 Strategic Plan.

There is a lot of information available and this is a good resource available for your use.



**A special thanks to all who have submitted articles and photos in this issue.**

**Articles/photos for the Fall Issue will graciously be accepted at:  
[d7happyrecruiter@gmail.com](mailto:d7happyrecruiter@gmail.com)**



## ***From the Materials Center***

# **Specials**

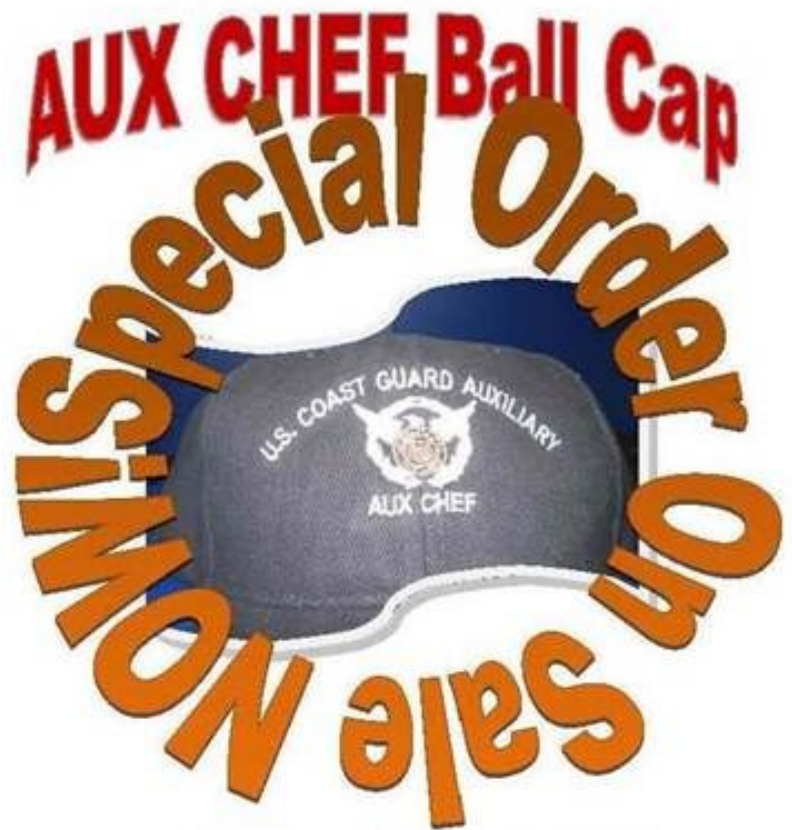
Submitted by Thomas Brickey, Mgr.

### **WELCOME SHIPMATES**

#### **THE 7<sup>TH</sup>. DISTRICT MATERIAL CENTER**

Be you new to the Auxiliary or an "old hand" we welcome your orders. We offer many items and you are welcomed to browse the website any time day or night.

A couple of the specials offered now are AUX CHEF BALL CAPS and Zippered Padfolios.



On Sale thru July 15th. Enter SKU # 60490

**Check out the Special prices on the website at:**

**[d7materials.org](http://d7materials.org)**



**Submitted by Art Slepian,  
FSO-PA Specialist 1, Flotilla 51**

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – While Operation Black Swan was taking place in Freeport, Grand Bahamas, a group of Seventh Coast Guard District Auxiliarists were at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport on April 3 playing out their roles as anxious, worried family members seeking information about their loved ones.

The incident in Grand Bahamas was staged while confused volunteer Auxiliarists made their way into the family room to begin the exercise. The scene could easily foretell what cruise operators, airline representatives and Red Cross volunteers will face in a real-world emergency evacuation.



Auxiliarists Angela Pomaro and Stu Landau, both from Flotilla 51, The Palm Beaches, Fla., at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport on April 3 in their role as family members during Operation Black Swan waiting for information about their relatives. (Photo by Art Slepian)

Plans for the Fort Lauderdale portion of Operation Black Swan began in February, according to Victor Opara, airport terminal manager. American Red Cross volunteers, who provided one-on-one assistance to collect information for the role-playing Auxiliarists, did not have two months to prepare for their participation. They were notified on the night of April 2 to come to the airport the next day to take part in the exercise.

“If necessary, we could have a team at the airport within one hour,” said Elizabeth Schmidt, an American Red Cross liaison who works at the organization’s South Florida Region office in Plantation. She also said that medical personnel to serve family members could be on-site within two hours.

The purpose of the Fort Lauderdale session was to test the airport’s ability to identify family members who might come to the airport seeking to fly to the Bahamas to find their relatives, and then direct them to a central location where they could get first-hand information from American Red Cross volunteers.

All ticket agents are trained to be aware of off-site incidents that could cause an increase in ticket demand. The agents questioned the potential passenger and, if an agent determines that the ticket buyer is trying to get to the location of an incident involving a family member, the ticket buyer is directed to the family room, according to James Jackson Jr., airport operations supervisor.



Auxiliarists (L to R) Jacob Szpiczek, Flotilla 51; Otto Spielbichler, Flotilla 54, Delray-Boynton Beach, Fla.; and Valerie Pleasanton, Flotilla Vice Commander, Flotilla 54, wait for instructions in the ticket area at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport on April 3 during Operation Black Swan. (Photo by Art Slepian)

Family members seeking information can also be directed to the family room by cruise operators who field telephone calls from concerned relatives, according to Mr. Jackson.

“These training sessions are a great way to get the glitches out in case of a real emergency,” said Auxiliarist Valerie Pleasanton, vice commander of Flotilla 54, Delray-Boynton Beach, Fla.

Meanwhile, in Grand Bahamas, 60 Auxiliary volunteer actors were prepared by makeup artists to reflect the type of injuries that could be expected in the real world. The previous day



One hundred sixty-five Auxiliary volunteer actors participated in an abandon ship drill— active duty USCG boarded two lifeboats and one life raft that were towed to Freeport.



Lifeboat with USCG volunteer actors aboard makes its way to shore as during Operation Black Swan conducted in Freeport, Grand Bahamas on April 2. Photo by Chris Todd, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Black Swan is an emergency maritime safety drill coordinated by the Bahamian government, the U.S. Coast Guard, the cruise line industry, and emergency response teams to test and evaluate safety procedures at sea.

“We are observing the U.S. in this exercise. We are learning from this exercise and it is going to put to test our readiness for this kind of life incident, if it were to happen,” Alexander Williams, Administrator for the City of Freeport District, told *The Freeport News*. Freeport is 65 miles from Palm Beach, Fla.

Also participating was the Bahamian National Emergency Management Agency, whose director, Capt. Steven Russel, said the island nation’s response plan would be evaluated for improvement after the exercise, according to *The Freeport News*.

Operation Black Swan was first outlined for the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation by U.S. Coast Guard Deputy Commandant for Operations Vice Admiral Brian Salerno.

“The Black Swan mass rescue exercise series will focus on the exercise of Coast Guard mass rescue plans, coordination with other authorities and industry partners, notification and information processes, personnel accountability, embarking thousands of survivors on rescue ships from the water, lifeboats and rafts, and rescued passenger and crew support,” Adm. Salerno wrote to the Senate committee.



A Royal Bahamas Police Force officer processes Auxiliary actors during Operation Black Swan conducted in Freeport, Grand Bahamas. Photo by Chris Todd, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The exercise series began in 2010 with a cruise ship seminar in New Orleans. The Bahamas exercise was the first functional drill.

In the family room, Auxiliarists were given a form with the name of their newly designated relative. Then an American Red Cross volunteer interviewed the worried family member collecting information about age, physical description and daily medications, among other facts.

A short time later the Red Cross volunteer returned with information. In several cases, Auxiliarists were taken to a representative of the clergy and informed that their relative had died.

On hand to observe were Lt. Cmdr. Diane Croff, Lt. Cmdr. Heather Osburn and Lt. Cmdr. Ramon Serrano. The three Coast Guard reservists are members of the Seventh District Contingency Planning group.

Ms. Croff said that the trio would report their observations to Paul Culver, Seventh District Contingency Planning Director. Mr. Culver was the exercise director for the Seventh District. Among the observations was the absence of a cruise line representative which would have added more realism to the event, according to Ms. Croff.

The 90-minute exercise held in the family room of the airport concluded with a thirty minute review during which Auxiliarists noted that regular updates on the situation were needed, chargers for cell phones should be provided and Red Cross volunteers should have more contact with family members.

# Change of Command

**Thank you for your service**



**Rear Admiral William D. Baumgartner,  
Commander Seventh Coast Guard  
District (Retired)**



**Welcome**



**Rear Admiral John H. (Jake) Korn,  
Commander Seventh Coast Guard  
District**



**Captain Chris P. Scraba, Commander  
U. S. Coast Guard Sector Miami**



**Captain Austin J. Could, Commander  
U. S. Coast Guard Sector Miami**



**Captain Sheryl L. Dickinson,  
Commander, Sector St. Petersburg**



**Captain Gregory Case, Commander  
Sector St. Petersburg**

# Change of Command

## Air Station Borinquen Change Of Command Supported By Auxiliary

Submitted by Robert A. Fabich,  
SO-PA Division 16

AGUADILLA, Puerto Rico - Captain Robert D. Phillips, United States Coast Guard was relieved by Captain Patricia A. McFetridge, USCG, at a time-honored traditional Change of Command ceremony June 4, 2013. Rear Admiral William D. Baumgartner, Commander of the Seventh Coast Guard District headquartered in Miami, Florida, presided over the formal ritual held at Air Station Borinquen (BQN).



Capt. Phillips presents a final salute after 32 years of service during his retirement ceremony following the Change of Command



Capt. McFetridge (right) assumes command from Capt. Phillips (left) at Air Station Borinquen June 4, 2013. Rear Adm. Baumgartner presided over the Change of Command ceremony.

The venue for the change of command, inside the BQN hanger, was exhibited with a MH-65C Dolphin helicopter and four USCGAUX aircraft. Charles "Chuck" Fischer, Jr., Auxiliary Aviation Coordinator, BQN, directed the assembly of aircraft which were also used to transport dignitaries to and from the ceremony.

Following the change of command, Rear Adm. Baumgartner, Capt. Drew W. Pearson, USCG, commander of Sector San Juan, and their staff took the opportunity to join Lieutenant Roger Bogert, USCG, supervisor of the Resident Inspection Office St. Croix, for an all hands assembly held at The Palms at Pelican Cove on St. Croix. Lt. Bogert oversees the USCG Prevention and Boat Forces operations.

More than sixty USCG active duty and Auxiliary members from St. Croix, San Juan and the 7th District enjoyed a local Caribbean lobster feast compliments of The Palms At Pelican Cove. In recognition for his support to the Auxiliary, Mr. Fischer presented Rear Adm. Baumgartner a commemorative plaque.

Rear Admiral. Baumgartner's speech to the attendees highlighted the achievements of the 7th District's USCGAUX air operations program, Divisions 1 and 16 team participation with active duty, and overall importance of the Auxiliary as part of Team Coast Guard for both surface and air operations. Captain Pearson read aloud the content of two Auxiliary Commandant's Letters Of Commendation as Rear Admiral Baumgartner presented the awards to Duane R. Minton, Flotilla Commander 16-1 and Robert A. Fabich, Sr., Public Affairs Specialist 16-1. Mr. Minton and Mr. Fabich were also honored with the USCG 7th District, Awarded For Excellence, challenge coin.

The reception was only part of the three-day activities. Prior to, and after the change of command, members of Flotilla 16-1 feverishly coordinated the logistics to include USCGAUX air transportation, a social gathering at BQN, and a St. Croix farewell breakfast.

"As the DSO-AV, I cannot tell you how impressed I am at the professionalism and the camaraderie of Team BQN. You are the model for other Air Stations in D7 to emulate... and D7 is the model for AUXAIR nationwide," said Ken Plesser as he reflected on the events. AUXAIR is an Auxiliary operational program that is organized on a district level rather than on a flotilla or division basis.



# Change of Command

## Sector St. Petersburg

June 12, 2013

Captain Sheryl L. Dickinson, who commanded Sector St. Petersburg beginning in 2010, formally turned over her duties to Captain Gregory D. Case on June 12, 2013.



Captain Dickinson makes a final inspection of the Honor Platoon. Incoming Sector Commander, Captain Gregory Case follows behind her. The Honor Platoon includes Coast Guard Auxiliary member David Swartz (4<sup>th</sup> from left) and Karen Miller (far right) and Ann Bennett and Brenda Burger, not visible in this picture.



A Ship's Wheel is presented to Captain Dickinson as a parting gift by Auxiliary members. The wheel was once owned by RADM William H. Rafferty, USN who was a veteran of WWI, WWII and Korea. Presenting the wheel (from l. to r.) Braxton Ezell, Mel Manning, Paul Pelletier, Larry Berman, Jim Ryder, Don Hoge, Karen Miller and Paulette Parent.



Hundreds of Team Coast Guard members, guests, dignitaries and family members fill Mahaffey Theater to watch the ceremony.

# Memories





# Around District 7

## Division 1



Submitted by Vickie Aponte,  
MSED-EMT-P DHS- USCG

# Awards



Captain Drew Pearson, Commanding Officer Sector San Juan presents Hector Vega, FC 17 Aguadilla with the HR Challenge Coin as Ramses Rodriguez, DCDR-Division 1 looks on.



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
WASHINGTON 20503

January 25, 2013


The Commandant of the United States Coast Guard takes pleasure in presenting the  
COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS TEAM COMMENDATION to:

**DIVISION ONE HUMAN RESOURCES AND RECRUITING TEAM**

For service as set forth in the following

**CITATION:**

"For exceptionally meritorious service from January to December 2012, while serving as a member of Division One Human Resources and Recruiting Team, Puerto Rico, Seventh Coast Guard District Auxiliary. During this period, this team displayed the highest degree of proficiency and responsibility while performing the duties of Division One Auxiliary Human Resources. Displaying a firm spirit of dedication, the team members readily volunteered their expertise, time, and enthusiasm to manage Human Resources functions, including, but not limited to, recruitment, orientation, transfers, reports, and disenrollment of Auxiliary members. All of the Human Resources Staff Officers completed the comprehensive training on how to process, document and follow up on electronic-responders, greatly increasing the ability of the team to perform its job. Through exceptional initiative, emulated by each team member, significant improvements were made to the Division One's recruiting procedures and electronic-responder program. In addition, important reports to the District were filed correctly and on a timely basis, and all prospective members were contacted, creating a positive impression of Division One. As a result of the team's efforts over this previous period, 25 people became new members of the Division, a substantial accomplishment. The dedication, pride, and professionalism displayed by the 2012 Human Resources and Recruiting Team is most heartily commended and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary."

For the Commandant,  
  
B. W. PEARSON  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard  
Commander, Coast Guard Sector San Juan

The Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation was presented to the following Division 1 Human Resources and Recruiting Team:

Flotilla	Human Resources Team
11	Angel Saldana
13	Jose Martinez
15	Ricardo Velez
17	Angel Colon
18	Freddy Zaragoza
1-10	Marco Cruz-Resto
SO-HR	Wilson Irizarry_dehoyos



# Division 1 Meeting

Maguelles Island—Puerto Rico

April 21, 2013

Submitted by Vickie Aponte,  
MSED-EMT-P DHS- USCG



Human Resources and Recruiting Award Presented by Captain Drew Pearson  
From left to right — Ramses Rodriguez-DCDR-Division 1 Wilson Irizarry SO-HR, Captain Drew Pearson Commanding Officer Sector San Juan, Angel Colon Flotilla 17 Aguadilla and Lieutenant- Commander Jose Perez, USCG



Happy Birthday Mariano Velasquez Auxiliary Sector Coordinator, Flotilla 13 Ponce



Division 1 Auxiliarists



Mentoring and recruiting training given by Vickie Aponte for Division 1



# Division 2



## Georgia's New Boating Safety Law



**Submitted by Pat Lindsey, FC  
Flotilla 29  
"Underway" Flotilla 29 Publication**

The State of Georgia now has a NEW Boating Safely Law signed on April 23, 2013 by Governor Nathan Deal at the Holiday Marina on Lake Sidney Lanier, Georgia. The bill was named after three young boys who lost their lives last year in two different, horrible, boating accidents. Teaching Boating Safety Classes and being the "COAST GUARD OF INLAND LAKES", we see and know the dangers of boating! We experience it as we patrol our beloved Lake Sidney Lanier, Georgia. So far this year in February, March, and April we have taught 100 students. Boating Under the Influence has become stronger and now matches DUI in motor vehicles and also the life jacket age is now any child under 13 must have on a life jacket.

I was privileged to attend the signing of this new bill into law. Governor Deal's office called and invited me to come. I was so humbled and honored...and oh the bittersweet...very emotional as I watched the two Mothers who lost their boys in the boating accidents hug and

talk with each other. Governor Deal was overcome as he named the boys. He stopped and gathered his composure, then continued. I received a very moving letter from the mother of two sons who died in the same accident. Her feelings and thoughts and emotions were clear.

I am blessed beyond measure as I teach About Boating Safely on Lake Lanier, I love it. I am blessed to be able to do this. I want to say "Thank You" to each of our ABOUT BOATING SAFELY INSTRUCTORS!

My "Thank You" to our Flotilla 29 Lake Sidney Lanier, Ga. CGAUX members for the innumerable hours and hours you work and give and spend on Lake Lanier to assure the safety and well being for our community. Auxiliary Members of Flotilla 29 Lake Sidney Lanier, Ga. are the very best, the elite. You are monumental in working toward the passage of SB136. What a Victory.

I am proud to serve with you and for you and for this community!



Lake Lanier, Georgia Governor Deal signs State Bill 136 into law. The bill places stiffer penalties on boaters under the influence (BUI).



# Division 2



RICK MARTON RECEIVING "FLOTILLA COMMANDER TROPHY" AWARD.



RICK MCCULLY 40 YR CGAUX AWARD



MARY LARSEN & BRUCE LINDSEY RECEIVING RECOGNITION FOR "PAST DIV. COMMANDER"

All photos submitted by Auxiliary Personnel to Flotilla 29 Publication "UNDERWAY"



# Division 4



## FLORIDA BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA MAY 15, 2013



**Submitted by Bill Griswold,  
SO-HR, Division 4**

There is a call for outreach efforts to include reckless operations and inattention in addition to the life jacket messages. The reason behind this call is reckless operations and inattention are prime causes of accidents, leading to persons being thrown in the water.

Deviney's Law is named after a young woman who died water skiing when she ran into a fixed object. The proposed law would prohibit anyone under the age of 18 to operate the boat towing a person, and would prohibit the boat from being 50 yards from a fixed object. Due to the problems of enforcing this regulation, it died.

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary – The Sanctuary was established by Congress in 1990 and includes all the Keys and the Tortugas. Many federal, state and local government agencies are involved as the sanctuary protects areas for fishing, diving, speed zones, no motor zones, and bird nesting areas. The Sanctuary partners with the National Wildlife Service and the wildlife refuge areas. Activities not normally thought about are monitored and protected, an example being rental paddleboards which go into very shallow water. People falling off the boards trample sea grass or disturb it with their paddles. Divers on certain areas don't want fishermen dropping lines on them, user conflicts are a continuing challenge. The Sanctuary and Refuge regulate a host of potential problems, dumping/discharges, spear fishing, vessel speed, personal watercraft, vessel access, groundings, marine construction and dredging, oil and gas development, touching or standing on coral, diving/snorkeling, marine life and aquarium collection. A community based advisory council leads planning efforts. Every user group or interest group have representatives, and they meet every other month at various locations in the Keys. They form working groups to address specific problems such as coral reef ecosystem restoration, shallow water wildlife and habitat protection, and ecosystem protection, ecological reserves, preservation areas and wildlife protection. One large issue was personal water craft tours, consisting of eight to ten PWCs, touring with a guide around Key West. Their tours conflicted with flats fishermen, and entered some protected areas, all which needed resolution. This was accomplished to everyone's satisfaction. The speaker praised the Coast Guard Auxiliary and their efforts to patrol and educate the public.

### Quick facts –

259,695 FWC vessel patrol hours

255,734 vessel inspections

1,001,136 users checked

294,821 total boating safety hours

901,969 registered boats (most in the nation)

29,359 Boating Safety Cards issued

704 reportable boating accidents

116 accidents investigated by local authorities

44% of the accidents involved a collision, 160 with another vessel, and 148 with a fixed object  
Carelessness and machinery failure were the leading causes in 164 accidents – may be caused by older boats on the water.

Alcohol use was the primary cause of 24 accidents

Falls overboard was again the leading cause of fatalities and has been since 2003

Florida has conducted life jacket wear studies, 3 times a year, noting that about 7% of boaters are wearing life jackets. I am endeavoring to get a copy of that report.

Vessel and property damage for 2012 was \$8,064,331

PWC – 112,896 registered PWCs, 13% of total registered boats. PWCs were involved in 132 accidents or 19% of the total, 42 involved multiple PWCs, 38% (66) were rentals and 28% (48) were borrowed.

20% of the fatalities were from non powered boats

**FLORIDA BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
MAY 15, 2013**



Monroe County led the state with 100 accidents. The top ten counties include:

Miami Dade 81  
Pinellas 49  
Palm Beach 49  
Okaloosa 31  
Broward 30  
Brevard 29  
Lee 28  
Collier 24  
Hillsborough 16

	Fatalities	Injuries	Vessel Registration
2008	54	376	1,010,359
2009	65	386	982,470
2010	79	426	941,589
2011	66	389	922,491
2012	55	431	901,969

Next up was an analysis of the Anchoring and Mooring Pilot Program.

This program began in 2009, with the sites selection. First up were St. Augustine in 2011, St. Petersburg in 2012, Sarasota 2012, Monroe County in 2012, Stuart and Martin County 2013. Two areas in St. Petersburg, Stuart/Martin County and Monroe County have been established. We got a lot of numbers of boats surveyed in the areas, as well as types of boats. There was resistance to the program initially, but the public has accepted the areas and transit vessels are using them. Analysis of the boats has been divided between transient cruisers, stationary live-aboard and long term storage vessels. Each area has been analyzed, noting Florida boats, boats from other states and foreign boats (mostly Canadian). This has been a huge effort by FWC and the local governments, hammering out regulations and establishing a good working program for each area. They are quite different and my impression is that this pilot program has reached success and resolved many issues with the freedom of navigation and combating boats that eventually fall into disrepair and end up as derelict vessels.

*The Boating Advisory Council (BAC) was created within the FWC by section 327.803, Florida [Statutes](#). The BAC consists of eighteen members - including representatives from the Florida Legislature, boating-related organizations and eleven members appointed by the Governor. The purpose of the council is to make recommendations to the FWC and the Department of Economic Opportunity regarding issues affecting the boating community.*



# Division 6



*A Day With Clara*

**Submitted by Vickie Aponte,  
MSED-EMT-P DHS- USCG**

Flotilla 67, Coral Gables, Fla, sponsored USCG SPARS Clara Leinhauser-Haggarty for an truly exciting day. Along with Flotilla 6-11, Miami, in attendance, Clara was brought to USCG Station Miami and was welcomed by Lieutenant Commander Joseph Abeyta. She then was taken for a ride in their 45 footer through Government Cut, Bayside. She also went on a tour of the Tall Ship, Juan Sebastian el Cano, from Spain that was in port that day. When she returned to the Station, she was met by Captain Chris Scraba who presented her with a Sector Challenge Coin.

Auxiliarists from Flotilla 67 in attendance were Elfrain Sora, Julian Corrales, Julianne Bouchard and Joel Aberbach; from Flotilla 6-11 were Victor Garcia, Nicole Betterson, Vickie Aponte and Bill Tejeiro.



*Auxiliarist Corrales with Clara*



*Captain Scraba Welcomes Clara*



# Division 6



## Coast Guard Promotes National Safe Boating Week

Submitted by Vickie Aponte ,  
MSED-EMT-P DHS- USCG



Coast Guard Miami Beach Commanding Officer Lieutenant Commander Joseph Abeyta, conducts an interview for National Safe Boating Week at Watson Island in Miami May 24, 2013. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Mark Barney.



Officer George Pino, with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, discusses the importance of wearing life jackets at Watson Island for National Safe Boating Week in Miami, on May 24, 2013. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Mark Barney.



National Safe Boating Week is designed to remind the public to practice safe boating before the Memorial Day weekend



# Division 7



## Polk County Detachment National Safe Boating

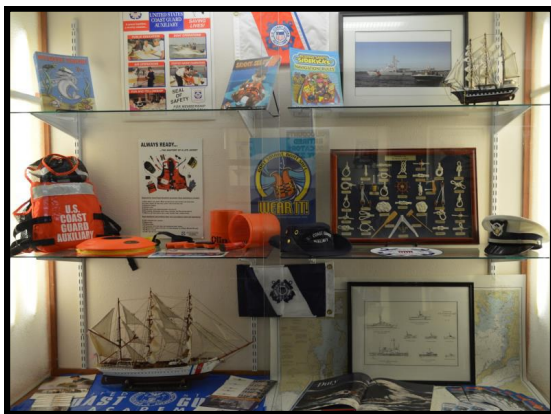
Submitted by Gil Thomas, ADSO-HR

The Polk County Detachment is part of Flotilla 74, Brandon, Florida. The Detachment had objectives for May and June, —to get out the message about safe boating for National Safe Boating Week, public awareness about the Detachment and recruiting of new members.

April 2013, was the beginning of Nation Safe Boating Week for the Polk County Detachment. Letters were sent to cities and the county asking them to read the National Safe Boating Week Proclamation declaring May 18 through the 24th “National Safe Boating Week” at their official business meetings. The proclamation was read by the mayors of Lakeland, Winter Haven, Lake Wales, Haines City and the chairman of the Polk County Board of Commissioners, at Bartow, Florida.

The Detachment was represented at each of the meetings by Polk County Detachment Leader Gilbert F. Thomas, who was asked to tell each of the city councils and the board of county commissioners about the National Safe Boating Week and the missions of the Detachment.

While the proclamation was being read in the different cities , the Detachment setup a display at the Winter Haven Library It contained information about the United States Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Academy, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, and National Safe Boating



Winter Haven Library Display

The display received many compliments from visitors to the Winter Haven Library. The display was setup by Gilbert Thomas, and Dustin Buxton of the Polk County Detachment, and George Papabeis of Flotilla 74.

On May 31, 2013, the display was removed from the Winter Haven Library and became part of the display for the June 1st Hurricane Expo at Haines City, Florida which was sponsored by Polk County Emergency Management. Members of the Polk County Detachment spoke to over 300 people at the Hurricane Expo. This was another opportunity to get out the message about safe boating for National Safe Boating Week, and increase public awareness of the Polk County Detachment, as well as to recruit new members.

On June 15th The Polk County Detachment participated in the Hurricane Awareness Expo sponsored by the City of Mulberry, Florida. The detachment was invited by the City of Mulberry to be a part of their Hurricane Awareness Expo. The Detachment had the opportunity to meet the Mayor of Mulberry, City Commissioners, Polk County Commissioners, and the residents of Mulberry and Polk County and tell them about our mission to save lives.



Polk County Detachment members at the Hurricane Awareness Expo. From the Left to right: George Kremer, Steve Hunnicutt, James Urbanawiz, Berry Lightsey, and Dustin Buxton.



# Division 9



## Water Wise

Submitted by Doug Johnson,  
FSO-HR, Flotilla 95

Flotilla 95 (Marco Island) just completed participation with their local YMCA, for the 18th year in a row, in a program called Water Wise. The goal of the program is to educate all third (3rd) graders in water and boating safety. This year, Flotilla 95 educated 260 third grade children from Tommie Barfield and Manatee Elementary Schools.

Students learn the value and reason for a life jacket, how to ask for permission before getting on a boat and how to board and exit a small boat safely. They also learned the HELP position. This position helps keep them warm and visible when in the water. The flotilla used their new "center console" that was built specifically for this program. With the center console we are able to demonstrate how to take the engine out of gear, how to turn the engine off, and the use of the VHF radio and "Mayday".

The program ran over a ten-day period with one or two third classes participating at a time for a total of fourteen third grade classes. Fourteen flotilla members volunteered over 162 hours during the ten day period.



Children learn features of new center console



Children practiced getting in and out of the boat safely.



The HELP position.



# Division 9



## National Safe Boating Week Rescue Demonstration

Submitted by Connie Irvin, DSO-PA

Flotilla 96 participated in a water rescue demonstration with the Bonita Springs Fire Department as part of National Safe Boating Week activities. The event, conducted in the Gulf waters near Lover’s Key, also included participation by Flotillas 91, 93 and U.S. Coast Guard personnel from Station Fort Myers Beach who came in their 41’ Utility Boat (UTB).

The rescue demonstration was captured by WINK-TV, NBC-2 TV and a photojournalist from the *Naples Daily News*. Television coverage of the event was carried during both the afternoon and evening news and included safety tips from D7 Commodore John Tyson.



DCO John Tyson is interviewed by WINK-TV during the NSBW rescue demonstration



The Bonita Springs fire boat gets into position for the rescue demonstration. An Auxiliary facility from Flotilla 96 and the USCG 41’ UTB converge on the scene.

***Per Coast Guard PA Protocol and Guide Lines: Television interviews outside require that the cover be removed***

# Gone - But Not Forgotten



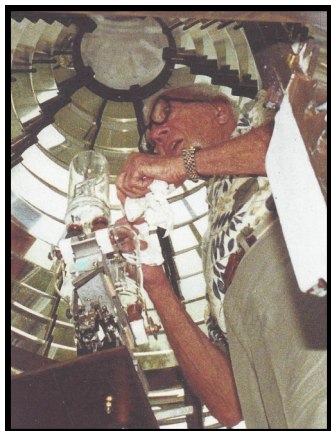
**Robert Burney Long JR,  
Captain USCG Retired ,  
USCG Auxiliary Retired**

**Submitted by Don Wellons, FC  
Flotilla 10-10**

Burney Long was presented with his retirement letter and pin and a plaque from the Coast Guard at our monthly meeting Wednesday, June 12 after 31 years of service. Brunswick Coast Guard Station Senior Chief Bennett presented Burney with a beautiful plaque from the Coast Guard recognizing his over 50 years combined service to the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Captain Robert Burney Long, JR, 88, died peacefully at his home on St. Simons Island the next morning.

Burney had served the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary over 50 years. He had been a member of the Auxiliary for 31 years. He served as Flotilla Commander and also taught Coast Guard Auxiliary boating safety classes to many Golden Isles residents. He was a boat examiner providing complimentary inspections of private and commercial fishing craft for safety and pollution control devices. Unknown to many, he was an amateur mycologist, expert in identifying and cataloging mushrooms and fungi. Additionally, he was a certified scuba diver and avid golfer.

He was a member of the "Lighthouse Crew" that has maintained the St. Simons Island Lighthouse for the past nineteen years. The crew includes three of the original volunteers from May 1994 (Jeff Cole, Burney Long and Bob West), and is supplemented regularly by Ralph Ainger, Al Dixon , John Farmer, David Melvin and Bill Wiggins. Every Thursday afternoon, the crew climbs 129 steps to the popular tourist observatory and then continues another ten feet into the gated and locked lens room to perform a series of maintenance tasks that ensures continuous operation of the light. In addition to cleaning each of the individual glass prisms of the 155 year old Third Order Fresnel (fray-NEL) lens, they check the gear mechanism which keeps the lens turning, test the electrical system and the back-up emergency radio.



Burney graduated from the USCG Academy in 1945 and immediately joined Destroyer Escort Division 45 engaging in the Atlantic Convoy Escort Duty for the duration of the war. After the war, Ensign Long served on the USCG Cutter Bibb engaged in North Atlantic Weather and Oceanographic Patrol. After Post Graduate Training at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Lieutenant Long was assigned to Loran Station expansion and construction projects in the Caribbean, Central and South America and later in Alaska and the Aleutians. In 1960 he was assigned to the USCG Cutter Escanaba and then Commanding Officer of the Cutter Campbell which served as part of the Seventh Fleet (part of Viet Nam Task Force 115).

Captain Long retired from the USCG after 27 years of service. His medals include World War II Theater Ribbons for the Atlantic and Pacific, the Korean War, the Viet Nam Service Ribbon with four stars, Navy and Coast Guard Commendation Medals and the Bronze Star with Combat V.



# Division 11



## Open House at Coast Guard Station Sand Key

**Karen L. Miller, Commander, Division 11**

Looking to make National Safe Boating Week spectacular for 2013, the Division 11 Bridge met with Chief Warrant Officer Steve McDonnell, Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Station Sand Key in March of this year. In that meeting it was suggested that we open the Station to the public and schedule that opening for the first day of National Safe Boating Week. We suggested that the Auxiliary take the lead to remove the burden from the active duty members and that all we needed was one member to act as liaison to the Command.

Thus was born the highly successful open house at Station Sand Key. The Division 11 Bridge requested that Karen Montembeault, a member of Flotilla 11-10, Dunedin and their Staff Officer for Public Affairs, be the Auxiliary Point of Contact. Karen had recently come off being the POC for Sector St Petersburg's Open House and had garnered numerous kudos for a "job well done."

Karen sat down with the Division 11 Bridge and BM1 Chad Albrecht and we laid out who would do what; what kind of activities we would have; what provision for personnel was needed; how to advertise the open house; and details that were too numerous to even list. Karen and Chad used that meeting as their "marching orders" and organized everything.

Here are some of the activities planned:

- Knot tying station
- Safe boating/public education info
- Coast Guard corn-hole
- Face painting
- A Coastie tattoo station
- A Coast Guard recruiting booth and their costumed Joe Coastie
- Tours of all of the station boats
- Security to prevent attendees from entering non-public spaces and keeping them away from the sea wall to prevent inadvertent falls into the bay
- Demonstration of stern and side tows by Auxiliary facilities
- Flare demonstrations along with other visual distress signals
- An Auxiliary PWC facility
- A bottled water station

All this required an MC as well as all the personnel. So, Karen recruited Carl Mogavero and promised to provide him with a sound system and a script of the planned activities – especially for the on-the-water demonstrations.

Once that was "cast in concrete", Karen went about publicizing the open house. There wasn't a medium she missed. The local papers, the regional papers, the television stations and the Program Partners (thanks to the Recreational Boating Safety Program Visitors) were all filled in on the open house and almost every one of them carried the announcement several times. She even notified each of the local mayors and city council members so they would attend also as well as notify their constituents. Station Sand Key is located in Clearwater, the only Coast Guard City in Florida.

## Open House at Coast Guard Station Sand Key

Fast forward to May 18<sup>th</sup>, the first day of NSBW and the planned day for the open house. To make sure the public knew about the event, Karen had a banner made up announcing the open house for outside the gate and then bought some red, white and blue Mylar balloons to attract more attention. Then BM1 Albrecht got another great idea – he would park his white Jeep outside the gate with the sign on it, the balloons and even a poster made by one of the Seamen at the Station.

So, how did it turn out after all this planning? Would all the Auxiliary and civilian volunteers come and work the shifts they promised? Would anyone from the public come? Would the media come to carry the safe boating message via the written word and television?

You bet they came! A little under 500 people came by between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm! Plus more than a dozen attendees signed up for boating safety classes, vessel safety checks and even membership in the Auxiliary.

We had a few glitches – like we totally underestimated the parking spot requirements and needed to dedicate two Auxiliarists to direct people to open parking spaces (and needed the Station's van to shuttle others to a remote lot about half-mile away) – and the sound system died (but our inventive MC Carl repositioned himself inside one of the 45 foot boats and used its loud speaker). Otherwise, it was a resounding success and no-one noticed these small hiccups, except for Karen and Carl.

The open house was further enhanced by an unexpected Search and Rescue case. In the early afternoon the SAR alarm went off with an announcement that a boat was sinking in Clearwater Harbor with 13 people aboard and most were in the water. The announcement had to go out that this was NOT a drill – it was happening! The two Auxiliary boats who were doing the on-the-water demonstrations and one of the Station's 25' boats went speeding off and plucked all the people out of the water and placed them safely on land at Seminole Boat Ramp. That sure added excitement to the day!

Because of its success, Mr. McDonnell is already talking about 2014 and how they could make the open house even bigger and better!





# Division 14



## Gold and Silver Address 17<sup>th</sup> Annual International Boating & Water Safety Summit

Submitted By Helen Russette, Flotilla 14-5

Remember the Alamo? Well, it won't soon be forgotten by folks who attended the **International Boating & Water Safety Summit** in San Antonio, Texas last month. The event was organized around the famous River Walk. This "Crown Jewel" of Texas is a scenic waterway that delights both locals and tourists who stroll leisurely along its edge or take the narrated river boat cruise to enjoy a meandering journey past shops, hotels and eateries. Summit attendees learned of River Walk's fundamental, more utilitarian role; it functions as a critical element of the city's flood control system. This tidbit was shared with Summit-goers, along with other behind the scenes information and rich history of San Antonio and the legendary fight for Texas statehood.

Boating and water safety experts from across the United States and Canada met from March 24 to March 27 to network, share knowledge and participate in a variety of breakout and hands-on sessions. At the conclusion of the Summit, participants returned home armed with updated information and new ideas on promoting safe, secure and enjoyable recreational boating in their home communities.

No boating and water safety conference would be complete without input from the United States Coast Guard and United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. **Captain David J. Rokes**, USCG Office of the Auxiliary and Boating Safety, presented highlights of the current status of boating safety at the national level. **Ed Huntsman**, Eighth District; **Kent Richards**, Fourteenth District; and **Dave Borg**, Seventeenth District were present "We're from the Government and We're Here to Help!" The role of Recreational Boating Safety Specialists (RBS) was explained and how they affect the boating public and supporting agencies.

Auxiliarist **Tim Caufield**, Ninth District Western Region, reviewed "Rescue 21", the Coast Guard's advanced search, rescue, and direction-finding communications system for coastal waterways and the Great Lakes.

A joint presentation by District 7 Auxiliarists **Captain Bill Griswold**, Flotilla 43 (for the United Safe Boating Institute) and **John Russette**, Flotilla 14-5 (for Clay County VIPS) with Marine Deputy **Chris Castelli** addressed how Vessel Safety Check Data can be utilized to reduce recreational boating injuries and fatalities and to focus training on creating good boating habits.

This cooperative program was sponsored by the National Water Safety Congress (NWSC) and the National Safe Boating Council (NSBC). The 2014 event will be held April 14 to April 17 at the Renaissance Hotel in Nashville





# Division 15



## 2013 Bassmaster Elite Series Tournament VEs in Orange, TX



Group photo of Bassmaster Tournament VEs from Flotilla 081-06-11 in Orange TX, and Flotilla 15-3 in Ocala, FL.



Fellowship lunch after doing all the VSCs at the Bassmaster Tourney.



Tom Spangler, left, receives the Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation for exemplary service at the 2011 Bassmaster Elite Tournament from Chuck Truthan, FC.

Taken from Flotilla 15-3 Publication "The Compass Rose"



# Division 17



# Indian River Festival

Submitted by Mike LeBlanc, FSO-PA  
Flotilla 17-9

The Titusville Chamber of Commerce sponsored the annual Indian River Festival 2.0 on April 13th and 14th. The festival promotes the local economy by celebrating the Indian River and its natural resources, local food and culture, outdoor recreation and health. Anytime you hear of an event that mentions outdoors activities around the water then you will most likely find the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. The Indian River Festival is located in Flotilla 17-9's backyard at Sand Point Park and was one of the many local vendors. The flotilla was offering safe boating and paddle craft classes, vessel examinations in which over twenty were conducted and of course passing out various types of safe boating information.

Vendors are encouraged to set up displays for activities and products that are essential to our

core outdoor recreation opportunities (kayaking, boating, cycling, hiking, paddle boarding fishing, etc.). Additionally, vendors may be eligible for fee offset for providing public access to equipment/activity at the festival.

The annual event provides a good family environment that includes activities for all generations, with a focus on youth engagement and promotes the local food economy through education and collaboration with local restaurants, local farms, markets and agriculture agencies. It also generates revenue for the Titusville Chamber of Commerce and other local community organizations that participate in the coordination and operation of the festival.



17-9 Flotilla Commander Gary Powers with one of the local vendors — offering safe boating and paddle craft classes



# ***Welcome***



**April 1 to June 30, 2013**

## **Division 1**

**Alvarado\_Torres, Juan  
Barbosa\_Torres, Jose  
Guzman-estronza, Manuel  
Rivera-vera, Arnaldo  
Rodriguez\_Rios, Walter  
Rosado, Efrain**

## **Division 2**

**Brooks, Chris  
Brown, Dennis C.  
Clewis, Randy L., Jr.  
Craft, Naeem  
Dolagaray, Jose  
Gray, Christy D.  
Gray, Jeremy  
Quigley, Robert J.  
Sullivan, Jerry**

## **Division 3**

**Anastacio, Mitchell  
Barnes, Jeffrey W.  
Bravo, Marcelo  
De Salvo, Cynthia  
Dmowski, Roman  
Gaines, Earl A. Jr.  
Parker, Ronda  
Poe, Ronald  
Weisenstein, Christal  
White, Loretta  
Zirulnick, Jeffrey M.**

## **Division 4**

**Bickford, Andrew P.  
Gravelle, William H.  
Rodriguez, Raymond**

## **Division 5**

**Condit, Robert  
Esterby, Teresa  
Gilbert, Kevin  
Gisondo, Grant  
Hart, Sean P.  
Hazell, Curtis D.  
Herrschaft, George  
Nakarado, Gary  
Steinbach, Susan**

## **Division 6**

**Allocco, Andrew  
Barimo, Steven A.  
Barone, Christian H.  
Barreto Gloria  
Barreto, Oscar  
Chudnovsky, Ariel  
Eubanks, Jonathan L.  
Ferguson, Stephen R., Jr.  
Gonzalez, Angela  
Gonzalez, Zahira  
Holland, Chase  
Holmes, Kenneth  
Lake, Parker  
Lim, Eddie P.  
Martinez, Peter A.  
McCormack, Joseph T.  
Mejia, Monica D.  
Perez, Emily  
Powers, Thomas E.  
Sagastegui, Anisha C.  
Scharfman, Morton  
Shepard, Krystal  
Slater, Mordechai  
Tarazona, Kevin  
Valdes, Ricardo  
Villa, Fernando  
White, Frank**

## **Division 7**

**Abruzzo, Natale P.  
Fischell, George  
Fitzgerald, Brett  
Grace, Michael  
Greenhalgh, John  
Harvill, Carole  
Huekler, Russell  
Larkin, Christopher  
McNeely, Timothy  
Roddy\_Olah, Debra  
Samole, Adam  
Taggart, Alastair  
Wheeler, Eric**

## **Division 8**

**Byrum, Margaret  
Cray\_Willis, Maxine  
Crull, Andrew  
Gwynn, William M.  
Quaadman, David J.**



# ***Welcome***



## **Division 9**

**Brugett, Sue  
Chose, Jonathan  
Craemer, Martin  
Ebert, John  
Grattan, Ronald  
Grundborg, Roland  
Hutchings, Christopher  
Lyell, John McHale,  
Edmund R., Jr. Murphy,  
Wayne G.  
Pfeifer, Eva  
Raab, Francis  
Rausch, Connie  
Robert, Alec A.  
Ross, Byron  
Talley, Robert  
Vizioli, Thomas  
Wickum, William**

## **Division 10**

**Hooks, Lawrence  
Irwin, James R.  
Marshall\_Hooks, Karen  
Shoreman, Robert**

## **Division 11**

**Albert, David  
Bostrom, Donald A.  
Esposito, Robert  
Fisch, Perry J.  
Haynes, William  
Marston, Adam  
Stefanski, Raymond  
Seltzer, Lucas  
Toomey, Timothy  
Young, Houston**

## **Division 13**

**Griffiths, Nina  
Keller, John W.  
Maser, Brenda  
Maser, Walther G. III  
McCarthy, Kathleen  
Rubino, Christopher A.  
Scholl, Christine  
Smith, Owen  
Stern, Philip  
Tannucilli, Alexander  
Wagner, Grant**

## **Division 14**

**Kirkland, Mathew  
Klushman, Thomas**

## **Division 15**

**Dvorak, Joyce  
Dvorak, Victor Jr.  
Leon, Christian A.  
McClain, Timothy J.  
Pidek, Jacob  
Render, Georgina  
Schuck, John S.  
Schuck, Linda S.**

## **Division 16**

**Abraham\_Callwood, Christina  
Almonte, Rafael G., Jr.  
Carpenter, John  
Frett, Dan  
James, Julia C.  
Williams, Glen O. III**

## **Division 17**

**Araujo\_Alvarez, Vicente  
Banyko, Tibor  
Bell, George R., Jr.  
Coleman, George  
Martin, Keith  
Positano, Peter  
Prince, Demetrius  
Solis\_Perez, Celso  
Thomas, Renee  
Whiting, Clifford**





# ***2013 Retirees***

**April 1 to June 30 2013**

## **Department of Homeland Security United States Coast Guard**

*Takes pleasure in conferring to:*

<u>Member</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Service Year</u>
Long, Robert	10	31
Polk, William	13	31
Kirk, Ted	2	23
Epps, Daniel	1	22
Polk, Gale	13	19
Morrison, Robert	9	16
Diaz, Brunhilda	1	15

## **RETIRED STATUS**

*in the  
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary*

*In recognition of significant contributions and devoted service to the organization and its  
boating safety programs.*

# Crossing of the Bar

## April 1 to June 30, 2013



Joseph Casale  
Division 4



John Chance  
Division 5

*Sunset and evening star  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar,  
When I put out to sea,*

*But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep  
Turns again home.*

*Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell,  
When I embark;*

*For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crossed the bar.*

*By Alfred Lord Tennyson*



George Sojka  
Division 6



Newton Anderson  
Division 7



Joseph Hagan  
Division 7



Robert Brachle  
(Ret)  
Division 8



Arthur Brereton  
Division 8



John Currie  
Division 8



Roland Fletcher Sr.  
(Ret)  
Division 8



Doris Halleran  
(Ret)  
Division 8



Jeanne Key  
(Ret)  
Division 8



Cee Wollheim  
(Ret)  
Division 8



John Arthurs  
Division 10



Burnie Long  
Division 10



Frederick Mesmer  
Division 14



David Lipson, Ret  
Division 14



Please submit photos for the  
"Crossing of the Bar" Ceremony to  
[d7happyrecruiter@gmail.com](mailto:d7happyrecruiter@gmail.com)



John Algeo  
Division 15



George Brand  
Division 15



William Southard  
Division 15



Joseph Otis  
Division 17

# Did You Know

## God Bless America

The link below will take you to a video showing the very first public singing of *GOD BLESS AMERICA*.

But before you watch, you should also know the story of the song. The time was 1940. America was just coming out of a terrible economic depression. Hitler was taking over Europe and Americans were afraid we'd have to go to war. It was a time of hardship and worry for most Americans.

Kate Smith was also very patriotic. It hurt her to see Americans so depressed and afraid of what the next day would bring. She had hope for America, and faith in her fellow Americans. She wanted to do something to cheer them up, so she went to the famous American song-writer, Irving Berlin (also wrote *White Christmas*) and asked him to write a song that would make Americans feel good again about their country.

When she described what she was looking for, he said he had just the song for her. He went to his files and found a song that he had written, but never published, 22 years before - way back in 1917. He gave it to Kate Smith and she worked on it with her studio orchestra. She and Irving Berlin were not sure how the song would be received by the public, but both agreed they would not take any profits from *God Bless America*. Any profits would go to the Boy Scouts of America.

This video starts out with Kate Smith coming into the radio studio with the orchestra and an audience. She introduces the new song for the very first time, and starts singing. After the first couple verses, with her voice in the background still singing, scenes are shown from the 1940 movie, *You're In The Army Now*. At the 4:20 mark of the video you see a young actor in the movie, sitting in an office, reading a paper; it's Ronald Reagan, later to become President. The other man is George Murphy, later to become a U.S. Senator from California.

Frank Sinatra considered Kate Smith the best singer of her time, and said when he and a million other guys first heard her sing *God Bless America* on the radio, they all pretended to have dust in their eyes as they wiped away a tear or two. To this day, *God Bless America* stirs our patriotic feelings and pride in our country. Back in 1940, when Kate Smith went looking for a song to raise the spirits of her fellow Americans, I doubt she realized just how successful the results would be for her fellow Americans during those years of hardship and worry, and for many generations of Americans to follow. Now that you know the story of the song, I hope you will enjoy it and treasure it even more.

NOW HERE IS HOW *GOD BLESS AMERICA* SHOULD BE SUNG!

[http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?feature=player\\_embedded&v=TnQDW-NMaRs#%21](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?feature=player_embedded&v=TnQDW-NMaRs#%21)



# Proword Palter

Submitted by Burnett Radosh  
Flotilla 37

Never, never  
say “over” and “out” together  
Nothing is wronger,  
I can’t say this stronger  
cause “over” and “out”  
(now listen, don’t pout)  
are antithetical prowords  
think cats and birds  
“over” wants a response, thank you  
“out” says “good-bye, see you”  
nothing is more confusing  
than the other party choosing  
between hanging up or talking more  
because you didn’t know the score  
and gave him or her “over” and “out” together  
which you should do never, never

## Chorus;

yo ho ho and a can of cola  
a boat and a radio makes us bolder  
when we’re done talkin’ we love to shout  
“Roger, Wilco, Over and Out”

“Roger” has a good set of ears.  
Notwithstanding your worst fears  
he always has “satisfactorily received your  
transmission”  
His friend “Wilco” meets every skipper’s  
wishin’  
For he “received, understands and will com-  
ply”  
So my friends I do not lie  
When I say that “Roger” and “Wilco”  
Like General Halftrack and Sergeant Bilko  
Are not properly found together  
In foul or fair weather  
Because the “received OK” is redundant  
So on all of us it is incumbent  
To use one or the other as may be apropos  
Or our ignorance will show

## Chorus:

Yo ho ho and a bottle of lube oil  
Nothing you say will make our brains toil  
With a boat and a radio we’re in clover  
“Wilco, Roger, Out and Over”.

You are so verbose  
it makes me comatose  
You use one hundred words  
when two will do  
those who hear us  
think we’re nerds  
and for a few, it’s true!  
Let me give you prowords, a smattering  
without the definition  
stop your mouth from mindless nattering  
engage it on a mission  
I SAY AGAIN...  
WAIT...  
am I tempting fate  
WORDS TWICE...  
WRONG...  
are you following along  
I SPELL...  
CORRECTION...  
you get the direction  
about three dozen to master  
then our coms will be faster

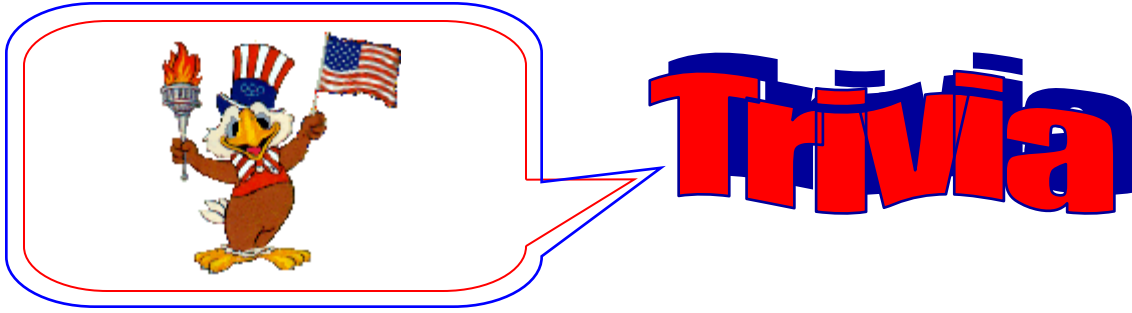
## Chorus:

yo ho ho and a cup of tea  
this proword blast is the thing for me  
SAY AGAIN EVERYTHING, you artful dodger  
“Over and Out, Wilco, Roger.”



# Picture Page





The first Liberty Bell cracked when it was being tested. It and the second bell were re-melted and forged again. The third Liberty Bell cracked in 1835.

When the Liberty Bell was cast, it weighed 2080 pounds

There were approximately 205 Million people living in the U.S. in 1776

The word “patriotism” comes from the Latin “patria” meaning “fatherland” or “homeland”.

Americans consume 150 million hotdogs on July 4th each year.

The name: Uncle Sam” originated in 1812, when a meat packer by the name of Sam Wilson provided meat to the U. S. Army. Someone saw the meat shipments that were stamped with U. S. and joked that the initials stood for “Uncle Sam” and the name stuck.

The stars were in a circle on the first flag to show that all the colonies were equal.

Denmark, Norway, Sweden and England also celebrate Fourth of July

Ben Franklin was the oldest signatory — he was 70. Edward Rutledge was the youngest—he was 26 years old.

An Vexillologist is an expert of flags

Pennsylvania had the most signers of the Declaration of Independence

July 4th is the biggest beer-selling holiday of the year -

In 2012, the dollar value of U.S. imports of American flags was \$3.8 million. The vast majority of this amount (\$3.6 million) was for U.S. flags made in China.

After Jefferson wrote his first draft of the Declaration, the other members of the Declaration committee and the Continental Congress made 86 changes to Jefferson’s draft, including shortening the overall length by more than a fourth.

Several countries used the Declaration of Independence as a beacon in their own struggles for freedom. Among them, France. Then later, Greece, Poland, Russia and many countries in South America.

“Yankee Doodle,” one of many patriotic songs in the United States, was originally sung prior to the Revolution by British military officers who mocked the unorganized and buckskin-wearing “Yankees” with whom they fought during the French and Indian War.

**HAPPY 4TH!**