

D-7 Connection



Human Resources - Winter Issue 2012

Issue 20

Editor: Angela Pomaro

'TIS THE SEASON





District 7



Change of Watch



Photos Submitted by Vickie Aponte



USCG Auxiliary

District 7



District Commodore
Commodore Walter Jaskiewicz



District Chief of Staff
John Tyson, 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



Gil Thomas, ADSO-HR
E-Responder Program



Paulette Parent,
ADSO-HR AUXCHEF



Rich Steinbach,
ADSO-HR Retention

**South
Carolina**

Georgia



John Owen 12



Ted Phillips 10



Larry Cook 2

**The
District 7
SO-HR Team**



Bruce McAllister 15



Don Mooers 14

Florida



Sharon Breece 17



Edward Kasper 11



Bill Griswold 4



Marla Short 7



Kyle Wallace 8



Rich Steinbach 5



Max Le Fevre 9



Arnold Greenhouse 3



Wilson Iziarry-dehoyos 1

Puerto Rico



Dorothy Cain 13



Manuel Estrela 6



David Richardson 16

Virgin Islands



THE AUXCHEF



AUXCHEF - Making a Difference

**Submitted by Paulette R. Parent, ADSO-HR/AUXCHEF
Photos taken by Constance Irvin, DSO-PA**

As 2012 draws to a close, the demand for AUXCHEFs has increased. Many Active Duty personnel (including Food Service - FS personnel) take leave during the holidays in order to spend time with their families. Often this involves traveling to other areas of the country. Sometimes the leave is granted with the proviso that the time away is covered either by another Active Duty FS or by AUXCHEFs. This is one of the times when the service provided by AUXCHEFs is most valued by the FS taking leave and the FS on duty who would otherwise be responsible for taking up the slack. This situation, of course, relies on the fact that two FS officers are assigned to a unit. Many of the smaller cutters have only one FS officer and leave time is harder to obtain and is often covered by other shipmates.



AUXCHEFs Sharon Willis, Holly Roth and Lillian GaNun

So the holidays are a time for Auxilarists to truly "give back" and support the Coast Guard by serving as AUXCHEFs. The FS officers appreciate it and you can believe that the unit personnel appreciate it too. For all the AUXCHEFs who volunteer to take time during the holidays to prepare meals for our Active Duty side, a big Bravo Zulu!

Your unselfish acts are not widely known but are worthy of the highest praise.



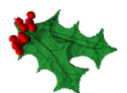
BM2 Robert Peterson, BM3 Erik Voegtlin and BM3 Darren Ledoux fill their plates with lots of Thanksgiving food as AUXCHEF Jack Salis look on.

Not too long ago most of us celebrated Thanksgiving with our family and friends. We were either at home or with others in their home ready to partake of a feast lovingly prepared by ourselves or those closest to us. Many of our Active Duty shipmates did not have this privilege. Several AUXCHEFs and their families chose to go to their local Coast Guard station and prepare a Thanksgiving dinner for the Active Duty personnel and their families. For example, Jack Salis and Sharon Willis did exactly this at CG Station Ft. Myers to the gastronomic pleasure of all in attendance.



FS1 Chris Tuordiou, AUXCHEF Sharon Willis, AUXCHEF Jack Salis, FS2 Greg Goleman

Wishing everyone a very Happy Holiday Season and all the best in the New Year!



**For more information on the AUXCHEF program in District 7, please contact:
Paulette Parent ADSO-HR/ AUXCHEF, PRPARENT 175@AOL.COM .**



The Retention Guru



“District 7 Mentor Recruiting and Training Plan” Begins Roll Out

Submitted by Rich Steinbach, ADSO-Retention

On October 27, 2012 at the request of Ed Duda, Division 3 Commander, Angela Pomaro, DSO-HR, and Rich Steinbach, ADSO- HR Mentoring/Retention presented the D7 Mentor Recruiting and Training Plan to the Division 3 Staff at Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale.

The presentation was very well received. Seventeen Division 3 Staff Offices requested a copy of the presentation to assist with their mentor recruiting efforts.

Our next stop was on November 15, 2012 where the plan was presented to fourteen members of Flotilla 56, Vero Beach. After the presentation, positive discussions resulted in thirteen members signing up to train to be Mentors to future Flotilla 56 members. We wish to thank Frans Eyberse, Commander Flotilla 56 for volunteering to pilot the D7 Mentor Recruiting and Training Plan.

Currently, two training modules are near completion; Uniforms and the Administrative Procedures Course. In addition, we have an excellent power point presentation introducing the “Boat Crew” program. Additional modules will be ready in early 2013.

At present, the HR Department is seeking an ADSO-HR Mentoring Officer for the West Coast. Training will be provided to accommodate the task of presenting workshops in various areas of the West Coast. The only qualification needed is Instructor status and also time to conduct training workshops for those interested in becoming mentors. This Officer will be working closely with the ADSO-HR, Rich Steinbach.

If you would like additional information regarding the D7 Mentor Recruiting and Training Plan, to either assist getting a mentoring program started in your flotilla or if you would like to assist with the program, please contact me at:

Rich Steinbach, ADSO-HR Mentoring/Retention

Caneman20@comcast.net

772-569-5348- Home 772-643-2067 Cell

Paperwork!

Paperwork!



REYR – What Do I Do to get Recertified???

Submitted by Sue Hastings, DSO-IS

At the beginning of each year, the IS officers are scrambling to help their members who have gone into REYR (Required Yearly, Not Met). One question we get asked is what does REYR stand for?? It is just a way to code AUXDATA so that the program knows that an individual is not in Certified status on a particular qualification. This year REYR is being run on 31-DEC-2012. In the past, we had until the end of January to get missions into AUXDATA before the process was run.

One of the ways to inform members of the upcoming change in Status is the email notifications that are sent out by National. Remember, it is the responsibility of the member to do their annual currency maintenance to keep their certification up to date.

What do you do when you are in REYR to get your qualification recertified? It all depends on the task, hours, exams, visits, etc. that were not completed in the previous year and the type of qualification.

The member needs to do whatever is required – tasks, exams, hours, etc. and it **MUST** be entered into AUXDATA. After it is entered, the Flotilla Commander **MUST** submit a request through the **D7 Help Page** to have the qualification re-certified. The DEA-Certifications will check to make sure information is correct and update AUXDATA.

Boat Crew/Coxswain – Missing Hours – need to be done as Trainee with Qualified Coxswain,
QE Check – needs to be done (FC still has to put request in after check
Is in AUXDATA)
Missing Courses – 1 Hr. TCT, 8 Hr. TCT, Nav. Rules, need to be done

Instructor – you need to do 2 Hours as a Trainee with a Qualified Instructor

RBS Program Visits – you must complete two (2) satisfactory visits under the supervision of a certified Program Visitor.

Vessel Exams – you need to do 2 Exams as a Trainee with a Qualified VE

For other certifications, please check with your FSO or SO for that qualification.

After five (5) years in REYR, the member will need to redo the initial certification process to Certify the qualification.

One important area that affects REYR for most qualifications such as VE, RBS PV, and IT is that there should only be one Trainee per mission form. This is also the process for Initial Certification. The certification will not be processed if the mission shows more than one Trainee (Boat Crew program can have more than one Trainee on patrols.)

Special thanks to Ed Duda, ADSO-IS and DEA-Certifications for his input. If you are not sure about process, please contact either your FC, FSO officer, or your IS officer.



The Webmaster

The New District 7 Website

Submitted by Dave Hastings, DSO-CS

If you haven't already you should add the District 7 website to Your Favorites or Bookmark:

<http://www.uscga-district-7.org>

Do not use the old website or its links as they do not work or get updated. You should especially not use the old Director's Gateway. All requests for the Director's office should go through the D7 Help Page. You can find this under Member Resources on the left hand menu of the website.

You should also make it a habit to check the What's New section on the left hand menu of the website. This will give you information on what's happening and any changes.

USCGAUX District 7 - Windows Internet Explorer
http://www.uscga-district-7.org/whatsnew.html

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

HOME JOIN US NOW! LEADERSHIP AUX MEMBERS DIRECTORATES UNITS AUX ASSOC COAST GUARD

Thursday, December 10, 2012

WHAT'S NEW

The District Dashboard has been updated for 3rd Quarter 2012. Data was pulled from Auxinfo and AUXDATA dated September 30, 2012. Any additional missions submitted after the September 30 run for 3rd Quarter will be reflected in the YE 2012 reports.

Commodore elect - **John D. Tyson**
Chief of Staff elect - **Bob A. Weskerna**
District Captain North elect - **Dave M. Fuller**
District Captain West elect - **Braxton R. Ezell**
District Captain East elect - **Judith Hudson**

DISTRICT 7 STRATEGIC PLAN 2013 - 2016

- How to request a QE (PDF)
- How to request a QE (PPT)
- QE request form
- PDF FedEx Presentation
- District 7 Help Desk
- 3rd Quarter DASHBOARD
- District Store

Find us on Facebook

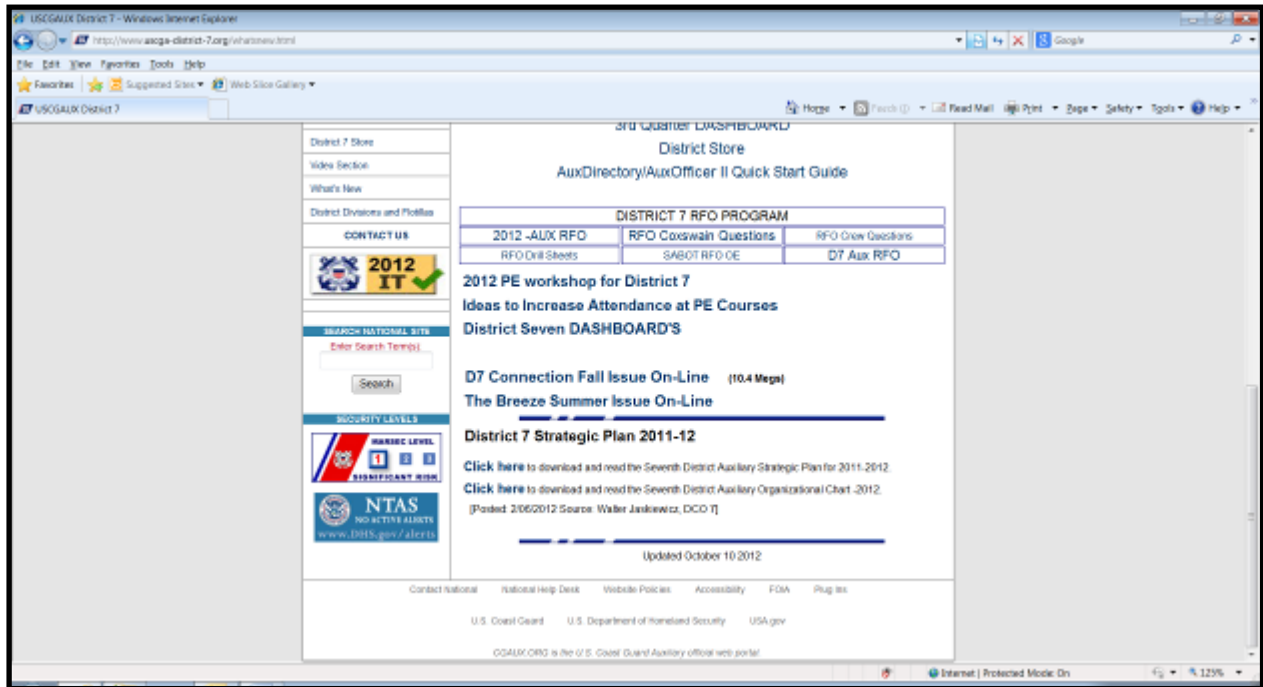
District 7 Home Page

- Bridge
- Directorates
- ASCs District 7
- Member Resources
- Forms
- Online Magazines
- Public Information
- Safe Boating Classes
- District 7 Store



The Webmaster

The New District 7 Website



As you can see there is a lot of information such as D7 Strategic Plan, How to Request QE and QE Form, FedEx Presentation, D7 Dashboard, D7 Connection, D7 Breeze, District Store, District election results. When new information is available, this is where you will find it.

If you have any questions or concerns about the web page, you can contact your FSO-CS to send up the chain to DSO-CS. Also, check out your Flotilla and Division websites for local information. If your unit does not have a website, you should consider setting up a WOWII website. They are easy to set up and do not need special software to use.



Articles/photos for the Spring Issue will graciously be accepted
at: d7happyrecruiter@gmail.com



New D7 Help Desk

Submitted by Edward Duda, DCDR 3

The new “D7 Help Desk”, which serves as a replacement to the previous “D7 Gateway”, is now on-line at <http://d7help.cgaux.org> and available to members and leadership alike to serve in submitting REYR requests, initial certification requests, scheduling QE missions, and the other tasks that were previously handled through the D7 Gateway, which is in the process of being decommissioned.

The initial screen features a “Knowledge Base” where members may discover articles on common Auxiliary questions, the most common acronyms utilized in the Coast Guard, on the security clearance process, uniform questions, etc. Questions not already covered in existing topics may be submitted and will be addressed by a member knowledgeable in the subject. The most common questions and answers will be added to the knowledge base as they are submitted in order to expand the coverage of topics.

Clicking on “Submit a ticket” brings the member to a screen where currently 28 topics are covered, including REYR, awards, initial certifications, transfers, TCT and ICS course completions, etc. (Note that certain tasks are tagged as being limited to specific elected or appointed officers). There are provisions for attaching documentation to the requests, such as a form 7003 or copy of an ICS completion certificate.

Please utilize the D7 Help Desk going forward, as the old “Gateway” may or may not properly forward your requests to the proper individuals for resolution. The D7 Help Desk is administered by members Ed and Terry Sweeney of Division 9, and Ed Duda of Division 3, all members of the DIRAUX Staff.



Knowledgebase

[CGAUX Seventh District](#) > [D7 Auxiliary Help Desk](#) > Knowledgebase

Ask a question:

Knowledgebase is a categorized collection of answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ) and articles. You can read articles in this category or select a subcategory that you are interested in.

» **Subcategories:**

[Membership](#)

[Levels of Membership](#)

[Manuals](#)

[DIRAUX](#)

[DIRECTOR'S CABIN](#)

[Tool Box](#)

» [More topics](#)

[C-School](#)

[AVAILABLE COURSES](#)

[C-School Portal](#)

» [More topics](#)

[Uniforms](#)

[Auxiliary Ball Caps](#)

[Uniform Item Website](#)

» [More topics](#)

[Team Coordination Training](#)

[TCT Request Form](#)

[Some Helpful Hints for Auxiliary TCT](#)

[Facilitators: \(Rev 6/2011\)](#)

» [More topics](#)

[AuxLams](#)

[AuxLams](#)

» **Articles in this category:**

No articles yet in this category

» **Top Knowledgebase articles:**

	<i>Views</i>
Auxiliary Ball Caps	262
Levels of Membership	209
Uniform Item Website	179
Index	130
Untucked Operational Dress Uniform	52
Appendix M: List of Acronyms (Part 1: A/C - LHI)	40

» **Latest Knowledgebase articles:**

	<i>Date added</i>
C-School FAQ	2012-12-11 09:29:55
AVAILABLE COURSES	2012-12-11 09:27:04
C-School Portal	2012-12-07 13:50:38
AuxLams	2012-12-04 09:33:03
Instructions	2012-12-01 18:47:44
Tool Box	2012-12-01 18:45:02

Powered by [Help Desk Software HESK™](#)

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Wreaths Over The Water



**Story and Photos By Petty Officer 1st Class Krystyna Hannum,
PA1 USCG Seventh District Public Affairs**

The annual ceremony began at the station in 2007 as a memorial to service members who have died at sea, and includes placing seven wreaths in the water to honor the five military services, the Merchant Marines, and prisoners of war and those missing in action.



Members of the United States military salute during the Wreaths Over the Water ceremony at Coast Guard Station Lake Worth Inlet, in Riviera Beach Fla., Saturday, Dec. 15, 2012.

It is our intention to honor those forgotten heroes who lie in their unmarked, watery graves with a wreath of remembrance and a farewell flourish of respect,” said Chief Warrant Officer John T. Gatti, commanding officer of the station, during his remarks. “...we are here today to recall all of the ... personal sacrifice made in the name of service to the United States of America.”



Following the shore-side ceremony, seven men, representing the Coast Guard, Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, Navy, Merchant

Marines, and prisoners of war and those missing in action, picked up their wreath and, led by a bag piper and drummer, marched solemnly down the pier to the awaiting 45-foot Response Boat-Medium.

The crew and participants made their way to Lake Worth Inlet where they each tossed their respective wreath into the water with “Amazing Grace” playing on the bag pipes. When the last wreath was wet, each veteran held a salute as “Taps” filled the salty air. Upon return to shore, one member of the ceremony, Army Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Mick, shared that he was grateful for the efforts made to honor the past.

Mick was on convalescent leave in December 2010 after being wounded in Afghanistan. He was sent to represent the Army during that year’s ceremony. At first, Mick was unsure about participating, he said, but orders were issued and he arrived in service dress blues expecting little. However, he was moved by the ceremony that day and hopes to be a permanent participant.

“It ended up being a great event [in 2010], and I’ll participate as long as they ask me,” said Mick, who is currently stationed at Army Special Operations Command South in Homestead, Fla.

As for the man who envisioned offering a memorial to the families with no gravesite to visit, Greenfield continues to serve his country’s past in the best way he knows how, he said. He also desires for more units to get involved in the Wreaths Over the Water event.

“Since the very first ceremony, it has been my hope that this memorial be done in all Coast Guard units across the nation,” said Greenfield. He recalled a member of the audience that comes each year, Dorothy Moore, who lost her brother when his ship, the USS Meredith, was torpedoed and sank Oct. 15, 1942. The ceremony offers her something tangible to touch, and to remind her that her brother is not
f o r g o t t e n .

“It’s important to her, and it’s important to me.”



Around District 7 Division 2 Change of Watch



Photos "Underway"



Division 3



Division 3 Helicopter Operation November 15, 2012

**Article & Photos Submitted by
George Kozel, FC Flotilla 37**

While assisting in helicopter training operations with the Coast Guard, they spotted the raft in the water and asked us to take a look at it and report back to them. On board were Dave Cox (Coxswain) and Dave Felt of Flotilla 38, Mike Sokasits and George Kozel of Flotilla 37, and Ron Dillon of Flotilla 36.

When we arrived at the scene about a mile from the Port Everglades Inlet, we discovered a home-made raft. Photos of the raft were sent to Sector Miami via email from the boat per their request.

The raft was made out of tree limbs, netting, rope and three large truck tire inner tubes. Also, there was a plastic gallon bottle .

Attached half-filled with what looked like Gatorade and a partly filled plastic bottle of whiskey as well as an empty gallon jug. A wrapping on the raft indicated it came from Cuba. Interviews with several boaters in the area found that nothing was seen. We were ordered by Sector to bring the raft into Station Fort Lauderdale for further investigation.

It appeared that the occupants of the raft were likely picked up in the darkness and brought ashore so as not to arouse suspicion. There were also paddles that were not recovered but were seen by the helicopter.

Needless to say, it was a very interesting day.





Division 4



Dan Reaume, FSO-HR, Flotilla 45

Submitted by Bill Griswold, SO-HR Division 4

COMMODORE CHARLES S. GREANOFF INSPIRATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD NOMINATION

Auxiliarist Dan Reaume has performed his duties as FSO-HR in an outstanding manner. As soon as he is notified about a potential member, he has quickly contacted them, briefed them and started the enrollment process. He has made timely reports to the SO-HR, well within time frames, and has kept the chain of communications informed about progress with candidate members.

During calendar years 2011 and through mid November 2012, he has contacted twenty-seven e-responders, mostly from the Orlando, Florida area and suburbs. Of those twenty-seven contacts, he has successfully enrolled fourteen new members for his Flotilla in Sanford, Florida. He enlisted five new members not gained via the e-responder circuit in addition to those above. With only four years in the Coast Guard Auxiliary, he has mastered the enrollment process, a daunting task at best. The Sanford Flotilla is relatively young, and Mr. Reaume's significant contribution has enabled the flotilla to become a strong vibrant unit.

Mr. Reaume's cheerful disposition and ability to connect with people has led to his success in the human relations world. His drive and initiative have enabled him to bring new people into the Auxiliary, working with their schedules as well as his own. He has exceeded every objective given to him in an exemplary manner.

In addition to his efforts in human relations, Mr. Reaume completed the Auxiliary Administration Procedures Course, the Good Mate Course, and became a qualified instructor in October 2009. He became a qualified Recreational Boating Safety Program Visitor in June 2010 as well as a Vessel Examiner in February of that year and successfully completed the Introduction to Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Course in October 2012. He is a qualified Boat Crew member as well as an Aids to Navigation Verifier.

Mr. Reaume is a tremendous example for his flotilla mates, taking on greater responsibilities and completing them to everyone's satisfaction. His initiative, drive and attention to detail have been outstanding and a credit to himself, Flotilla 45 and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. He is highly deserving of the Commodore Charles S. Greanoff Inspirational Leadership Award, and I recommend his nomination for that award.

William S. Griswold
CAPT. USCG (Ret.)



Division 5



**Chief Warrant Officer Randal L. Ryan
U.S. Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce**



Submitted by Hank Cushard, FSO-PA Flotilla 59

“A professional well trained boat force to respond to the Nation’s security with dedicated professionals that are available 24/7 to answer all calls,” commented the new commanding officer for Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce, Chief Warrant Officer Randy Ryan, during a recent interview. When asked about his goals for the Fort Pierce Station, he said, “We will continue to promote boating safety with an active public education program in cooperation with the community and the Coast Guard Auxiliary to insure the public is safe. These are our goals and we will train hard and work hard to achieve them.”

Mr. Ryan, a Florida native, from St. Petersburg, enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard 26 years ago. He received his commission as Chief Warrant Officer in June of 2004. Over the next few years, from Cape May, NJ, he was assigned to Station Fort Myers Beach, the Coast Guard Cutter DRUMMOND home-ported in Cape Canaveral, and then to CGC COURAGEOUS in Panama City. On board the COURAGEOUS, he participated in multiple foreign training events, drug seizures, and Alien Migrant Interdiction Operations in the Caribbean waters. Soon after his assignment on the CGC AXE in Mobile, AL, Mr. Ryan was the Officer in Charge of the Aids to Navigation, Search and Rescue, and Environmental Protection Teams in Dulac, La., which covered the busiest waterway in the Gulf of Mexico.

From June 2004 to June 2006, he was assigned to and commissioned Maritime Safety and Security Team (MSST) New Orleans where he was responsible for the training and supervision

of tactical boat operations and the Anti-terrorism/Force Protection program. He and his 40 boat detachment provided Presidential Security details and led MSST forces back into New Orleans as first responders following Hurricane Katrina. In June 2006, he assumed command of his hometown unit at Station Sand Key in Clearwater, Fla. While at Station Sand Key, his unit won the prestigious Sumner I. Kimball Readiness Award for his unit’s performance.

Prior to his command at Fort Pierce, he reported to District Seven’s Tactical Law Enforcement Team where he served as unit Supervisor and District Seven’s Non-Compliant Vessel Program Coordinator.

Chief Warrant Officer Ryan’s personal awards include five Coast Guard Commendation Medals, three Coast Guard Achievement Medals, and the Commandant’s Letter of Commendation Ribbon. He is a Coast Guard Cutterman and recipient of the Coast Guard’s Gold and Pewter Boat Forces Operations Insignia.

Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce provides Maritime Law Enforcement, Search and Rescue operations, fish and wildlife protection, illegal immigrant interdiction, and safety to the boating public for us on the Treasure Coast. From north of the Sebastian Inlet, down to the St. Lucie Inlet, the Indian and St. Lucie Rivers and Lake Okeechobee, we are protected by these dedicated and inspiring public servants, the men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce. Semper Paratus!



Division 5



Change of Watch

Change of Watch Ceremony Brings New Leadership to Division 5

Submitted by Art Slepian, FSO-PA, Flotilla 51

The Gold Side and Silver Side came together on December 8, 2012 to participate in a Coast Guard Auxiliary tradition – the Change of Watch Ceremony during which elected and appointed Division 5 officers, as well as flotilla commanders and flotilla vice commanders, took their oaths of office for 2013.

Representing the Coast Guard were Capt. Christopher Scraba, Commander, Sector Miami, the Commanding Officers of Station Fort Pierce and Station Lake Worth Inlet. Judith Hudson, Auxiliary District 7 Captain-East participated in administering oaths of office.

Leslie McDermott took the helm as Division Commander, while Bennett McCarthy was installed as Division Vice Commander. Mr. McDermott served as Division Vice Commander during 2011 and 2012 under Gary Barth, Division Commander. Mr. McCarthy previously served Division 5 as Staff Officer for Member Training.

During the ceremony at Mariner Sands Country Club in Stuart, Capt. Scraba spoke of the key role played by the Auxiliary in support and training of active duty Coast Guardsmen, and envisioned an expanded role for the Auxiliary in 2013 and beyond.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Randy Ryan, Commanding Officer of Station Fort Pierce, and Chief Warrant Officer 3 John Gatti, Commanding Officer of Station Lake Worth Inlet came prepared with statistics that documented the hours volunteered and missions performed by the flotillas in Division 5. Mr. Ryan later administered oaths of office to flotilla commanders and flotilla vice commanders from Flotillas 56, 57, 58 and 59. Mr. Gatti administered oaths of office to flotilla commanders and flotilla vice commanders from Flotillas 51, 52 and 54.

Mr. Barth and Mr. McDermott were awarded the Coast Guard Auxiliary Achievement Medal. The medal is awarded to Auxiliaries in recognition of their sustained and superior professional and/or leadership achievements in administration or operations.

Receiving the Auxiliary Commandant Letter of Commendation Award, which is given for an act of service resulting in unusual and/or outstanding achievement were Howard Meridy (Flotilla 54), Bruce Parmett (Flotilla 54), Margaretmary Young (Flotilla 56), Rinalisa Czerwinski (Flotilla 54), William Tom Butler (Flotilla 58), Marion John Thompson (Flotilla 58), Carol Floyd (Flotilla 52) and Ray Zanarotti (Flotilla 52).

A Meritorious Team Commendation was given to Division 5 for participating in National Safe Boating Week activities, especially at the open houses at Station Fort Pierce and Station Lake Worth Inlet.



Division 5



Change of Watch



Photos—Photobucket



Division 8



Quick Response by Graham Leadbetter

Submitted by: Dane Hahn, FSO-MS-Flotilla 87

Semper Paratus is the Coast Guard's motto; it means always ready, but in a manner of speaking it also means **Quick Response**. In fact if you call it QR for short you'd be talking about those funny looking code squares that are popping up in ads in magazines and newspapers and on signs in airports or wherever someone with a message wants to reach the "early adopters". Basically anyone with a "smart phone" can aim their phone's camera at the QR code and be immediately transported to a website.

Graham Leadbetter has taken these Quick Response codes to a new level. Leadbetter, the VFC of Flotilla 87 in Englewood Florida, has a history of computer literacy, and once he saw the QR code he reasoned that many of the folks he sees launching their boats every weekend carry "smart phones", and so he has designed a QR code for use on Flotilla business cards which he hands out to boaters.

"Every time we do a vessel exam or answer boater's questions down at the launch ramp we hand out one of these cards," he said. "And when the boater scans our code they get today's local weather and tides. They also get a link to our website which features our safe boating classes, highlights what we do, and suggests they consider joining the Auxiliary."

"There is also the opportunity to add videos", Leadbetter says smiling, "but our video needs much improvement, right now the only video I have is me at the helm of a boat." This is one area where he concedes he needs some help.

Flotilla 87 has printed the QR code on stickers that are applied to business cards and to maps of the AOR that they give away. They also have them posted on monofilament fishing line collection bins."

Obviously Leadbetter and his flotilla members are proud of the progress they have made with the QR code. "We're pretty sure this is the first application of a QR code anywhere in the Auxiliary," he notes. It's a nice tight program and it works. But they are so far ahead of the "curve" in this effort, that to make it all happen Leadbetter had to learn some code, and search for a QR code generator.

He credits a speech he attended in which the speaker talked a bit about the QR code system, he was so charmed with the possibilities, he invited her to an Auxiliary Officers Meeting so the other members could see what he was talking about. In his effort to adopt the code he had to persevere without any teacher to help show him the way, although he confessed, "I did purchase a book on programming web sites for mobile devices, and I found some code snippets on the internet."

A self professed computer nerd, Leadbetter spent the last years of his professional life as a systems designer/programmer for the U.S. Army. When he retired back in 2008, he moved to Florida and quickly joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Since joining he has served as FSO-CS and FSO-IS. He presently serves as VFC. For more information contact [Graham Leadbetter <leadbetter@embarqmail.com>](mailto:Graham.Leadbetter@embarqmail.com)



Quick Response Code



Division 11



Medal of Operational Merit

Submitted by Karen Miller, Public Affairs Specialist

CLEARWATER, FLORIDA – On October 20, 2012, three members of the Clearwater Flotilla of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary received the Medal of Operational Merit for saving a women’s life in July 2012 on the water in Clearwater Harbor.

Mel Manning, Belleair Bluffs, Peter Palmieri, Largo and Russ Stauffer, Clearwater, were on an authorized Coast Guard patrol aboard Manning’s boat, *Salty*. While returning from the Gulf of Mexico in the vicinity of Marker 10, Clearwater Harbor, a lookout aboard *Salty* noticed two persons struggling in the water. Coxswain Manning quickly maneuvered *Salty* to the scene, where it was learned the persons in the water were a man and woman futilely struggling to remount a Personal Watercraft. The 62 year old woman had been ejected from the Personal Watercraft and the man was ineffectively trying to assist her back onto her vessel.

It was apparent to Auxiliarist Manning and his crew that the victim was exhausted and in danger of going into shock or drowning from the frantic effort of trying to remount.

Coxswain Manning alerted Coast Guard Station Sand Key to the situation, maneuvered *Salty* into position and began a rescue operation. Crew members Palmieri and Stauffer assisted the woman onto *Salty*, removing her from the dangerous situation, and transported her to Station Sand Key for medical assessment. After careful examination by the crew and after resting for approximately a half hour the woman was sufficiently recovered to safely make the trip back to her home dock.

Auxiliarists Manning, Palmieri and Stauffer exhibited exceptional competence and skillful seamanship by having an effective lookout and by safely and successfully conducting an emergency rescue that most likely saved the life of the ejected boater.

Upon receipt of the award, Manning said, “This is what we train for. Helping this victim and removing her from a life-threatening situation cannot be topped. Receiving this award is outstanding; performing the rescue was unbeatable.”



**Presentation of the Medal of Operational Merit to (L to R) Russ Stauffer, Mel Manning and Peter Palmieri.
Photo by Karen Miller**



Division 11



Change of Watch



Photos—Channel Marker—December Edition



Division 15



Change of Watch



2013 Division Staff Officers being sworn in by Diane Berman, Division Vice Commander-elect. Photo by Randy Patton

The Division 15 Change of Watch ceremony and banquet was held on Saturday, November 10, 2012, at the Southern Woods Country Club in Homosassa, Fla. Special guests attending were Commander Sean Ryan, USCG, Deputy Commander, Sector St. Petersburg; Ensign Shawn Antonelli, USCG, Sector Enforcement and POMS Administrator, Sector St. Petersburg; BMC Christopher Hinote, USCG, Officer in Charge, Station Yankeetown; BM1 Michael Greene, Executive Petty Officer, Station Yankeetown; and from Auxiliary District 7, Commodore Walter Jaskiewicz; as Chief of Staff and Commodore-elect John Tyson; Melvin Manning, DCAPT-West; West; Braxton Ezell, DCAPT-West-elect; and Donald Hoge, Auxiliary Sector Coordinator

After a delicious dinner, Craig Elliot, Division Commander, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, then introduced the honored guests and welcomed Auxiliary members and their guests. He presented Coast Guard Commandant's Letter of Commendation to Larry Berman (Flotilla 15-5) and Kenneth Hollstein, (Flotilla 15-1) for their exemplary service to the Auxiliary. Craig Elliot, Division 15 Commander, received a Coast Guard Auxiliary Achievement Medal.

Chief Hinote thanked Division 15 for all their volunteer hours by relating how much it helped the Coast Guard to have the Auxiliary available to relieve the active duty to pursue other duties. He thanked the Sorlis from Flotilla 15-7 for their help with Aids to Navigation (ATON) verification and the Search and Rescue (SAR) case of a missing kayaker. He also thanked Flotillas 15-1 and 15-8 for their help with SAR and marine pollution, 15-3 for their boater education and Vessel Exams on Lake Weir, Flotilla 15-4 for their community work, 15-1 for the Easter baskets and Thanksgiving meal and for "helping the kids" at the Station. He thanked Larry Berman for his TCT training and the radio watchstanders who relieved the active duty members to engage in other work.

Following Chief Hinote's remarks, the newly-elected Division Commander, Paul Pelletier, and Vice Commander, Diane Berman, were sworn in by Commodore Jaskiewicz. The 2012 Staff Officers were given Certificates of Appreciation; 2013 Staff Officers for the Division were sworn in. Paul and Diane presented a plaque to Craig Elliot, thanking him for his service as Division Commander. Craig expressed his appreciation and his hopes for a productive 2013.



Division 15



Change of Watch



Mary Patton, FSO-PB, Flotilla 15-3
Division 15 Compass Rose Article



Division 15



GOALS AND RESOLUTIONS FOR 2013

Submitted by Bruce McAllister, SO-HR Division 15

As we look back over the year it is time to begin thinking about goals and resolutions for the New Year. Who actually keeps their New Year's resolutions? Most of us forget all about them after a few weeks. But some things – like volunteer programs – need to have priority 52 weeks of the year. In our busy schedule sometimes it can be hard to find the time and resources to put your job as a volunteer in the Coast Guard Auxiliary program first.

Here are some resolutions you can make now to ensure that your program is a 2013 success story, and some tools to help you along the way:

Resolution #1: Set specific goals and share them. Decide now what you want to accomplish with your flotilla next year. What milestones will you reach? What metrics will you track? Share with your colleagues and your community. Use these goals as your horizon, so you never lose sight of what you're working towards throughout the year.

Resolution #2: Brag and let others know what is going on in your flotilla to keep interest and commend those doing a good job. Take the time to submit articles to flotilla and district newsletters. Social media can seem daunting and chaotic, but with a minimum of time and resources you can use it to increase your supporters.

Resolution #3: Diversify your volunteer recruitment. There are two ways to expand your volunteer recruitment strategy in 2013: Distribute your listings more broadly, and bring in a greater range of volunteer types. It's important to create new types of volunteer opportunities to attract a wider range of volunteers. Chances are there are ways they can all help you accomplish your mission.

Resolution #4: Find time for professional development. You should always be looking for new ways to learn and grow in your position. This doesn't have to be costly or time-consuming. There is a wealth of information on the Internet or in your local bookstore. It may be as simple as reading a book such as *How to Win Friends and Influence People*.

Resolution #5: As the New Year starts, set up an organizational system to track recruits and make it easier to report on the 19th of each month. Set up a calendar and goals for how to efficiently accomplish this. Also, set up a written system that can be passed on to the next HR officer when you are ready to pass on the torch of leadership in this area!

Having no plan is often the first step to failure. Design a system that fits your style. Perhaps you can design something on your computer, or set up a notebook, or even design an index card system for each recruit. Set up a calendar system to make sure all recruits are contacted and your monthly report is ready to go on the 19th of each month. With today's technology you can even set up calendar reminders. Also, find a container to keep all your files and materials for meeting with new recruits.

Here's to a happy, healthy, and volunteer-filled 2013!





Division 15



Andy Render 's Division 15 Compass Rose Article

What happens when you take Auxiliarists from three different flotillas, mix them in with a recent out-of-state transferee, and send them all out on a QE check ride? Now, add in a little wind, mix it with an hour's worth of dockside questions, marlinespike and navigation problems, and you have the opportunity to see some real teamwork!

But let's back up and start at the beginning. I needed to complete my three-year re-certification as coxswain, while Linda Jones (15-1) and Rich Rooney (15-5) were ready for their initial crew QE check ride. Additionally, Carrie Schuman (15-5), who just transferred in from Maine, needed her District 7 crew certification check ride.



Recent 'QE grads' L to R: Linda Jones, 15-1, Rich Rooney, 15-5, qualified as crew, Carrie Schuman, 15-5, recertified as crew, and Andy Render, 15-3, recertified as coxswain. Photo by Chuck Morton

The four of us were not able to get this done alone! Flotilla 15-1 jumped in and volunteered to crew their facility *Zero-One* and Larry Berman offered *Gasman II* to use as the operational facility. Chuck Morton and Larry Berman agreed to be our Qualification Examiners. Additionally, Larry & Diane Berman offered to let us use their home for the pre-underway testing and crew briefings.

Well, as late afternoon approached, we all set out aboard *Gasman II* for Kings Bay. Along the way, our practice "man-overboard" dummy, "Fred," tripped and fell over the side of our boat. Our crew quickly located him and we managed to bring him safely back aboard. Several of our crew suggested we tie him to the gunwale so that he would not fall over the side again. We should have taken their advice, because "Fred" managed to fall overboard three more times before the evening was over. Each time we brought "Fred" safely back aboard and finally we secured him below deck to prevent further mishaps.

Eventually, we met up with *Zero-One* in Kings Bay. They played the part of a vessel in distress and we took them into tow a number of times. We went from a stern tow to an alongside tow, and then repeated the process so that all of our crew had an opportunity to display their knowledge by performing different tasks during each towing evolution. What made the tows interesting was that the breeze continued to freshen as the evening wore on.

Once we completed all of our tasks in Kings Bay, we returned down river where each of our crew took turns at the helm and performed different tasks required for the QE check ride. Once we returned to the dock, we did a crew debriefing (which was hurried along, as the "no-see-ums" were out in force).

What made this patrol unique enough to talk about? Well, we had a relatively new crew, from different locations, and yet we were able to perform as a TEAM. Something like that doesn't just happen. It takes a combination of three things: Training, training and more training! Everyone knew what was expected of them, they knew how to do it, and they were proficient in how to accomplish the task at hand. Everyone did their assigned task in the same way. There wasn't any right way or wrong way to get the job done, things were done the Coast Guard way. That made things easy. We each knew what the other person was going to do and how they were going to do it. THAT'S TEAMWORK!



Division 16



USCG Red Ribbon Week

**Submitted by Robert A. Fabich, Sr.
Public Affairs Specialist III**

ST. CROIX, USVI . - A United States Coast Guard helicopter positioned on the grounds at the University Of Virgin Islands (UVI) was a main attraction for middle grade and junior high school students attending the 1st Annual Enrique "Kiki" Camarena Band Against Drug Days event October 30, 2012. Flown from Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico, the bright orange MH65C helicopter was part of an exhibit of local, territory, federal and military resources used for the fight against illegal drugs.



ST. CROIX, USVI - A Coast Guard MH-65C helicopter from Air Station Borinquen landed at UVI as part of the Red Ribbon Week event October 30, 2012. Air Crew explains to students how it is used for search and rescue and law enforcement missions. USCG Auxiliary photo by Public Affairs Specialist III Robert A. Fabich, Sr.

Red Ribbon Week began after the kidnapping, torture and brutal murder of Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena in 1985. His efforts led to a tip that resulted in the discovery of a multimillion dollar narcotic manufacturing operation in Chihuahua, Mexico. The successful eradication of this and other drug production operations angered leaders of several drug cartels who sought revenge. As a result, they murdered key informants and then, on February 7, 1985, they kidnapped Agent Camarena and his pilot Captain Alfredo Zavala-Avelar. Their bravery was the impetus for the day's event.

Reaching out to 500 students Dr. Haldane Davies, Special Assistant to the President of UVI and Lt. Governor Gregory Francis, USVI, addressed the importance of increasing awareness of the drug problems plaguing the Virgin Islands as part of the largest Drug Free event ever in the Caribbean.

Shouts from Island school students, "The best me is drug free," echoed across the campus as they pledged against drug use. They and University students demonstrated their awareness, understanding and hope for a drug free community through performances of songs, dances and poems.

Exhibitors of equipment to fight illegal drug trafficking presented educational hands on participation. "I am here representing the Virgin Island Police K-9 Unit and as a father," explained 6 year veteran Officer Jullio Mendez. "My son and I are learning how the navigation system on the helicopter can assist with search and rescue." Students learned how these agencies partner together utilizing a vast variety of highly technical equipment. Guidance was given to students on how they can pursue a career within each agency.

Participants included the Virgin Islands Police Department, Fire Department, National Guard, Justice Department, Customs Border Patrol, DEA, Marine Patrol, UVI, Cruzan Environmental Services, Park Rangers, Blue Lightning Maritime Strike Force, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), High Intensity Drug Trafficking (HIDTA), USCG RIO St. Croix and USCG Air Station Borinquen.



Division 16



USCG Commandant's Shipmate Coin



**Submitted by Robert A. Fabich, Sr.,
Public Affairs Specialist, Division 16**

SAN JUAN, P.R. - Auxiliary Member Charles "Chuck" Fischer accepted the Coast Guard Shipmate Coin from Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr., of the United States Coast Guard during an all hands assembly held at Coast Guard Air Station Borinquen (BQN) October 18, 2012.

Fischer, who is the Auxiliary Aviation Coordinator (ACC) for Sector San Juan serving the U.S. Virgin Islands and a member of the St. Croix, Christiansted USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 16-1 contributed 5000 volunteer hours working to arrange aviation operations, recruitment and nonprofit activities.

"I will be giving him a coin in a moment," Papp said. "And that like doubles the pay he gets. These volunteers help us out to get the Coast Guard missions done."

The Commandant's Shipmate Coin is awarded individually by Admiral Papp to Active Duty, Reserve, Auxiliary, Civilian and Team Coast Guard partners who contributes above and beyond toward his four Coast Guard guiding principles. These principles set a course that: "Steadies the Service, Honors our Profession, Strengthens our Partnerships, and Respects our Shipmates."

From October 2010 to September 2011, under Mr. Fischer's command, the mission hours flown by Auxiliary Aircraft for the Air Station increased 56% from 391 to 612. The following year, October 2011 to September 2012, the mission hours increased again by 22% to 744. "What a great job you have been doing as the Auxiliary Aviation Coordinator," Papp acknowledged. "Yourself, you have flown as Pilot or Pilot In Command for 7000 hours. I want to thank you for being a good Shipmate. I am not saying just an Auxiliary Shipmate, I am saying a good Shipmate." Auxiliary Air pilots utilize their personal aircraft assisting Coast Guard missions.

Mr. Fischer was tasked with developing a format to standardize monthly mission reporting across District 7 Auxiliary Air locations. He also reviewed Auxiliary and USCG operational manuals and provided increased clarity surrounding criteria governing pilot requirements for Passenger Transport missions. He has been active in implementing new photography procedures to enhance Auxiliary patrol aircraft's capability of determining if an observed vessel should be classified as a Target of Interest and be worthy of further investigation by Coast Guard surface patrols.

In his role as Auxiliary Air Coordinator, he has been responsible for coordinating and presenting at meetings and training sessions, Auxiliary as well as Active Duty USCG, with many involving local, territorial and federal government agencies. As a Auxiliary Instructor Pilot/Flight Examiner, he has worked and trained with Auxiliary aviators .

The Auxiliary Aviation is not just for pilots! Auxiliary members and any US Citizen, after passing initial security screening, can participate in the program. While the USCG Auxiliary does not issue pilot licenses, it does train Pilots, Observers and Air Crew in the art of being part of the crew in an Auxiliary aircraft under USCG orders



Welcome



October 1 to December 31, 2012

Division 1

Camareno_Merle, Angel
Cintron_Gonzalez, Louis
Cordero, Agnes I.
Cruz_Torres, Christopher
Lopez_Sampayo, Joes
Cruz_Torres, Oscar J.
Ortiz_Rivera, Henry
Rodriguez_Hernandes, Jesus
Rodriguez_Vazquez, Adrain
Roldan_Montanez, Jose R.

Division 2

Crothers, Joan
Mracna, Joseph E.
Sweeney, John E.

Division 3

Kirsh, Edward R.
Rodriguez, Ricardo L.
Sabghir, Jonathan M.
Sherman, Robert M.
Souve, Matthew C.

Division 4

Duszny, Solearth M.
Garnett, Brittney L.
Marsicano, Matthew
Sainz, Wesley F.

Division 5

Aradio, Daria
Beyer, Terry T.
Eckstein, Stanley L.
Fagan, Eric Z.
Fagan, Lydia M.
Ferron, Anita
Kozola, Adam
McCoy, Clinton C.
Scheidegger, Ryan
Urbina, Marie A.
Vocelle, Louis B., Jr.
Zeumault_Fagan, Yvonne

Division 6

Bennett, Lara
Gettinger, Jason V.
Harrington, William
Jimenez, Aimee
Pineros, Juan
Reitz, Frederick L.
Rocourt, Frantz
Rodriguez, Mauricio
Santana_Bonilla, Gloria
Vasquez, Cristian
Zuloaba, Gustavo F.

Division 7

Austin, Christian C.
Barman, John M.
Buxton, Dustin H.
Guise, Kerri C.
Hornby George
Hoskin, Dean W.
Hutto, Ashley S.
Kettler, Deoralynn
Kettler, Robert J.
King, Dawn M.
Lott, George N.
Marino, Michael J., Jr.
McCormick, James R. III
Morrill, Helen J.
Pinkerton, Allan J.
Rayburn, Daniel
Rigby, Alexander
Rupe, Jeffrey S.
Simmons, Cherril A.
Smith, Richard J.
Sypolt, Kenneth
Valentine, Carolyn
Vildbill, William C.
Woodall, David J. II
Yarrington, Kyle A.
Zinner, Eleanor
Zinner, William

Division 8

Mitchell, John P



Welcome



October 1 to December 31, 2012

Division 9

Bulpett, William E.
Connelly, Brant J.
Moyer, John H.
Ponzio, Matthew J., IV
Ramsaran_Wade, Neslynn
Suprun, Melanie
Thomas, Aaron R
Tolon, George
Wiedman, James
Weinstock, Julie

Division 10

Hanzalik, Michael S.
Hice, Richard T., Jr
Hill, Michael R.
Holton, Adam E.
Little, Von M. II
Ouzegdouh, Brandis V.
Ouzegdouh, Mourad M.
Schmelzer, Robert W.

Division 11

Berry Adam W.
Bosmans, Bertrand G.
Cook, Jene A.
Cooke, Brandon R.
Figueroa, Michael Jr.
Fournier, Eric F.
Koczenasz, Jason R.
Lassiter, Brody C.
Latherow, Linda
Leal, Mark
Maloney, Vincent L.
Mireles, Reymundo III
Montgomery, David
Montgomery, Susan
Natelson, Eric J.
Tolson, Steven W.
Valle, Casondra E.

Division 12

Gray, Joshua
Hall, Jean L.
Jones, Carley M.
Roberts, Michael J.
Sellers, Vance J.

Division 13

Bentley, David A.
Frederick, Frances
Rew, Robert K.
Weith, Cassandra
Yongue, Johnnie W.
Zimmerman, Kirk

Division 14

Cabanillas, Katherine
Dockery, Randy
Dover, George
Johns, Carson
Martin, Jeremy S.
Maxwell, Virgil K.
Montonera, Michael
Pollock, Diane M.
Riddell, David A.
Schroeder, Hans

Division 15

Camoirano_Probus, Adriana
Frascatore, Gavin
Richards, Nathan
Saponari, George
Tangradi, Bonnie

Division 17

Morris, Edward J.
Oakland, Matthew W.
Nickles, Amanda
Pazin, Gail
Santorelli, Andrew
Tan, Dolores



2012 Retirees

October 1 to December 31, 2012

Department of Homeland Security United States Coast Guard

Takes pleasure in conferring to:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Service Year</u>
Hoffman, James	11	37
Buck, Robert	5	34
Goessel, Sharon	6	31
Remick, George	9	31
Spall, Walter	12	30
Fleischhacker, Owen	5	28
Olive, Christopher	16	28
Sandler, Paul	9	26
Shea, Donald	10	25
Wolff, Leroy	11	25
Grace, Walter	8	24
Marcuzzo, Paul	9	24
Harms, Dagfin	3	21
Horn, Amelia	11	21
White, David	8	21
White, Ruth	8	21
Demik, Laura	11	20
Neiss, Richard	9	20

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.



2012 Retirees

October 1 to December 31, 2012

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

Takes pleasure in conferring to:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Service Year</u>
Boisvert, Robert	5	19
Bouchard, Leo	9	19
Baker, Glenn	12	18
Forster, Carle	11	18
Nault, Richard	12	18
Shanahan, Thomas	15	18
David, Noel	2	17
Holden, Robert	11	17
Shanahan, Arline	15	17
Walsh, William	9	17
Arianas, Louis	11	16
Davis, Elizabeth	10	16
Davis, Fred	10	16
Fabrini, Alfred J.	4	16
Gennaro, William	6	16
Eschedor, Harry	8	15
Meyers, Edward	17	15
Rickard, Carol	8	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

October 1 to December 31, 2012



Essie, Linsky
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.*



George Bradford
Division 9



Ralph Mazza (Ret.)
Division 9

*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.*



Richard Raymer
Division 11



Thomas Siebert
Division 12

By Alfred Lord Tennyson



Henry Isenberg
Division 13



Herbert Levine
Division 13



Robert Williams
Division 13



George Grimes
Division 15



Thomas Cannariato
Division 15



Michael Korth
Division 15



Milo Harcourt
Division 16

Trivia

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.

A crocodile cannot stick out its tongue.

A dragonfly has a life span of 24 hours.

A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.

A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.

A snail can sleep for three years.

Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the \$5 bill.

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.

Butterflies taste with their feet.

Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds. Dogs only have about 10.

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".

February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.