

## Team Coast Guard steps off at this year's Connecticut Veterans Day Parade.

Team Coast Guard was out in full force at the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Connecticut Veterans Parade in Hartford, Connecticut, November 6, 2011. Americo "Rico" T. Pace of West Hartford-U.S. Army, and a WWII veteran was the Parade's Grand Marshal. Four Honorary Grand Marshals including United States Coast Guard Rear Admiral Sandra L. Stosz, Superintendent of the Coast Guard Academy, were also honored.

Providing escort for Admiral Stosz, was the Coast Guard Academy Color Guard, 25' Response Boat and crew from Station New London and the Auxiliary representing First Southern Divisions 24 and 25.

The Connecticut Veterans Parade is attended by almost 15,000 spectators. More than 100 Military, Veterans and musical groups marched the 1.7 mile parade route. With almost 3,000 marchers, the Connecticut Veterans Parade is the largest veterans parade in all of New England and one of the biggest in the nation.



Admiral Stosz poses with her Cadet Color Guard just prior to "stepping off" for the 2011 Veterans Day Parade. From left to right are: Cadet 2<sup>nd</sup> class, Stephanie Bugyis, Cadet 3<sup>rd</sup> class, Carter Schlank, Cadet 4<sup>th</sup> class, Kaitlin Lusk, Admiral Stosz, Cadet 3<sup>rd</sup> class, Mathew Miller, Cadet 3<sup>rd</sup> class, TJ Weaver, Cadet 2<sup>nd</sup> class, Felipe Martinez and Cadet 4<sup>th</sup> class, Lillian Simon.



Admiral Stosz inspects the handy work of Station New London's graphic talent as MK3 Steve Signori looks on. Coast Guardsmen from Station New London customized the lettering of their 25' Response Boat-Small (RB-S) for the parade. The Admiral gave her approval.



Admiral Stosz was accompanied by Lt. Colonel Wiroslaw . J. Snihurowych, U.S. Army Retired, and a Ukrainian American Veteran of the Vietnam War.



In perfect step is the USCG Academy Cadet Color Guard passing the State of Connecticut Capitol Building.



Even Officer Snook made the "swim" up for the parade. Riding in the 22' Grady White-AUX 420 are Auxiliarists Herb Farrell-24-12 and Officer Snook (Coast Guardsman SN Jason Gomes) as they pass the State Capitol building. Facility AUX 420 is owned and in tow by Auxiliarist Ed Pratt, 13-01.



Making the turn down Main Street is Station New London's 25' Response Boat-Small (RB-S). Making the trip from Station New London are Coast Guardsmen: ME2 Scott Della Speranza, BM3 Ryan Dismuke, MK3 Quinn Gagstetter, MK3 Steve Signori and SN Jason Gomes.



Heading toward the review stand and representing the Auxiliary are (L to R): Kimberly Filion 24-01, Guy Atwood 24-04, John McLeod 24-04, Bill Bowen 25-03 and David Marriott 25-06.

