

Fran Doyle, FC
Betty Smith, FSO-PB

Dave Ritondo, VFC

Bob Lesperance, IPFC
Bruce White, FSO-CS

The Scuttlebutt



Newsletter for Flotilla 12-01
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Fifth Northern Region
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Vessel Examiners and Public Affairs

Following is dates of VE Stations (most with PA Booths, see Fran for details)

May 14th Vines Creek Marina
May 28th. Tuckahoe Acres Campground
May 29th. Tuckahoe Acres Campground
June 4th. Gullsway Campground
June 11th. Vines Creek Marina
June 11th. Delmarva Grady White Club, Piney Point Road, Ocean View, De.
June 18th. Treasure Beach Campground, Fenwick Island (Safety Day)
June 25 Island Watersports 39084 Harpoon Rd. Fenwick Island, (Harpoon Hanna's)



Submitted by Fran Doyle.

VESSEL SAFETY INFORMATION

URGENT USCG MARINE SAFETY ALERT#03-16

Kannad Marine has issued a recall of all SAFELINK EPIRBs due to a possible defect that could result in the beacon not operating in emergency situations. If you own or use a SAFELINK EPIRB automatic or manual model as identified in the referenced SAFELINK Recall Safety Notice you should NOT use it as a primary Search and Rescue beacon onboard your vessel.

Kannad recommends that all owners of SAFELINK EPIRBs register their ownership, location and contact details via the dedicated website:

<http://www.safelinkepirbsupport.co.uk>

. The website will first ask you to enter your



SAFELINK EPIRB's CSN number which is located on the EPIRB's label. (See image on attachment.) Once the CSN is entered an additional webpage will open where more detailed owner information is entered to arrange provision of a replacement EPIRB.

The Coast Guard strongly recommends that all owners and users of the Kannad SAFELINK EPIRBs seek replacement devices as soon as possible and NOT to use it as a primary Search and Rescue beacon onboard your vessel....

Please read the USCG MARINE SAFETY ALERT 03-16: URGENT KANNAD SAFELINK EPIRB RECALL located on the V-Directorate website at:
<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=V-DEPT&category=dir-v-says>

Clarification of the 12 Year Rule for Fire Extinguishers in VE Inspections

There has been confusion surrounding the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA10 provision dealing with the 12 year fire extinguisher expiration requirement) and the Vessel Safety Check.

The information in the Vessel Safety Check Manual COMDTINST M16796.8A regarding fire extinguisher inspection is the current, most accurate guidance. This information is the only reference that should be used by Vessel Examiners conducting Vessel Safety Checks, and providing instruction.

Vessel Examiners may encounter some fire extinguishers that have a 12 year expiration date on the device during a Vessel Safety Check. Extinguishers found beyond this 12 year date should not be considered unserviceable, and should not fail a Vessel Safety Check because of this fact. These extinguishers should be inspected to ensure they are Coast Guard

approved, and in compliance with the manual in terms of serviceability.

Upcoming Events

Monthly Meetings

Regular Flotilla meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at the South Bethany Town Hall, and begin promptly at 1900 hrs.

Division meetings are held the fourth Thursday of every month at Milford Parks and Recreation at 1900 hrs. All members are welcome.

Member Training Bob Lesperance, IPFC, FSO-MT

The mandatory training for members needs to be addressed by our Flotilla members. These courses are available online and take about 60 minutes each.

Our Flotilla's completion is at 72.7%.

The quick link to the courses can be found on our website:
http://wow.uscgaux.info/Uploads_wowII/053-12-01/Mandatory_Training.pdf

Public Education Bob Adams, FSO-PE

Classes scheduled for the 2016 Season as follows:

April 9- Brandywine Assisted Living- Cancelled
April 23, 2016- South Bethany Town Hall- 38 enrolled- 38 Graduated (5 under age 17)
April 30, 2016- Millville Fire Co- 28 Enrolled- 28 Graduated (2 under age 17)

May 21, 2016- Treasure Beach Campground- 8 Enrolled
June 4, 2016- Indian River Marina- 11 Enrolled
June 18, 2016- Gullsway Campground- 4 enrolled

All classes are the Delaware State Course.

2 New Online self study courses are now available: Basic Boat Handling (BBH) Cost \$9.99 and Modern Marine Navigation (MMN) cost \$40.00. Neither of these is NASBLA Approved so no certificate is awarded; rather these augment the courses already available.

A 10% discount is available if the student enters a code representing your Flotilla and the Flotilla. You will then receive \$5.00 revenue share for each student enrolled. This is an opportunity for Flotillas to generate some income without having to host a class.

NEW AUXPAD PROGRAM

AUXPAD Mission. The primary mission of the Auxiliary Paddle craft (AUXPAD) program is to extend boating safety outreach, promote life jacket wear, and promote operator compliance with Coast Guard required safety equipment within the paddle craft community. Regional AUXPAD programs can be more stringent in the training and operational parameters detailed in this guidance. The AUXPAD program consists of Ashore and Afloat Outreach components.

MS and Environmental

Dave Ritondo picking up over 500 tires collected off Assateague Island beaches after the past two storms. and also collecting over 1000 bushels of oyster shells from area restaurants. Great job Dave!!!!



Submitted by Dave Ritondo



Navigation Rules

Navigation Systems Information

NOAA terminates the Chart Updating website

As of April 19, 2016 the USCG Auxiliary Chart Updating Reporting Webpage (CUWeb) has been shut down permanently. NOAA's letter to the Auxiliary explains that because of increasing levels of federal IT security both the Auxiliary and US Power Squadron websites have been identified as security risks that could allow hackers to gain access to Government internal network. Because of this NOAA will not be bringing the sites back online.

The shutting down of CUWeb does not spell the end to the Auxiliary Chart Updating (CU) program. CU still plays a vital role in promoting safety on the water. We can still teach CU techniques and stress quality. The same information that was being provided through CU Web can still be sent to NOAA, however without the aid of the structured CU Web report format web page. Chart corrections and discrepancies can be submitted to NOAA through the Inquiry and Discrepancy Report System (IDRS) at <http://ocsddata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/discrepancy.aspx>.

Your reports are still important to NOAA and CU training is still a vital link in promoting safety. The Auxiliary and the new NOAA program administrator will begin collaboration that should resolve the issue of giving credit to the Auxiliary for future CU activities.

Note to local boaters:

Maintain caution and be on the lookout for any ATON discrepancies while boating in our Area of Operation.

Significant shoaling and inaccurate buoy locations may exist due to winter storm Jonas. If found, report any discrepancies using USCG AUX D5-7054 Excel form.

Communications

FSO-CM Mike Geletej

Do I need a radio license? The Telecommunications Act of 1996 permits recreational boaters to have and use a VHF marine radio, EPIRB, and marine radar without having an FCC ship station license. Boaters traveling on international voyages, having an HF single sideband radiotelephone or marine satellite terminal, or required to carry a marine radio under any other regulation must still carry an FCC ship station license.

Those not exempted by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 must still have an FCC ship station license. A ship station license application is made on FCC Form 605, available from local FCC Field Offices, by writing to the FCC, P.O. Box 1050, Gettysburg PA 17326, or by calling the FCC Forms Distribution Center at (202)418-3676 or the toll-free number (800) 418-FORM. Forms can also be obtained from most marine electronics dealers.

Radios can be used immediately upon license application. The license is not transferable if a boat is sold or if the installed radio equipment is moved from one boat to another. If you wish to purchase a portable radio for use on more than one boat, only one license is necessary. When completing an FCC Application for Ship Station License (form 506), check "Portable" in block 10, "Type of License".

Patrol Dates

The 4 Hour TCT is being considered early in the 2016 boating season. Several Flotilla members are in need for this year. (Harris, Geletej, Doyle, Widmer)

The 1 Hr Required refresher TCT is being planned for all Boat Crew members.



Patrol dates are currently being planned and may begin the end of May.

Flotilla New Members

Welcome Madison Leigh Kruer, our latest new Flotilla member. Madison has spent time on the water boating with her family and is interested in boating and boating safety.

Welcome aboard is also extended to Steve Straneva, who became a new member the summer of '15 and has since certified in programs of recreational boating safety.

Secretary Johnson Announces New DHS Mission Statement

“With honor and integrity, we will safeguard the American people, our homeland, and our values.”

The Secretary of Homeland Security has released a new mission statement that is intended for all DHS components and the approximately 226,000 personnel across the entire Department.

The above message is a result of thoughts contributed by many members from the entire Department of Homeland Security as to what they felt should be reflective of the Department. To read the entire mission statement, please click on the following link:

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2016/05/11/secretary-johnson-announces-new-dhs-mission-statement>

Communication Services Bruce White, FSO-CS

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<http://a0531201.wow.uscgaux.info>

Admiral Paul F. Zukunft, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, gave his State of the Coast Guard address on February 23. A print copy of his address, only eight pages long, is available at this link:

<http://www.uscg.mil/seniorleadership/DOCS/2016SOTCG.pdf>

In his speech Commandant Zukunft highlights the importance of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and notes his intention to reduce the backlog of Auxiliary members waiting for background checks. A video of the speech is available at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FB-1Ytp7gUI>