

U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

FLOTILLA 3-10

Callao, Virginia



Division 3, 5th Southern

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Boating Safety

Bridge Talk

January-April 2021

Hello Shipmates, well here we are already 1/3 of the way through our very challenging 2021. While we are still somewhat isolated we are making some progress in our Auxiliary lives. We have members working on gaining qualified status as Vessel Examiners, Program Visitors and Boat Crew.

The past few months have seen some members attain the AUXOP qualification while other members are beginning to work on it.

And, last weekend, we had our first group effort and official activity in over a year – our staffing a safety booth and recruiting effort at the Heathsville Farmer's Market. Special thanks to Gary Whelan for organizing the effort as well as kudos to Gary, Karen Whelan, Linda Steele and Phil Landry for staffing the event and

interfacing with about 125 people on boating safety and possible Auxiliary recruitment.

Our Pastoral member, Lee Farmer is busy performing chaplaincy duties for the Coast Guard, including retirement and change of command ceremonies as well as performing counseling duties to active duty personnel.

While many things are looking up we have suffered member losses of our colleagues since the last publication. The passing of retired members Ron Schiller and Ollie Knight as well as active member Ed Gray all occurred recently.

As we progress further into this challenging year our opportunities to engage in Auxiliary activities will hopefully increase. Let's all remember to keep practicing those

safety measures that will allow us to accomplish Auxiliary activities while remaining in a safe and healthy posture. Hopefully before the year is out we will start meeting in person again and eventually socializing at our annual picnic and December Change of Watch.

Lastly, I wish to commend each and every one of you for that great trait

each of you exhibit – RESILIENCE. Attendance at our monthly meetings, albeit by telephone, has not waned over the past year. Each of you deserves a Bravo Zulu for your continued devotion to the Auxiliary and Flotilla 3-10. Thank you most sincerely.

Tom Panther, FC



DWR Report for 2020:

Number of Boating Safety Students has skyrocketed – last year we had 26,931 students (classroom and online) This year to date we have had 38,442 students – that is an increase of 43%.

Boating Incidents:

	2020 (to date)	2019	2018
Total Incidents	108	89	82
Fatalities	21	20	12
Injuries	49	35	41
Property Damage Only	47	34	29

21% increase in total incidents over 2019

5% increase in fatalities over 2019

40% increase in injuries beyond first aid

Facts about the fatalities:

19 Drown

2 Blunt Force Trauma

95% of fatalities were not wearing a life jacket

90% of fatalities drown

Vessel Type	Number of Fatalities	Percentage
Canoes	6	29%
Kayaks	4	19%
Stand Up Paddleboard	1	5%
Jon Boats	6	29%
Open Motorboat	3	14%
PWC	1	5%

% of Fatalities on Paddlecraft: 52%



Women's history Month April 2021

Statement by Secretary Mayorkas on President Biden's Nomination of Vice Adm. Fagan for USCG Vice Commandant

Release Date:

April 19, 2021

WASHINGTON – Today, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas released the following



statement on President Biden's nomination of Vice Adm. Linda L. Fagan to serve as Vice Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard.

"I am pleased that President Biden has nominated Vice Admiral Linda Fagan to be the Vice Commandant of the United States Coast Guard. She is a superb leader who, as the 32nd Vice Commandant, will guide the Coast Guard at a time when its mission of

securing our maritime borders, ports, and waterways has never been more important. If confirmed, Vice Admiral Fagan would serve as the first woman to be promoted to a 4-star rank in the Coast Guard. We are grateful to Vice Admiral Fagan for continuing her service to country, for the trail she has blazed, and for inspiring us all."

Vice Adm. Fagan currently serves as the commander of the Coast Guard Pacific Area, overseeing all Coast Guard missions from the Rocky Mountains to the waters off the East Coast of Africa. Fagan concurrently serves as commander, Defense Force West and provides Coast Guard mission support to the Department of Defense and Combatant Commanders. She is a 1985 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy and is the Coast Guard's first-ever Gold Ancient Trident, the officer with the longest service record in the Marine Safety field.

Pending Senate confirmation, Fagan would serve as the first woman to be promoted to a 4-star rank in the U.S. Coast Guard. She would serve as the 32nd Vice Commandant.

From DHS.gov press release

Heathsville Farmers Market

Several members of Flotilla 3-10 supported a booth promoting safe boating at the Heathsville farmers market on April 17th. This was also a recruiting effort for those visitors who might be interested in joining our

flotilla. We had over 100 visitors to our booth and handed out pamphlets and stickers for those interested. The flotilla will be participating again on May 15th. Hope some others can join next month.



District Commodore's Awards

Member Activity Certificate is awarded annually to a member who performs at least 200 hours. Signed by the **District Commodore**.

GRAY	GEORGE	1125
ONEIL	JOHN	819
PUGLISI	SALVATORE	647
RILEY	JOSEPH	476
PANTHER	THOMAS	464
THOMAS	CHARLES	355
STEELE	LINDA	301
FARMER	ROBERT	253
WHELAN	GARY	213

Member Outstanding Achievement Award is awarded annually to a member who performs any combination of 40 or more hours in Operations (as Skipper or Crew), 100 more Vessel Examinations, 20 or more hours as Head Instructor in PE or MT or 40 hours as aide or combination, 20 or more hours in PA and/or 40 or more MDV visits..." The certificates are signed by the **District Commodore**.

VESSEL EXAMS - SALVATORE PUGLISI 170

MARINE DEALER VISITS - SALVATORE PUGLISI 203

FLOTILLA AWARDS

Flotilla 3-10 traditionally awards the:

Member Mission Activity Award to the member who conducts or performs the Most Marine Dealer Visits, Most Vessel Safety Checks, Most PA hours, Most PE Instructor (Aide) hours, Most PE Instructor (Lead) hours, Most MT Instructor (lead) hours, Most Crew hours in Operations, Most Coxswain hours in Operations. The certificate is made in the Flotilla and signed by the **Flotilla Commander**.

MARINE DEALER VISITS - SALVATORE PUGLISI 203

VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS - SALVATORE PUGLISI 170

PUBLIC AFFAIRS HOURS - GEORGE E GRAY 88

Events in April

April 22 2021 is Earth day, April 30 2021 is Arbor day and April 17–25, is National Park Week. Let's plant a tree, pick up some trash, reduce, reuse, and recycle, and/ or take a hike.

Crossing the Bar by Alfred Lord Tennyson

'*Crossing the Bar*' is about death. Which sounds bleak! But it really isn't, in fact, the narrator states twice that they don't want people to moan or be sorrowful about their situation. The poem uses the [metaphor](#) of a voyage at sea to describe the journey from life to death. Although Tennyson is famed for his poems based on mythology this poem does not fall under that umbrella except for a possible reference to a "pilot" which I have theorized may be an elusion to a mythological creature such as the "ferryman".

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 crost the bar.

In memory of Ron Schiller, Ollie Knight, and Ed Gray



Ollie Knight standing by

Julian Everly Secures Lines for the Last Time

Erik Amato, SO-PB
054-03-10

CALLAO, Va. — During the March 2018 Flotilla 3-10 meeting, Julian Everly announced that he would be retiring after having accumulated more than 65 consecutive years serving in the Coast Guard including Active duty, Reserves and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Julian enlisted in the Coast Guard in September 1953 and began his career with the Auxiliary in January 1969.

When a dear friend to many, a compatriot, a fellow Coast Guard Auxiliarist, and a Coast Guard Guardian decides to retire, what can we say or write that Julian Everly, retired CG Bosun Mate Master Chief, hasn't heard or read already? Throughout the years many thanks and accolades have been extended by non-rates and others in the Coast Guard who were treated respectfully by commercial watermen who treasured Julian's sound advice how to quickly comply with the current safety regulations; by recreational boating students who always had a good take-away from Julian's lessons and were always astonished by his behind-the-back knot tying and by more than 200 fellow Auxiliarists who were mentored and

ultimately certified as Operationally Qualified. Julian evaluated candidates rigorously, fairly and examined them according to high Qualification Standards to be the next generation of Team Coast Guard Boat Operations members. It was common knowledge, if you had been QE'd by Julian, you were among the best in the Operations mission.

Julian has received the thanks of many during his lifetime commitment to TEAM Coast Guard. These have been and will continue to be in the form of personal wishes. But he has also been the recipient of 85 Auxiliary awards alone that recognize his lasting contributions to the Auxiliary as part of TEAM Coast Guard. Throughout his Auxiliary career, Julian served selflessly within elected and appointed leadership positions. He has contributed to virtually every mission area of the Auxiliary. With exceptional leadership and commitment to excellence he raised the bar of professionalism through outstanding skills in training and mentoring of his shipmates. Julian was also instrumental in developing the initial Auxiliary Boat Crew Training Program and in training National Auxiliary Officers in its methodology. Among the first Qualification Examiners in the 5th Southern, he personally mentored and trained three Auxiliary National Commodores, as well as numerous district, division and flotilla officers and members.

During this entire time, Jean, his wife, served by his side and "had his back" – and still does. A Tribute to her in itself! For 32 years Jean Everly served in the

Coast Guard Auxiliary dedicating her time to the promotion of recreational boating safety. A very special “TEAM” within Team Coast Guard. Wishing them the traditional “Fair Winds and Calm Seas”, along with our hopes for a healthy

retirement.

Thanks Julian and Jean – from all of us!

USCG Commander Makes Birthday Video for Auxiliarist Sal Puglisi

THE BLINKER 33 SPRING 2021

COLONIAL BEACH, Va.— Sal Puglisi has been a resident of Colonial Beach, Virginia for the past 20 years and a member of Flotilla 3-10 since 2010. Sal’s 90th Birthday was on 31 January 2021, and despite his advanced middle age, he continues to be a skilled and productive member within the Auxiliary RBS Vessel Examination and Program Visitor missions.

Colonial Beach is a boating community with vessels on trailers, in slips and in storage racks. Sal reaches out to them all with his specially-equipped buggy golf cart that is tricked out with special wheels and tires, an above-average horsepower motor, that pushes it along at 22 mph and a drop-down canvas to protect him when the weather doesn’t cooperate.

Sal’s buggy is a Vessel Safety Check Station on wheels. He just loves serving his community as well as the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

In the past five years Sal has completed 870 VSCs within the community and in 2020 alone completed 170 VSCs, leading Division 3 Vessel Examiners. In addition, he performed 203 Program Visits to local Marine businesses, also the highest number in the Division.

Colonial Beach’s proclamation notes that Sal “has gained the admiration and respect from all walks of life throughout the community”, and I think safe to add, also from the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary.

CAPT Samson Stevens, Commander, Sector Virginia (center) and his staff, made a short video “Happy Birthday Sal” which conveyed thanks for all his service to the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary. They sent it to him on his 90th Birthday, with a follow-up phone call from CAPT Stevens.

Erik Amato, SO-PB
054-03-10

Coast Guard Cutter Harriet Lane welcomes new commanding officer

U.S. Coast Guard sent this bulletin at 04/21/2021 08:36 PM EDT

PORTSMOUTH, Va. — Cmdr. Benjamin Goff relieved Cmdr. Dorothy Hernaez as commanding officer of the USCGC Harriet Lane (WMEC 903) in a change of command ceremony at Coast Guard Base Portsmouth, Wednesday.

Vice Admiral Steven Poulin, the Atlantic Area commander, presided over the event.

Our own flotilla member Lee Farmer was asked to represent the Chaplain Corps due to most of the chaplains being in Boston for training.

Harriet Lane is a multi-mission 270-foot medium endurance cutter homeported at

Base Portsmouth. The crew is responsible for various Coast Guard missions, including search and rescue, enforcement of laws and treaties; maritime defense; and marine environmental protection. The versatility of the Famous-class cutter makes it a cost-effective platform in carrying out national homeland security objectives.

The change-of-command ceremony is a historic military tradition representing the formal transfer of authority and responsibility for a unit from one commanding officer to another. The event reinforces the continuity of command and provides an opportunity to recognize the crew's accomplishments.





Photos by SN Kate Kilroy, USCG

Reminder National Safe Boating Week May 22-28, 2021





U.S. Coast Guard **AUXILIARY** District 5SR

During COVID-19

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WEBSITE LINKS

AUXLMS: <https://auxlearning.uscg.mil/>

NTC: <http://ntc.cgaux.org/>

FEMA: <https://training.fema.gov/emi.aspx>

Auxiliary Training Directorate: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=t-dept>

BOC: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=T-DEPT&category=basic-qualification>

LEADERSHIP: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=AUX 60>

ONLINE CLASSROOM: <http://classroom2.cgaux.org/moodle/>

FLOTILLA 3-10 CALENDAR

April

- 1 – Winter Dress Uniform back in the closet- Now in Tropical Blue
- 4-10 Accountability Drill
- 19 - Flotilla Meeting – (telephonic)
- 30 – FSO April Reports and Calendar additions due

May

- 17 - Flotilla meeting – (telephonic?)
- 22-28 National Safe Boating Week
- 31 – FSO May Reports and Calendar additions due

June

- 1– Start of Hurricane Season
- 21 - Flotilla meeting – (telephonic?)
- 30 – FSO June Reports and Calendar additions due

July

- 19 - Flotilla Meeting – (telephonic?)
- 17 – Flotilla 3-10's 44th Anniversary
- 30- Aug 1 – Leonardtown Boat Races. ??
- 31 – FSO July Reports and Calendar addition due

August

- 1 – Leonardtown Boat Races ??
- 16– Flotilla Meeting & Picnic ?(may be postponed to Sept.)
- 31 - FSO August Reports and Calendar additions due



**District 5 Southern Region Flotilla 3-10
Elected and Appointed Officers 2021**

Flotilla Commander	Thomas M. Panther
Flotilla Vice Commander	Gary M. Whalen
Communications	Vacant
Communications Services	Karen M. Whelan
Finance	Joseph C. Riley
Human Resources	Salvatore J. Puglisi
Information Services	John F. O'Neil
Materials	Linda K. Steele
Member Training	Joseph C. Riley
Navigation Systems	Charles B. Thomas
Operations	Charles B. Thomas
Public Affairs	Thomas M. Panther
Publications	Linda K. Steele
Public Education	Thomas M. Panther
RBS Program Visitor	Philip K. Landry
Secretary/Records	Gary M. Whalen
Vessel Examinations	David J. Brack

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Reminder to all Flotilla members and visitors

When we can meet again, Flotilla 3-10 regular meetings are on the third Monday of each month at Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Callao, Virginia. The meetings are via telephone until further notice. Fellowship starts at 1900 with the meeting at 1930. New members or those interested in joining are welcomed to attend.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES & PHOTOS OF AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES AND ITEMS OF INTEREST TO:

Linda Steele at
steelek59@gmail.com



REMINDER: The Flotilla Web Site is alive and well! All Newsletters, Press Releases and PE Class Flyers will be posted when available – Check it out!

www.Flotilla3-10.org