## U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

FLOTILLA 3-10

Callao, Virginia





Division 3, 5th Southern

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# Boating Safety

### Bridge Talk

September - December 2020

Hello fellow shipmates. Well, we have come to the end of a most troubling year for all of us. While it is easy and tempting to look back on our Auxiliary year as a glass half-empty I think we can find some positives despite what has been thrown at us.

Yes, most of our services to our communities have been drastically curtailed, especially in the complete elimination of patrol and public education activities. Despite that curtailment, we do have some accomplishments that we should be proud of.

First and foremost of our accomplishments is everyone's continued interest in being America's Volunteer Lifesavers. Yes, despite this profoundly disappointing year, we have kept Flotilla 3-10 a viable organization with motivated, yes, still motivated, membership. While we did experience some retirements that were natural progressions in former members' lives, we did not lose any active members of 3-10 this year. I find that fact very gratifying.

Also, once we were able to proceed on some of the restricted activities, our qualified members performed an admirable number of Program Visits and Vessel Safety Checks. On a per-member basis, 3-10 held its own when compared to the other three Flotillas in our Division.

While the Flotilla decided on the funding pre-COVID, we were able to send both Gary Whelan and myself to D-Train for three days in February, helping to ensure effective Flotilla leadership for many continued years.

We continue to have excellent "attendance" at our monthly flotilla meetings and, in those periodic readiness or health and welfare checks, every member has responded accordingly. The Flotilla is still publishing a periodic newsletter, members are continuing their online training and taking voluntary online proficiency courses. All of our Flotilla Staff Officers, covering 14 Auxiliary areas, are still serving in those functions.

### **Bridge Talk Cont.**

These are signs of a healthy organization, albeit one hankering to get out in 2021 and accomplish those other Auxiliary things we all want to get done. One challenge I personally worry about is – will we all still fit in our uniforms the next time we meet for real. So, thank each and every one of you

for your continued service. Here is wishing each of you continued good health and well-being and to having a very enjoyable holiday season. Please stay well and best wishes,

Tom Panther, FC

### New Bridge for Flotilla 3-10 for 2021



Flotilla Vice Commander Gary Whelan and Flotilla Commander Thomas Panther (L - R)

## **Awards**

### The Century Club Award

"The Century Club Award is presented to Salvatore J. Puglisi in recognition of completing One Hundred Vessel Examinations and/or Program Visits (actually the number is way higher than the minimum 100 required to get the award) during 2019 in support of The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Recreational Boating Safety Program."

In fact, in the five years from 2016 through this month, Sal has performed a total of 1084 Program Visits and conducted 870 Vessel and Paddle craft checks involving 1,125 hours.

### **Other Awards**

#### **Division Auxiliarist of the Year**

Our own Jack O'Neil, for his incredible contributions on AUXDATA II. Congratulations Jack.

AUXOP certification was earned by Lee Farmer, congratulations Lee.



# SANTA SAYS . . . DON'T FORGET THE GIFT OF BOATING SAFETY FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!





This message from USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 3-10 5 SR Callao, VA



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This message from USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 3-10 5 SR Callao, VA

WEAR IT

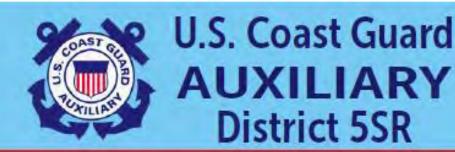
# SANTA SAYS . . . DON'T FORGET THE GIFT OF BOATING SAFETY FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!





This message from USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 3-10 5 SR Callao, VA





# **During COVID-19**

# Let's Stay Engaged! Online Training







Roll your mouse over the icons for more info about classes!

As easy as ...

1.Click 2.login 3.learn

### **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

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

LEADERSHIP: http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=AUX60

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

### FLOTILLA 3-10 CALENDAR

### December

- 5 Division meeting via telephone, or Zoom
- 14 Flotilla meeting Telephonic
- 31 FSO Reports and Calendar additions due

### January

- 18 Flotilla meeting Telephonic, (most likely)
- 31 FSO Reports and Calendar additions due

### February

- 15 Flotilla meeting Telephonic, (most likely)
- 28 FSO Reports and Calendar additions due





# District 5 Southern Region Flotilla 3-10 Elected and Appointed Officers 2020

Flotilla Commander . . . . . . Thomas M. Panther Flotilla Vice Commander . . . . . . . Gary M. Whalen Communications . . . . . . . . Donald Chamberlain 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 . . . . . G. Edward Gray, Jr. 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

Linda Steele at steelelk59@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