

U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

FLOTILLA 3-10

Callao, Virginia



Division 3, 5th Southern

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*Boating
Safety*

Bridge Talk

Summer 2021

Well, here we are in the beginning of Fall, 2021, and we are still dealing with our second year of COVID with the Delta variant now upon us.

I think the flotilla is coping as best we can.

We have cancelled some activities but have carried on with others.

We are back to meeting in person with fair attendance at our July and September meetings.

In the past year, we have added three new members and welcome Wayne DiRosario, Maureen McKay and Rich Stewart on board as they begin their Auxiliary careers.

Our members are back to Vessel Safety Checks, Program Visits, boat patrols and the like.

Flotilla 3-10 is prepared to march into the future as two excellent candidates have stepped forward to fill our leadership bridge in 2022.

Both Gary Whelan as our candidate for Flotilla Commander, as well as Lee Farmer as our Flotilla Vice Commander will provide us with an excellent Bridge beginning in January.

We have begun discussions on hosting our traditional Change of Watch ceremony in December, Covid – permitting.

As we all know, each of us is the sole determining factor in what we make of our individual Auxiliary careers. I want to take this opportunity to thank those of you pursuing those Auxiliary activities you have chosen. I hope that our “less active” members will re-engage in our flotilla and our various

chosen missions. We always have a handful of Flotilla Staff Officer positions available for anyone interested.

In the meantime, here is hoping that each and every member of 3-10

remains healthy, engaged and enjoying their auxiliary membership.

Bravo-Zulu.

Tom Panther, FC

Flotilla 3-10 celebrates the 100th birthday of former Coast Guard member

The U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 54-03-10, along with the Richmond County Sheriff's Office and Fire Department celebrated the 100th birthday of former Coast Guard member Marguerite Grace Brackett Spear on September 18, 2021 at her home. With lights flashing and sirens on, the flotilla members were escorted to her home. The members of Flotilla 54-03-10 presented her with a certificate of appreciation for her service during World War II and the Sheriff's Department presented her with a Challenge Coin from their office and a round of Happy Birthday was sung by all who attended.





Marguerite Spear was born on Labor Day September 5, 1921 in Richmond Virginia and grew up in Washington D.C.

When World War II broke out in 1941, Marguerite surprised everyone who knew her by joining the U.S. Coast Guard in Washington. She was one of the first women to join the “Semper Paratus, Always Ready” or SPARs. She joined the Coast Guard because it was the smallest in numbers of the military services. She had to gain weight before they would take her which she accomplished by drinking many milkshakes. She was sent to Hunter College in New York for boot camp, then to yeoman school in Oklahoma along with other Coast Guard members. After yeoman school, she was sent to New York City. After arriving in Manhattan, she

was assigned to the intelligence division of the Coast Guard, and was introduced to the man whose position she was taking. Marguerite was an ace stenographer, accompanying investigators, taking notes and transcribing them later. Always busy, she enjoyed her service to this nation. She served in Manhattan until the war ended in September, 1945. When the war ended, Marguerite walked to 42nd Street and could barely move because it was so crowded.



After the war, she went to work at the Federal Bureau of Investigation but when the Office of Strategic Services became the Central Intelligence Agency, (CIA) Marguerite went to work there and retired from the CIA. Each place she worked she found was interesting and kept her very busy.

After her career in Washington, she moved to Montross, Virginia. She enjoyed traveling, which as an avid reader, she still does through her books. Marguerite, being a woman of faith also became active at her church.

Marguerite says that the older she gets the more fascinated she is with people's behavior and the less she understands it. Even at 100, Marguerite has a very sharp mind and a very quick wit. One of her favorite sayings is "it's a wonderful life if you're strong enough to get through it".

Written by Nancy Kittrell and Linda Steele; Pictures by Linda Steele

Heathsville Farmers Market

Several members of Flotilla 3-10 supported a booth promoting safe boating at the Heathsville Farmers Market on May 15th. This was also a recruiting effort for those visitors who

might be interested in joining our flotilla. We had many visitors to our booth and handed out pamphlets and stickers for those interested.



MEMBER AWARDS, AND QUALIFICATIONS:

Erik Amato received his 35 year (YES! 35 Years!) Certificate. Congratulations Erik.



Gary Whelan, Erik Amato & Tom Panther all received their certificates of appointment to their 2021 Offices.

Sal Puglisi received the Division Awards for VEs and PVs for 2020.



FLOTILLA AWARDS

The Flotilla placed second for hours of service in 2020.

We received the Division Award for most PA hours in 2020, most VEs and most PVs in 2020.

Tom Panther, Gary Whalen, and Karen Whalen were tested by Chuck Mullen, the Qualification Examiner Area Coordinator (Sector Virginia) on 9 September.



Jean Everly Visits Julian Everly's memorial Brick at USCG Station Milford Haven





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

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

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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

September

20 - Flotilla Meeting – In person finally at Good Shepard Lutheran Church

24-26 – V-Train

30 - FSO July Reports and Calendar addition due

October

2-3 - Boat Races St. George Island

18 - Flotilla Meeting - Good Shepard Lutheran Church - COVID permitting

31 - FSO August Reports and Calendar additions due

November

TBD – Fall State Instructor workshops

15 - Flotilla Meeting –Good Shepard Lutheran Church – COVID permitting

30 - FSO July Reports and Calendar addition due

December

TBD - Flotilla Meeting – Change of Watch location TBD

31 - FSO July Reports and Calendar addition 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	Vacant
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