

U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

FLOTILLA 3-10

Callao, Virginia



Division 3, 5th Southern

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Boating
Safety

Bridge Talk

November/December 2019

Shipmates,

On Thursday December 12, 2019 at the Flotilla's Change of Watch (COW), combined with the monthly meeting at Nino's Italian Restaurant I passed the gavel to Thomas Panther, newly elected Flotilla Commander of Flotilla 54-03-10. It marked the end of my tenure as Flotilla Commander for the past two years. Tom was the Vice Flotilla Commander for the past year as well as secretary for the last two years. Being a relatively new member to the Auxiliary, he has shortened the learning curve, and become well versed in most of the functions of the Auxiliary and the position of Flotilla Commander. I know without a doubt he will do well. Additionally, Gary Whalen was elected Vice

Commander. He too was able to fulfill all the requirements for that position as well as being appointed secretary. I wish them both well in the completion of their duties for the auxiliary. I commend all new FSO's who stepped up to fulfill the same positions they held last year and to Sal Puglisi who stepped up to fill the HR position which was vacated by Gary Palsgrove upon his retirement. It is my sincere wish that other members of the flotilla who have not stepped up to fill an appointed or elected position in the flotilla follow their example and do the same. Do more than just being a member, be an active member.

Respectfully, Andris Baltins

Division Change Of Watch

The Division 3 Change of Watch (COW) was held December 7 at Westwood Club in Richmond, Virginia. Our own Ed Gray was sworn in as the 2020 Division Commander and Jenny Stack as Vice Commander. Below is Ed's speech as presented at the Division COW.



Welcome to all here today and thank you for coming. The Division is proud to host our Coast Guard contingent as well as the EXCOM in attendance and please know you are welcome to attend at any time but be aware you could be asked to participate in some way.

I would like to begin by thanking my Admiral who supports me 100 percent even when I don't always deserve it. I want to thank Eric for his leadership and for including me in the learning process for the last two years. It has been an

honor and a privilege to work with him. I want to thank Amy for recruiting me two years ago. Without that one phone call I would not be here today. I want to thank Jenny for accepting the challenge of being our VCDR. And I want to thank every member of the USCG and the Auxiliary who has taken the time to mentor me, even if only in a brief conversation and maybe even unbeknownst to them. I am proud today to be the very first Sworn in Division Commander for Division 03 **Sector Virginia**.

In case you have not noticed my Mom and Dad raised a big kid but they did not raise a stupid kid. I learned long ago that if it isn't broken don't fix it. Well we aren't broken. We have been blessed with outstanding leadership throughout the years and I see our job as keeping it going. Do we have problems? Yes. We must recruit. Although we as a Division do a great job and set an example for others to follow we are getting dangerously small and we must address that. We must get membership to turn out for meetings. We must share, amongst ourselves, our successes, our problems, our concerns, our opportunities and our solutions. We must improve our communications. We must work more as a TEAM because

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE.

I had a boss who used to say “In order to know where you are going you must know where you are and how you got here.” I think we know where we are. I hope we know how we got here. It is now up to us, the Division Board, the Staff Officers and the membership, to decide what needs to be done going forward. I pledge myself to that task. I challenge each member to do their best and just a little bit more BUT always remember we are VOLUNTEERS. As such, all leadership needs to understand if it isn't fun or rewarding or the membership is not seeing a Return on Investment they can always find something else to do. But also remember as was quoted at D-Train. The Titanic was built by engineers. The Ark was built by volunteers.

Amelia Earhart said “The most effective way to do it is to just do it.” Well let's just do it TOGETHER.



Ed Gray DCDR (e)



Flotilla Change Of Watch

The Change of Watch (COW) for Flotilla 3-10 occurred on December 12, 2019, at Nino's Italian Restaurant. The COW was attended by about 25 Flotilla members and guests. The new Flotilla Commander, Thomas Panther, and Vice Commander, Gary Whalen, were sworn in as well as the Flotilla Staff Officers (FSO).



Most of the FSOs remained in their positions they held last year. The Finance FSO position will now be held by Joe Riley and the Human Relations position will be filled by Sal Puglisi. Thanks to Joe and Sal for taking over these positions. The flotilla gave Andy Baltins a gift in appreciation of his years of service as Commander.



The Fellowship award ended in a tie with Charlie Thomas and Sal Puglisi getting the same number of votes at the November meeting. Each was given the award instead of trying to break the tie.

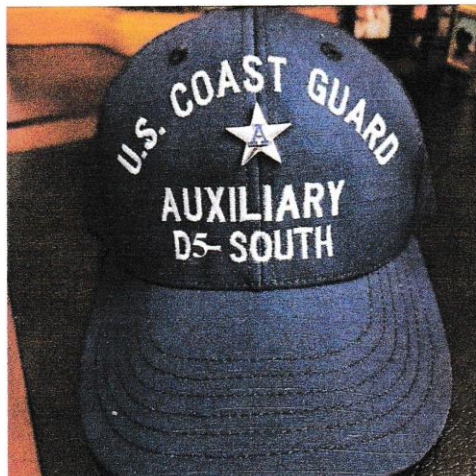


Flotilla Change Of Watch



We missed all those who were not able to attend. We wish them a merry Christmas, happy holidays, and happy, healthy New Year and look forward to seeing them all in 2020. We are looking forward to a productive new year.





 **WEAR WITH PRIDE**

Order your authorized for wear with your ODU uniform ball cap NOW !!

SIZE: _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large

NAME: _____

AUXILIARY MEMBER #: _____

SHIPPING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

\$25.00 EACH

Form of payment: Cash _____ Check # _____

-or-

Credit card # _____

Expiration _____ Code _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

FLOTILLA 3-10 CALENDAR

December 2019

30 - FSO December Reports and 2020 Calendar additions due

January 2020

11 - TBD Division Awards Ceremony Westwood Club, Richmond

20 - Flotilla meeting –Snacks, Tom Panther

31 - FSO January Reports and Calendar additions due

February 2020

17 - Flotilla meeting –Snacks, TBD

21-23 – D-Train, Raleigh, NC

28 - FSO February Reports and Calendar additions due

March 2020

16- Flotilla meeting – St. Patrick's Pot Luck dinner

30 – FSO March Reports and Calendar additions due

April 2020

1 – Winter Dress Uniform back in the closet- Now in Tropical Blue

20 - Flotilla Meeting – Snacks. TBD

30 – FSO April Reports and Calendar additions due

May

16 – 23 National Safe Boating Week

18 - Flotilla meeting – Snacks TBD

30 – FSO May 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	Glen R. Thomason
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	Frederick E. Woodard
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

Flotilla 3-10 regular meetings are on the third Monday of each month at Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Callao, Virginia. 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
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