

BOATING SAFETY

ADVOCATE

Newsletter



FLOTILLA 3-10



CALLAO, VA



October • 2016 • Erik Amato FSO-PB

TEN FLOTILLA 3-10 MEMBERS RECEIVE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD





Joe Riley Flotilla Commander 3-10

Safety is No Accident

We will not have finished our mission activities until December 31 but I am confident we will end the year as safely as we have conducted our missions to date. Safety is an integral part of our culture. Safety is no accident.

In 2016 we have already completed 400 Vessel Safety Checks aboard boats in the water and on trailers throughout our wide geographical area of operation; 543 Program Visits involving travel to and from widely separated Partners; 6 Public and 5 Private boating safety education classes for 856 students in 4 counties of the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula. Flotilla members have collectively contributed to 76 patrol missions on the Potomac, Rappahannock, and Piscataway Rivers and their tributaries involving over a combined 425 underway hours.

All of these Auxiliary missions have been conducted with the objective to promote recreational boating safety; all have been completed without incident or injury. They have involved nearly 18,000 miles driving to and from these missions. Safety is no accident.

Our multi-purpose missions over several prior years have also involved no incident or injury. Safety was and is integral to our culture of personal and organizational performance. Safety was no accident in the past. It still isn't.

Whatever the mission, safety is a function of individual situational awareness, taking adult responsibility for individual actions, but also looking out for team/fellow members. Team Coordination Training (TCT) sessions reinforce safety but so do periodic inspections of Personal Protective Equipment – including life jackets worn by Vessel Examiners. The General Assessment of Risk (the infamous Green–Amber–Red GAR score) for each Operations mission contributes to the culture of safety. Every “assignment to duty” helps to remind us that we are embarking on a mission–albeit routine–that might have accidental, injurious consequences. As bothersome as they may seem to some, periodic accountability drill/alerts are reminders that our safety is a Unit and team concern.

Accidents happen. Safety is no accident.

Be safe doing all our missions.

Joe

FLOTILLA NOVEMBER CALENDAR

All Month Complete all reports due, begin planning for 2017

Monday November 21, 2016 . . . Flotilla Meeting/Elections – Snacks Andy Baltins

Thursday November 30, 2016 FSO-Reports and Calendar additions Due

All Month Give thanks to all spouses for their support



WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

It's a warm and breezy afternoon and you've been at the marina launch ramp most of the day conducting Vessel Safety Checks. Suddenly you're approached by a boater with lots of concern in his voice.

He heard rumors about some boating rules and restrictions and there are a lot of places he can't go anymore, and he doesn't know anything about it. He's afraid to venture very far in his boat where he might get into trouble. He really wants to go fishing today.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Tell him – sorry buddy, you should do an internet search or take a boating class, I'm busy!

or What?

The answer is elsewhere in this issue

SEE SOMETHING – SAY SOMETHING

Message sent to Glen Thomason recently. "While we were sailing across the Potomac last week from Cabin Point, we passed this large float about halfway across the river and in line with Coles Point. Feel free to pass the message/pictures on to your friends in the Coast Guard Auxiliary or anyone else who might be interested." Fred and Suzanne Lepple



Photo by Fred and Suzanne Lepple



It is election time for the nation as well as the Auxiliary. We are now bombarded with all the campaign bluster nationally and it is up to us to decide who we want to lead the nation.



Ed Gray Flotilla Vice Commander 3-10

Thank heaven flotilla elections are not as difficult but we have a similar decision to make. Who should our next Flotilla Commander be and not just the next person in line. Who is capable and willing to assume the position?

After due considerations and an in-depth discussion with the Admiral (my wife) I have entered my name for the position of FC. If elected I will serve to the best of my ability but as Gary Palsgrove so wisely stated at our last meeting – "we are a TEAM and we will do all the jobs as a TEAM". Joe Theismann once stated that TEAM means "Together Everyone Achieves More" and I think that is very fitting.

Another item to think about are the Flotilla Staff Officer positions. For 5 years, my tenure anyway, we have enjoyed some very professional FSOs who have done a great job. I expect that to continue with maybe some new people in new positions. Where would you like to serve? Joe Riley has been reporting in his monthly FC report to the Division that there are concerns about Operations in the future. We are getting older and we now have 5 active Coxswains and 6 active crew. We also currently have only 4 active facilities. What can we do about this? Is there anyone interested in becoming a Coxswain or crew or putting their boat into the fleet? In December of last year at our Change of Watch meeting I said 2016 would be an important year for the Flotilla. I am very pleased with where we are and the continued direction we have. Last year I was not certain that would happen. Now we must look around and decide our next steps. As a TEAM, what needs to be done and how do we do it TOGETHER?



LAST FLOTILLA 3-10 CHARTER MEMBER RETIRES



George H. Pickering – original Flotilla 3-10 Charter Member

George H. Pickering, the last of the original 12 Flotilla 3-10 Charter Members, also known as “Plank Holders”, has requested retirement status. George (originally his member number was 054-03-10-008) is retiring after 40-years membership in the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

George Pickering originally joined Flotilla 33, “Kilmarnock”, in May 1976 but when several members who regularly boated on the Potomac petitioned the Fifth Southern Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX) to form the Callao Flotilla, he signed onto the newly formed Flotilla. George brought with him his Operational Facility (OPFAC) “KOJAK”. The newly organized Flotilla 3-10 was chartered at Gwynn's Island on July 21, 1977 and has served ever since as the primary Flotilla supporting the Coast Guard on the Lower Potomac.

During his membership in Flotilla 3-10 George Pickering served in several capacities, not least of which was the third Flotilla Commander (1980). He received numerous awards during his 40-year membership, including CG Unit Commendations, the Department of Transportation Secretary's Outstanding Unit Award, a Presidential Unit Citation, and, of course, 8 Auxiliary Membership Service awards.

Bravo Zulu George – for your 40 years of promoting recreational boating safety and helping to lay the foundation of Flotilla 3-10 that we serve today.

Joe Riley FC 3-10

Not Everything That Comes Out Of The Water Is Seafood!



Joe Riley watched this beautiful Buck swim across the Lower Machodoc Creek and come ashore on “Riley Point” beside his home

FIFTH SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD ELECTS NEW LEADERSHIP

At the September District Board Meeting in Richmond Virginia a new Fifth Southern Auxiliary Executive Committee (EXCOM) was elected by the sitting Division Commanders and other eligible voting members of the Board. 31 December is the final day for the current EXCOM to remain in office.

1 January 2017 begins the term for the newly elected leadership, who will guide and direct our District in the upcoming year. The Commodore (elect) is David Adams who will be completing a two year term as District Chief of Staff under COMO Rob Sersen. The District Chief of Staff (elect) (DCOS) is Michelle Thornton who has served as our District Captain for Sector Hampton Roads for the past two years. Bruce Johnson was elected (second term) as District Captain for Sector Baltimore–National Capital Region (DCAPT–SB-NCR). District Captain (elect) for Sector Hampton Roads (DCAPT–SHR) is Todd Egnor, and District Captain (elect) for Sector North Carolina (DCAPT–SNC) is Allen Fredd.

2017 FIFTH DISTRICT SOUTHERN REGION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



DIRAUX CDR Steven Fachko



Commodore (elect) David Adams



DCOS (elect) Michelle Thornton



Immediate Past Commodore
Robert Sersen, Jr.



DCAPT SB-NCR
Bruce Johnson



DCAPT (elect) SHR
Todd Egnor



DCAPT (elect) SNC
Allen Fredd

(not pictured and also a voting member of EXCOM – President of the Past Commanders Association)

FOUR FLOTILLA 3-10 MEMBERS RECEIVE CENTURY CLUB AWARD

During the October Division meeting held in Tappahannock, VA, the annual Century Club Award was presented to numerous Division 3 members of which four were from Flotilla 3-10. The “Century Club Award” is given each year to Auxiliary members who perform 100 or more Vessel Safety Checks and/or Program Visits between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016.



DCAPT–SHR (2017 DCOS elect) Michelle Thornton presents “Century Club Awards” to Flotilla 3-10 members (l to r) Joe Riley, Sal Puglisi, and Phil Landry. Gary Palsgrove also received the award but was not present

DIVISION 3 ELECTS LEADERSHIP FOR 2017



At the October meeting the Division 3 Board elected Amy Thomas DCDR (l) and Eric Perkins VCDR (r) to second terms to lead the Division for 2017. DCAPT (DCOS elect) Michelle Thornton is in the center.

TEN FLOTILLA 3-10 MEMBERS RECEIVE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

One of the highlights of the October 8th Division Meeting aside from the election of Division leadership for 2017 was the presentation of the President's Lifetime Achievement Award to 10 members of Flotilla 3-10.

To qualify for the award the member must have performed at least 4000 hours of volunteer service during their Auxiliary Career.

Members of Flotilla 3-10 who earned the award were:

- Erik Amato-9344 hours
- Carroll Barrack-5885 hours
- Julian Everly-5911 hours
- George Ed Gray, Jr.-5254 hours
- Oliver Knight-8279 hours
- John O'Neil-9904 hours
- Gary Palsgrove-12,968 hours
- Joe Riley-26,387 hours
- Charles Thomas-4090 hours
- Frederick Woodard-4540 hours

Editors Note: Long career Auxiliary members who were active in the 1970's and 1980's probably have accumulated two to three times the number of hours shown due to the lack of hour reporting during those time periods.



DCAPT-SHR (DCOS elect) Michelle Thornton presents the Presidential Awards to Flotilla 3-10 members in attendance (top) Joe Riley, (bottom l to r) Erik Amato, Julian Everly and Ed Gray, Jr.



MANDATED TRAINING BRINGS A REWARD

Susan Lowe, the District ADSO-MT for Sector Hampton Roads (SHR), challenged all the Divisions in the Sector to be the first to have 75% of their members complete the Mandated Training courses. The prize she would personally underwrite was to be a pizza party for the winning Division. Michelle Thornton DCAPT-SHR, complemented that challenge with a prize of her own – beverages to help wash the pizza down.

Division 3 met the challenge head on with training sessions to help those who were not comfortable with on-line training or webinars. Every one of the several training methods was employed to get the job done months before the December 31st deadline for most current members. Flotilla 33 achieved 100%; as of this publication date Flotilla 3-10 achieved also has achieved the 100% mark. FL 3-2 has achieved 75% and FL 3-1 coming along nicely at 66%.




Susan Lowe ADSO-MT 5SR

The 4th quarter Division meeting was slated to be hosted by Flotilla 3-10 and it was proposed that the pizza party be combined with the meeting and be held in Tappahannock. Bella Pizza restaurant in was proposed as the venue because they have been such strong supporters of the Flotilla 3-10's PE program. They also serve the best pizza in the area according to their loyal patrons (some just happen to be Flotilla members too).

Joe Riley FC 3-10



HURRICANE WARNINGS – REFRESHER

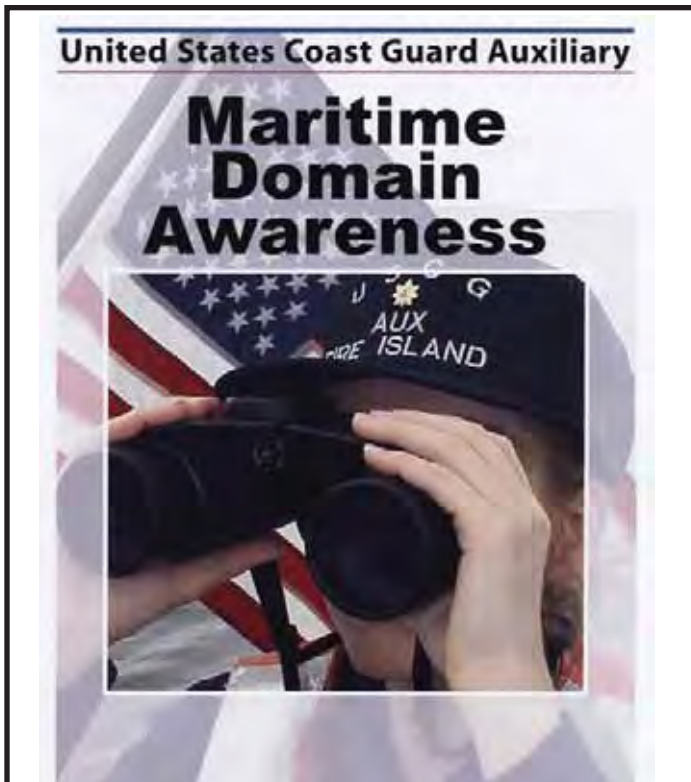
| Sustained surface winds ≥ 39 mph / 34 knots possible within... | USCG <u>Hurricane Readiness Conditions (HURCONs)</u> (Directed by Area Commander & Set by the Operational Commander for an area of responsibility) | | USCG <u>Port Readiness Conditions (PORTCONs)</u> (Set by Captain of the Port for a specific port based upon the assessment of what is best for the port and vessel safety): | | USCG Maritime Transportation System Recovery status |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| | | | Label | Summary & USCG actions | |
| N/A | 5 | Seasonal Enhanced recall posture automatically set by LANTAREA District units from 1 June - 30 November each year, unless otherwise directed by the District Commander. | N/A | normal operations | N/A |
| 72 hours | 4 | The alert condition. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced recall posture District Commanders may set this as an automatic requirement from 1 June through 30 November. | WHISKEY | Port Open With Enhanced Readiness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May host meeting to assist vessels in port and determine berthing priorities. May conduct port checks to ID ships in port w/o power or restricted in ability to maneuver, location of dredges, etc. May require oceangoing vessels to request permission to stay in port. May restrict vessels transporting oil or certain Hazardous Material from operations or deny entry into port. | N/A |
| 48 hours | 3 | The watch condition. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review local plans Ensure safety of personnel and families Relocate assets as needed (boats pulled or moved to safer waters) Storm avoidance for cutters and Aircraft Personnel accountability | X-RAY | Port Open With Enhanced Readiness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Port open to all commercial traffic May conduct port surveys Plans submitted to Captain of the Port (COTP) for all vessels remaining in port. May ensure vessels and terminal operators are prepared to terminate cargo handling ops within 24 hours. Advise port of intentions for setting next port readiness condition including degree of vessel control. | N/A |
| 24 hours | 2 | The warning condition. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete shuttering of government buildings Stowage of loose gear/equipment Facility preparation for potential wind damage and/or flooding. | YANKEE | Port Open With Restrictions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vessel traffic control measures in effect. May establish a safety zone controlling vessel movements and activities. May make final decision on which vessels must be moved from port. May inspect mooring & stowage of vessels approved to remain at their berth. Possible facility & vessel surveys to address any remaining discrepancies. | N/A |
| 12 hours or less | 1 | The danger condition. All precautionary measures taken to protect life and property are completed. Evacuation efforts should be completed at the beginning of this danger condition | ZULU | Port Closed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All YANKEE measures, plus: Port status: closed to all vessel traffic except for vessel movements and activities specifically authorized by the COTP. May dispatch Port Operations reps to municipal EOCs | N/A |
| Storm passed or dissipated; no longer threatens area | Post-storm | Recovery / reconstitution of USCG forces & facilities to resume seasonal readiness. | N/A | See MTS Recovery status  | Recovery-Closed Recovery-Open with restrictions Recovery-Open |



***Hurricane Season is nearing it's end!
But it's not over 'till it's over –
Continue to Stand Ready!***

DID YOU KNOW . . . ?

. . . . that any member of a volunteer service organization (such as the CG Auxiliary) is offered a 10% discount off your entire bill by the owners of Northern Neck Burger at their Kilmarnock and Tappahannock locations. Just show your membership card at checkout.



KEEP A VIGILANT WATCH



WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Aside from our Boating Safety Classes, PA notices and Press Releases, we're always getting requests for information directly from the boating public.

For the new or occasional boater there have been many changes to rules and restrictions that they may not be aware of, which are being enforced along our waterways by Local and State law enforcement and Coast Guard cutter and small boat crews.

In waterways such as the one's that are close to Flotilla 3-10, there are many potential restricted areas that the recreational boater needs to be aware of such as Naval Security Zones around Naval vessels, anchoring under bridges, and a host of other potential "target" areas that are "off limits" to recreational boaters.

We include this information in our boating safety classes and should carry the handout materials that are available to us so we can distribute it during VSC's or when answering questions like this excited boater asked. It should be a natural extension of your normal "safety talk" while completing your Vessel Safety Check.



Practice and Preach . . . *Maritime Domain Awareness* and *America's Waterway Watch*

3-10 FC PASSES PFD INFO TO CHESAPEAKE BAY MAGAZINE

Flotilla 3-10's Commander Joe Riley recently read an article in Chesapeake Bay Magazine which prompted him to send a note to Ann Levelle, Managing Editor of the magazine. The article was about "Stand Up Paddleboards", and which lifejackets to use and how to properly wear them. There is a misconception on how to wear what some call a "fanny pack" PFD.

Joe's comments to the editor included an email response which stated: "I have attached a series of pictures that demonstrate why the proper place to wear the inflatable bag is as a "belly pack". These are demonstrated in these photos by Gary Palsgrove, another Boating Safety Instructor. Gary has inflated the "belly pack" inflatable life jacket for hundreds of boating safety students over the past several years."



LOOKING BACK . . .



MAKING PLANS . . .

MOVING FORWARD!



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

www.Flotilla3-10.org

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

ERIK AMATO FSO-PB 3-10 5SR
trawler@wildblue.net

(Editors Reminder - all that you do is significant and
important! Share it with others in this publication.)

Fifth Southern Flotilla 3-10 Elected and Appointed Officers 2016

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Flotilla Commander | Joseph C. Riley |
| Flotilla Vice Commander | G. Edward Gray, Jr |
| Communications | Donald Chamberlain |
| Communications Services | Erik H. Amato |
| Finance | Oliver M. Knight |
| Human Resources | Gary I Palsgrove |
| Information Services | John F. O'Neil |
| Materials | Glen R. Thomason |
| Member Training | Julian W. Everly |
| Navigation Systems | Charles B. Thomas |
| Operations | Joseph C. Riley |
| Public Affairs | G. Edward Gray, Jr |
| Publications | Erik H. Amato |
| Public Education | Vacant |
| RBS Program Visitor | Philip K. Landry |
| Secretary/Records | Andris Baltins |
| Vessel Examinations | David J. Brack |