



Flotilla 10-05 Hits the Ground Running in 2024

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The Loudhailer The Newsletter of Flotilla 10-05 Southport, North Carolina

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On the Cover

Senior Chief Logan Adkisson, USCG, swears in Bob Kielley and Frank Pope



Flotilla Commander's Column



2024 quickly became a very active year for our Flotilla 10-05. Many of our members, Staff Officers and elected leaders met in February to decide how we were going to conduct business and established priorities on behalf of our membership. Separate 10-05 committees were established and empowered to assist us in 5 key areas: people management , RBS, technology, member training and Boat ops/ ATONS.

In the pages that follow this column you will see pictures from Rich O'Donnell for much of our first half of 2024 activity. Rich has included photos from Public education classes, member training, Vessel exams, Aton verification, boat patrols and multiple public affairs events.



In the last couple of years Flotilla 10-05 has developed a great combination of experienced Auxiliarists as well as a group of talented new members who will help the Auxiliary and active duty in a variety of necessary and important new areas.

We currently assist Station Oak Island directly with communication watch-standing, Aton verification, cooking, gardening and general maintenance. We have also been asked to help the Station in other areas where Auxiliarists have much needed experience to assist the active duty members.

Two new projects under development include-

1. Engineering a pilot program in the US for larger Coast Guard Stations where there are regular procurement responsibilities (handled instead by an Auxiliarist) creating purchase orders and working weekly with Coast Guard Station vendors.
2. Training active duty station personnel to utilize Microsoft Power App applications in many of the Stations day to day military processes

Other Areas where we have been asked in the future to provide direct assistance to The Coast Guard include:

Providing investment advice, becoming a trained drone operator, training the gold side in powerpoint & Excel, Inspecting containerships and working at Sector NC Comm center.



Flotilla 10-05 has a talented and dedicated membership base that has accomplished quite a bit and should be congratulated!

Many thanks to Frank Pope our vice flotilla commander and to all of our great new members, staff officers and committee members.

Keep up the good work!

Bob Kielley
Flotilla Commander



Rich O'Donnell and Bob Kielley presenting the 2023 New member of the Year award to Kirk Fox.



2024 Change of Watch and Fellowship Dinner

Flotilla 10-05 conducted our Change of Watch and Fellowship Dinner on 1 February 2024 in St. James.

Kim Curry served as the Master of Ceremonies and he conducted a great program. Lieutenant Commander Nicholas M. Pavlik, USCG, was a great guest speaker and he and CWO Bryan Klostermeyer, USCG, represented Sector North Carolina.

Senior Chief Logan Adkisson, USCG, the Officer in Charge of Station Oak Island, swore in Bob Kielley our newly elected flotilla commander and Frank Pope our vice flotilla commander.

We were honored to have Lou Stanton, our division commander, attending the ceremony representing Division 10.

Rich O'Donnell our outgoing flotilla commander and Bob Kielley swore in the 2024 flotilla staff officers.

Our distinguished honorees were Geoffrey and Diane Chaney. The flotilla gave a warm reception to the Chaney's and their family members. Geoff and Diane served the flotilla and the Auxiliary for many years and in many roles. They set an example of excellence during their years of service.

The flotilla also recognized Frank Pope as Auxiliarist of the Year for 2023 and Benjamin (Kirk) Fox as New Member of the Year.

Congratulations to all.



2024 Change of Watch and Fellowship Dinner



Rich O'Donnell pays tribute to Geoff and Diane Chaney as Lieutenant Commander Nicholas Pavlik and Bob Kielley look on.



2024 Flotilla Staff Officers

Our 2024 flotilla staff officers were sworn in at the Change of Watch and Fellowship Dinner. The flotilla depends upon the flotilla staff officers to manage the different programs that the flotilla offers. Congratulations to the following members for their valuable service to the flotilla.

- David A. Pennell, Communications (Radio)
- Mark S. Lawson, Communications Services (Website and Social Media)
- Kent L. Olson, Diversity and Inclusion
- Patrick J. Ryan, Finance
- Harry E. McClard, Human Resources
- Mark S. Lawson, Information Services
- Jody D. Burgart, Materials
- John A. Klotsko, Jr. Navigation Services
- Vincent W. Gubey, Operations
- Rich O'Donnell, Public Affairs and Publications
- Dawn L. Smith, Public Education
- Theodore J. Stephens, Program Visitation
- Edward Kamerer, Secretary / Recorder
- Benjamin K. Fox, Vessel Examinations

The flotilla also paid tribute to flotilla member John M. Gobble who crossed the bar during 2023. John was a long time member of the Auxiliary and a decorated Vietnam veteran.



Flotilla Committee Members

The following members have volunteered to serve on five committees that have been established to facilitate communications between different components of the flotilla and to share the workload among more members with diverse skills.

People Management: Jim Baden, Harry McClard, Jo Ann Cavuoto and Kent Olson

Boat Ops and ATONS: Steve Bourne, Ed Kamerer, Ken Griffin, Kim Curry, Floyd McLeroy and John Klotsko

Recreational Boating Safety: Kirk Fox, Ted Stephens, Rich O'Donnell, Dawn Smith and Jim Baden

Technology: Mark Lawson, Kirk Fox, Steve Bourne and Ken Skelps

Member Training: Fred Robertie, Harry McClard, Jeff Innes, Floyd McLeroy and Dawn Smith



Special Recognition

Flotilla 10-05 member Alex Holodook completed training to become a member of the United States Coast Guard and recently completed his “A” School training to be a law enforcement boarding officer. Congratulations to Alex for all of his hard work!



Alex and fellow graduates. Alex is the fourth from the left.



2024 Planning Conference

Bob Kielley our flotilla commander and Frank Pope our vice flotilla commander joined up with Jim Baden (Division 10 SO-DV) and an experienced corporate trainer and facilitator, to conduct our 2024 planning conference. Flotilla staff officers and members gathered for a facilitated brainstorming session to identify goals and objectives for 2024 and to identify obstacles that needed to be addressed.



You can feel the brainstorming going on!



Member Training

Flotilla 10-05 leadership and members have been working together to put on training programs for our members. We started the year with a navigation class and conducted the OPS Workshop and TCT training. Boat crew members have been conducting training and Mark Lawson our information services officer presented training on the use of AUXDATA II.



Floyd McLeroy teaching the OPS Workshop.



Training



Frank Pope, Fred Robertie, Jeff Innes and Floyd McLeroy teaching.



Training



Kim Curry and Floyd McLeroy teaching at the navigation class.



Public Affairs

We have been out meeting and greeting boaters and others at several public affairs events. Our program visitors have also been out interacting with our program partners to spread the word about recreational boating safety.

We enhanced our public outreach program to include the latest Coast Guard recruiting literature and handouts. We worked with the Sector North Carolina recruiting unit to get the latest information. We have conducted public affairs events in Supply, Sunset Beach and Oak Island and Southport.



Glenn McVicker at Angler's Marine.



Public Affairs, Vessel Examinations and Marine Safety

We conducted a joint PA/VE and MS event at the very busy Fish Factory Road Boat Ramp. Our members interacted with boaters and visitors, conducted vessel examinations and conducted a litter sweep of the boat ramp to collect items that might otherwise end up in the water.

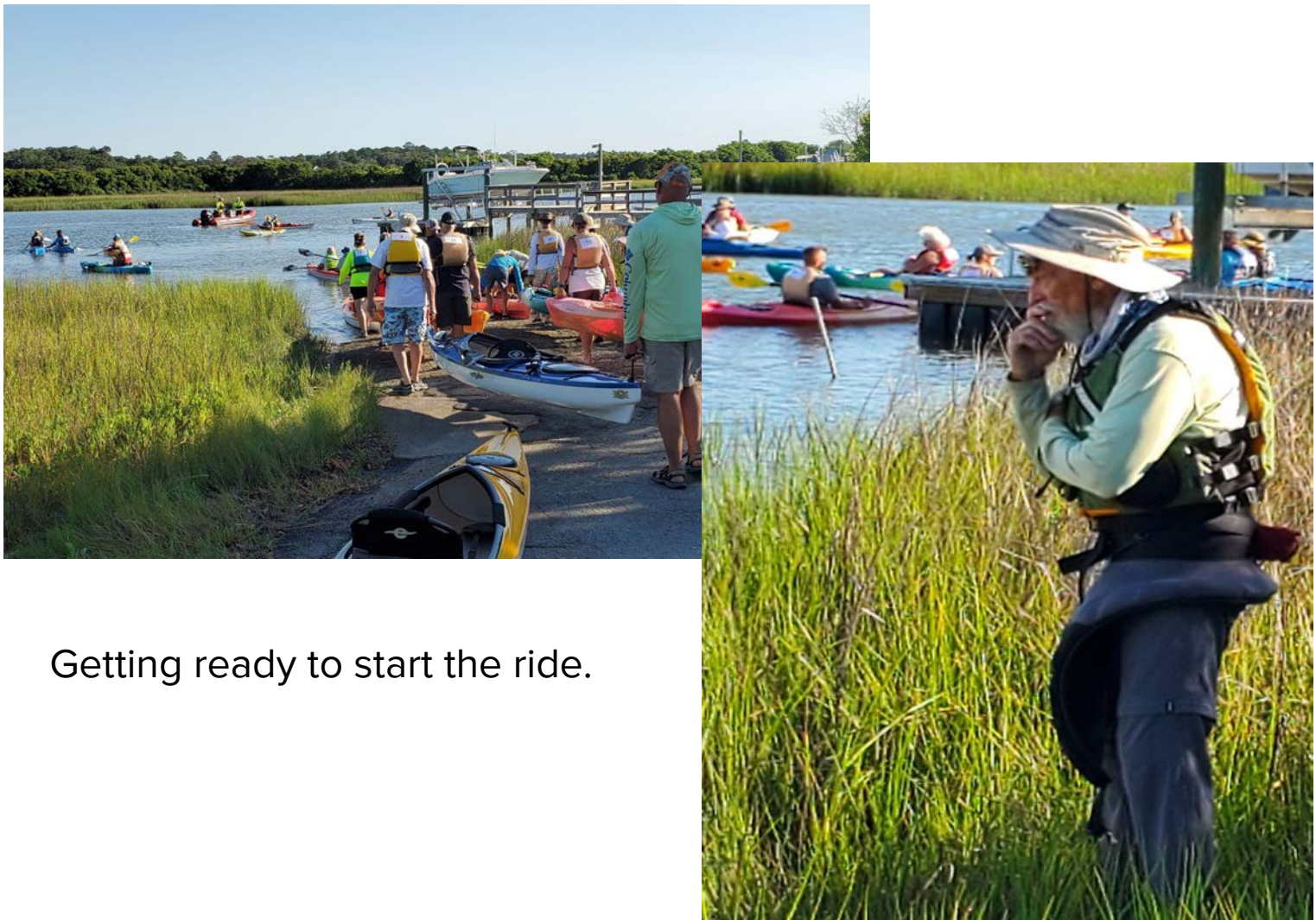


Frank Pope at the Sunset River PA Event.



Public Affairs and Public Education

Oak Island hosted their annual Ride the Tide event. We participated with a public affairs presence and distributed safety literature and reflective paddle stickers to numerous paddlers. One of the safety leaders for the event was Brian Stevens. Brian is an American Canoe Association certified paddle sports instructor. Brian has joined with our flotilla to instruct a paddle safety course. We are looking forward to presenting this program. Our regular boating safety classes have been presented throughout Brunswick County.



Getting ready to start the ride.

Brian watching the kayaks loading.



Aids to Navigation Team

John Klotsko our FSO-NS has been coordinating with Senior Chief Michael Gibb, the Officer in Charge of the Oak Island Aids to Navigation Team, to get our members on the water with the ANT Team. Our members have joined with the ANT Team as they conduct operations along the Cape Fear River and the ICW.



John Klotsko aboard the Buoy Tender.



Working with the ANT Team



ANT Team members MK1 Branden Brittain, SN Jonathan Moore, EM2 Forrest Lemon, BM3 Connor Tribby and BM3 Austin York



Aids to Navigation Team

Change of Command Ceremony - July 12, 2024

Senior Chief Michael Gibb has completed his assignment as OIC at the Oak Island ANT Team. He will be replaced by Chief Jonathan Clow.

On 12 July 2024 a Change of Command ceremony was conducted at Station Oak Island. John Klotsko, our flotilla staff officer for navigation services, spoke on behalf of the flotilla and thanked Senior Chief Gibb for his hospitality and training of Auxiliary members and for his service to the Coast Guard. Chief Clow was congratulated and welcomed to Station Oak Island.



National Safe Boating Week 2024

Flotilla 10-05 joined with Station Oak Island personnel and Sector North Carolina representatives at a National Safe Boating Week media event at Station Oak Island.

The speaker was Commander John Suchow, the Chief of Response for Sector North Carolina, and he was joined on the panel by Bob Kielley our flotilla commander and representatives from neighboring boating safety partner agencies.



Assistance to Station Oak Island

Flotilla members, under the leadership of Jim Baden, have continued our assistance to the station by conducting rescue, safety and survival equipment inspections aboard the boats assigned to the station. Our efforts are appreciated by the station's personnel and allows them to concentrate on other duties. The inspection process has been changing as Coast Guard safety equipment has been changing. In 2024 we added some new team members to the inspection team.

The team members are:

Jim Baden

Pat Ryan

Steve Bourne

Dave Tester

Bob Kielley

Bud McClard

Louis Laurenti

Glenn McVicker

Dennis Mancinelli

Jody McKay

Rich O'Donnell

Jo Ann Cavuoto

Teresa Putnam

Chris Dunham

Our Communications Watchstanders Dawn Smith, Kim Curry and Kirk Fox and our Culinary Assistants Mark Lawson, Butch and Rhonda Willette also provide direct assistance to the station that is much appreciated.



Assistance to Station Oak Island

Gene Belflowers has been a member of the Auxiliary since the early 1970s. During much of that time he has offered his services at Station Oak Island by maintaining the landscaping. Gene is a familiar figure seen mowing and trimming the lawns around the station. Gene was unable to make the Change of Watch dinner so he was recognized for his outstanding service over so many years at a lunch at Station Oak Island. Senior Chief Logan Adkisson the OIC, and Bob Kielley, our flotilla commander, praised Gene for his years of service and dedication to duty. If you see Gene please congratulate him for his decades of service.



Assistance to the Coast Guard

Dr. Jim McCriskin, a distinguished member of our flotilla, has just completed his assignment as an Auxiliary Medical Officer at USCG Air Station Savannah. Dr. Jim spent three and a half years traveling back and forth to the air station and providing medical care at the station's clinic. He will be continuing his work monitoring cardiac records for cadets at the Coast Guard Academy and consulting with other medical staff.

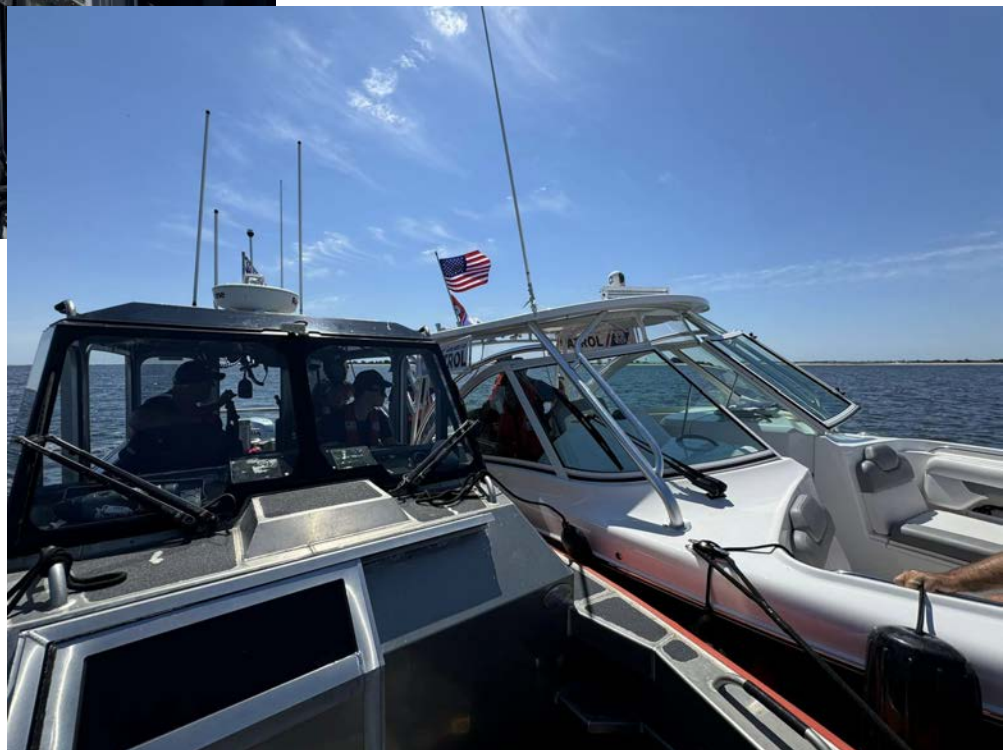
During his time with the Auxiliary, Dr. Jim received the 2023 Innovation Award from the Coast Guard (see the photo below). He has done an exemplary job and has always been a source of pride for our flotilla.

If you see Dr. Jim around Station Oak Island please congratulate him for his service to the Coast Guard.



Boat Operations

We have been very active on the water in 2024. Bob Kielley, Senior Chief Adkisson and BM1 Brad Ropke have been communicating regularly to increase the number of joint active / Auxiliary training opportunities.



Boat Operations



Aboard John Askin's boat as a large ship passes.



Fred Robertie and active duty crew.

The Loudhailer



Boat Operations

The flotilla received two requests for assistance with large fireworks displays on July 4th.

Kim Curry, Frank Pope, Ed Kamerer, W.C. Noonan, J.M. Penninger conducted a safety patrol off of Ocean Isle Beach.

Further up the coast, Floyd McLeroy, Bob Kielley and Vince Gubey conducted a safety patrol off of Southport.



A view of the crowd on shore at Southport.



Observed While Traveling

I was traveling in New York City and I was in Battery Park in lower Manhattan. Battery Park is adjacent to the Staten Island Ferry terminal and the USCG Marine Inspection Office and recruiting unit. This is a hugely popular tourist destination as it is where visitors wait in line to board the ferries to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

This is a photo of the USCG Memorial for members who served during World War II.



New Auxiliary Liaison Officer

BM1 Jason Steinmetz our former AUXLO completed his time with the Coast Guard and we wish him success in his next adventures. We have a new AUXLO.

He is BM1 Max Rozier. BM1 Rozier has been a member of the Coast Guard for approximately 13 years. He is a certified opposing force coxswain and he has recently served aboard a USCG Cutter in Bahrain (in the Middle East). He is a very helpful liaison officer with a good sense of humor and a willingness to get involved.



BM1 Rozier carrying a new Oscar to our last meeting.



Crossing the Bar

We were sad to learn of the passing of Charlie Duke. Charlie's son Hayden Duke, notified the flotilla that Charlie passed away earlier this year. Charlie was an active member of the flotilla for more than fifteen years and he was particularly active as a recreational boating safety program visitor. Charlie earned the Auxiliary Recreational Boating Safety ribbon. Charlie was a long time resident of Oak Island and a very nice guy to work with. He will be missed. The flotilla will commemorate Charlie at our annual Change of Watch dinner.

