

# Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23 5SR



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Division 23

Volume 6 Issue 2

Summer 2014

Judged 5SR Runner-Up Division Publication for 2011



## Member Training

Next month in Richmond, the 5th District, Southern Region will be holding our annual fall conference and training weekend, DTRAIN. This year is a particularly eventful year for the event, with a greater than ever focus on the TRAINING component of DTRAIN. Starting on Thursday, the District is sponsoring a myriad of informational as well as operational workshops and classes for new members and veterans alike. This increased focus on Member Training comes at a key time for the Coast Guard Auxiliary. One of the primary benefits that our members get by joining this organization is the ability to receive top-notch training from both the Coast Guard as well as our well experienced peers in the maritime realm.

In addition to the annual opportunities made available at our Spring and Fall DTRAIN workshops, the Member Training team for Sector Baltimore has done a superb job at bringing training local, and ensuring that both required workshops and subjects of new interest are available for our membership. I want to put in a plug for the Aux Sector Baltimore MT website located at <http://www.auxsecbalt.com/>; this is a great resource for finding out what's going on outside of your Flotilla and the Division, so you can be sure to find training for an area that meets your interest. Finally, one of the best sources of training for our membership within the Division is our selves. Many of the operational qualifications such as boat crew and coxswain, vessel examiner, and program visitor have an established and structured mentor program. But this doesn't mean that mentorship should stop there. We have a wealth of experience in Division 23 in the hands of Auxiliarists who have been members for a great deal of time as well as new members who bring a significant background of experience to the table. I would like to encourage all members, whether you are in a formal Member Training role or not, to see if there is some way you can assist other flotilla or division members to learn a new skill or enhance an existing one. It is through training and drilling ourselves in this manner that

we are ready to live up to the motto of the Coast Guard, *Semper Paratus*, and be prepared to perform our missions when asked.

*Michael Raymond*  
VCDR

## DTRAIN Scheduled

You recently received a message from us asking you to save the date--25-28 September. This is the date for our District Training and Annual Business Meeting (DTRAIN). We have expanded this session a day allowing us to provide more training to our members including sessions on marketing our messages to the visual media and volunteerism. Our guest speaker will be either our District Commander or his District Chief of Staff at **Saturday evening's Commodore's Banquet**. Other guest speakers will be the Chief Director of the Auxiliary, Capt. Boross, who will speak at the **Past Division Commanders' Association Luncheon and RDML June Ryan** will be our guest at the Sunday morning buffet breakfast.

There will be another edition of Curbstone Conference on Friday evening which will be followed by Aux Fun Night good food, fellowship and bluegrass music. As usual, the Past Division Commanders Association will host the Friday night social and the DCAPTS will do the same on Saturday night following the banquet. These events will be a great time to meet new friends, renew old acquaintances, socialize and relax.

Your Conference Committee is working to provide you with one of the best meetings ever and you will be receiving registration material soon.

DTRAIN will be held at the Westin Hotel in Richmond, Virginia, 25-28 Sep 2014.

I look forward to seeing you there,

*Ted*  
Theodore W. Potter  
District Commodore  
USCG Auxiliary - 5th Southern

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## 2014 Board & Staff

DCDR: Ron Price  
VCDR: Michael Raymond  
23-1 - Annapolis  
Wendy Norwitz, Flotilla Commander  
Christian Converse, Vice Flotilla Commander  
23-2 - Solomons  
Alberto de Capitani, Flotilla Commander  
Lawrence Butt, Vice Flotilla Commander  
23-3 – West Annapolis  
John Fewer, Flotilla Commander  
Brian Teague, Vice Flotilla Commander  
23-4 – Silver Spring  
John Leben, Flotilla Commander  
Milla Lindqvist, Vice Flotilla Commander  
23-6 – Drum Point  
Ray Feller, Flotilla Commander  
Mark Campbell, Vice Flotilla Commander  
23-7 – Herring Bay  
Christopher Jensen, Flotilla Commander  
Ray Walsh, Vice Flotilla Commander

## Division Staff

SO-CM - John Cosgrove  
SO-CS - Milla Lindqvist  
SO-DV (Diversity) - Margaret Butler  
SO-FN - Robin Ouellette  
SO-HR - Dave Keyser  
SO-IS - Ronald Hillard  
SO-MA - Theresa Gray  
SO-MS - Ronald Price  
SO-MT - Ray Feller  
SO-NS - Robert Glenn Wright  
SO-OP - Phil Wentz  
SO-PA - John Leben  
SO-PB - Connie Cosgrove  
SO-PE - Kevin Davis  
SO-PV - Christopher Jensen  
SO-SR - Dee Latham  
SO-VE - Nelson Lowes

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## Upcoming

20-24 August	National Conference—Orlando FL
6-16 Sept	Star Spangled Sailabration
25-28 Sept	DTRAIN—Richmond VA
2 October	Division Meeting—North Beach Community Center
4-5 Oct	Power Boat Races—Solomon's
11-12 Oct	Patuxent River Appreciation Day



31 September 2014

Articles and pictures are encouraged and appreciated. Please email to:  
cjcosgrove@earthlink.net

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## Awards

Since the last edition of the Chatter the following people have received awards.

### Membership Service Award

#### 5 years

Charles Eames Sr., Margaret Butler, and John Kostak - 23-01

Peggy Haskin, 23-06

Lynn Disque, 23-03

#### 10 years

Ray Feller, 23-06

Everett Santos, 23-07

#### 15 years

Theresa Gray, 23-02

Travis Ball, Roger Goetsch, Germaine Harlow, David Staples, William Kitzmiller, 23-07

#### 30 years

Theodore Meyerson, 23-01

Paul Lyons, 23-02

#### 40 years

Phil Wentz, 23-07

#### 50 years

John Johnson, 23-02

Paul Mills, 23-04

### AUX POS (MEES)

Robin Ouellette

Conditional Trident - The trident is awarded conditionally when all the requirements are met with the exception of the time/service. i.e.: the 4 PQS qualification requirements have been met but only a portion of the five years of participating in Marine Safety activities.

Ron Price and Wendy Norwitz, 23-1

### Vessel Examiner

Deborah Cranford, 23-1

Nelson Lowes, 23-4

James Jefferson, 23-6

### Recreational Boating Safety Visitor Program

Deborah Cranford, 23-1

### Boat Crew

Blair and Julie Anessi, Brian Dimick, Muriel &

Robert Garman - 23-1

### Radio Watchstander – Coast Guard Unit

Gary Smith, 23-7 – Station St. Inigoes

### Aids to Navigation Verifier

Glen Wright, 23-3



### VE/MV Annual Service Award

Ron Price and Wendy Norwitz, 23-1

### PE Annual Service Award

Gary Smith, 23-2



### Sustained Auxiliary Service Award



Gary Smith, 7<sup>th</sup> award, 5,250 hours, 23-2

Robert Dale Helms, 3<sup>rd</sup> award, 2,250 hours, 23-3

## Ron Price elected DCDR

Dan McConnell, who was elected to serve as Division Commander (DCDR) for 2014 and Michael Raymond, who was elected to serve as Vice Division Commander (VCDR), both have had a change in employment that caused them to step down from their respective positions. Their decisions were announced at the April meeting and ran in the last Chatter.

An interim election was held on 1 May at the regularly scheduled Division meeting. At this time, Michael Raymond announced that, due to the lack of a candidate for election, he would agree to keep the position until a replacement could be found. However, because of an irregularity in notification of the election the interim election had to be redone on 20 May to comply with the Auxiliary manual.

On 20 May, Ron Price was elected to be the Division Commander. He resigned his position of Flotilla Commander of 23-1 and Wendy Norwitz, Vice Flotilla Commander will assume the duties of the Flotilla Commander until an interim election is held in 23-1.

*Connie Cosgrove*

SO-PB

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## Training scheduled at DTRAIN

Leadership Academy (DCDRs, VCDRs required) All day - **"Katie" Campbell 9-10:00**, Session is open to all

**"Volunteerism Today: Navigating for Success"** - A motivating and informative session to launch the conference! Hear about the trends and realities affecting volunteer-based organizations today, and take home some practical tips for strengthening volunteer engagement in the Auxiliary. Includes time for audience Q & A.

Saturday 0930-1000 – Multi Media Representative (TBD) Session is open to all. Advice from within the media on how to get the most from the media

### FRIDAY AND SATURDAY CLASSES:

Auxiliary University Program (AUP)  
**AUP is the Auxiliary's official college-level** program, and Fifth Southern District is home to more students than any other district in the nation. This session will provide an overview of the program and its opportunities, responsibilities of Auxiliary leaders in supporting students in their AOR, and a question and answer session so that attendees can learn more.

Paddle Safely – Focus on upcoming  
This session surveys the paddling community and the options Auxiliarists have for providing boating safety information to paddlers. Geared to PEs, VEs, PAs, and PVs, the session will describe the new areas and vendors Auxiliarists can reach out to regarding recreational boating safety and will demonstrate and discuss the equipment and gear of concern to paddlers. Paddlers' requirements differ from power and sail boats, and this class will show some of those particular paddling needs.  
*Don Goff D5S PCO Coordinator*

### New Member

This is an abridged version of the 16-hour Basic Introduction Course (BIC) meant specifically for new members attending DTRAIN. Trainees will hit highlights relevant to them as they begin their

Coast Guard Auxiliary experience, learn how to maximize their service contribution and return on time and talent, and have an opportunity to ask whatever questions they have to get pointed in the right direction as they head home to their Flotillas.

### Uniform Workshop

Learn how to dress for any occasion in our uniformed service, including tips and tricks to save money, stay organized, save time, and look like a pro. This essential overview for new members and valuable refresher for veterans will include a question and answer portion.

### Marine Safety

The session will demonstrate how to get started in the Marine Safety programs. It will also include a description of the Performance Qualifications.

### RBS Roundtable

An opportunity for everyone at all levels in the RBS program to share **"best practices" and resolve** common problems from a team perspective. PA, PE, PV, and VE members and officers at all levels.

### Public Education

This session will provide an opportunity for both veteran Instructors and new members to learn about important revisions that the E Department at National is making to a couple of our courses. There will also be opportunities for those involved in teaching to review the various Auxiliary-sponsored courses that are available and learn ways to transition students from the state boating courses to more advanced opportunities to learn seamanship. We will also include a planning **approach for next year's course offerings using the** calendar developed by ADSO-SB David Bourdon.

### Publications and Public Media

Tips and tricks to creating an appealing newsletter (using Mac or Windows) as well as spreading the Coast Guard Aux story across all media platforms. Topics will include photography, formatting, finding articles/photos to publish, and spreading the word via media - especially social media.

Continued on page 6—see training

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Training—continued from page 5

## Mission Code Use for Members Workshop

The latest National Guidance regarding mission code and assignment to duty issues. Members having questions regarding activity reports and/or assignment to duty are invited to attend. It is also a good review for FSO-IS.

## FSO-IS/SO-IS Roundtable Discussion

IS Officers at all levels are invited to attend and discuss the most recent National guidance. A great opportunity to bring problems and/or questions to the attention of ADSO-IS and DSO-IS.

## Legal Issues

The DSO-LP will offer a workshop featuring an overview of legal issues affecting Auxiliary members including Legal Responsibilities and Protections, Assignment to Duty, Auxiliary Contracts, Solicitation of Donations and Unit Standing Rules. An interactive discussion of legal issues and their resolution

## Member Training Resources

How and where to find the courses and classes to be better prepared in the full range of opportunities the Auxiliary presents.

OTO on Claims Filing / QE Open Forum” OTO/AQECs answer questions as a panel

## DIRAUX Procedures/Reporting

**What’s new and what’s not in the processes that keep paperwork moving smoothly through the DIRAUX Office.**

Finance - This session will cover the records, reporting and responsibilities involved in the management of finances at every level of Unit.

AIMS - The system that accounts for our members and why it is important to be responsive to alerts.

Photo Journalism - Auxiliary standards and how to meet them

Proctored Exams - On-line only Specialty Course Exams—bring you own laptop; WIFI provided.

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration held

On 23 June the Coast Guard celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Auxiliary in a ceremony held in the CDR Ray Evans Conference Center in the Douglas A. Munroe Coast Guard Building, Washington DC. Auxiliarists from the area were invited to attend. Bill Smith, FSO-MT from 23-6 was among those who attended.

The ceremony began with opening remarks from the Master of Ceremonies, Captain Tom Boross followed by the arrival of the official party and the singing of the National Anthem. The invocation was given by Chaplain Steve Barstow.

ADM Paul Zukunft, Commandant, gave the opening remarks. In recognition of the outstanding and unparalleled achievements of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at the time of its 75th anniversary, the Commandant awarded the Coast Guard Unit Commendation to all Auxiliarists who have served during the past five years. A copy of



the citation can be found on page 12. He also presented National Commodore (NACCO) Tom Mallison with a 75<sup>th</sup>

commemorative pennant.

NACO Mallison gave his remarks and Chaplain Barstow gave a benediction. Before the departure of the official party all in attendance sang Semper Paratus.

*Connie Cosgrove*  
SO-PB

*Bill Smith*  
Photographer

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## Admiral Papp's farewell

We Are Coast Guardsmen

Shipmates:

Four years ago we set the watch and committed ourselves to Steady the Service, Honor our Profession, Strengthen our Partnerships, and Respect our Shipmates. These were not new, but enduring principles that reflected a return to our essential character as a Service and as Coast Guardsmen.

There were many people urging me to re-brand our Service: my response was, we have one of the most respected and recognized brands in the world, the United States Coast Guard.

My highest priority was to sustain mission excellence, with a focus on Proficiency in Craft, Proficiency in Leadership, and Disciplined Initiative.

But another unwritten, unstated purpose behind my focus on those enduring principles was to break down barriers between communities and get us thinking as one Service, as Coast Guardsmen.

As Coast Guard men and women, we share a bond of pride in our rich heritage and a common purpose to uphold our honorable traditions. We are defined by unsung heroism and selfless service. We protect our Nation. We risk our lives to save others. We give our utmost when cold, wet and tired. Countless times, we have extended our arm down into the water to rescue those in peril from the sea. We will always extend that same arm to help a shipmate in need.

Coast Guardsmen are always ready. We perform our security, humanitarian and environmental response missions with an unrelenting sense of pride. When disaster strikes, whether natural or manmade, we are first on scene. We are often the last to depart.

Coast Guardsmen are agile, adaptable, ready to perform every mission and answer every call. Born

as revenue cuttermen, lighthouse keepers, steamboat inspectors and surfmen, we have expanded to meet the maritime needs of our Nation. We are still the keepers of the lights, but we also now patrol far more distant waters. We readily go wherever there are important, difficult and dangerous maritime duties to be performed.

As we look to the future, we must never forget our past, our history, or our heritage. We revere that long blue line of Coast Guardsmen who by their devotion to duty and sacrifice of self have made it possible for us to be a member of a service honored, respected, and imitated around the globe.

This is our chosen profession. This is our way. This is what we do. We are privileged to be members of a very unique Service that, due to our collection of missions and legacy agencies sometimes defies logic when someone attempts to classify us or place a label on us. For this reason, whenever I am asked to describe what I am, I always reply with pride: I am a Coast Guardsman. We are the men and women of the United States Coast Guard.

As we take in the lines and shove off on our next voyage, the Coast Guard's First Lady, Linda, joins me in wishing each and every one of our Coast Guard men and women, and their families, fair winds. I have always referred to you as shipmates. That is and will remain shorthand for members of the Coast Guard family, active duty, reserve, civilian, and Auxiliary. Thank you, it has been our greatest honor to serve all of you, and our Nation, as the leader of the world's greatest Coast Guard.

Stand a taut watch. Semper Paratus.  
ADM Bob Papp,  
Commandant



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## New Members



The following members have become members since the last Chatter. Please make them feel welcome and give them any assistance you can.

Bryan Dimick, Harold Hunt, Blair and Julie Anessi ,  
Juan Aguilar, and Nicholas Munz— 23-1  
Stephanie Warren, Brian Bills, and Dakota Price—  
23-2

## Ron Hillard's granddaughter attends Academy



Erin Morgan accepting her U.S. Coast Guard Academy appointment from Ron Hillard at her Senior Awards Assembly at Leonardtown High School. Ron is also Erin's grandfather!

Ron is a CG Academy Partner, and member of The Solomon's Flotilla 23-02.

The CG Academy placed a \$400,000 value to their four year scholarship. Erin reported to the CG Academy on 30 June 2014. She will complete Swab Summer 15 August. She has already served one week aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Braque EAGLE. The CG Academy is a 24/7, 12 months a year, experience for cadets who will graduate as an Officer in the Coast Guard after completing their four year Bachelor's Degree.

*Ron Hillard*  
SO-IS

## New Commandant takes Command

Earlier today, I had the honor of relieving Admiral Papp as the 25<sup>th</sup> Commandant of the Coast Guard. I am incredibly humbled by this opportunity, and I thank Admiral Papp for his leadership and service to the nation over the last 39 years.

Below you will find the web address to my Commandant's Direction. This document is intended to guide the Service during the next four years. It is founded on our Core Values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty, and guided by the principles of Service to Nation, Duty to People, and Commitment to Excellence. I ask that each of you, whether Active Duty, Reserve, Civilian, or Auxiliariist, take a moment to review its contents. <http://www.uscg.mil/direction>

You inspire me, and you have my trust, confidence, and admiration. Together, we will ensure our Service is always ready for the challenges ahead. Semper Paratus!  
Admiral Paul Zukunft  
Commandant

### Front cover photos:

Top left—John Johnson demonstrates marlinespike to Lukas Felsher at the Marine Maritime Festival. Photographer Connie Cosgrove  
Top Right—Bill Smith, FSO-MT 23-06 and Admiral Paul Zukunft, Commandant

Middle left— Seascape on safety patrol with the Pride of Baltimore in the background—  
Photographer—Stan Green, Division 24.

Middle Right—Fife and Drum team on CGC James Rankin during the placing of the Frances Scott Key Buoy. Photographer Phil Wentz.

Bottom left: Blue Angels during Academy graduation. Photo by Phil Wentz

Bottom right: Pride of Baltimore with the American Flag from the stern of Water Music—owner—Stan Green. Photo by Stan Green.



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## Battle of St. Leonard Creek reenacted

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum (JPPM) hosted its annual War of 1812 Fair and Reenactment on 21 and 22 Jun. This fair is typically a one day event held in September but this year it was changed to a two day event and moved to June to celebrate the bicentennial anniversary of the Battle of St. Leonard Creek .

During the War of 1812, dramatic events took place on JPPM grounds. The British had controlled the Chesapeake Bay since the beginning of the war. In an attempt to open the Bay, a flamboyant ex-privateer, Commodore Joshua Barney, assembled a rag-tag fleet of eighteen small gun boats, barges, and sloops and headed down the Bay in June of 1814. Barney's Chesapeake Flotilla clashed with the British on June 8 – 10 and again on June 26th in the Battle of St. Leonard Creek. The battle, which is the largest naval engagement in the history of Maryland, took place where the Patuxent River meets the mouth of St. Leonard Creek, right off the shore of JPPM.

The naval engagement was supported on land by American Army, Marine, and militia units, including a gun battery which was located on JPPM property. Both the land units and the flotilla engaged the British, and hundreds of shots per hour were exchanged between the two forces. Archaeological evidence of the battle has been discovered on JPPM grounds in the form of cannonballs, musket shot and other military artifacts. Eventually the British retreated and Barney's fleet was able to escape from St. Leonard Creek.

On 22 Jun Auxiliary facilities were assigned escort duty for the Tall Ships that traveled between Calvert Marine Museum and JPPM for the battle reenactment. The reenactment was planned for **the vicinity of St Leonard's Creek just off the Patuxent River**. The Tall Ships were Kalmar Nychel of Delaware, and Maryland ships Pride of Baltimore, Sultana and the Maryland Dove.

Auxiliary facilities involved with escort duty were Fish Hook, Robin Marie and Liz Reece.

*Connie Cosgrove*

SO-PB

Liz Reece escorting  
The Maryland  
Dove. Photo by  
Phil Wentz



Pride of Baltimore and the Dove, Photo by Bill Smith



Photo by Ray Feller

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## Vessel Safety Check Weekend at Herrington Harbour, 17-18 May 2014



A scant week before the event, Willie Witters, FSO-VE 23-6, got a request from Sunny Taylor, Herring Bay Yacht Club (HBYC) to conduct vessel safety checks on 17 and 18 May. HBYC is located at Herrington Harbour South.

Willie marshaled all the resources he could, resulting in participation during the two-day event by 13 vessel examiners from three Flotillas. 66 vessel safety checks (VSC) were completed, 21 on 17 May and 45 on 18 May. Willie said "We had to stop doing VSCs at 1500 on 18 May because we were running out of decals". On 17 May we had six examiners and 13 on 18 May. I feel we had a very successful campaign." Ray Feller, Flotilla Commander, 23-6 complimented Willie on a job well done saying "Great job. Many helped, but you're the one most responsible for making this happen. Confronted by an opportunity, you made the most of it and pulled it together."

Also, appreciation came through a hearty thank you from Thomas Costello, Fleet Captain, HBYC. In a note to Willie Witters, Costello said "On behalf of the Herring Bay Yacht Club and the Herrington Harbour Marina's, I want to extend my personal thanks for the incredible effort applied by your entire team over this past weekend's Vessel Safety Check program. . . " We should note that HBYC partnership played a huge role a successful weekend.

Vessel examiners who participated in the event were:

23-06: Ray Feller, Bill Noyes, Pete Schaecher, Bill Smith, James Jefferson and Willie Witters - FSO-VE  
23-01: Micheal Vandeven, Walter Discenza, Leonard Klaver, Leonard and Margaret Butler  
23-07: Christopher Jensen  
Willie was requested to come back and do more

VSC on 28 June. He and Bill Smith from 23-6 were joined by several other division members in conducting VSC.

*Connie Cosgrove*

SO-PB

*Bill Smith*

Photographer



Ray Feller conducting VSC in May



VSC display and examiners on 28 June. Pictured on the left side of the photo : Bill Smith, two members from the Power Squadron from Annapolis, and Nelson Lowes, SO-VE Division 23. Right side is Willie Witter, back row, Tom Costello, Fleet Captain HBYC, Walter Vicenza, and Sunny Taylor, Member at Large, HBYC.

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## County Commissioners proclaim National Safe Boating Week

On 6 May, Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 23-6 received a proclamation from the Board of County Commissioners proclaiming 17-23 May as National Safe Boating Week.

Ray Feller, Flotilla Commander 23-6, addressed the **Commissioners and the audience saying** “The Auxiliary is dedicated to boating safety. We participate in public education, vessel safety checks, safety patrols, and search and rescue. Our **next boating class is scheduled for 19 May.**” Ray told the audience that 23 June is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

In the proclamation the Commissioners highlighted the statistic of an average of 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the US. The vast majority of accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment, not by the boat, equipment or environmental factors. A significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn a life jacket. Modern life jackets are more comfortable, attractive, and wearable than styles of years past and deserve a fresh look by **today’s boating public.**

**The Commissioners further “proclaimed that all who use our County waterways and our National waterways are urged to acquire the knowledge and skills essential to their own safety and the safety of others and to apply these skills carefully. Boat Smart, Boat Safe, Wear It”**

On behalf of the Flotilla, Bill Smith presented each commissioner a bag containing a whistle, a Flotilla pencil, safe-boating literature, and a 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary coin. The flotilla also gave bags to the **commissioner’s staff.**

Commissioner Nutter thanked the members for **what they do and said, “having grown up in the county around the water, I see how valuable a service you provide.”**

Members of the Flotilla who received the proclamation were: Ray Feller, Flotilla Commander; Bill Smith, Flotilla Member Training Officer, John Cosgrove, Division Communications Officer, James Jefferson, and Connie Cosgrove, Flotilla Staff Officer Secretary of Records and Division Publication Officer. XPO Brian Pate from Station St. Ingoes represented the Coast Guard.

*Connie Cosgrove*  
FSO-PA 23-6



L to R front row: Ray Feller, XPO Brian Pate, John Cosgrove, Connie Cosgrove, James Jefferson and Bill Smith. County Commissioners—Jerry Clark, Steve Weems, Pat Nutter, Susan Shaw and Evan Slaughenhout Jr.



23-6 NSBW display at the Prince Frederick Library. The display included safety equipment and training aids made by John Burroughs, a former member of 23-6.

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## Bravo Zulu to D5 Auxiliary

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the Auxiliarists of the Fifth District for the great work done during National Safe Boating Week. The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the arm of the Coast Guard best positioned to prevent accidents before they happen through educational and outreach programs such as National Safe Boating Week.

The President, in his annual proclamation of National Safe Boating Week, stressed "the importance of taking precautions and practicing responsible behavior" when taking to America's waterways and enjoying the vast opportunities they offer for recreation and relaxation. He affirmed the Coast Guard's mission to prevent recreational boating accidents that too often turn pleasurable outings into tragedies. Both of the Fifth District Auxiliary Regions leveraged the President's Proclamation as a springboard for launching this year's public awareness effort with particular effectiveness. Your direct efforts were highly visible in proclamations by state and municipal leaders, multiple media interviews and outlets, and participation in public venues, promoting recreational boating safety across six states. The "Wear It" campaign was particularly effective through the use of mascots like Coastie, the Robotic Safety Boat, and Sammy the Sea Otter, and your outreach blitzes to boat owners at marinas and boat ramps elevated safety on the water to the forefront of the general boating public's awareness. Your contributions will indeed help to prevent tragedies from happening this year. Untold lives will be saved, injuries avoided, and property protected through your direct intervention. I am truly grateful for your exceptional stewardship.

On the wave of the Auxiliary's Birthday, I congratulate your 75 years of phenomenal service and offer a hearty Bravo Zulu for your most recent work on the National Safe Boating Campaign.

RADM S.P. METRUCK SENDS.

**Editor's Note:** The above was received through the AIMS communication system from Rob Sarasen, District Captain.

## Flotilla 23-2 and 23-6 hold Ready for Ops

On 31 May the annual ready for operations exercise was held in Town Creek at the home of Ron Hillard, 23-2. The purpose of the exercise was to refresh operational training for members, to qualify new crew and to recertify anyone needing 3-year Qualification Examiner (QE) check-off. This exercise was a joint operational activity by 23-2, 23-6 and Station St. Inigoes.

The morning began early for facilities and Radio Cove Point. Arrival time for everyone was 0830 at **Ron Hillard's** which meant some facilities were underway before 0700. Everyone was greeted with donuts and coffee. The exercise was kicked off with welcome comments from 23-2. Shore tests and dockside exams followed comments by Station St. Inigoes and Phil Wentz, QE coordinator.



L-R: Gary Smith, Robin Ouellette, Kathleen Sullivan.

The on the water (OTW) portion of the exercise began around 1000 and continued into the early afternoon with a break for lunch. Lunch was prepared by AUXCHEF Ron Hillard. OTW tasks included stern-tows, alongside-tows, radio communications, man overboard drill, anchoring, search patterns and navigation. Facilities used during the exercise were Water Music, Missy Meg II, Splash, and Voyager. QEs were Phi Wentz, Greg Askew and Stan Green.

Ray Feller, FC 23-6 said **"35 members from at least 5 flotillas, most from 23-2 and 23-6 and 4 OPFACS and crews attended.** It was a full day featuring

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fine training, fine food, and fellowship. Much appreciation goes to:

Jim McGrath for leadership in planning, carrying out the training, and providing dockage.

Ron Hillard for cooking an extraordinarily excellent lunch in a pristine setting in his yard.

BM1 Pate, for bringing a contingent of operations experts from Station St. Inigoes to advise, critique, and observe.

Phil Wentz, for leading QE contingent to examine **boat crew members on check rides”**

*Connie Cosgrove*

SO-PB

## Solomon’s Marine Maritime Festival

On 3 May the Calvert Marine Museum held its grand reopening along with their annual marine maritime festival. The exhibits at the museum were open to the public at no charge. There was also a variety of vendors with exhibits on antique engines and boats.

John Johnson, 23-2 was in attendance teaching marlinespike. Mark VanDuesen, FSO-PA arranged to have a safe boating booth which was staffed during the day by both 23-2 and 23-6 members. Before the event started John Johnson completed a vessel safety check on one of the antique boats



on display. This was the second year he had been requested to complete such a safety-check.

Members who staffed the booth were Bill Smith and Connie

Cosgrove from 23-6 in the morning, and Mark VanDuesen took the afternoon shift.

*Connie Cosgrove*

FSO-PA 23-6 and photographer

## Coast Guard Unit Commendation for the 75th Anniversary of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary -

1. This morning, in recognition of the outstanding and unparalleled achievements of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at the time of its 75th anniversary, the Commandant of the Coast Guard awarded the Coast Guard Unit Commendation to all Auxiliarists who have served during the past five years.

The citation follows:

The Commandant of the Coast Guard takes pleasure in presenting the COAST GUARD UNIT COMMENDATION to:

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For exceptionally meritorious service from June 24, 2009 to June 23, 2014, while providing unprecedented levels of dedicated public service and operational support to the U. S. Coast Guard's missions. Demonstrating remarkable professionalism and boating safety expertise, the Auxiliary performed over 1.1 million vessel safety checks and marine dealer visits, delivered over 540 thousand hours of boating safety course instruction and conducted over 809 thousand hours of public outreach. Displaying superior underway and airborne operational proficiency, Auxiliarists logged over 19.8 million hours of support and patrol missions, saved over one thousand lives, assisted over 20 thousand boaters in distress and prevented the loss of more than 185 million dollars in property. The Auxiliary always answered the call, remaining in lockstep with the Coast Guard's response to every major incident. In 2010, unique Auxiliary talents were brought to bear in the international response to the Haitian earthquake, blazing new trails in the application of social media to locate and save dozens of trapped victims.

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Also during that year, well-qualified Auxiliaries filled essential incident command post watch positions and augmented active duty units to support the Deepwater Horizon response. Similarly in 2012, Auxiliary commitment following Super Storm SANDY and Hurricane IRENE was instrumental to effective Coast Guard response and recovery operations. The Auxiliary consistently found innovative ways to support the Coast Guard, including establishment of the Auxiliary Food Services program which trained Auxiliaries to augment Coast Guard galleys, afloat and ashore. Auxiliaries involved with Public Affairs, Interpreter Corps, America's Waterway Watch, and many other programs further contributed to Coast Guard success by volunteering their professional talents, mastery of trade, and disciplined initiative wherever and whenever needed. The Auxiliary's unwavering efforts directly contributed to unprecedented national boating safety achievements, highlighted in 2013 with the fewest boating fatalities in 50 years. Despite incredible challenges amid keen competition for America's volunteers, the Auxiliary grew its membership, provided over 22 million hours of inspirational support to the Coast Guard, and kept our Nation's coasts, lakes, and waterways safe and secure. The professionalism, pride, and devotion to duty displayed by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard."

//s//

P. F. ZUKUNFT  
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commandant

2. Appropriate AUXDATA entries for all awardees will be made through the Office of the Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX). Appropriate ribbons and stars will be distributed to District Director of Auxiliary offices by the end of July.

3. When Admiral Zukunft presented this award to COMO Mallison, the Commandant stressed the

sincere appreciation of a grateful active duty Coast Guard for our volunteer servant leader force, and Admiral Zukunft lead all active duty members in a standing ovation for the Auxiliaries who were present. Congratulations to the men and women of our U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and thank you for your continued service!

**Editor's Note:** the above was received via the Chief Director's list server



Marine Maritime Festival—Connie Cosgrove



Sunset on the Patuxent River—  
Fireworks Patrol—5 July—Phil Wentz



Frances Scott Buoy -  
Phil Wentz

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## U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY FIFTH DISTRICT (SOUTHERN REGION) FALL DISTRICT D-TRAIN

THE WESTIN RICHMOND HOTEL 6631 WEST BROAD RICHMOND, VA 23230

### THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2014

1200-1700 Registration Desk Open  
1300-1445 District Staff Meeting  
1300-1445 DCDR Meeting  
1500-1730 District Board Meeting, Part One

### FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2014

0730-1730 Registration Desk Open  
0800-1730 District Material Center Open  
0800-1645 Training  
1700-1800 Curbstone & Ask The Staff  
1830-2200 Bluegrass Party  
2200-2400 Past Commanders' Party

### SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2014

0730-1530 Registration Desk Open  
0730-1530 District Material Center Open  
0800-0930 District Board Meeting Part Two  
0800-1200 Training  
1200-1330 Past Commanders' Sponsored Luncheon  
1330-1400 Lay Leader's Training  
1400-1600 Training  
1730-1830 No Host Cocktail Party  
1830-2200 Banquet & Awards  
2200-2400 District Captains Party

### SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2014

0730- Breakfast with District Board  
Meeting to follow  
1500 Late Check Out

### UNIFORM OF THE DAY

Staff Meeting- Tropical Blue  
DCDR Meeting- Tropical Blue  
Board Meetings- Tropical Blue  
Training – Tropical Blue  
Banquet- Dinner Dress White Jacket, Dinner Dress Blue or Semi Formal Civilian  
Bluegrass- Western or Casual

### ROOM RESERVATIONS

The Westin Richmond Hotel 6631 West Broad Street Richmond, VA 23230

Room Reservations Must Be Made By All Attendees

Room Rate \$83.00 (plus state & local taxes currently 13.3%)

Method of Reservation- Individual Call in to (1-800) 937-8461

Inform Reservations that you are Coast Guard Auxiliary

Last day to Register is 9/10/14

### Conference Registration Form

(Bluegrass Party, Banquet and Breakfast are required attendance for members on orders.)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee (Members Only) \$10.00	# _____	\$ _____
Bluegrass Party (Buffet, Live Music) \$30.00 (each person)	# _____	\$ _____
Luncheon, (Sponsored by PDCA) \$23.00 (each person)	# _____	\$ _____
Banquet: Plated Dinner: \$40.00 (each person)		
Seared Atlantic Salmon	# _____	\$ _____
Spicy Honey Fig Glazed Chicken	# _____	\$ _____
Vegetable Napoleon	# _____	\$ _____
Sunday Breakfast: \$12.00	# _____	\$ _____
<b>Total Amount Due</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

Send check payable to **USCGAUX 5SR** and mail form to **Nita Adams**, (cell: 540-840-7148) A-COC, 349 Greenbank Road Fredericksburg, VA 22406, NLT 15 September

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

FIRST CLASS

United States  
Coast Guard

U.S. Coast Guard Auxilliary  
SO-PB  
1105 Dan Bowen Road  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

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