Chesapeake Chatter Division 23 5SR



U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

Volume 6 Issue 1

Spring 2014

Division 23

Volume 6 Issue 3 Winter 2014

Judged 5SR Runner-Up Division Publication for 2011



VOLUNTEERS: A HUGE PAT-ON -THF-BACK

Volunteers are needed in every facet of our life, without them, our lives would be very difficult (not to mention

expensive). All areas of daily life have volunteers, from hospitals, police, environmentalists, aviation, and the military (just to name a few). Take the Coast Guard, for example, that relies on the time, energy, and money volunteers give freely to support, and aid the Coast Guard and its missions. There just isn't a big enough thank you for each and every hour donated by the Auxiliary's members.

Volunteers also lead by example. There isn't an Auxiliary facility that doesn't have an overabundance of safety equipment on board. What other boats have two anchors, extra life preservers, a tow line, navigation tools, several radios, etc., etc. And what other boat around has such a trained crew. No other boat has as many drills, offers as much qualification training, or demands as many hours on the water as the All Auxiliarists have been asked Auxiliary. questions by the public about charts, safety, and best practices.

The Auxiliary member can be proud of the fact that the time spent supporting, augmenting, and helping the US Coast Guard is time and money well spent. The Coast Guard estimates that having the Auxiliarists on the water, in the classroom, at the radio, inspecting safety areas, and all the other Auxiliary missions saves millions of dollars, many, many hours, and countless lives. So, please take a moment to receive a big pat on the back, you all deserve it.

Ron Price DCDR



While for many of us the holiday season is a time to be spent with friends and family, celebrating any number of traditions to bring the year

to a close, we must remember that in the context of the Auxiliary, we too are one family.

As the New Year brings in the comings and goings of new and old leadership, the fellowship that holiday parties and Changes of Watch bring, and the satisfaction of a job well done, I wanted to take a moment to think about our larger Coast Guard family. For many Coasties, this holiday season will be spent away from loved ones, be it on a cutter at sea, overseas on a deployment, or standing watch at a station or radio watch on Christmas Eve, these too are our brothers and sisters in service. We should all take a moment to show our appreciation for the work that they do and look to ourselves in the New Year for how we can be of further service to our family.

Since I have officially left the division and transferred to my new Flotilla in Richmond, I wanted to tell you it has been a truly blessed year that I have gotten to spend with all of you, and I wish Division 23 the best for 2015!

Semper Paratus! Michael Raymond



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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 - South River 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 Jense, 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

Telephone numbers and addresses of members are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. As a matter of policy, rosters of names, addresses and telephone numbers shall not be made available to the general public or any outside organization. Privacy of all rosters shall be safeguarded and the page clearly labeled. The publication of these rosters, addresses and telephone numbers on any computer on-line service including the Internet is prohibited by the Privacy Act of 1974.

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1 April 2015

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



Happy Holiday

Chesapeake Chatter		
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Awards The following members have received awards since the last issue of the Chatter. Image: Auxiliary Performance Award for 60 hours Operations Vern Schottroff, Jim Farrell, Walt Discenza, and Wendy Norwitz – 23-1	23-04 FC Milla Lindquist VFC Mike Whitman 23-06 FC Marc Campbell VFC Pete Schaecher 23-07 FC Edith Brown VFC Steven Gershman	
PWC Operator Blair and Julie Anessi, 23-1	2015 Staff	
Certificate of Merit Charlie Eames for service as director of development for the Aux Assn from 11/11-8/14, 23-1 AUXCOM Christopher Woods, 23-3 AUXACN-B Bryan Teague and Stephen Burns, 23-3 Steven Gershman, 23-7 Recreational Boating Safety Visitor Steven Gershman, 23-7 Flotilla Elections for 2015	The board and staff of Division 23 for 2015 will be: DCDR - Ron Price DVCDR - John Leben IPDCDR – Dan McConnell SO-CM - John Cosgrove SO-CS - Wendy Norwitz SO-DV - Margaret Butler SO-FN - Robin Ouellette SO-FN - Robin Ouellette SO-HR - Dave Keyser SO-IS - Ron Hillard and Wendy Norwitz (will share the responsibilities) SO-MA - Theresa Grey SO-MS - Ron Price SO-MT - Ray Feller SO-NS – Glen Wright SO-OP - Phil Wentz SO-PA - John Leben SO-PB - Connie Cosgrove SO-PE - Kevin Davis SO-VE – John Fewer Connie Cosgrove SO-PB	
Flotilla elections were held and the following members were elected to serve. Please congratulate them all. 23-01 FC Wendy Norwitz VFC Christian Converse 23-02 FC Gary Smith VFC Larry Butts		
23-03 FC Robert Helms (Dale) VFC Brian Teague		

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23-1 Flotilla awards presented at their Change of Watch

The Auxiliarist of the Year Award is extended to the member who has devoted an extraordinary amount of time and effort in supporting the objectives of the flotilla. Ron Price after 5 years of Auxiliary service has been instrumental in starting the Paddlecraft program and was the second qualified in the District. He has since trained many to be PWC Operators. Ron has also provided facilities for the Auxiliary to use and in his 5 year tenure, has achieved the following qualifications: Coxswain, PWC, Paddlecraft, Instructor (SCE), VE, MDV, CFV, UPV, Telecommunications Operator, AUXMEES (Marine Safety education), AUXMSAM (marine safety administration), AIDS verifier. Ron has served as FC and now serves as DCDR.

The George Fox Award is provided to a member performing extended outstanding service for 5 or more years in 3 or more different areas. George Fox was a retired Marine Corps Colonel. He was, by anyone's definition, an outstanding and forceful leader. He was exceptionally active in patrols, as an instructor in Public Education classes, a vessel examiner, and took on several administrative jobs, including performing as Flotilla Commander. He was an inspiration to all members of our flotilla. This award recognition was extended to Robert James Welday for his dedicated service since 1992. During his tenure in the Auxiliary, Jim has served as Watchstander, Telecommunications Operator, PWC, Coxswain, FSO-CM, instructor, FSO-IS and ADSO-IS.

The Carl Tross Award is offered to a new member serving during his/her first one or two years who is exceptionally active in 1 or more areas. Carl Tross was a member who joined our flotilla with an extraordinary enthusiasm. Within his first year he became crew qualified as well as a vessel examiner. Unfortunately during his second year, he developed a type of cancer that was incurable and his health slowly deteriorated. He could no longer go on safety patrols but he continued to do vessel safety checks until he became bedridden from his cancer. His determination was to keep active in flotilla activities . This award was presented to Deborah Cranford. She has been a member of the Auxiliary since 2012 and has achieved the following qualifications, VE, MDW, AUXCHEF and presently serving as FSO-SR

The Capstan Award is a new way of recognizing members that make the flotilla run smoothly. A capstan on a sailing ship is used for all the heavy lifting, it keep things moving and requires teamwork to operate. These members are an essential part of a successful flotilla. They always jump in when asked and I couldn't do my job without them. There are 8 members I'd like to recognize for 2014. I'm not going to read all their qualifications, but they're all involved in one or more areas of operations. They all hold at least 1 staff position and they're all a big help with mentoring and teaching new members. These members are: Christian Converse, Walt Discenza, Jim Farrell, Len Klaver, Ed Martin, Jim Welday, Adam Yearwood, Muriel Garman

Wendy Norwitz 23-1 Flotilla Commander

Cover Photos

Top Left: PA Booth at Patuxent Appreciation Days (PRAD). John Cosgrove and Robert Grace visit with Dawn and Gene Benton. Also pictured are Ethan Benton and Logan Powell. Photo by Connie Cosgrove

Top Right: The otters loved attention at PRAD Middle Left: The Shriners having fun with the crowd. Photo by Connie Cosgrove

Middle Right: John Leben, SO-PA and Robert Harlan, Jr., 054-25-07 standing watch at the Annapolis Boat Show. Photo by Bruce Petro, FSO-MT, 054-23-04

Bottom Left: Charles Patrick and Robert Grace get a marlinespike lesson from John Johnson, 23-2 Photo by Connie Cosgrove

Bottom right: Cold Water Training in Annapolis. Photo by Kevin Hines

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Drum Point Flotilla donates to Food Pantry

For the second year Flotilla 23-6 members have donated to the Chesapeake Cares Food Pantry to help others have a better Thanksgiving.

On 18 November five members from the Flotilla met the Food Pantry manager, Debbie Weber, and presented her with 44 lbs of food and \$237 in monetary donations.

Debbie told us they had served 900 families during the third week of November. When the clients come to the pantry, they are given a menu with a list of the available items, and they get to choose their menu. Once the client completes the menu, volunteers go into pantry and pull the food for them.

Debbie told us that 99% of the weeks when they are open, they also can provide frozen meat to the clients. She told us with every dollar that is donated they can purchase four pounds of food from the Maryland Food Bank. For Thanksgiving and Christmas they will be giving out 1250 turkeys this year.

They currently have 230 volunteers who help with the pantry, and they have a waiting list of people willing to serve. Volunteers are at the pantry five days a week. Families come in weekly on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and the first Saturday of each month. Every Wednesday morning and evening they have are open by invitation to clients who come for two weeks of groceries. In 2015 Debbie anticipates they will add another Saturday morning to their schedule.

Based on the number of pounds of food collected from members and the monetary donation with each dollar purchasing four pounds of food, Debbie said Flotilla 23-6 provided 992 pounds of food that touched the lives of struggling individuals in Calvert and surrounding Counties.

Members who visited the pantry were Ray Feller, Harry Scott, Bill Smith, John and Connie Cosgrove. Connie Cosgrove FSO-PA 23-6



Pictured left to right: Harry Scott, Bill Smith, Ray Feller, Debbie Weber and John Cosgrove. As you can see from the cases of vegetables (to the right) the pantry was well stocked for their Thanksgiving deliveries.

The top photo is Debbie Weber, Manager of Chesapeake Cares Food Pantry and Ray Feller, Flotilla Commander 23-6 weighing the food collected by members.

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CHANGE TO AUXILIARY MANDATED TRAINING DEADLINE AND REQUIREMENTS -022/14

1. In January 2013, ALAUX 001/13 announced launch of the Auxiliary Learning Management System (AUXLMS) and its impact on Auxiliary Mandated Training (MT) requirements for new enrollees. New enrollees were required to complete all Auxiliary MT courses within their first year of enrollment. The first year of enrollment was defined as the Base Enrollment Date (BED) until 31 December of the year following the BED. For example, if a new enrollee had a BED of 15 November 2013, then they had until 31 December 2014 to complete all mandated training.

2. At the Auxiliary National Convention in August 2014, Auxiliary national leadership and the Chief Director of Auxiliary determined it appropriate to extend the deadline for Auxiliary MT completion for Auxiliarists who have enrolled since January 2013. Accordingly, the deadline has been extended from 31 December 2014 to 31 December 2015.

3. The deadline for Auxiliary MT completion for Auxiliarists who were already enrolled by January 2013 remains 31 December 2016.

4. Auxiliary MT is comprised of the following courses:

a. To be successfully completed during the first year of enrollment and then once every five years thereafter:

(1) Building Resilience and Preventing Suicide in the Coast Guard - course code 502379

(2) Security Fundamentals - course code 810030

(3) Privacy at DHS: Protecting Personal Information - course code 810015

(4) Sexual Harassment Prevention - course code 810000

(5) Sexual Assault Prevention / Response - course code 810045 (6) Civil Rights Awareness - course code 502319

b. To be successfully completed only once (new enrollees must complete them during the first year of enrollment):

(1) Ethics 1 / Personal Gifts - course code 502306

(2) Influenza Training - course code 502290

c. Recent changes to Coast Guard policy on Incident Command System (ICS) training requirements have resulted in the following additions to Auxiliary MT, to be successfully completed only once:

(1) Introduction to the Incident Command System - ICS-100

(2) Introduction to National Incident Management System (NIMS) - IS-700

New enrollees must complete these ICS courses during the first year of enrollment. Auxiliarists who have enrolled since January 2013 must complete them by 31 December 2015. All other Auxiliarists must complete them by 31 December 2016. They can be taken online at:

http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/is/ICSResource/ TrainingMaterials.htm. These FEMA sponsored ICS -100 and IS-700 courses are only available through the FEMA website and must be completed online.

5. There are several ways to complete the courses listed in paragraphs 4.a. and 4.b.:

a. Through the Auxiliary Learning Management System (AUXLMS /website: https://auxlearning.uscg.mil/).

b. In a classroom setting (e.g., a flotilla member training session) taught by a qualified Auxiliary instructor using the AUXLMS materials or using downloadable training materials that are

Continued on page 8-see deadline

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Deadline—continued from page 7

available on the National Training Directorate web site (http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=t-dept).

c. The Auxiliary National Training Directorate will make webinar training sessions available on a recurring basis for members who prefer a facilitated presentation but are unable to attend an in-person classroom training session. It is also developing downloadable training material that can be given to Auxiliarists who are unable to complete online training or attend a classroom training session. These additional options are expected to be available in February 2015. An ALAUX will announce their availability.

6. As each of the first six courses listed in paragraph 4.a. above is completed, its own fiveyear cycle will start. Each cycle will extend to 31 December of the fifth year regardless of the date the course was completed during the year, and so on. For example, if an Auxiliarist completes the Civil Rights Awareness course on 15 November 2014, then they will have to complete it again by 31 December 2019.

7. Recap:

a. ICS-100 and IS-700 have been added to Auxiliary MT. That means six courses need to be successfully completed every five years, and four courses need to be successfully completed only once (during the first year of enrollment).

b. Auxiliarists who have enrolled since January 2013 have until 31 December 2015 to complete all Auxiliary MT.

c. Auxiliarists who were already enrolled by January 2013 have until 31 December 2016 to complete all Auxiliary MT.

d. Auxiliary MT may be completed through the AUXLMS or in a classroom setting using AUXLMS materials or downloadable training materials available on the National Training Directorate web site. Webinar training sessions and other downloadable training material are under development and expected to be available in February 2015.

8. The purpose of this list is to keep Auxiliarists as well as all other interested parties abreast of current developments, policies, manuals, etc. All information contained herein and linked is OFFICIAL policy and information.

Editor's Note: The above was received email from the Chief Director's List Server

Auxiliary University Program (AUP)

The following authorized Auxiliary activity description is effective immediately. It will be included as part of the next change to the Coast Guard Auxiliary Manual, section 2.B. Programs/ Activities Authorized for Auxiliarists:

Auxiliarists are authorized to establish partnerships with accredited colleges and universities within the U.S. and its territories for the purpose of enrolling interested and highly motivated students into the Coast Guard Auxiliary University Program (AUP). AUP endeavors to effectively integrate student Auxiliarists' service with their academic experience. Students who seek to join the Auxiliary through the AUP must meet all Auxiliary enrollment thresholds and adhere to all Auxiliary administrative, training, and operational policies subsequent to enrollment. They may participate in all aspects of authorized Auxiliary activities and receive appropriate academic credit for such from the associated AUP participants shall adhere to institution. Auxiliary organizational, administrative, training, and operational structure and policies as approved and promulgated by the Chief Director. Auxiliarists who enroll and participate in the AUP should be strongly supported in their academic pursuits and Coast Guard Auxiliary mission performance.

Editor's Note: The above information was received in an email from the Chief Director's List Server.

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Division Members support PRAD

Patuxent River Appreciation Days (PRAD) were held on 11 and 12 October at the Calvert Marine Museum in Solomons. Flotilla 23-6 took the lead in setting up a safety booth for both days with members from three Flotillas standing a watch or two. John Johnson from 23-2 was there with his marlinespike demonstration to test visitors on their knots.

Despite a very wet start to the event, there was a lot of turn-out and a lot to see and do during the two-day event. During the event all exhibits at the Museum were open, including the otters, at no cost to the public.

There was something for everyone. Free boat rides on the Tennison, canoe rides, music, **environmental exhibits, children's activities,** workboat demos, wine-tasting, building a toy boat, and the food court. There was also a parade on Sunday as the main event.

Auxiliarists participating in the event were:

Theresa Gray and Shawn Moore, 23-2 John Leben and Bruce Petro, 23-4 Connie and John Cosgrove, Bill Noyes, Bill Smith, James Jefferson, and Robert Grace from 23-6 *Connie Cosgrove* FSO-PA





L—R, Athanasia Pitcher, Audrina Pitcher and Angelina Green show off their face painting as Theresa Gray puts together a bag of goodies for them.



A museum volunteer showed visitors the underside of a horseshoe crab.

The photo to the left show the entire display. Members in the picture are I-r: James Jefferson, Bruce Petro, Bill Smith, Theresa Gray, John Leben and John Cosgrove. Photos by Connie Cosgrove



Release and availability of new vessel safety check manual, COMDTINST MI6796.8A

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to announce the release and availability of a new Vessel Safety Check Manual, COMDINST M16796.8A, which has been promulgated and released by CGHQ. All prior versions of the Vessel Safety Check Manual and the USCG Auxiliary Operational Facilities guide are canceled and superseded by this new version, effective 06 Oct 2014.

2. Due to some significant changes in policies and procedures, all Auxiliary Vessel Examiners, Program Visitors, and Partner Agencies that are involved in the Vessel Safety Check program should read and thoroughly review this new VSC Manual. Members will notice that the Manual is now in a new format, consistent with a typical Commandant Instruction and other USCG Auxiliary Manuals. This new format is intended to be less ambiguous and more instructive for Vessel Examiners, and also allow the Manual to be updated and corrected more frequently than we have seen in the past.

3. The new VSC Manual should be used not only as a reference guide for veteran Vessel Examiners, but for the training/mentoring of new Vessel Examiners. All online and hardcopy versions of the Vessel Examiner qualification tests have been updated to conform to the material found in the new VSC Manual.

4. Due to budgetary restrictions the new VSC Manual is being released in an electronic format only. Any requests to ANSC for hard copy versions will result in being directed to the link to the electronic version. The new Vessel Safety Check Manual, COMDTINST M16796.8A can be found at: http://www.uscg.miUdirectives/cim/16000-16999/CIM 16796 8A.pdf or posted on the National V-Directorate website under the Job Aid Kits.

5. Understanding that many members may wish to have a hard copy version of this manual; the CG Auxiliary Association has made available to our members a low cost means of having materials printed out in hard copy. This agreement with Office Depot allows our members, with our CG Auxiliary Association discount card, to have copies made at the low rate of \$0.025 per black and white copy (normal copy costs are \$0.10 per page)

6. Office Depot suggests that rather than provide them with a web site for the new VSC Manual, the member simply download the manual and email it to their local store as an attachment to be reproduced, or hand carry in a thumb drive or CD containing the new VSC Manual for them to print from. Important Note: If a member does wish to have a copy of the new VSC Manual printed in a **"front and back" version, please use the version** of the new VSC Manual listed as "Printable Version" located only at the National V-Directorate website, http://wow.uscgaux.info/ content.php?unit=VDEPT&category=job-aid-kits

7. To obtain the necessary CG Auxiliary Association discount card, our members should simply go to our National web site: http:// www.cgaux.org click on "Auxiliary Association" -"Auxiliary Member Store" - "Members Only Benefits" - "Sign In" – "Office Depot" - "Print Free Card". While you are at the store they will also laminate your discount card for you free of charge.

8. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this new Manual or the VSC program, please forward them on through your Chain of Leadership to the National V-Directorate.

Editor's Note – this information was received in an email through the Auxiliary Message System

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Mandated Training Update:

Jonathan Ahlbrand stated there is a need to make mandated training more available to members who do not have access to a computer or cannot attend a flotilla meeting. Jonathan introduced two additional options for mandated training which will be operational as soon as possible, no later than the end of January 2015. The additional options are:

1. A self-completion/assessment option. The T-DIR has been asked to develop downloadable versions of the presentations with self-graded assessments (if applicable) and self-acknowledgment letters that can either be:

a. Downloaded by the member from the Training Directorate website

b. Downloaded by the FSO-MT and mailed to the member or

c. Ordered by the FSO-MA, printed by ANSC, and mailed to the member.

d. Presentations may be PowerPoint presentations in PDF form with an introduction/instruction page.

2. Monthly Mandated Training webinars that cover these topics are given multiple times each month to provide an additional option for users. Members will again self-acknowledge/self-certify completion of the course.

The other methods are still available:

1. Taking the Mandated Training online using AUXLMS, or

2. Take the class at a Flotilla/Division/District Meeting with a qualified IT logging into AUXLMS; or

3. Take the class at a Flotilla/Division/District Meeting with a qualified IT downloading our PowerPoint Presentations to present to the members.

Editor's note: The above was taken from the Training Directorate DSO-MT 15 October Teleconference Minutes

C-Schools in St. Louis in January 2015

David Elliot

Have you ever thought you might want to attend an Auxiliary C-school? **Auxiliary "C-schools" are** Coast-Guard-funded formal training events, usually lasting from several days to a week. This coming January in St. Louis, MO, three of these schools will be held. They are scheduled for January 27-29, 2015:

• AUX-05, Auxiliary Mid-Level Officers Course (AMLOC). This C-school (course Code 501064) provides training in management of Coast Guard Auxiliary units. This training is offered to District Captains, District Directorate Chiefs, National Directorate Directors and deputies.

• AUX-12, Auxiliary Public Affairs Training. This C-school (course Code 501562) provides basic training in how to convey the Coast Guard and Auxiliary story. Students learn essentials of news writing, editing, marketing, branding and digital photography, along with how to handle interviews and meet the press.

• AUX-14, Auxiliary District Flight Safety Officer Training. This C-school (course Code 501570) provides training in working with CG Air Stations to manage the AUXAIR Safety Program.

Applications for these schools are made via a Short Term Training Request Form (STTR), to be approved by your Flotilla Commander and passed through the Chain of Leadership to the DIRAUX.

Additional information, course pre-requisites, requirements and the application process are available at the C-Schools Web Site http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=aux00

Editor's Note: The above information was included in a newsletter entitled "Currents" that I received email

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard

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

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