

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23 5SR



CDR Batchelder, Deputy Commander gives the oath of office too Dale Helms, Division Commander and John Fewer, Division Vice Commander. Photo by Connie Cosgrove



Flotilla Commanders and Vice Flotilla Commander take their oath of office. L—r: Chris Jensen, VFC , 23-7; Greg Askew, FC, 23-2; John Fountain, FC, 23-7; Willie Witters, VFC, 23-6; Dale Helms, DCDR and John Fewer, VDCDR

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Winter 2016-17

Judged 5SR Runner-Up Division Publication for 2016



Welcome to 2017

I am looking forward to the New Year with Division 23. We will focus on the four cornerstones of the Auxiliary. These include member services, recreational boating safety, operations and marine safety, and fellowship.

In member services we hope to expand the use of new media, member training, especially safety training, and information services in support of flotillas.

In recreational boating safety we will look to enhance opportunities for vessel exams and training VE's; increasing the availability of public education, including short courses, e.g. suddenly in command; and training new members in program visitation.

In operations and marine safety we will look to enhance safety training for our members and for the public. There are also training opportunities to work directly with the Coast Guard in marine safety. The Coast Guard will also need radio watch standers.

In fellowship we hope to encourage more joint fellowship activities with flotillas, e.g. picnics.

In keeping with environmental concerns we will also look at an electronic meeting plan for some of our meetings.

Dale Helms
Division Commander



2017 Member Training Opportunities

Here's What We're Planning For 2017:

4 & 5 February (Saturday & Sunday) Sector Specialty Course Weekend. Various Courses at different locations around our sector; Stay tuned for details.

18/19 February (Saturday/Sunday) At D-Train, Williamsburg VA.: AuxLAMS Part A (Aux 02A C School, plus Additional Training.

4 March (Saturday) Winter Workshops at Southern High School, Harwood MD. Operations (Crew/Cox Req'd), TCT, Mandatories, etc.

OPERATIONS WORKSHOP REQUIRED FOR ALL RECEIVING CREW OR COXSAIN ORDERS IN SECTOR MD-NCR.

19/20 March (Saturday/Sunday) Sector Boat Crew/Coxswain Qualification (BCQ) Starts.

In work for the fall:

Sector Specialty Course Weekend. Various Courses At Different Locations Around Our Sector

AuxLAMS Part B, Leadership and Management School (Aux 02B C – School). Primarily For FCs & VFCs

AMLOC, Aux Mid-Level Management Course (Aux 05 C – School). Primarily For DCDRs & VCDRs.

John Sill
ADSO-MT
johnesill@verizon.net

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2016 Board & Staff

DCDR: Dale Helms

VCDR: Walt Discenza

23-1 - Annapolis

Ron Price, Flotilla Commander

Wendy Norwitz, Vice Flotilla Commander

23-2 - Solomons

Lawrence Butts, Flotilla Commander

Theresa Gray, Vice Flotilla Commander

23-3 - West Annapolis

Bryan Teague, Flotilla Commander

Dorothy Neiman, Vice Flotilla Commander

23-4 - South River

Michael Whitman, Flotilla Commander

Lauri Lindqvist, Vice Flotilla Commander

23-6 - Drum Point

Mark Campbell, Flotilla Commander

Willie Witters, Vice Flotilla Commander

23-7 - Herring Bay

Christopher Jensen, Flotilla Commander

John Fountain, Vice Flotilla Commander

Division Staff

SO-CM - John Cosgrove

SO-CS - Wendy Norwitz

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 - Debbie Cranford

SO-VE - Dale Cranford

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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.



3 April 2017

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

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Change of Watch Held

The annual Change of Watch (COW) was held Saturday, the 14th of January. The weather forecast was for a mixed wintry mess. However, we were blessed with temperatures staying above freezing in our area. It was a cold, rainy day but most everyone was able to make it to the COW without incident.

The festivities began with a social hour and dinner. Jim Welday served as master of ceremonies. Dale Helms held the invocation. Jim Welday introduced our guests. In attendance were CWO Jack Williams, Operations Training Officer representing DIRAUX; CDR Batchelder, Deputy Commander Sector MD -NCR; Bruce Johnson, Auxiliary District Captain, Sector MD -NCR; Holly Johnson; John Galleazzi, ASC Sector MD-NCR; CWO Chris Runt Auxiliary Liason Officer Sector MD-NCR; and BMCS William Krukowski OIC Station Annapolis.

The afternoon program began with Dale Helms, Division Commander and John Fewer, Vice Division Commander being given the oath of office by CDR Batchelder and District Captain Bruce Johnson. The Division Staff then took the oath of office from the DCDR and VDCDR. Flotilla Commanders and Vice Flotilla Commanders also took their oath of office from the DCDR and VDCDR.

Phil Wentz, SO-OP and Dale Helms, DCDR presented the Bronze and Silver Operations Awards. These awards are presented to the owner of the facility for the number hours of patrol on that facility regardless of who was coxswain. Facilities having between 30 and 60 hours receive the Bronze Award and the Silver Award is given to facilities with over 60 hours.

Recipients were:

Bronze

Gesture, Ed Martin, 39.5 hours
Rosebud, John Fountain, 41 hours
Salty Paw, Ron Price, 43.8 hours
J Hawk, Ron Price, 46.8 hours
Delta 4, Jim Welday, 51.8 hours

Silver

26413, Bryan Teague, 60.1 hours

Sun Room, Jim Farrell, 71.9 hours
Carma, Art Murray, 78 hours
Robin Marie, Phil Wentz, 78.5 hours
Free Spirit, Ron Price, 85.3 hours
Salty Dog, Ron Price, 87.2 hours
Tinker Toy, Walt Discenza, 91.1 hours
Hawk II, Ron Price, 93.3 hours
Splash, Gary Smith, 108.2 hours
Liz Reese, Ray Feller, 127.8 hours
Chessie, Don Parker, 147.7 hours

Phil and Dale also presented Robin Ouellette with the crewman of the year. Ron Price was awarded coxswain of the year. Chessie owned by Don Parker was awarded Facility of the Year.

Certificates were also given for other categories other than operations. John Johnson was recognized for public affairs; Ron Price for paddle craft; Radio Watchstanding – Wendy Norwitz; Vessel Exams – Dale Cranford, Debbie Cranford for her work as secretary; Diversity to Margaret Butler and Chris Jensen for program visits.



CWO Jack Williams presented Theresa Gray with the Division Auxiliarist of the Year award.

L-R: Bruce Johnson, Theresa Gray, and CWO Williams.
Photo by Connie Cosgrove

CWO Williams thanked the Division membership for all the work done in 2016. CWO Williams congratulated the Division on completing 4300 hours in operations and 2200 hours of watchstanding at CG stations.

Continued on page 5—see COW

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COW—continued from page 4



CDR Batchelder from Sector M-NCR thanked the members for completing over 26,000 volunteer hours in 2016. He talked about a couple of accidents in our AOR in 2016

which resulted in fatalities. In both accidents there should have been a Marine Event Permit requested from the Coast Guard and there was not. Sector would like to involve the Auxiliary in getting out the word about event permits, when they are needed and how to get one, etc. He said we would be hearing more in the coming months.

CDR Batchelder complimented me for the Chatter and how great the information contained in it was. He thanked me for sending it to Sector saying "the Chatter was the only newsletter he received."

Bruce Johnson, Sector M-NCR asked the Flotilla Commanders to see him after the program to receive commemorative plates from DCO Rob Sersen for their members. Because of the weather one plate was displayed and Bruce Johnson read the following thank you from DCO Sersen:

A Salute to Division 23 Shipmates' Significant Contributions

I am extremely proud of, appreciative, and inspired by the significant contributions you have made that have propelled this district to new heights during the past two years.

You bring so much to our Fabulous Fifth Southern Family's table. Thank you for caring deeply and giving greatly.

The commemorative plate you are receiving symbolizes this. By the end of first quarter 2017

you will receive the special personalized recognition that accompanies this plate.

Thank you for your dedication; generous sharing of time, talent, and teamwork; and commitment to making a difference through active participation in supporting the members and missions of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Thank you for continuing our organization's awe-inspiring 77-year legacy of dedicated Service above self.

"Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing." – Theodore Roosevelt

Bruce thanked the membership for their efforts in 2016. He said that the 26,000 hours translated into \$850,000 of savings to the Coast Guard and the taxpayers. He said that in 2016 we assisted 17 boaters which resulted in saved lives.

He thanked Dale for stepping up to serve mid-year with very little notice. Bruce had spouses of Auxiliarist or anyone else present who had supported a member to stand up and be recognized. Earlier in the fall names of spouses and veterans attending the change of watch were requested. DCO Sersen also had a thank you for them that will be given out at the next Flotilla meeting.

Dale closed the event by thanking Theresa Gray, Helen Montfort, Walt Discenza and John Fewer for their help with the COW. He thanked everyone for coming out in the miserable weather.

Connie Cosgrove

SO-PB



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Jim Welday receiving his bronze facility award. L-r: Phi Wentz, Dale Helms, Jim Welday. Photo by Connie Cosgrove



Walt Discenza receiving his silver facility award. Photo by Connie Cosgrove



Robin Ouellette, Crewman of the Year. Photo by Connie Cosgrove

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D5SR Commemorative Plate

At the Change of Watch the above plate was displayed and Flotilla Commander brought them home for distribution at the next meeting. Recipients of the Commemorative Plates are:

23-1: Adams, Michael S.; Beyea, James S.; Butler, Margaret & Leonard; Cranford, Dale & Deborah; Discenza, Walter V.; Eames, Charles; Farrell, James B.; Garman, Muriel & Robert; Klaver, Leonard; Martin, Edwin L.; Murray Jr, Arthur & Anita; Norton, Douglas M.; Norwitz, Wendy & Price Ronald; Robinson, Douglas S.; Squillace, Marie R.; Sullivan, Kathleen D.; Vandeven, Michael J.; Welday Jr, Robert J.; and Yearwood, Adam T.

23-02: Askew, Gregory K.; Butts, Lawrence D.; Camp, Frederick W.; De Capitani, Alberto; Fields, Ronald G.; Gray, Theresa A.; Hillard, Ronald F.; Johnson, John A.; Ouellette, Robin D.; Pannone, Timothy A.; and Smith, Gary L.

23-03: Clarke, Timothy F.; Coleman Jr, Mace T.; Conopask, Jeffrey V.; Deafenbaugh Jr, Paul W.; Disque, Lynn A.; Fewer, John H.; Helms, Robert D.; James, Richard K.; Parker, Donald & Neiman, Dorothy.; Teague, Bryan M.; Wilson Sr. John D.; Wisniewski, Anthony C.; and Wright, Robert G.

23-04: Feinberg, Paul H.; Gallups, Ordice & Vivian.;

Lindqvist, Lauri M.; and Regensburg, James L.

23-06: Campbell, Mark S.; Cosgrove, Connie & John; Feller, Rainer; Hardisty, Thomas W.; Jefferson, James T.; Keyser, David R.; Scott, Harry N.; ,Smith Jr, William E.; and Witters Jr, Willie.

23-07: Brown, Edith E.; Fountain, Lynn & John; Gershman, Steven B.; Jensen, Christopher M.; Miller, Paul & Dawn; Penadelaguardia, Jose; Voltaggio, Frank A.; Walsh, Raymond M.; and Wentz, Philip J.

Connie Cosgrove

SO-PB

Elections Held

The following members were elected to serve as our leaders for 2017.

Division Commander – Dale Helms
Division Vice Commander – John Fewer

23-1
Flotilla Commander - FC Christian Converse
Vice Flotilla Commander - Marie Squillace

23-2
Flotilla Commander – Greg Askew
Vice Flotilla Commander – Theresa Gray

23-3
Flotilla Commander – Bryan Teague
Vice Flotilla Commander – Tim Clarke

23-4
Flotilla Commander - Paul Fineberg
Vice Flotilla Commander - James Regensburg

23-6
Flotilla Commander – Willie Witters
Vice Flotilla Commander – Mark Campbell

23-7
Flotilla Commander - John Fountain
Vice Flotilla Commander - Chris Jensen

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Awards

The following awards have been received since the last issue of the Chatter. Congratulations to all.

Meritorious Team Commendation

Alberto Decapitini, 23-02



Auxiliary Letter of Commendation

Ed Martin and Christian Converse 23-01



Auxiliary Sustained Service Award

Fred Camp, 7th award, 5250 hours, 23

-2

Robin Ouellette, 7th award, 5250 hours, 23-2

Dorothy Neiman, 2nd award, 1500, 23-3

Jeff Conopask, 3rd award, 2250 hours, 23-3

Don Parker, 5th award, 3750 hours, 23-3

Mark Campbell, 3rd award, 2250 hours, 23-6

William E Smith Jr. 5th award, 3750 hours, 23-6

AUXSEA

Jeff Conopask and Tim Clarke, 23-3

AUXNAV-A

Tim Strissel

Annual Service Award for VE/PV

Peggy Whilden for PV, 23-6

Vessel Examiner

Merek Schaefer, 23-6



Membership Service Award

5 year

Larry Butts and Jason Posey - 23-2

10 year

Douglas Norton – 23-1

15 year

James Regensburg and Irene Simpkins, 23-4

20 year

Frank Voltaggio, 23-7

Retirement - 25 years

Stan Sweikar, 23-6

Public Affairs Specialist 3

Ordice Gallups, 23-4

Auxiliary Clergy Support (ACS) Program

Auxiliary national leadership, the Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX), and the Chaplain of the Coast Guard (CG-00A) recently completed their collaborative establishment of Coast Guard Auxiliary Clergy Support (ACS) program. On October 27, 2016, the Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard, Admiral Charles D. Michel, approved and signed the governing Commandant Instruction 1730.5. It can be found at: https://www.uscg.mil/directives/ci/1000-1999/CI_1730_5.pdf Auxiliary national ACS program management resides within the Human Resources Directorate.

Auxiliarists are now authorized to apply for participation and engage in the ACS program in accordance with the provisions of Commandant Instruction 1730.5. Two forms help collate requisite application information: the Auxiliary Clergy Support (ACS) Application form (ANSC-7069) and the Auxiliary Clergy Support (ACS) Statement of Ecclesiastical Endorsement form (ANSC-7070). These forms will be available on the Auxiliary Forms Warehouse in fillable PDF versions by November 30, 2016

Editor's Note: The above was received email through the messaging system



New Members

The following have become members of Division 23 since the last issue of the Chatter. Please make them welcome and offer them any assistance you can.

Richard James Sr., 23-3

James Cole, 23-4

Fred Mobley, 23-6

Jane Lyle and Sherry Marnell, 23-7

Corrections to Spring Chatter

Under the awards section - Membership Awards – Harry Scott and Craig Walker should have been listed with 15 years of service not 10.

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James Russell McGrath crosses the bar

Jim McGrath, a Past Flotilla Commander of 23-2 crossed the bar on 13 October after a brief but strong battle with cancer. Jim was a retired Colonel from the Marine Corp.

Jim joined the Auxiliary on 8 September 1998. He served as the Flotilla Staff Officer for Operations and generously offered his dock for spring ready for operations training.

Change to Immediate Past Office Vacancy Policy

1. Based on a recommendation approved by the Auxiliary National Board at the 2016 Auxiliary National Conference (NACON) in Phoenix, AZ in August, by the Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX) in ALAUX 009/16, and as modified by the Chief Director to include the Immediate Past National Commodore, vacancies in Auxiliary immediate past offices shall be filled. Accordingly, subsection 4.F.5.c. of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Manual, COMDTINST M16790.1 (series), is changed as follows:

4.F.5.c. Immediate Past Office Vacancy

In an interim election, there is no change in the immediate past office. The Auxiliarist who held the title of immediate past officer before the interim election will remain the immediate past officer until the next regular election. If the immediate past officer position becomes vacant, or if the immediate past officer is not available to serve, the Director shall fill the position with a previous immediate past officer of the unit starting with the past officer who has most recently held the position and continuing in reverse chronological order until the position has been filled. In the case of the Immediate Past National Commodore, the Chief Director shall similarly fill that position.

2. This change is effective immediately and shall be memorialized in the next change to the Auxiliary Manual.

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



Flotilla 23-6 Holds Annual Food Drive

For the fourth year Flotilla 23-6 has come together to help those less fortunate by sponsoring a food drive within their unit for Chesapeake Cares Food Pantry.

Members of 23-6 donated non-perishable food items to supplement a turkey for Thanksgiving. They also donated \$200 dollars which allows the pantry to purchase needed supplies through the commodities program. The pantry can purchase five pounds of food for every dollar donated.

The food and cash donation was presented to Debbie Weber on 12 November just in time for Thanksgiving pickups. . In total 1063 pounds of food was provided to the pantry through the members generous giving.

Members who presented the contribution on behalf of the Flotilla were James Jefferson, Bill Smith, and Harry Scott.

Connie Cosgrove

FSO-PA 23-6

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Auxiliary Leadership and Management School

The Auxiliary Leadership and Management School (AUXLAMs) [AUX-02] is the Coast Guard Leadership and Management School (LAMs) course, adapted for the volunteer Auxiliary environment, and is taught by Coast Guard trained instructors. It covers the leadership competencies that are the basis for successful leadership skills in the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary.

This facilitated and interactive course deals with self-awareness, motivation, strategic leadership, team building, ethics, conflict management, and performance problem solving.

Additional information about AUXLAMs, the entry-level leadership course of the Auxiliary Leadership Continuum, is available at: <http://aux02.wow.uscgaux.info/>.

Part A of this course will be taught in Williamsburg, VA at the Double Tree by Hilton, 50 Kingsmill Road from 15 - 17 February 2017.

Class Schedule:

Wednesday 15 February 2017, 0900-1800
Thursday 16 February 2017, 0800-1700
Friday, 17 February 2017, 0800-1700

Part B of this course will be taught in Yorktown, VA at the CG Training Center, Hamilton Hall – 3rd floor mini Auditorium from 24 – 26 February 2017.

Class Schedule:

Friday, 24 February 2017, 1700-2200
Saturday 25 February 2017, 0800-2200
Sunday 26 February 2017, 0800-1500

Editor's Note: The above information was received through the Auxiliary messaging center

Coast Guard Watchstanders needed

The recently updated Auxiliary Strategic Plan emphasizes the ever increasing need for qualified Watchstanders at Coast Guard Boat Stations, Sectors, Air Stations, and Marine Safety Units, among others. This need has come about, partially because many qualified Auxiliary members have drifted away from this mission.

In order to publicize the need for Coast Guard Watchstanders, the Response Directorate is highlighting this mission by publishing profiles of current Watchstanders in its quarterly e-newsletter, "The Responder." By doing this we are recognizing their efforts as well as publicizing the mission.

So, here are four easy things for you to do:

- If you are a current Coast Guard Watchstander, talk up the mission within your Flotilla and Division.
- As a current Watchstander, would you consider adding some more hours? Also, if you are participating, please remember to file your hours on Form 7030.
- If you have drifted away, consider the opportunity to come back and re-qualify.
- For those of you who have drifted away and want to re-qualify, or if you are interested in becoming a Coast Guard Watchstander, notify your Flotilla Commander and then go knock on the door of your nearest Coast Guard Unit.

Thank you for your support of the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. It is more than appreciated.

Editor's Note: The above was received in an email through the Auxiliary messaging system

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Chief Director Final Action on National Board Recommendations at NACON 2016

At the 2016 Auxiliary National Conference (NACON) in Phoenix, AZ in August, the following recommendations were placed before the National Board. They are summarized, with the Chief Director's final determinations as applicable, below:

"Recommendation: Change current policy: [Auxiliary Manual, COMDTINST M16790.1G, Chapter 4, sub-section] F.5.c. Immediate Past Office

Vacancy: [currently reads] 'In an interim election, there is no change in the immediate past office. The Auxiliarist who held the title of immediate past leader before the interim election will remain the immediate past leader until the next regular election. A vacancy in the immediate past office shall not be filled.' Specifically...'A vacancy in the immediate past office shall not be filled.'

Discussion - Present policy fails to provide relief to the units that lack an immediate past leader. When there is an immediate past vacancy due to the immediate past leader having Crossed the Bar, retiring, moving out of the area, or disenrolling, it can become an obstacle which prevents the unit from conducting business if the unit leader or vice unit leader is unable to be present due to a schedule conflict.

This recommendation requests that present policy F.5.c. be changed to offer the current unit leader the option to maintain the vacancy intact or choose if he or she wants the vacant immediate past leader office to be filled by the immediate past leader who immediately preceded the person who the vacancy was caused by.

Amend COMDTINST M16790.1G, Chapter 4, sub-section F.5.c. to delete the sentence, 'A vacancy in the immediate past office shall not be filled,' and replace it with, 'If the immediate past officer position becomes vacant, or if the immediate past

officer is not available to serve, the Director of Auxiliary shall fill the position with a previous immediate past officer of the unit starting with the past officer who has most recently held the position and continuing in reverse chronological order until the position has been filled.'"

- (1) National Board action: Adopt.
- (2) Chief Director final action: Concur, approved, effective immediately.

"Recommendation: [District Standardized Standing Rules Template] Article IX, District Publication [section] 9.4 [states], 'The newsletter shall be posted on the District's internet website. One copy shall be electronically sent to the Chief Director, NEXCOM members, national department chiefs, and DCOs and Directors of other districts. At the direction of the District Commodore, a copy of the newsletter may be sent to District Auxiliary members electronically or in printed form, or both.'

In the above policy, change national department chiefs to national Directorate Directors.

Discussion - National Department Chief no longer exists in National Staff. The title has already been renamed national Directorate Director. This recommendation requests that Article IX section 9.4 be changed to reflect that the title of national department chief is now known as national Directorate Director."

- (1) National Board action: Failed.
- (2) Chief Director final action: No action.

"Recommendation: This recommendation requests provisional membership policy be changed to require completion of AUXMT prior to receiving an Auxiliary ID card. All other policy governing provisional membership remains unchanged as does policy for ID card issuance to all other members. On the ANSC-7068 Flotilla Commander Attestation for Provisional

Continued on page 12—see recommendation

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Recommendation—continued from Page 11

Membership form, move 'Has successfully completed all Auxiliary Mandated Training' from Section IV (Member Activity) to Section III (Member Standing).

Discussion (summary of submission) - The provisional member policy is inconsistent with the message that one must have mandated training completed before issuance of an Auxiliary ID card. Issuing an ID card to an AP Member that hasn't completed AUXMT will be counterproductive to the collective striving to encourage all members to complete their mandated training. It also sends a mixed message to leaders that have been promoting AUXMT as one of a new member's initial goals for completion and to existing members as well. In many organizations supported by volunteers, it is customary and reasonable for new volunteers who will be interacting with the public, to be required to complete core training courses that contain content that is similar to Auxiliary mandated training BEFORE they are permitted to receive an organizational ID card. In such organizations, new volunteers typically understand and embrace this requirement since the expectation is clearly communicated upfront and they are shown how to meet the requirement. They voluntarily comply and move forward to accomplish their required core training within their first few months, eager to demonstrate a commitment to the organization, transition out of pending status, and obtain their ID card, proving they've become "official" members.

Because AP members very much want their ID card, they will be most receptive during their first 90 days to get their AUXMT done, if 'AUXMT prior to ID' is a clearly communicated expectation and support is provided by their flotilla members and leadership. This is because it is generally expected and accepted by new volunteers that organizations will hold them to a core training completion standard during that pending status prior to ID card issuance. Why should the most logical opportune time for AUXMT completion be rendered worthless by agreeing to allow issuance

of ID cards prior to AUXMT completion? Require 'AUXMT prior to ID' so it stays a priority. Don't let AUXMT become an afterthought among the members that would be most receptive to get it done. AUXMT is meant to start everyone off on the right foot together as core training preparation. Moreover, current IQ, BQ, and AX members that need to renew their ID card are required to have AUXMT completed. Current AP members that have completed their PSI and are coming out of AP status must have their AUXMT completed before issuance of an Auxiliary ID card. The provisional member being issued an ID card after 90 days without the requirement to complete AUXMT should be changed. The requirement to complete AUXMT before receiving an ID card should be consistent for all members.

The AUXMT completion deadline for new members is not being changed in this recommendation. It will remain required to be successfully completed by the end of the first full year of enrollment and then once every five years thereafter, however, AUXMT must be completed before issuance of an Auxiliary ID card. If a member wants their Auxiliary ID card in 90 days, having to meet the AUXMT completion prerequisite isn't difficult to meet since the 10 courses have an average completion time of approximately 10 hours total and there are multiple completion options available."

(1) National Board action: Failed.

(2) Chief Director final action: No action.

Editor's Note: the above information was received email though the Auxiliary messaging system.

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Patuxent River Appreciation Days

Despite the rain and wind on 8 and 9 October the annual Patuxent River Appreciations Days held at the Calvert Marine Museum went on.

R.T. West, John and Connie Cosgrove, 23-6 set up for the two day event on Friday, 7 October with the sun shining.

However Saturday, 8 October was a different story when torrential rain fall moved into the area Friday night. Theresa Gray, 23-2 and Bill Smith from 23-6 started the morning out early arriving at 9 a.m. Willie Witters from 23-6 joined them in the afternoon. Attendance was low but thankfully we had our booth inside and were not affected by the rain.

Sunday morning the rain was still coming down and high winds moved in overnight. When R.T. arrived at the museum the outside vendor's tents were blown down overnight. However, the weather was predicted to clear by noon so the museum decided the event would move forward.

As predicted the sun came out about noon and we had a very productive day giving out



Frisbees, coloring books, pencils, crayons, and book marks to the children.

We also passed out oil pads and whistles as well as literature to the boaters.

Other Auxiliarist who participated on Sunday were Theresa Gray, Connie and John Cosgrove and James Jefferson of 23-6.

Connie Cosgrove

FSO-PA 23-6

Prohibition of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)

Due to the rapid proliferation of available, affordable, and highly-capable commercial Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), COMDT (CG-7) released ALCOAST 331/16 on 14SEP16. This ALCOAST specifically prohibited the acquisition and operation of UAS by Coast Guard units without the express permission of CG-711.

This prohibition applies to members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Auxiliarists are prohibited from operating UAS in the performance of any authorized Auxiliary activity under any circumstance, including prohibition from operating UAS for testing or prototyping purposes.

The potential exists for UAS capabilities to be offered to the Coast Guard by Auxiliarists. The Chief Director is chartering a working group to explore a way forward which would enable Auxiliary members to operate UAS on behalf of Coast Guard Order Issuing Authorities. This working group will be staffed by representatives from Coast Guard Program Offices, including CG-711/41/1131, Auxiliary national staff members, and Auxiliary members from PACAREA, LANTAREA West and LANTAREA East.

The Chief Director is currently soliciting experienced UAS operators to apply to be members of the working group in order to add their subject matter expertise to the discussion. Interested members should email their UAS resume to Commodore Karel Kester, at karel.kester@cgauxnet.us.

Editor's Note: The above was an ALCOAST message received in an email from the Chief Director's mailing list.

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 8 Issue 4

Winter 2016-17

Judged 5SR Runner-Up Division Publication for 2016



USCGC *Eagle*

On Sunday, September 17, the Coast Guard Cutter *Eagle* sailed into Baltimore's Inner-Harbor where it offered public tours the following day from 0800 to 1700. I, among many other members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, stood docent-type watches during the tours to allow for the regular crew to have a weekend off. Recruiting for the Coast Guard Auxiliary was part of our agenda. At final count there were 2,400 visitors who toured the vessel, including the Lieutenant Governor of Maryland and other VIPs.

The Eagle was built in Hamburg, Germany in 1936 under the name Horst Wessel, and was originally operated by Nazi Germany to train cadets for the German Navy. The ship was taken over by the United States as a war prize after World War II, as part of the war reparations program, and renamed, by the U.S. Coast Guard, *Eagle*, following a long proud line of six other *Eagles* dating back to 1792. In 1946, a U. S. Coast Guard crew – aided by the German crew still on board – sailed the tall ship from Bremerhaven to its new homeport of New London, Connecticut.

Eagle is now temporarily home-ported at the U. S. Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, Maryland for the next few years of extensive winter-time maintenance. It will continue to conduct summer cruises for Coast Guard Academy cadets and Officer Candidate School students. Following its

overhaul the ship will return to its permanent home-port in New London.

Eagle is a three-masted barque that is 295 feet long, 233 feet at the waterline, and displaces about 1,700 tons. The greatest beam is 39 feet, a freeboard of 9 feet and a fully-loaded draft of 17 feet. The tallest mast is 147 feet and has a ballast of 344 tons. There is 22,300 square feet of sail area and 6 miles, standing and running. Under full sail the vessel is capable of up to 17.5 knots, while speed under power is 11 knots. The full crew complement is 8 officers and 50 enlisted. During summer cruises *Eagle* can accommodate up to 150 cadets and other trainees. Commanding Officer is CAPT Matthew Meilstrup.

Dick James

Member of 23-3

USCGC James Rankin (WLM-555)

As part of 2016 Fleet Week in Baltimore, Coast Guard Cutter James Rankin served for several days as a key vessel marker in the Baltimore Harbor for the Blue Angels practice and demonstration shows. On each of these days the Rankin got underway with several Coast Guard Auxiliarists and some civilian guests to observe the activities aboard ship and watch the incredible Blue Angels perform. The Auxiliarists were free to move about the vessel to observe shipboard activities and conduct discussions with various crew members. On October 13 the Rankin was underway from the Curtis Bay Yard from 1015 until 1630. I was among the Auxiliarist making that days trip.

The James Rankin is the fifth of 14 cutters of the Keeper Class of coastal buoy tenders constructed by Marinette Marine Corporation in Marinette, Wisconsin. It was placed in commission on May 1, 1999 in Baltimore's Inner Harbor and is home-ported in the Curtis Bay Yard. James Rankin and her crew are responsible for maintenance of over 400 buoys in the Upper Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries including the Potomac River up to our

Continued on page 15—see USCGC Rankin

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nation's capital. James Rankin is also designed and equipped to ably perform other Coast Guard missions including home land security, search and rescue, marine environmental protection and domestic ice breaking.

The Keeper Class buoy tenders are 175 feet long, have a beam of 36 feet and a draft of 7.9 feet. The propulsion consists of 2x caterpillar diesel engines with two 2-Z thrusters. Top speed is 14 mph. Complement consists of 24 crew members. Current Commanding Officer is Lieutenant Linda DePace.

Dick James
Member of 23-3

Specialty Courses Being Offered

Here are further details on the Specialty Courses being offered in Sector M-NCR this winter. Note that not all courses will be completed on the 4/5 Feb weekend.

Anyone interested in attending should contact the course coordinator at the email address below. This fall we will offer a similar set of courses, but their locations will be exchanged to facilitate alternate attendance.

Remember also that the Sector Winter Workshops will be held again at Southern High School on 4 March from 0830 – 1630.

AUXPAT - 4 Feb and 17 from 0830-1630 at Station Annapolis. Lead Instructor will be John Fewer. For more information and to register contact Ray Feller at rfeller333@comcast.net.

AUXCOM – 4 Feb and 17 Feb from 0830-1630 at Station Washington. Lead instructor will be Nick Lomangino. For more information and to register contact P Meyer at 2013pmeyer@gmail.com.

AUXWEA – 4 Feb and 17 Feb from 0830-1630 at Curtis Bay Yard. Lead Instructor will be Craig Benson. For more information and to register contact jeepster217@gmail.com.

Intro to Marine Safety and Environmental Protection – 11 Feb and 17 Feb from 0830-1630 at American Legion Post 268 in Wheaton, MD. Lead Instructor will be Jessica Allard. For more information and to register contact John Sill at johnesill@verizon.net.

Editor's note: The above information was received email through the Auxiliary messaging system .

Flotilla 23-6 supports Toy for Tots

For the second year in a row Auxiliary Flotilla 23-6 has provided toys to the Toys for Tots Program. This year the Flotilla partnered with the Prince Frederick Fire Department. On the 4th of December the collected toys were delivered to the fire house. Auxiliarists delivering the toys were William Smith, John and Connie Cosgrove

Connie Cosgrove
FSO-PA



Pictured from left to right are Firefighter Roy Milstead, FF Joe Reamy, Auxiliarists Bill Smith and John Cosgrove and Deputy Chief Brian Ficke. Photographer was Connie Cosgrove.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Congratulations on receiving the President's Volunteer Service Award, and thank you for helping to address the most pressing needs in your community and our country.

In my Inaugural Address, I stated that we need a new era of responsibility—a recognition on the part of every American that we have duties to ourselves, our Nation, and the world. These are duties that we do not grudgingly accept, but rather seize gladly, firm in the knowledge that there is nothing so satisfying to the spirit than giving our all to a difficult task. Your volunteer service demonstrates the kind of commitment to your community that moves America a step closer to its great promise.

Our Nation faces the most challenging economic crisis in a lifetime. We will only renew America if we all work together. Individuals, the private sector, and government must combine efforts to make real and lasting change so that each person has the opportunity to fulfill his or her potential.

While government can open more opportunities for us to serve our communities, it is up to each of us to seize those opportunities. Thank you for your devotion to service and for doing all you can to shape a better tomorrow for our great Nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style.

The above letter signed by President Obama was presented to all Auxiliarist who received the Presidential Lifetime Achievement award

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U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY FIFTH DISTRICT (SOUTHERN REGION) DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL WILLIAMSBURG VIRGINIA

FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2017

1300-1700 EXCOM Meeting

SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2017

0730-1530 Registration Desk Open
0900-1145 District Board Meeting Pt. 1
1200-1315 PDCA Luncheon/Awards Ceremony
1330-1445 Sector Captain Breakouts
1500-1700 District Board Meeting Pt. 1 (Cont.)
1730-1830 No Host Cocktail Party
1830-2200 Banquet

SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2017

0900- 1200 District Board Meeting Pt.2
Late Check Out

UNIFORM OF THE DAY

EXCOM Meeting – Business Casual
Board Meeting Pt. 1 Saturday - Tropical Blue, Winter Dress Blue
Banquet- Service Dress Blue (Bravo), Appropriate Business Attire
Board Meeting Pt. 2 Sunday – Business Casual

ROOM RESERVATIONS

The Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Williamsburg, 50 Kingsmill Road Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 USA

Room Reservations Must Be Made On An Individual Basis

Room Rate \$91.00 plus state & local taxes

Method of Reservation- Individual Call in to (1-800) 222-8733

Inform Reservations that you are Coast Guard Auxiliary - Code USC

Last day to Register is 1/31/17

CONFERENCE MEALS REGISTRATION FORM

(Luncheon and Banquet are required attendance for members on orders.)

NAME: _____ Division _____

Luncheon, (Sponsored by PDCA) \$23.00 (each person) # _____ \$ _____

Banquet: Plated Dinner: \$40.00 (each person)
Pan Seared Sesame Crusted Salmon Filets # _____ \$ _____

Frontier Chicken with Smoked Gouda,
Caramelized Onions and Oven Roasted Tomatoes # _____ \$ _____

Vegetarian Meal: Ricotta Cheese Manicotti # _____ \$ _____

Banquet Meals served with Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Roasted Asparagus

Total Amount Due \$ _____

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 February 10**

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

FIRST CLASS

United States
Coast Guard

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS