

# Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23 5SR



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Division 23

Volume 7 Issue 4

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Judged 5SR Runner-Up Division Publication for 2011



## The Auxiliary is Changing

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is changing. That is a definite fact.

The issuance of locator beacons to all boat crew members is just one example. There are dozens more. Our uniforms are being highly scrutinized, our patrols are only approved by the active duty folks and our Public Affairs missions are being watched. Those are just a few of the examples. Is this a bad thing; of course not. We are becoming ever closer to our active duty counterparts. We are at the stations more, the public more, and our paperwork is passing through many active duty hands. It stands to reason that we are growing in better standards, consistency, and accomplishments.

So please stand and be proud to wear the uniform, participate in missions, and stand in front of the public. All of these things point to a certain fact; we are becoming one team of professionals with the "Gold" side.

*Ron Price*

DCDR



## Congratulations

Greetings all! Obviously the final numbers aren't in yet, but with the recreational boating season over and the end (and beginning) of another year, I want to say congratulations and well done to all of you who contributed your time and talents in 2015 in furtherance of the authorized activities of the USCG Auxiliary. Your commitment and professionalism is, in a word, inspiring.

Now I want to share with you some of our (preliminary) numbers for 2015 – not because I want to bore you with a boat-load of numbers, but rather because it's important for everyone to understand how we fit into the broader picture for Sector Baltimore. The numbers presented can be found in AUXINFO, and come from the "Member

Activities" data cube as refreshed on Sunday, 29 November 2015.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Sec Balt Ranking</u>
Aids to Navigation	4.0	5th
Marine Patrols	3,596.8	1 <sup>st</sup>
CG Admin Support	300.3	2 <sup>nd</sup>
CG Ops Support	1,915.3	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Gov't Agency Support	3.5	1 <sup>st</sup>
Marine Safety	519.1	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Member Training	800.9	2 <sup>nd</sup>
RBS	16,982.8	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Search and Rescue	220.9	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Program Visitation	301.0	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Public Affairs	674.5	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Public Education	387.8	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Recruiting Assistance	26.0	3 <sup>rd</sup>

Obviously, some of the above numbers will change as the outstanding hours are submitted and captured, but the numbers are telling with respect to certain key points that need to be clearly understood by all.

First, and with the understanding that we are not in competition with any organizational structures of the USCGAUX, Division 23 is making significant and important contributions to the Sector's, the District's, and the Auxiliary's primary missions of promoting recreational boating safety and supporting the United States Coast Guard.

The second point that stands out is that we, our leadership and our members, see member training as an important part of what we do – how we prepare ourselves to fulfill the many missions/activities we perform. The motto of the USCG, "***Semper Paratus***," does not mean always busy or always saving lives – it means "Always Ready." Member training is essential to being ready for whatever may come our way. And being ready also means completing the trainings that are required of us as a condition of active membership (including the dreaded "mandatories"). To those of you who have already completed your

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## 2015 Board & Staff

**DCDR:** Ron Price

**VCDR:** John Leben

### 23-1 - Annapolis

Wendy Norwitz, Flotilla Commander

Christian Converse, Vice Flotilla Commander

### 23-2 - Solomons

Gary Smith, Flotilla Commander

Lawrence Butts, Vice Flotilla Commander

### 23-3 - West Annapolis

Dale Helms, Flotilla Commander

Brian Teague, Vice Flotilla Commander

### 23-4 - South River

Lauri Lingqvist, Flotilla Commander

Michael Whitman, Vice Flotilla Commander

### 23-6 - Drum Point

Mark Campbell, Flotilla Commander

Pete Schaecher, Vice Flotilla Commander

### 23-7 - Herring Bay

Edith Brown, Flotilla Commander

Steven Gershman, 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 & Wendy Nowitz
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



10 April 2016

Articles and pictures are encouraged and appreciated. Please email to: [cjcosgrove@earthlink.net](mailto:cjcosgrove@earthlink.net)

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## Cover Photos

**Top:** Harry Scott, Theresa Gray and Eileen Gray handing out information on boating safety at Patuxent River Appreciation Days. Photo by Connie Cosgrove. Harry Scott, Theresa Gray and Eileen Gray handing out information on boating safety at Patuxent River Appreciation Days. Photo by Connie Cosgrove

**Middle:** Harry Scott, Theresa Gray and Eileen Gray handing out information on boating safety at Patuxent River Appreciation Days. Photo by Connie Cosgrove

**Bottom:** Boxes of Toys for presentation to the Sheriff's Office for Toys for Tots. Photo by Connie Cosgrove

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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“mandatory trainings,” my hat is off to you. **Well done!** To those of you who are nearly complete – good work, now push across the finish line. To those of you who haven’t started and/or don’t intend to complete the mandatory training courses – well, just understand that there will be consequences so why not avoid problems by completing the required trainings.

Lastly, what the numbers say to me is that, although there is always room for improvement, the contributing members of Division 23 engage in a wide range of activities on behalf of the USCGAUX and USCG – and all of these activities are crucial to fulfilling our missions of promoting recreational boating safety and supporting the USCG. Keep up the good work everybody and if there is anything I can do to help you be successful in what you choose to do in furtherance of our authorized activities just let me know.

*John Leben*  
VCDR/DCDR(e)

## Flotilla Elections

Flotilla elections have been held and the new elected leadership for 2016 is as follows:

### 23-1

Flotilla Commander  
Vice Flotilla Commander

### 23-2

Flotilla Commander - Lawrence Butts  
Vice Flotilla Commander – Theresa Gray

### 23-3

Flotilla Commander – Bryan Teague  
Vice Flotilla Commander – Dorothy Neiman

### 23-4

Flotilla Commander - Michael Whitman  
Vice Flotilla Commander - Lauri Lindqvist

### 23-6

Flotilla Commander – Mark Campbell  
Vice Flotilla Commander – Willie Witters

### 23-7

Flotilla Commander – Christopher Jensen  
Vice Flotilla Commander – Lynn Fountain

## Awards

The following members have earned awards since the last issue of the Chatter:

### AUX-EC (Assistant Container Inspector)

Robin Ouellette, 23-2

### Century Club for 100 vessel exams and/or program visits

Wendy Norwitz and Ron Price, 23-1  
William Smith, 23-6

### Unit Growth Award

23-7 for 5 new members during 2014

### Membership Service Award

10 years

Ed May, 23-2



### Retirement

Richard and Madeline Irving, 23-1  
Jeff Test, 23-2  
Art Pine, 23-3  
Ron Sauer, 23-6

### Fingerprint Technician

Bryan Teague, 23-3



## New Members

The following members have completed the approval process since the last issue of the Chatter. Please make them feel welcome and offer them any assistance you can.

23-1

Michael Adams, Michael Bronson and Marie Squillace



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## Change to MD LOSAP Tax Form

Great news to share re: the 2015 USCG AUX Maryland LOSAP Tax Form:

Qualified members will receive their processed form as quickly and hassle-free as possible, while keeping their FC in the loop, and eliminating unnecessary exposure of members' social security numbers.

1. No action will be required from any member who has submitted a LOSAP form for any of the previous 3 years. These members will automatically receive a completed 2015 LOSAP form via email Jan 3 - 5, 2016. The social security number field will be left blank for the member to handwrite in upon receipt

If you do not meet the 50 point minimum requirement as of Jan 1st due to Nov/Dec IS forms pending entry, LOSAP Coordinator will rerun your MD LOSAP form on March 1st in case your Nov or Dec volunteer activity needed to be in AUXDATA before you had sufficient points.

2. FC signature is no longer required on individual forms. Instead, every FC with one or more flotilla members qualified for LOSAP will receive a pdf report from the LOSAP Coordinator via email on Jan 6, 2016. This report would list the names and point activity summary by category for every flotilla member of that unit for whom the LOSAP Coordinator generated 2015 forms. Social security numbers will not be included on this report.

3. On the other hand, if you are a member submitting a LOSAP form for the first time/have not submitted for any of the past 3 years, you will submit the attached form for your first submission only, since all future years after the initial submission will be automatically generated as described above. At a minimum, fill in your name, address, member number, and social security number and mail to: Penny Soteria, USCG AUX MD LOSAP Coordinator, 1000 Beech Drive, Middle River, MD 21220. A self-addressed stamped envelope is no longer needed.

So keep serving in the mission areas you love and be sure to get your IS forms to your FSO-IS timely so that AUXDATA reflects all your generous hours of time and talent.

Have a wonderful holiday season and thank you for your continued dedicated service! We all serve because we believe in the cause and want to each make a difference. However, it's so nice that the State of Maryland recognizes all our shipmates' generous contributions of devoted service with this important benefit.

*Penelope Soteria*

USCG AUX MD Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) Coordinator

## Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race



The 26th annual Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race was held on October 15th. Twenty-eight schooners started this year just south of the Annapolis Bay Bridge.

The following Auxiliary OPFACS cleared spectator boats from the path of the racers: Chessie (Don Parker 23-03), Free Spirit (Ron Price 23-01), Just Enough (Susanne Smith 24-08), Kline Aboard (Steve Klein 24-03), and Sun Room (Jim Farrell 23-01).

The OPFACS escorted the racers to Thomas Point Light where this picture of The Pride of Baltimore II was taken by Dorothy Neman aboard Chessie. The Pride won the AA class (50 foot and above) 127 nautical mile race to Thimble Shoal Light, Virginia.

The mission of the Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race is to promote public awareness of the Chesapeake Bay's maritime heritage and to

Continued on page 6—see race

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encourage the preservation and improvement of the Chesapeake's natural resources. This is accomplished by donating the proceeds of the race to one or more charitable organizations engaged in conservation of the natural resources of the Chesapeake Bay. 2015 proceeds will benefit youth education as presented by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

*Dorothy Neiman*  
23-1

## Flotilla 23-6 holds annual food drive

For the third year the 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 67.2 pounds of non-perishable food items that will supplement a turkey for Thanksgiving. They also donated \$140 dollars which according to Patti Fiegel from the pantry will supply another 700 pounds of food which equates to five pounds of food for every dollar donated.

The food and cash donation was presented to Debbie Weber and Patti Fiegel on 14 November just in time for Thanksgiving pickups. Members who presented the food on behalf of the Flotilla were Connie and John Cosgrove, James Jefferson, Bill Smith, and Harry Scott.

When we arrived, a delivery of turkeys, produce and other items from the MD Food Bank was being made. Girl Scott Troop 1090 from the Nation's Capital Region was also there with donations for the pantry. Bill Smith provided each girl with a whistle.

Debbie told us that the pantry was open Tuesday through Saturday and two evening a week. She also told us that they deliver to shut-ins. She also told us they anticipate providing about 1600

holiday meals between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Debbie Weber told the group that they had served 805 families with 20,000 pounds of food the week ending on 14 November. Debbie said, "While the number 805 families served is a great number the number she likes the most is the number one – that one call like the one received last week from a client telling her she had got the job and no longer needed the Pantry's help."

*Connie Cosgrove*  
FSO-PA 23-6



Pictured left to right: Bill Smith, FSO-MT; Patti Fiegel, Debbie Weber, and Harry Scott, FSO-HR.



## Crossing the Bar

Paul John Lyons, 69, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away on October 15, 2015 at his residence in Mechanicsville, MD. Paul was born June 22, 1946 in Newark, NJ. He was a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 23-2.

## Sector Baltimore name change

Effective January 1, 2016 Sector Baltimore's new designation will officially become **Sector Maryland - National Capital Region**

Editor's Note: The information above was received email through the chain of leadership on 8 Dec

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## HAND IN HAND...



TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE BOATING PUBLIC

### Opportunities for Coast Guard Augmentation

The Coast Office of Public Affairs has requested augmentation by qualified Public Affairs Specialists for Public Affairs Offices and PADETs. The Deputy Chief, Public Affairs, indicated that they are seeking members who can augment PA Offices and PADETs one to two days a week, but are also interested in representing those offices in areas of the Districts where there is no Coast Guard presence.

Interested members should access the Public Affairs Directorate Website at <http://www.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=A-DEPT&category=pa-specialist> to begin the training program leading to the designation of a Public Affairs Specialist.

Members currently holding the qualification of Public Affairs Specialist 3 or 2 are encouraged to contact Tom Ceniglio, Division Chief, Public Affairs Training, at [thomas.ceniglio@cgauxnet.us](mailto:thomas.ceniglio@cgauxnet.us) regarding pursuing a training program for AUXPA1.

Members currently holding the qualification of a Public Affairs Specialist 1 are eligible for assignment at this time. Those AUXPA Specialist 1s interested in augmenting in PACAREA should contact Commodore Harry Jacobs, Director, Public Affairs Directorate, at [harry.jacobs@cgauxnet.us](mailto:harry.jacobs@cgauxnet.us). Members interested in augmenting in LANTAREA should contact Richard Mihalcik, Deputy Director, Public Affairs Directorate, at [rmjkmihalcik@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rmjkmihalcik@sbcglobal.net).

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



Front Row—Assistant Sheriff - Major Dave McDowell, Detention Center Administrator - Major Thomas Reece, Sheriff Mike Evans, Bill Smith, FSO-MT 23-6; Ray Feller, SO-MT, 23-6. Back Row—Commissioners' Mike Hart, Pat Nutter, Steve Weems, Tom Hejl, and Evan Slaughenhaupt

### Flotilla 23-6 supports Toys for Tots

Members of Flotilla 23-6 generously gave toys for the Marine's Toys for Tots campaign. Toys were collected and presented to the Calvert County Sheriff's Office at the Board of County Commissioners meeting on 8 December.

On behalf of the Flotilla, Bill Smith (who also volunteers with the Sheriff's Office) presented Sheriff Mike Evans with toys.

Sheriff Evans thanked the members of the Flotilla and told the Commissioners that besides the two boxes of toys in the hearing room there was three or four more boxes of toys back at his office .

*Connie Cosgrove*

FSO-PA



Auxiliary Members in the galley aboard CGC James Rankin. Photo by Eric Amo, Flotilla 23-7. The event point of contact was John Galleazzi (Front right)

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## Flotilla 23-2 sets up Patuxent River Appreciation Days (PRAD) Booth

Flotilla 23-2 was given the option to run the PRAD PA Booth by 23-6. Theresa Gray jumped at the chance as it is always a lot of fun. The event was held on 10 and 11 October at the Calvert Marine Museum.

Friday 9 Oct was the day scheduled by the museum to set up the inside booths. When I got to the area in front of the museum to off load, Johnny Johnson came to assist. Also at the picnic tables was a class of elementary school kids and I asked their teacher if one of the boys could help us reach into the bed of the truck to get the three boxes along the back wall. No problem as they all volunteered and the one chosen was up to the job.

Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> was the day! Eileen and Theresa arrived at 0715 to begin setting up the booth. Again Johnny Johnson came and helped after he had set up his marlinespike demonstration. Harry Scott and Jim Jefferson from 23-6 came in and helped with fine tuning and stayed all day. During the day Mark Van Deusen came in with the 23-2 PA items he had, so we set up the third table and used it for coloring books, stickers, and Coral Reef Bookmarks, etc. We didn't know Connie and John Cosgrove had arrived until the camera flashed 3 or 4 times since we had folks standing on both sides of the tables.

We met a lot of terrific people, some looking for VEs, some looking for classes and 3 looking for membership!



We were all wowed when the children came across the room to show us how the nice man painted their faces.

What an artist! The parents eventually followed so the kids could ask if they could have coloring

books, etc. A lot of the parents talked to us and got some good information and ideas.

Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> we were not able to get into the museum until 0830, however we still had to be there early so that we could park the truck on the grounds. While we sat in the truck we watched people set up their booths. One couple had a truck full of boxes and driftwood. Their booth was so intriguing that we had to go and talk to them. They live in the area around Calvert Cliffs and go out to beaches and collect shells, sharks teeth and many other items to make jewelry and wind chimes with. The other outside craft and painting booths were all fascinating in their own right, especially the Calvert County Kettle Popped Popcorn booth which smelled wonderful for miles. Boomerangs had good chili for lunch.

When we were able to get in to our booth we noticed that today was going to be a bit calmer as all the other booths pulled out so Mark, Theresa and Eileen had a campfire discussion and moved the banner from behind us out to the middle of the room so visitors could see it. For a while Mark stood out in the entryway and gave out coloring book which was a good draw because when people started coming others became interested.

When it was time to close up we received help from museum staff who wanted to go home on time. One of the staff members is our member Bob Fein. He assisted with packing and got some of the staff members to get everything out the front door. When the truck finally made it to the door, everything was loaded and what did not fit went into the back seat. The tailgate looked like it would fly open at any minute. When we were able to go out Johnny Johnson had approximately 10 people standing around to learn a knot or two. He closed his booth and came out to check on us.

All in all it was a grand weekend and one we are looking forward to again next year.

*Theresa A. Gray*  
Acting FSO-PA, 23-2

Spider Man—Joseph Rosales  
Batman—Jeremy Rosales—Photo by Connie Cosgrove



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## CHANGE OF WATCH UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY CENTRAL CHESAPEAKE DIVISION 23

**WHERE:** Renditions Country Club, 1380 West Central Avenue, Davidsonville, MD 21035  
410-798-9798 or 1-888-451-4144

**WHEN:** Saturday 9 January 2016, from 1400 to 1800 (2pm to 6pm).

**MEMBER AND GUEST ATTIRE:** Tropical Blue Uniform or Business Casual.

**CASH BAR:** 1400

**LUNCH SEATING:** Salad served at 1445.

**BUFFET MENU:**

Slow Roasted Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus. Paired with Chicken Parmesan with your choice of Vegetables, Tortellini Alfredo, Herb Roasted Potatoes, Rolls and Butter.

**DESSERT:** Sheet Cake with Coffee.

**RESERVATION DEADLINE:** 28 December 2015

**Price per person:** \$40.00 includes 20% gratuity

**Checks are to be made payable to: USCGAUX DIV 23**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Flotilla \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Flotilla \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail your reservation to:** Theresa A. Gray  
P.O. Box 89  
Charlotte Hall, MD 20659

**Please provide your phone # \_\_\_\_\_ or e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_  
So that we can contact you if necessary.**

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