

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23 5SR



Top Left: Kirby Garland Memorial Service

Top Right—Phil Wentz Burial at Sea, OPFAC 32210. Phil's daughter, granddaughter and great-grandson laid roses at the site

Bottom Left: Sea Scout Safety Day at Sea flare demonstration, CG Yard Curtis Bay

Above: Chesapeake Cares Food Pantry—Shanna weighs non-perishable food from 23-6

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022



I recently came across this recent tribute for those Crossing the Bar. *“Sunset and evening star, and one Clear call for me, and may there be no moaning of the bar, when I put out to sea. But such a tide as moving seems asleep, too full for sound and foam, when that which drew from out the boundless deep Turns again home. Twilight and evening bell, And after the dark! And may there be no sadness of farewell, when I embark; For tho’ out our bourne of time and place. The Flood may bear me far, I hope to see my Pilot face to face, when I cross the bar.”*

It is with great sadness that I inform you that Auxiliarist Kirby Garland of Flotilla 23-03, West Annapolis crossed the bar on September 23, 2022, and his memorial service took place on October 5th. Kirby actively served the Auxiliary for 20 years. The Garland Family enthusiastically extended an invitation to the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary to join them as they celebrated the life and legacy of Kirby. At the request of the family, the Auxiliary served as Honorary Guard during the funeral service and assisted the United States Navy at the Fort Lincoln Cemetery in Washington, D.C. to help lay him in his final resting place. Auxiliarist Paul Deafenbaugh served as the bugler with a rendition of “Taps”. Please keep the Garland family in your thoughts and prayers.

On October 7, 2022, Peggy Jean Whilden crossed the bar and was an active member of Flotilla 23-06, Drum Point. The Flotilla held a private virtual memorial service at its Flotilla Meeting on Friday, October 14th to celebrate her life and contribution to the Auxiliary. Peggy served the Auxiliary with honor and distinction for more than two decades. Please continue to remember her family in your thoughts and prayers.

A key component and attraction of the Auxiliary is fellowship. In light of the aforementioned, please check on your shipmates to see how they are doing or pen them a cordial greeting by email,

letter or greeting card when you haven’t seen them in a while. We’ll be doing a formal tribute at our in-person Change of Watch on 21 January 2023 at the Renditions Golf Course & Resort for all our members who have crossed the bar. A formal invitation will be sent to the next of Kin to join in the celebration of Life for all our Shipmates that have crossed the bar.

As we transition into the Winter months, we will turn our focus and attention onward to end of year activities such as Flotilla elections, Change of Watch, award recognition, succession planning, training & recruitment/retention.

Division 23, Central Chesapeake Election Outcomes

Our division elections were held virtually on 06 October 2022. As of September 22nd, the division screening committee received two letters of intent for Vice Division Commander (Mark Campbell) and DCDR (Margaret Butler). Willie Witters, IPDCDR, cast a single vote for each candidate in accordance with the updated virtual procedures and the motion carried for both the DCDR and Vice Division Commander. I am truly honored to serve a second term as your 23 Division Commander, Central Chesapeake.

I’d like to extend a thank you to David Sire, FC (23-01); Thomas Hardisty, FC and Steven Birchfield, VFC; (23-06), India Ochs, FC (23-03); and Christopher Jensen (23-07) our outgoing Flotilla Leadership.



Division 23, Joint Change of Watch—January 23, 2023

Division 23 will hold an in-person Change of Watch on 21 January 2023 jointly with Flotillas 23-01, 23-02, 23-03, 23-04, 23-06 and 23-07 at the Renditions Golf Club. Tickets (reservations) went on sale on Veteran’s Day, November 11, 2022. We will have musical entertainment, awards and so much more. Invite family, friends and potential Auxiliarist interested in joining this great organization.

Continued on page 4—see DCDR

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

2022 Board & Staff

DCDR: Margaret Butler

VCDR: Mark Campbell

IPDCDR: Willie Witters

23-1 - Annapolis

David Sire, Flotilla Commander

David Stadler, Vice Flotilla Commander

23-2 - Solomons

Phil DeMarais, Flotilla Commander

George Weston, Vice Flotilla Commander

23-3 - West Annapolis

India Ochs, Flotilla Commander

Kirby Garland, Vice Flotilla Commander

23-4 - South River

Paul Feinburg, Flotilla Commander

James Regensburg, Vice Flotilla Commander

23-6 - Drum Point

Tom Hardisty, Flotilla Commander

Steve Birchfield, Vice Flotilla Commander

23-7 - Herring Bay

Brian Shrift, Flotilla Commander

Chris Jensen, Vice Flotilla Commander

Division Staff

SO-AS—

SO-CM - Jim Welday

SO-CS - Steven Hildebrand

SO-DV - Mace Coleman

SO-FN - Michael Taylor

SO-HR - Dave Keyser

SO-IS - Leonard Butler

SO-MA - Christopher Jensen

SO-MS - Wendy Norwitz

SO-MT - Ray Feller

SO-NS - Alberto DeCapitani

SO-OP - Jim Farrell

SO-PA -

SO-PB - Connie Cosgrove

SO-PE - Mark Bertacchi

SO-PV - Ron Price

SO-SR - Susan Casler

SO-VE -

Table of Contents

Division Commander's Report.....	2
Division and Flotilla Elections Held.....	5
New Members.....	5
Member's Corner—Bruce Petro.....	6
Fewer awarded Auxiliary Commendation Medal..	7
Chatter wins National Publication Award.....	7
Kirby Garland Crosses the Bar.....	8
Peggy Jean Whilden Crosses the Bar.....	8
Wentz Burial at Sea.....	9
Kirby Garland Memorial Service.....	10
Update to AUXOP Program.....	10
Change of Watch to be held in person.....	11
23-6 Annual Food Drive.....	12
Station Annapolis Open House.....	12
A Salute to Fleet Week 2022.....	13
Patuxent Appreciation Days.....	14
North Beach VFD open house.....	15
National Elections Held at NACON.....	15
23-6 Supports Cove Point Safety Fair.....	16
District Elections Held.....	16
Promulgation of EMS PGQ for Auxiliary.....	17
Chief Director's Final Actions on National Board Recommendations.....	17
Change of Watch Reservation Form.....	19

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24 January 2023

Articles and pictures are encouraged and appreciated. Please email to the

editor:

Connie Cosgrove at cjcosgrove@earthlink.net

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

DCDR—continued from page 2

Division 23 Member Training Opportunities

In-person & Revolving Boat Crew Program. As we focus on training in the fall months, the Division will be managing a rolling admission in our virtual boat crew program led by our newly appointed Staff Officer Operation, Jim Farrell. Sessions will commence at the Station Annapolis in January 2023, so please encourage your membership to be a part of our boat crew program. This is an expansion of the current virtual program being offered in the spring that will be offered year-round as opposed to only in the Spring months for both coxswain, boat crew as well as recertifications. If you have a member in your flotilla that is interested in our boat crew training program, please contact Jim Farrell.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) MD State Certification in Partnership with the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

On Tuesday, November 1, 2022, Division 23 held a virtual DNR On-boarding Orientation as well as refresher training on the zoom platform from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. There were about 41 members in attendance for the on-boarding event. As we continue to focus our attention on our recreational boating safety (RBS) and operational mission critical objectives we will be coordinating with DNR Police, Safety Education & Outreach unit to certify our current Auxiliary Instructors in preparation for the upcoming 2023 boating season next month. Seating will be limited, and we will be opening it to the Sector for participation so, notify us early. If you are interested in being Maryland State Certified or becoming a certified Auxiliary Instructor, please contact our Staff Officer Public Education Mark Bertacchi for more information. We plan on offering an Instructor Development Course (IDC) in the Spring of 2023.

Station Annapolis Open House

Division 23 partnered with Coast Guard Station Annapolis to host an "Open House" on Saturday, October 22, 2022, from 1:00am -5:00pm. Flotillas 23-01, 23-02, 23-03, 23-04, 23-06 and 23-07 supported the event. The purpose and goal of the

open house was to have informational booths and displays from several agencies, CG Small boats (TANB and RBS) trailered, a CG Helicopter and a Maryland State Police Helicopter. The open house was open to the general public of all ages and was a half day of Station Annapolis tours. The Sea Scouts actively participated and manned an informational recruiting booth. This jointly held outreach gave us an opportunity to engage with the general public and provide free safe boating literature as well as opportunities to inquire about our upcoming Maryland State Safe Boating courses. We had a steady flow of people in the community throughout the day to stop by and enjoy the festivities and pick up some free boating safety literature. Our Mascot Coastie joined us and was a big hit with the children.

Virtual Mini Boot Camp Training Summit

Looking ahead in FY23, the Division will focus on annual training as we did in fiscal year 2022. So, back by popular demand, Division 23 will host its annual virtual Mini Boot Camp Training Summit on **4-5 February 2023**. We'll be facilitating this Training Summit using the Zoom and Breakout room functionality. This is your opportunity to get "*The Rust Off*" and complete all your mandatory required courses in the comfort of your own home in a short weekend. We will have over 25 dynamic workshops for you to select from over the three-day weekend. We will have more than a dozen opportunities to complete the mandatory CORE/CT training (Privacy, Security Fundamentals, Civil Rights, Sexual Harassment, Workforce Resilience and Ethics). We will also have refresher workshops on "Conducting a Virtual MD Safe Boating Course", vessel examiner refresher and offering the annual mandatory Instructor Training and AUXDATA basics course. There will also be informative workshops on Watchstander protocols, diversity and leveraging social media to recruit and promote the USCGAUX.

Annapolis Boat Shows

Every year, Annapolis City Dock (affectionately dubbed "Ego Alley") is transformed into a boater's

Continued on page 5—see DCDR

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

DCDR—continued from page 5

paradise when the United States Powerboat Show (Oct. 6-9) and United States Sailboat Show, on (Oct. 13-17) head into town. Division 23 supported these events that exposed us to thousands of boaters that descend on Annapolis to see the latest and greatest boat models, maritime tech, and boating products.

Thank you to everyone who served these Public Affairs booths and events over the course of two consecutive weekends. Mark your calendars for the upcoming FY23 boat shows as follows:

Bay Bridge Boat Show, Stevensville, Maryland on April 13-16, 2023

Annapolis Spring Sailboat Show, Annapolis (City Dock), April 28-30, 2023

United States Power Boat Show, Annapolis (City Dock), October 5-8, 2023

United States Sailboat Show, Annapolis (City Dock), October 12-16, 2023

Margaret Butler

Division and Flotilla Elections Held

The division election was held virtually on 6 October. Margaret Butler was reelected as Division Commander and Mark Campbell was reelected as Vice Division Commander.

Incoming Flotilla Commanders (FC) & Vice Flotilla Commanders (VFC) are as follows:

23-01, David Stadler, FC and Jonathan Lambert, VFC

23-02 Phillip Demarais, FC and George Weston, VFC (2nd term)

23-03 Dorothy Neiman, FC and Mace Coleman, VFC

23-04 Paul Feinberg, FC and James Regensburg, VFC (2nd term)

23-06 Connie Cosgrove, FC and Lawrence Mattivi, VFC

23-07 Virginia Shrift, FC and Brian Shrift, VFC

Connie Cosgrove

SO-PB

Awards

The following members have qualified for awards since the last issue of the Chatter. Please congratulate them on their accomplishments.

Instructor



Jim Farrell and James Booker, 23-1
Bryan Teague, 23-3

Virginia Shrift, 23-7

Vessel Examiner

Mace Coleman, 23-3



Boat Crew certification



James Booker, Jonathan Lambert and Sandi Walker, 23-1

Membership Service Award



10 years

Debbie Cranford, 23-1

Sustained Auxiliary Service Award



Marie Squillace, 6th award, 4500 hours, 23-1

Program Visitor

Jonathan Lambert – 23-1

ATON Verifier

Nancy Hames and Alberto de Capitani di Vimercate - 23-1

Watchstander

Nancy Hames, 23-1

BQ Status

Henry Meikelijohn, 23-1

New Members

The following have joined the Auxiliary since the last Chatter. Please welcome them on board and give them any help and assistance you can.

Lisa Helms-Guba, John Elstner, and Carolyn Judge, 23-1

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

Member's Corner

Bruce Petro

Paul Feinberg, current Flotilla Commander wanted to introduce the best of Flotilla 23-04 by profiling and sponsoring stories of his members and their contributions to South River over the years. One member in particular hails from Buffalo NY, married for 49 years, retired, has a multitude of interest and hobbies with a zeal and thirst to serve and benefit his local community. Today's feature highlights a few accomplishments of Bruce Petro of South River Flotilla 23-04.

Petro has been in the Auxiliary since July 2008 and has donned many hats and provided his boat as a facility to the Auxiliary. As an operational coxswain and crew member he participated in various events in his Area of Responsibility (AOR) South River, from Shady Side, West River, Chesapeake and Annapolis Harbor to Independence Day patrols on the 4th of July including towing evolutions and SAR missions. He has visited other Auxiliary units in Florida's Clearwater, St Petersburg and Sand Key areas, corresponding with other members, comparing notes and narratives regarding meetings, recruitment, etc., building a bridge of friendships who share a common goal in another AOR.

He volunteered as both an Anne Arundel County (AA) police reserve officer and Maryland Department of Natural Resources Police (DNR) reservist; As an AA reserve police officer, he was highest ranking unit officer during his tenure, assisting with traffic violations, events, assisting motorist, etc. As a DNR officer he shared ride along responsibilities with regular unit officers tasked with holding customer boat during Vessel Examinations (VE) or game warden monitoring in season, size or quantity of fish or crab catches. Whether in forest responding to calls, poaching or on the water to support hazards to aids to navigation he has always shared a passion and devotion to duty unilaterally across each branch of service.

Bruce is an accomplished professional engineer who retired in 2005 and still belongs to the Engineering Society of his local area in Anne Arundel County (AA). He has been a judge for various science fairs both in AA and Fairfax County supporting projects to help mentor engineering students and has even donated books from his own library as a way to supporting their goals and ambitions to cultivate their interest and pass the national exam to enter into the profession. As an aviator, he's flown missions on the Chesapeake Bay for the Civil Air patrol Apollo squadron which at the time were single engine aircraft on routine SAR missions. This is where he and Michael Whitman former FC met and shared many activities in the Flotilla 23-04 and DNR. Bruce is not short on talent just time. He has many other hobbies including playing guitar, banjo and other instruments, wood carving, car restoration and shows and the list goes on. He's not certain what other adventures or ambitions he will be pursuing but he continues to love volunteering and being an asset in the Auxiliary and community and only time will tell what's next!

Mark Campbell

VCDR



Bruce Petro is on the right at the Safety at Sea event.

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

John Fewer awarded Auxiliary Commendation Medal



Roy Culley and I were invited to attend the Sector MNCR BBQ at Curtis Bay. During the BBQ, Sector Deputy Commander, CDR J. Bendle, presented me with Coast Guard Auxiliary Commendation Medal for my service as Sector MNCR Auxiliary Sector Coordinator during the period January 2020 thru July 2022.

The citation read:

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY COMMENDATION MEDAL TO JOHN H. FEWER UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Auxiliarist FEWER is cited for outstanding achievement while serving as the Auxiliary Coordinator at Sector Maryland-National Capital Region, from January 2020 to July 2022. Demonstrating superb leadership and dedication, he provided an indispensable interface to the Command and fostered unparalleled Auxiliary coordination with Active Duty members, despite the challenges posed by the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. Employing a forward leaning posture, he quickly analyzed the multitude of ever evolving local, state, federal, and Coast Guard policies and provided sound recommendations with prudent risk mitigation measures to best utilize over 900 Auxiliarists serving across the Sector. Furthermore, when the Coast Guard initiated its new Auxiliary information technology solution, Auxiliarist FEWER quickly established himself as the regional subject matter expert. He assessed potential challenges that could negatively impact operational orders or subsequent financial reimbursement and provided vital training and system troubleshooting across both Active Duty and Auxiliary workforces. His actions ensured the continuity of Auxiliary operations to include over 550 patrols and nearly \$85,000 in reimbursements

to our critical volunteers. Finally, he directly supported the response to the historic grounding the Motor Vessel EVER FORWARD, a 1,095-foot ship carrying 4,964 containers and laden with 700,000 gallons of fuel. Auxiliarist FEWER's dedication, judgment, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

Congratulations to John
Connie Cosgrove
SO-PB

Chesapeake Chatter wins National publication contest

For the second year in a row the Chesapeake Chatter won best Division newsletter in the Public Affairs contest. Winners were announced at NACON in August.

On 30 August, I received an email from Margaret Butler, DCDR giving me the news that we had won the contest. The email read:

**“Congratulations to Connie Cosgrove in winning the PA contest. BRAVO ZULU
2021-22 PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONTEST WINNERS
Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Affairs A-
Directorate
Lourdes R. Oliveras, MPH/AUXPA1
Director”**

I am honored to have received this award again. I would like to thank everyone in Division 23 who submitted articles and photos for the Chatter. Without the participation of division members providing information and photos this would not have been possible. I have enjoyed working with the Chatter since I joined the Auxiliary. I first took the SO-PB job in 1988 when my friend and Division Captain (DCDR) convinced me that I could do it. I worked at the local newspaper as a typist at the time.

Connie Cosgrove
SO-PB

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022



Kirby Garland Crosses the Bar

“Farewell, shipmate
Farewell, Fair winds and
following seas forever”

It is with great sadness I
report that our beloved

Kirby Garland crossed the Bar on Friday, September 22, 2022 at 11:58 pm after a brief illness surrounded by family and his friends. Kirby Garland was an amazing husband, father, grandfather, and mentor to many and will be dearly missed. Kirby was committed to the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to the very end of his life. Please keep his wife Violet and the Garland family in your thoughts and prayers This loss is felt throughout the Auxiliary at the National, District, Division, and D5SR beyond.

Kirby was a U.S. Navy Veteran. In December 1969 while serving in the Naval Reserves, Kirby was assigned to active duty in the Vietnam War. He served and piloted Naval gun boats and worked beside the Navy Seals while assigned at Dong Tam. He was a gunner and called in air strikes, and was later switched to serving as the U.S. Naval advisor on Vietnamese Navy boats. Kirby served his country valiantly and was discharged with honor.

Kirby was a very active member of Flotilla 23-03, West Annapolis and has received numerous recognitions and awards over the years after joining the Auxiliary nearly two decades ago on October 29, 2002. Kirby was fulfilling his second term as Vice Flotilla Commander (VFC) of 23-03 before he crossed the bar. In addition to his duties as a VFC, Auxiliarist Garland was appointed as Division Vessel Examination Staff Officer (SO-VE) and as Flotilla Staff Officer Vessel Examiner (FSO-VE) where he performed such duties as overseeing division and flotilla special programs, coordinating and performing vessel examinations where he stressed the importance of following Maryland boating regulations and distributing boating information to the general public. He was a “Vessel Examiner Extraordinaire” always keeping

Commanders apprised of any situations that impacted the Auxiliary. Kirby was famous for leading, organizing and coordinating the Division 23 Annual Vessel Examiner Day at Sandy Point Park along with other VE Days across the Central Chesapeake Region at local marinas. Kirby exemplifies the core values of the Coast Guard Auxiliary on a large scale. He is the embodiment of honor, respect, and devotion to duty. He was a central and integral figure in his Flotilla and was an inspiration to all his shipmates, especially the younger members. He remained devoted to duty despite any obstacle thrown his way, whether it be the limitations that come with age or illness. He stayed the course serving the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary with honor and distinction.

Sympathy Cards and condolence expressions can be sent in care of his wife Mrs. Violet Garland at 5304 Manchester Drive, Camp Springs, Maryland 20746-4406.

Margaret Butler
DCDR

Peggy Jean Whilden Crosses the Bar

Peggy Jean Whilden crossed the Bar on Friday, October 7, 2022. Peggy as an exceptional Auxiliarist and mentor to many and will be dearly missed. Auxiliarist Whilden was committed to the Auxiliary to the very end of her life. Please keep the Whilden family in your thoughts and prayers.

Peggy joined the Auxiliary on October 11, 1999, and was an extremely active member of Flotilla 23 -06. Auxiliarist Whilden served as FSO-MA for many years. Peggy held the program visitor qualification as well as boat crew. She was always ready and willing to be a crew member on patrols and was extremely active as a Program Visitor. She frequented marine dealers on Solomons Island and would visit them once a month on a regular schedule. Peggy was also a qualified

Continued on page 9—see Peggy

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

Peggy continued from page 8

Watchstander and took many watches at Cove Point Radio along with her husband Walt. Peggy was a key person in Auxiliary Fellowships such as the picnic and Christmas events. She was involved in other activities and was very active with the Solomons Island Yacht Club, taking care of the grounds and decorating for Christmas. Peggy taught physical education at several private schools in the Washington DC area and was an Olympic swimmer. She was set to compete in the Pan-Am games in 1954 when she found out she was pregnant with her first son. So she made the trip as a spectator instead of a competitor. The birth of her second son prevented her from trying for the Melbourne Olympics. She was also active in Judo and traveled to different states to judge contests. Peggy won a gold medal in Judo in June 2003 at Fifth World's Master Judo Championship held in Tokyo, Japan. She attended survivor camp twice a year in the Pine Barrens in New Jersey. She loved to travel and just recently returned from a trip to Ireland and Scotland with her daughter-in-law.

During her more than 22 years of service to the Auxiliary, she received numerous recognitions such as the Department of Homeland Security Outstanding Unit Award, the Presidential Unit Citation, four CG Unit Commendations, a Special Operations Service Award, the Auxiliary Operations Service Award, and 15 Auxiliary service awards for VE/PV. Auxiliarist Whilden was the embodiment of honor, respect, and devotion to duty. She was a central and integral figure in our Flotilla and was an inspiration to all of us. She remained devoted to duty despite any obstacle thrown her way. She stayed the course serving the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary with honor and distinction.

Peggy was my friend, we enjoyed making greeting cards together, having lunch and shopping. I will truly miss her.

"Farewell, shipmate Farewell, Fair winds and following seas forever"

Connie Cosgrove

SO-PB

Wentz Burial at Sea

On July 14, 2022, our shipmate Phil Wentz crossed the bar after serving our Nation, as a member of the U.S. Navy, and later as a Coast Guard Auxiliarist. Phil joined the Auxiliary in 1974 and supported its mission for over 47 years in many leadership positions. Most notably he was the "Go to Expert" on operations while serving as District Staff Officer for Operations (OP), Assistant District Staff Officer-OP (ADSO-OP) Division Staff Officer-OP, Flotilla Staff Officer-OP, Auxiliary Qualification Examiner Coordinator (AQEC), and Qualification Examiner positions.

As said by his daughter, Donna, Phil was happiest when he was on the water. This fact can be attested to by all of us that had the privilege to crew for Phil on operational facility (OPFAC) 25852.



A special "good bye" to Phil was conducted on September 27th as he was "Buried at Sea" on the Memorial Stadium Reef off Tolchester, Maryland.

The "Burial" was attended by more than 40 Auxiliary members on board seven OPFAC's. Phil's crew stood together to salute their Coxswain good bye aboard John Sill's OPFAC 32210. The ceremony started with Auxiliarist Jeff Foreman reading Lord Alfred Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar" over the radio after which Auxiliarist Paul Deafenbaugh sounded TAPS aboard OPFAC 32210 as Phil's ashes were lowered into the sea from Barry Cohan's OPFAC 46919. Phil's family laid roses onto the water to wish their father, grandfather and close friend to so many "fair winds and following seas" to conclude the ceremony. This was a truly remarkable event as we wished our shipmate farewell.

John Fewer

ADSO-OP - Sector MNCR, AQEC - Sect. MNCR
Auxiliary Sector Coordinator - Sect. MNCR

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

Kirby Garland Memorial Service



Members of Division 23 actively participated in both the Funeral, Memorial and Gravesite burial for our dear shipmate Kirby Garland. I'd like to thank Chris Jensen, John Fewer, Dorothy Neiman, Willie Witters, Roy Culley, Paul Deafenbaugh, Ray Feller, Mark Bertacchi and Jonathan Lambert for a job well done. Paul Deafenbaugh did a phenomenal job with bugling "Taps". BRAVO ZULU

I attended the repass, and was stopped at least two dozen times by the family showing deep appreciation for your thoughtfulness and professionalism in honoring the life and legacy of Kirby Garland from the procession, to the honor guard as well as serving at the cemetery,
Margaret Butler

Posting Of Auxiliary National C-School Calendar

This message is to note that the Auxiliary National C-School calendar has been posted at <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=aux00>. Members can now submit their Short-Term Training Request (STTR) via their Flotilla Commander (FC) and appropriate District Member Training Officer (DSO-MT) to their District Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX).

Please note that funded training quotas are more limited than in previous years, so submitting a

STTR early will increase the members' chances of getting a funded seat. Any member that wants to attend on DIRAUX issued unfunded orders must check with the listed course Point of Contact (POC) to make sure there is space to accommodate such a request.

Any questions about a course can be answered by checking the C-School Student Support Sites. The links to the sites are located at the bottom of the at <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=aux00>. A member can also contact the course POC directly using the links provided on the National C-School calendar.

Editor's Note: the above was received email - ALAUX 040/22

Update To Operational Auxiliarist (AUXOP) Program

1. This ALAUX promulgates an update to the Operational Auxiliarist (AUXOP) program.
2. In March 2022, the Chief Director of Auxiliary, in consultation with the National Executive Committee, chartered the Operational Auxiliarist Program Working Group (OAPWG). This working group was comprised of operationally-experienced Auxiliary and active duty leaders who were tasked with examining the program in its current form as a membership status. The working group met several times and after careful review and consideration recommended the following actions:
 - a. AUXOP should remain a membership status.
 - b. The designators in AUXDATA II which denote an Auxiliarist as having achieved AUXOP status (i.e., AX and AX2) should be merged into one designator: AX. This would be the only designator for AUXOP achievement. Use of AX2 would no longer be authorized regardless of how an

Continued on page 11 -see AUXOP

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

AUXOP—continued from page 10

Auxiliarist achieves AUXOP. All Auxiliarists with the AX2 designator should have it changed to AX.

c. A comprehensive data review should be conducted within AUXDATA II to ensure standardization of AUXOP entry into an Auxiliarist's record. Once an Auxiliarist achieves AUXOP, their status should be changed to AX and have the award "AUXOP-pin" added to their record. The AUXOP competency was inconsistently applied to the records of Auxiliarists who achieved AUXOP. It has proven unnecessary and should be removed from all records.

3. These recommendations are approved. Associated changes to current member records in AUXDATA II shall be made by the AUXDATA II Change Advisory Board by November 07, 2022.

Editor's note: The above was received in an email through the list server

Change of Watch to be held in Person

Our last in-person Change of Watch (COW) was held in January 2020 just prior to the arrival of COVID in our area. The past two COW have had to be held virtually. It is good to be able to once again be able to share this in person.

The COW is scheduled for 21 January 2023. It is a joint effort this year with involvement of each Flotilla during the planning of the event.

The COW this year will be an afternoon affair with the social hour beginning at 1130 and the formal COW beginning at noon. The cost is \$45 which includes gratuity.

We will be honoring those who have crossed the bar in 2023. We are inviting a member of the family and a plus one to the event so that they

can be present when we honor their loved one. There will be a guest speaker representing Sector Maryland National Capital Region as well as a representative from the Executive Committee and DIRAUX. Elected and appointed officers will receive their oath of office. There will also be awards presentations given.

The Uniform of the Day is either Service Dress Blue, Tropical Blue or Business Attire. There will be a buffet menu with House Salad, Roasted Roast Beef, Herb Encrusted Baked Chicken, Baked Salmon Filet in a lemon herb marinade, Herb Roasted Red Potatoes, Wild Rice Pilaf, Steamed Vegetable Medley and Warm Rolls with butter. Coffee, tea, lemonade and water. Soft drinks will be available at the bar. If you require a vegetarian or special diet restriction, please let us know.

The reservation deadline is 5 January 2023. Checks should be made out to USCG Division 23 and mailed to Connie Cosgrove, 1105 Dan Bowen Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678.

My phone number is 443-404-3444 and my email is cjcosgrove@earthlink.net. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Look forward to seeing you there
COW Committee



Jon Stivers, Tracey Stivers and Maxine Noyes at 23 -6 picnic that was held at Hallowing Point Park on 17 September.

Photo by Connie Cosgrove

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

23-6 Annual Food Drive

Members of Flotilla 23-6 who desired to participate have been participating in a food drive to support the Chesapeake Cared Food Pantry since 2013. We once again members chose to support the food pantry with a Thanksgiving food drive to help those who are less fortunate than ourselves.



On 12 November, Bill Smith, Harry Scott and myself delivered 67.29 pounds of non-perishable food to the Pantry and a total of \$335. Patty and Shanna meet us their and helped take the food in and weigh it. Patty told us that the week beginning on 6 Nov they served 688 families in need. This number included people who signed up for the Thanksgiving baskets. She

said, “normally we serve between 600-650 families. We had 14 new families come in this week. This week we gave out 31,000 pounds of food. Usually, it is 13,000-15,000 pounds per week”.

I texted with the Director of the pantry, Debbie Weber and asked her how many pounds of food they could purchase with the \$335. She texted me back saying “the \$335 will allow the pantry to obtain 1005 pounds of food. Each dollar donated now equals three pounds of food. Such a wonderful blessing to so many families”.

I have been doing this since the beginning and it warms my heart to see how much good our Flotilla does for the community in which we live.

Connie Cosgrove

FSO-PA 23-6

Station Annapolis Open House

Division 23 mobilized at Station Annapolis Open House and provided logistical support for normal and contingencies scenarios, engage in community outreach and support the mission of the Coast Guard. On Saturday October 22, several members of Flotilla 23-01, 23-02 23-03 23-04, 23-06 and 23-07 launched their plan of action to open various venues relaying operational information focused on recreational boating safety, pollution response, safety and security ports and waterways while offering public affairs, education and vessel examination to promote a successful campaign. The member involvement plan for the day centered on recruitment, fellowship and engagement.

We were also fortunate to be honored with special guest, Dr. Derrick L Cogburn the Skipper, Sea Scout Ship 1959, Web: <http://ship1959.org>. Strengthening relationships offers the Sea Scouts the opportunity to benefit from Coast Guard seamanship and vocational training, mentoring of young adults who share in the Auxiliary commitment of service to our nation and careers in maritime service. These young men and women represented the service with dignity and pride. The Open House had representation from Fire and Rescue, Sea Scouts, and other Coast Guard units within Delaware Maryland and Virginia to include a Helo.

Spectators were from groups from Annapolis High School, the general public and media guests on hand to preview and enjoy the festivities of the day. They had opportunities to learn about the impact of pollution from a 23-02 exhibit, step on board and tour the vessels used on water patrols, visit the station, participate in the heaving lines display, education promotions hosted by the Sea Scouts as well as witness the arrival of an USCG air patrol helicopter.

Continued on page 13—see Open house

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

Open House— continued from page 12

It was a beautiful day to celebrate this neighborhood event and we look forward to continuing to support the Coast Guard in Sector Maryland National Capitol Region in future operational or vocational maneuvers.

Mark Campbell
VCDR



A Salute to Fleet Week 2022

It was a welcome return of the biannual festival donning the inner harbor during Fleet week 2022. This volunteer event featured many festivities including arrival and departing fleet ships, flyovers for military and historic aircraft from the key bridge to the inner harbor and local festivals open to the public at the various seashore ports. Many countries honored the city of Baltimore hailing from as far away as Korea, Canada, Denmark, other parts of the USA, etc. as well as local maritime units.

The event scheduled from September 7-13 displayed many participating vessels which offered free guided tours. A few of the Vessels included for this 2022 tour included the following:

- USS MINNEAPOLIS-SAINT PAUL United States Navy Littoral combat ship Commissioned: May 2022
- USNS NEWPORT Military Sealift Command T-EPF, Expeditionary Fast Transport Commissioned: 2020
- USCGC JAMES RANKIN US Coast Guard Buoy Tender WLM-555, commissioned: 1998
- USNA YARD PATROL CRAFT United States Naval Academy YP-703 Class
- DANMARK Danish Maritime Authority, Full-rigged training ship Inner Harbor,
- USS Torsk submarine
- USS constellation

Throwing a world class party, safely, keeping the shipping lanes open and maintaining commerce is no easy task. Special thanks to the volunteers and the multiple City of Baltimore, State of Maryland and Federal support agencies who support such a large task in sponsoring such a logistical event and making it happen without a hitch as well as local maritime units of the USCG Sector MD-NCR, USCG Auxiliary, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Natural Resources and Baltimore police and fire departments.

Continued on page 14—see Fleet Week

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

Fleet Week—continued from page 13

As an Auxiliarist having the opportunity to participate in any capacity and having a bird's eye view as crew never goes without fanfare and appreciation. It is always a privilege and honor to serve with so many who devotion to duty in patrols and public affair events are a piece of the puzzle in the grand scheme of training and core principles. Operations never gets old, journeying into missions are just some of the fun but witnessing the welcome of USNS Newport by the harbor fireboats with their plume of water spouting from the boats was a highlight I will always remember.

This follows the Strategy and updated Ethos by ADM FAGAN for 2022:

In Service to our Nation

With Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty

We protect

We defend

We save

We are Semper Paratus

We are the United States Coast Guard



Patuxent Appreciation Days

Patuxent River Appreciation Day (PRAD) is an annual celebration of the Patuxent River held at the Calvert Maritime Museum in Solomons annually. There is lots of music, food, makers of home spun goods, a petting zoo, boat rides, toy boat building, pony rides, displays and activities celebrating that the river!

This year PRAD was held on 8 October from 1000-1700. Flotilla 23-6 participated in the annual event with a safety booth. Bill Smith set the booth up on Friday, 7 October. Roy Culley from 23-1 made the trip to Solomons to see what PRAD was all about and to give Bill a hand communicating with the public. They gave out lots of coloring books and crayons to children and oil pads to boaters. They answered many questions about boating safety. Approximately 3000 people attended the event.

Connie Cosgrove

FSO-PA

Bill Smith



Top: Roy Culley talks with Paul Geibel family—Forrest, Brooke, Micah, and Lena.

Bottom: Brian Fickle and his daughter
Photographer was Bill Smith

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

North Beach Volunteer Fire Department open house



Sunday, Oct. 2 was expected to be a wild day weatherwise with the remnants of Hurricane Ian passing through.

Thankfully, we had reserved a spot inside the firehouse. I set up our PA table where a big red fire engine usually parks. As it happened, there was some wind and a few passing raindrops, but overall, it was a great day! It was sparsely attended at first, but around noon lots of folks of all description began to show up, many of whom were little kids.

There was all manner of games, but all with instructional goals in mind. They were teaching people how to get help for medical problems, substance abuse, where to get food or find a warm or a cool place, how to contact the law enforcement folks, or prepare for a storm, or contact anyone in the county government who might be able to help.

A fireman showed kids how to stop, drop, and roll if their clothing caught on fire, and how to crawl out of a smoky house. The fireman teaching them made it all into a game, and the kids had fun, and earned a spiffy helmet, and walked away knowing more than they did when they walked in. There were also demonstrations on how to break open doors, (looked like fun!) and out in the parking lot they set up the "tower", a firefighting/rescue platform that rose more than 90 feet from street level from the back of a large special fire truck. It seemed perfectly suited to be able to fight a fire and rescue anyone on the large high rise building just several hundred yards away. It must have been interesting up there in that breeze!

In the middle of all the festivities an actual alarm was sounded, and a well-oiled crew of firefighters

who had seemingly been milling around and socializing in their blue uniforms quickly donned their gear, and roared off in a fire engine to deal with whatever the emergency was...it wasn't a show, it was for real, and thankfully, no one was injured in the event.

I got to meet a really excellent bunch of folks, and gave away a great many coloring books and other boating safety materials. It was an honor and a great pleasure to be there, and I sure hope we do it again! If you have a chance to go, don't miss it!

Chris Jensen

Vice Flotilla Commander, 23-7

National Elections Held

On Friday, August 19, elections were held at the Auxiliary National Convention in Orlando, Florida. The National Leadership team for the 2022-2024 term was elected by the Auxiliary National Bridge. Our leaders for this coming term are:

National Commodore (NACO) - COMO Gus Formato

Vice National Commodore (VNACO) - COMO Mary Kirkwood

Deputy National Commodore - Atlantic Area East, Mission Support (DNACO-MS) - COMO Allen Fredd

Deputy National Commodore - Atlantic Area West, Operations (DNACO-O) - COMO Patrick Feighery

Deputy National Commodore - Pacific Area, Recreational Boating Safety (DNACO-RBS) - COMO Tiney Singler

Deputy National Commodore - Information Technology & Planning (DNACO-ITP) - COMO Linda Merryman

Terms of office will begin November 1, 2022.

Congratulations and best wishes to our new National Bridge team!

Editor's note: The above was received in an email through a list server

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

23-6 supports Cove Point Safety Fair

This year the annual safety fair was held at Cove Point Dominion Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) facility. The facility has received transport vessels, stored LNG onshore and then transferred it back to gas when needed to meet demand. The safety, environmental, health and wellness fair was held on 1 September from 1000-1400. The event was held in the first floor of the parking garage.

Bill Smith and Connie Cosgrove staffed a safety booth that not only had information for people to take but also a board of safety equipment showing what should be on a vessel to pass a vessel safety check. There were also several personal flotation devices (PFD) on display to show the variety that is now available to boaters to encourage them to wear the PFD.



Southern Maryland Electric (SMECO) was among the other vendors on site. They gave demonstrations several times during the day which showed things like when a tree is downed on a line during a storm. SMECO employees during the demonstrations were Ron Rennick, Jason Atherton, Kip Pullium, and Steve Cook.

During the day we had many visitors who had good questions and hopefully took away the importance of boating safely.

Connie Cosgrove

FSO-PA 23-6



Top: Bill Smith discusses boating safety with Raphael Guenther at Cove Point Safety Fair.

Bottom: Bill Smith talks with M. Shah and Munau Patel
Connie Cosgrove—Photographer

District Elections Held

Elections were held for the positions of District Commodore (DCO), District Chief of Staff (DCOS) and District Captain (DCAPT). The results of those elections are:

DCO: John C. Krogmann, Jr.

DCOS: James E. Thomas II

DCAPT SMD-NCR: Nicholas M. Lomangino

DCAPT - SVA: David H. Gamble

DCAPT SNC: Joseph L. Nemeth (Flotilla 054-10-01)

Congratulations John, Jim, Nick, Dave and Joe!

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

Promulgation of the Emergency Management Specialist Performance Qualification Standard for the Auxiliary

1. This ALAUX establishes the implementation of the new USCG Emergency Management Specialist (EMS) Performance Qualification Standard for the Auxiliary.
2. Reference (A) announced the promulgation of the new Coast Guard Emergency Management Specialist (EMS) Performance Qualification Standard (PQS) (01 January 2022) and the cancellation of the Coast Guard Contingency Preparedness (CP) PQS as part of an ongoing initiative to align these standards more closely with the knowledge and skills required of Coast Guard Emergency Management Specialists. The current Auxiliary Contingency Planner (AUX-CP) PQS does not address all the knowledge and proficiency items in the prior CG-CP PQS. Likewise, there are significant differences between the AUX-CP PQS and the new EMS PQS.
3. Auxiliarists who currently hold the AUX-CP qualification will be allowed to keep this qualification. Auxiliarists who currently hold the AUX-CP qualification will be allowed to count this qualification toward competency requirements for the Auxiliary Marine Safety (Trident) Insignia.
4. Auxiliarists currently working toward the AUX-CP qualification will be required to complete the qualification prior to 30 June 2023.
5. The AUXDATA II records of Auxiliarists who currently hold the AUX-CP qualification and those that earn the qualification prior to 30 June 2023 will not be recoded to indicate that they have earned the EMS qualification. There should be no change to prerequisite qualification requirements for Auxiliarists to provide sector-level planning support. Neither the AUX-CP nor the EMS qualification should be added as a requirement for providing this type of support.
6. Starting 30 June 2023, the EMS PQS will become the standard for preparing Auxiliarists to

support Coast Guard emergency management planning and operations.

Editor's Note: the above was received in an email and it is ALCOAST 043/22

Chief Director's Final Action on National Board Recommendations

At the 2022 Auxiliary National Conference (NACON) in Orlando, FL last week, the following recommendations were placed before the National Board. They are summarized, with the Chief Director's final actions, below:

1. Recommendation: Modification to Requirements for Auxiliary Annual Operations Service Award (Originator: Director of Response Roy Savoca and District Commodore D9 Western Region Commodore Harvey Randall / Date: 04 April 2022).

a. Discussion: The recommended change would allow Auxiliary participants in the air and surface operations programs to have credited toward this award all hours spent underway or airborne as well as up to 25 percent of associated training hours needed to prepare and remain current. Accordingly, the Auxiliary Manual (Commandant Instruction Manual 16790.1 (series)) section 11.A.11.f.(2) would be changed **from:**

"Displays the operational "O" device for underway (excluding underway for training), surface mission activity (60 or more hours), or for airborne aviation mission activity (excluding training) (30 or more hours). Support for on-the-water readiness exercises does qualify as operational service. No combination of surface and air operations is allowable for this award. Support activity includes those entered in AUXDATA with the activity code of U/W or ABN, excluding any with the submission code of TRN."

To:

"Displays the operational "O" device for underway, surface mission activity (60 or more

Continued on page 18—see NACON

Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022

NACON—continued from page 17

hours), or for airborne aviation mission activity (30 or more hours). Up to 15 training hours for on-the-water surface operations and up to 8 training hours of airborne aviation operations while assigned to duty, qualifies as operational service hours. Support for on-the-water readiness exercises does qualify as operational service. No combination of surface and air operations is allowable for this award. Support activity includes those entered in AUXDATA II with the activity codes of U/W, ABN, or TRN.”

b. National Board action: Approved.

c. Chief Director final action: Approved. Appropriate changes to AUXDATA II will be made to place this change in effect for creditable activity beginning with CY 2022.

2. Recommendation: Amend the Standing Rules of the National Board – Delete Rule 3.4 (Originator: Assistant National Commodore – Chief Counsel Commodore Douglas Cream / Date: 10 June 2022).

a. Discussion: Auxiliary Manual section 4.E.5.a.(1)-(7) defines the subject matter of proposals (recommendations) that may be brought before the National Board and considered for submission to the Commandant. That provision mandates proposals not consistent with (1)-(7) to be directed to the Chain of Leadership and Management (COLM) or to the “appropriate Auxiliary program committee...” The Standing Rules of the National Board of the Coast Guard Auxiliary (SR) 3.3 provides the procedure for the National Board’s exercise of that responsibility.

SR 3.4 is superfluous and confusing. It has resulted in misunderstanding in its interpretation and application to SR 3.3 in the context of proposed policy recommendations.

Auxiliary Manual 4.e.5.a. provides that if the subjects of policy proposals consistent with subdivisions (1)-(6) come to NACO or DNACO in

accordance with Standing Rule (SR) 3.3(a) or (b), they must be presented to the National Board (the Board) for consideration following the procedures described in SR 3.3. If a recommendation does not fall within one of those six subjects, Auxiliary Manual 4.E.5.a.(7) provides that it may still be presented to the Board for consideration if NEXCOM approves and permits it to move forward. However, SR 3.4 could be mistakenly interpreted to provide that even if NEXCOM rejects the non-conforming recommendation under (7), any voting member of the Board may, by way of a motion made and seconded, still present the policy proposal to the Board for consideration. That interpretation would be erroneous.

SR 3.4 does not negate SR 3.3 because it requires that the subject motion is “in order;” a motion to adopt a recommendation whose subject matter is not consistent with Auxiliary Manual 4.E.5.a. is out of order because it is unauthorized. SR 3.3 requires that a recommendation submitted to the National Board for consideration must be “authorized by the Manual.”

b. National Board action: Approved.

c. Chief Director final action: Approved.
Captain Troy P. Glendye
Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX)

Editor’s note: The above was published In ALAUX 031/22

Happy Thanksgiving



Chesapeake Chatter

Division 23

Volume 14 Issue 3

Fall 2022

National First Place Division Newsletter—2021 & 2022



2023 JOINT CHANGE OF WATCH CENTRAL CHESAPEAKE DIVISION 23 Flotillas 23-1, 23-02, 23-03, 23-04, 23-06 and 23-07



WHERE: Renditions Golf Course, 1380 West Central Avenue,
Davidsonville, MD 21035

WHEN: Saturday, 21 January 2023, from 1130 to 1600 (11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.).
Uniform of the Day: Service Dress Blue, Tropical Blue or Business Attire

SOCIAL TIME CASH BAR: 1130-1200
COW: 1200-1600 (12 NOON – 4:00p.m.)

BUFFET MENU: House Salad, Roasted Roast Beef, Herb Encrusted Baked Chicken, Baked Salmon Filet in a lemon herb marinade, Herb Roasted Red Potatoes, Wild Rice Pilaf, Steamed Vegetable Medley and Warm Rolls with butter. Coffee, tea, lemonade and water. Soft drinks available at the bar. If you require a vegetarian or special diet restriction, please let us know.

DESSERT: Cake

RESERVATION DEADLINE: **5 January 2023.**

PRICE PER PERSON: **\$45 INCLUDES GRATUITY.**

CHECKS MADE OUT TO - USCGAUX DIV 23

NAME _____ **FLOTILLA** _____

NAME _____ **FLOTILLA** _____

Email

Phone Number

MAIL RESERVATION AND CHECK TO:

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