

the 7:15 express

your Division communicator October 2, 2017



A message from the Division Commander

, To say that a lot has happened since the last issue of the 7:15 Express is an understatement!

Among other things, we had a real "test" of our Everbridge Alert System! The program was developed as a quick and efficient method of contacting our members and confirming your receipt of the message. Overall the program did what it was designed to

do. I live in Marion County, and we have a very similar system. The county sent out a number of automated telephone calls throughout the storm. We were requested to confirm receipt of each message. I guess this has become common practice in many parts of the country. It's great to see the Auxiliary is keeping up with today's emergency notification processes!

Once the hurricane passed, our division stepped up to support the Coast Guard. We were able to conduct ATON verification patrols, provide EOC coverage, and had several of our TCOs on standby to support the Auxiliary Communication Units in the Clearwater and St. Pete area. Fortunately, the Rescue 21 system was brought back on line before we needed to deploy our members to staff the ACUs which were brought on line.

In reviewing the effectiveness of our division's performance during HURRIRMA, it looks like **we did pretty darn well!** We contacted our members prior to the hurricane, checked on your safety after the storm, and supplied support to the Coast Guard. We found we have a couple of "glitches" in our notification process and found ways we can be more efficient in providing post event support to the Coast Guard. After any event, it's important we look back and learn from our actions. Developing flotilla and division action plans are important. Reviewing how effective our plans are is even more critical.

Hurricane Irma caused the district to cancel our annual DTRAIN which was scheduled to take place in Daytona Beach. Rather than attempt to reschedule, the decision was made to simply conduct a District Board Meeting. The board is comprised of the 17 Division Commanders, the 6 members of the District Bridge, and the Director of Auxiliary. This meeting was held electronically, using "go to meeting" on Saturday September 30th. Commodore Judith Hudson announced that there were many awards presented at NACON for the divisions and flotillas of District 7. These awards will be passed down by the EXCOM and made available for presentation at various Change Of Watches.

I want to thank all of you for what you did during HURRIRMA. You were Semper Paratus!

Andy Render, Division Commander, 15

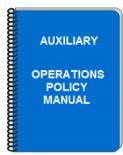
District 7 Auxiliarist Of The Year

I am pleased to announce that Jim Nasetlli, Flotilla Commander 15-8, has been selected

as District 7 Auxiliarist of the Year for 2016!

Jim's flotilla placed his name in nomination in February of this year. The award was to be presented at DTRAIN this year. Since DTRAIN had to be cancelled due to Hurricane Irma, the announcement was made by Commodore Hudson this morning. The award will be presented to Jim at the Division 15 Change of Watch.

Congratulations Jim! You make us proud! BZ



Training Opportunities

Homosassa Flotilla 15-4 is offering these upcoming training opportunities:

SAR FUNDAMENTALS (Introduction to Auxiliary Search & Rescue procedures) Instructors: George Dooris, VFC; Patricia Dooris: FSO-MT; Joe Sampson; Harold Imhoff, QE. Wednesday,

September 27 & October 4 starting at 0900 and ending at approximately 1130. Location is Flotilla 15-4 building on Green Acres St in Homosassa. Venue is flexible if necessary.

THE **1- HOUR TCT REFRESHER** and six of the MANDATED TRAINING courses will be done again in workshop format if there is a need on the part of Flotilla/Division members. Instructor: Patricia Dooris, FSO-MT Saturday, October 7 starting at 9:00 AM.

TCT 4 - HOUR Instructor: George Dooris, VFC Wednesday, November 8 starting at 1:00 PM.

For further information or to sign up for a class, please contact Patricia Dooris, FSO-MT by phone (352-232-2580) or by email pdooris@dooris-assoc.com All members are welcome.



Change of Watch RSVP deadline October 28th; for the 2017 Division 15 Change of Watch.

Saturday November 18, 2017 Citrus Hills Golf County Club 12:00-3:00 pm

Click here for details and RSVP



Assisting Coast Guard Auxiliary Members affected by the Hurricanes

"Operation Life Ring" is the official way to donate money. The program is a part of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association. Click link below. www.cgauxa.org/auxa/



Caps For Coasties

"Caps For Coasties" have arrived. The active duty at Station Yankeetown will recieve theirs this week.

For those members who ordered individual caps you will be getting them shortly.

- 1. A Committee has been working on designing and compiling content for a "Best Practices" page on our district website. It should be posted in the month of October. The page will state the process for submitting a Best Practice from your division and/or flotilla. Certificates will be presented to the units having approved postings. There is discussion on having additional recognition at the annual District Board Meeting for the Best of the Best, so we encourage you to look for this new page and to share your best ideas, events, and processes with the entire district.
- 2. Initial stages of redesigning our District 7 webpages with the purposes of updating to comply with federal regulations, to continue to compile with National Auxiliary regulations, and to make it more user friendly by reducing redundancies, and making it easier to get directly to subject matter through fewer keystrokes.
- 3. In process also is the development of a District 7 written history and improvement of the History webpages.
- 4. Lastly, we are in the initial stages of developing a space and site on the District webpages for photographs and pictures catalogued to be easy to find and access. This will need a review and submission process to ensure uniforms and all pictorial content are in compliance with public affairs standards.

<u>Click here</u> to read the Commodore's Hurricane message.

Sea Turtle First Responders request

We are currently looking for Auxiliary members interested in becoming a Sea Turtle First Responders. Those interested will have to attend a <u>two hour class</u>. The time and place of the class will be determined once we see the number of people desiring to attend the class.

If you are interested in attending a Sea Turtle First Responder Class, please send me an email containing your contact information to

Num 1 cook@hotmail.com

Thank you for your time,

Chuck Dolan

SO-Member Training, Division 15, SO-Program Visitor, Division 15, FSO-Information Services, Flotilla 15-4, Homosassa, FL 614-886-4744

Your Division Website - Resources For You

DID YOU KNOW, your Division website includes monthly calendars, VSC contacts, training opportunities, operations manuals, uniform descriptions, current events, photos, DCO reports, position duty descriptions, board meeting minutes, monthly reports, press releases, AUXINFO, Station Yankeetown events and more? Click on the right logo to see what you may be missing.



NEW: Hurricane IRMA photos and Press Release.



Click icon to set up your myCGAux account.



<u>Amazon Smile</u> a simple and automatic way for you to support the Auxiliary every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at

smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same experience as Amazon. com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to us. Click the icon to sign up.

USCG Auxiliary Division 15

Sunnyview Pt., Homosassa FL