

8 May 2016

**TO: John Holmes, DCDR Division 17**

**Cc: Donna Lee Miller, SO-CS Division 17**

**Subject: April 2016 VDCDR's Report**

As usual, a lot of activity for the Month. Key items in April included training for the boat crew QEs in June, NSBW activities planning, PE activities and some new and exciting initiatives in that area, Ops tempo with training and patrols remaining at a high level, HUREX 2016, RS&S efforts on-going, and several intensive training opportunities in SAR Co-ordination and Execution, Pollution Responder PQS, and UPV Oral Boards.

The sad news that long-time member and Flotilla 17-02 IPFC, Joe Kirkland, was lost after a brave fight with an illness reached us during preparation of these reports. Joe passed on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **SO-CS**

Worked several web page issues with District and National staff including uploading of staff reports to the members' only section.

#### **SO-FN**

See separate report.

#### **SO-HR**

SECCEN has released a list of vetted personnel who are eligible to be reclassified into IQ and BQ status if they have completed their mandatory classes, and was distributed to all Flotillas.

Long-time member and Flotilla 17-02 IPFC Joe Kirkland passed away after an illness. Services were well attended by Flotilla and Division personnel.

ID cards are still an on-going issue.

#### **SO-IS**

All requests for passwords to access systems required by the staff are current.

Submitted 7029s, 7030s and etc. are being processed by the flotillas. Isolated cases of the FSO-IS' availability has resulted in a small backlog, but this is being worked.

Recommend all Flotillas work to Identify and get a back-up for IS through the C-School in order to ensure a smooth transition should an IS not be able to fulfill their role for any reason.

#### **SO-MA**

All material requests are being fulfilled unless AUXCEN is in an "Out-of-stock" condition on the item.

Volunteered to help work the VE stickers issue in order to ensure all Flotillas are adequately stocked.

#### **SO-MS**

During the Hurricane exercise worked with Flotilla 17-10's FSO-MS in order to ensure the AOR was covered in contacting marinas, and other marine dealers to ensure their heavy weather plans were up to date and covered possible sources of pollution such as fuel and oil docks and pump-out facilities.

Continuing to mentor members in the Aux Pollution Responder PQS in June and oral boards for the UPV certification. Assisting members who require it to get their ICS-300 class completed.

### **SO-MT**

Mandatory training activity continues. Currently, the Division stands at approximately a 45% completion level.

Information regarding the new on-line boating safety and navigation classes have been distributed to all personnel.

All Flotilla RS&S "officers" have been invited to a training session at Station Port Canaveral on 21 May.

Continue preparations for the June 10, 11, and 12 QE for boat crew and coxswains. TCT classes and updates are being scheduled as required in order to ensure personnel are ready for their QE.

Information that any qualified IT-instructor was able to instruct in the TCT refresher course, but, only TCTAUX- or TCTFAC-qualified instructors can teach the 4-hour TCT course was distributed to the Flotillas.

SAR Search Coordination and Execution class is in works.

### **SO-NS**

Details on a NS C-school will be forthcoming shortly.

ANT Fort Pierce has made a request for verification of several PATONs and ATONs on the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes. Planning and discussions with the OIC in Ft. Pierce are underway. Due to facility and qualified AV personnel requirements this will require a multi-flotilla effort to comply with. More details on this will be released soon.

Approximately 12 hours of direct support to ANT Ponce de Leon Inlet were recorded in April.

OIC Joseph Holt, OIC of ANT Ponce de Leon Inlet, will be making his PCS move to Texas in June. His Change of Watch is currently scheduled for 3 June.

### **SO-OP**

A successful multi-boat patrol and training session was held in April. Seven Division 17 facilities and 30 crewmembers. demonstrated their long- and side-towing skills while under the observation of the USCG as part of Operation Excellence.

Our annual Hurricane exercise was completed in April. Calling trees were activated and marinas in our AORs were contacted and reminded now is the time to review and update our heavy weather plans.

Planning for the off-shore power boat races continues with facilities scheduled to patrol the race course safety box and to maintain a watch in Port Canaveral. Planning is also underway with the USCG for the July 4<sup>th</sup> 3-day weekend.

Spoke at Sector's SAR Conference in St. Augustine.

Sector will be conducting a SAR Search Coordination and Execution course from May 24-27. They have extended an invitation for 3-4 personnel from each Division to attend.

Training for new boat crew and coxswains continues in preparation for the June QE.

NSBW activities and plans are underway.

#### **SO-PA**

Flotillas have planned and are preparing to execute their NSBW activities. Included in these are various proclamations from local government entities, VE events, MDV "blitzes" and local media interviews and "info" announcements. As a reminder, any child under 18 in a photo requires a release signed by a parent or guardian, and any Auxiliary member in the photo must be in proper uniform, properly worn.

Due to the loss of several key members, the Division is re-establishing our Honor Guard. This is a highly visible effort that can be used at various local events, memorial services, parades, and etc. It requires a commitment in time for practicing and attending the events, and uniforms. Any person interested may contact DVCDR, Jim Parker, or VFC Flotilla 17-11 Richard Knapp for more info.

The Annual Auxiliary cruise is scheduled for June 25, 26, and 27. The cruise is filling up fast.

#### **SO-PB**

As always, articles and pictures are needed for this important initiative. Especially good are action shots of members doing things, award recipients, milestones in members' lives, and etc. Please submit anything you have to Jules Moquin, SO-PB.

#### **SO-PE**

Several classes were held this month including Sea World in Orlando. Expansion of the PE effort to include Schools, Law Enforcement, Fire, and Municipal employees are in work in several Flotillas. Innovative methods such as a "mobile" Education Kit and "Jeopardy-Like" game for review before the exam have resulted in increased test scores and reduced time for the review.

The Mayor of Ocoee has made a commitment to Flotilla 17-10 and 17-11 personnel to advertise and provide facility space for an ABS class. This will be a multiple facility initiative with instructors from both flotillas participating.

#### **SO-PV**

369 PVs have been conducted to date versus a goal of 760. There are 195 businesses in the AOR database.

A new, smaller footprint display box for information has been developed and is especially useful for businesses that don't have a lot of counter space available for the current display rack. Contact Bob DiCicco, SO-PV for information on sourcing and the cost of these boxes.

Mr. Mark Crary has assumed the FSO-PV role in Flotilla 17-11. Please support him in his new role.

Several PVs in several flotillas have allowed their MDV certification to lapse. Working to get these people to get current and assist in the MDV program is on-going.

Working with FSOs to get new PVs trained and certified.

#### **SO-RS&S**

A meeting is scheduled for 11 May at Sector Jacksonville to discuss how the shortfalls in equipment and other RS&S requirements will be handled.

The Division completed several requests for information from Sector and District regarding boat crew time on patrol in 2015, and what equipment, type, sizes, and condition the crews currently have. The purpose of this is to standardized the Auxiliary crews' equipment, and inspect and certify the equipment as per the current Active duty's in order to ensure we are properly equipped to be on the water.

#### **SO-SR**

See minutes of the last Division Meeting under separate message.

#### **SO-VE**

Several large VE events are planned during NSBW. Adequate stickers have been distributed to get the Flotillas through these events.

The mayor of Ocoee Florida has invited Flotillas 17-10 and 17-11 to have a large VE event and teach the ABS class with the city providing advertising and facility space to accomplish both. Planning is commencing on ow and when to hold the event. This will be a multiple flotilla activity.