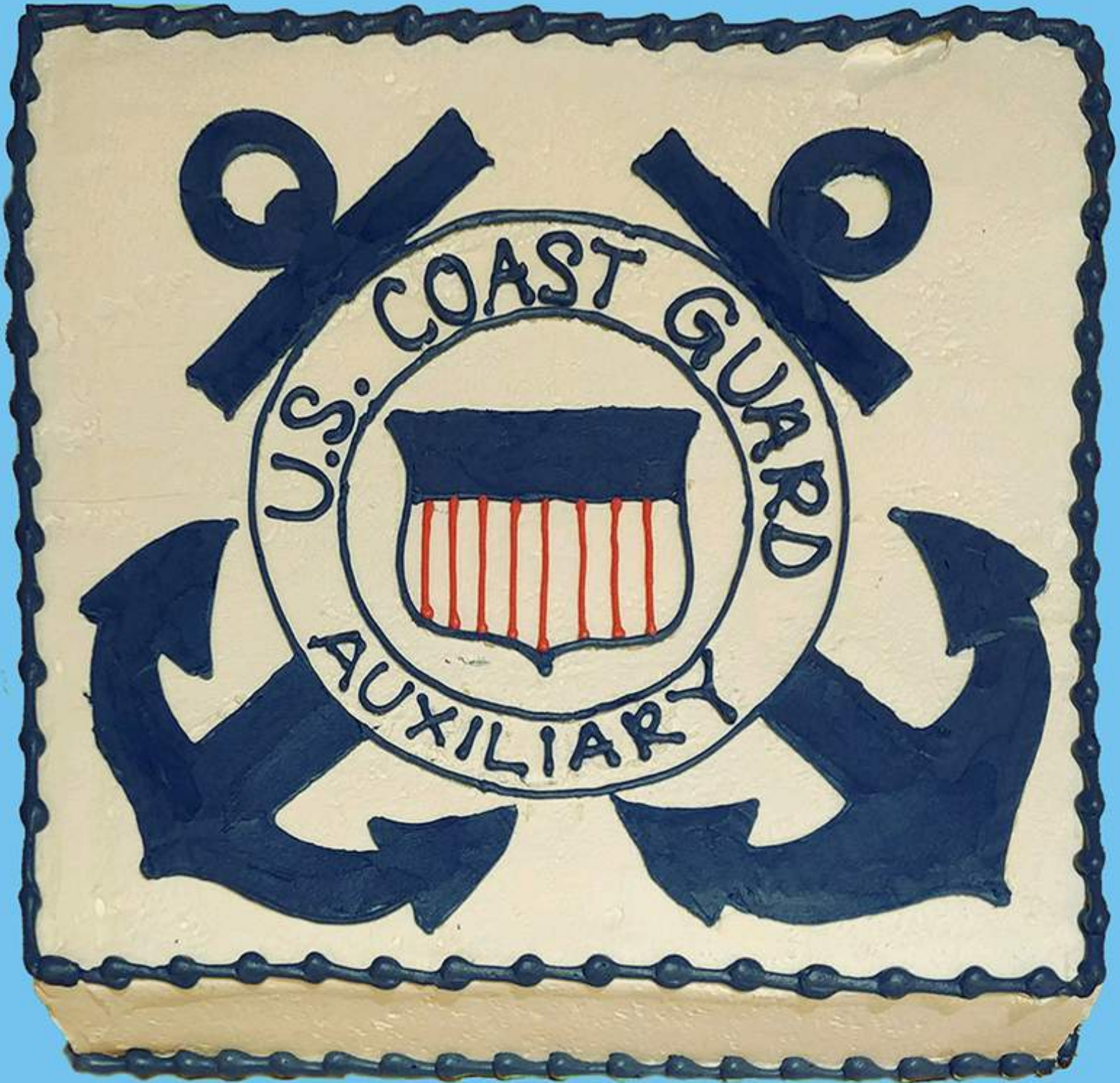


River Currents
Division 11 District 8ER
Cumberland River and Middle Tennessee
Division Commander: Frederick Gilman Division Vice Commander: Michael Simpson

Labels on map: Barton's Creek, Wilson County, Trousda, Bentley's LA Access Area, Spring Creek, BEND, Armstrong Island, Day's Access, SG (U) SG (D), TROUSDA

Change of Watch Issue 2018 Editor: Ramon Llorens, Jr. SO-PB Division 8ER



DATES AND EVENTS.

NEXT DIVISION BOARD AND STAFF MEETING THURSDAY. 22 MARCH, 1900

Nashville Police Dept. East Precinct
936 E. Trinity Ln, Nashville, TN 37211
Contact: Fred Gilman (757) 894-0151

SPRING 2018 D-TRAIN 8TH DISTRICT EASTERN REGION APRIL 26TH THRU 28TH

Pullman Plaza Hotel
1001 3rd Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701

(304) 525-1001

When Making reservations, please state:
You are with the USCG Auxiliary.



Thank You to Division 11- 2017 Change of Watch Team!

Written by Diane Gilman SO-PA/Chairman of COW

Change Of Watch 2017 Committee members were:
Obree O'Bryant, Kelley Crecelius, Randy Hawkins,
Ralph Underwood, Diane Gilman and Fred Gilman.

Thank you to everyone for all of the time and effort
that was put into making it a top notch event.
Everyone who attended had a great time.

We are looking forward to the 2018 COW being
held on Sunday, 6 January 2019 at the same location.

We would also like to give a special thanks to the
managers and staff of Country Hills Golf Club for
the use of their facilities and to Our Place Café for
catering and serving a wonderful meal.

Last but certainly not least, thanks to First Tennessee
Bank for sponsoring the cake and the Publix cake artist
who made it special. "That was the icing on the cake"

(Cover Photo: The Cake was custom designed and decorated by hand)

America's Volunteer Guardians, Directly Supporting The USCG, Promoting Boating Safety And Security Since 1939

Thank You!



District Commodore
Randy Ventress

Twenty Seventeen has all but faded into the sunset.
We experienced a great year here in District Eight,
Eastern Region and I would like to thank you all for
being apart.

I look forward to serving you all as your
Commodore in 2018. I feel we are progressing
forward as a team and I know we will keep this
momentum going.

Our District Excom, District Board, and District Staff
have really carried the ball this year and I cannot
tell you all how much I appreciate all the hard work
and effort you all have put into making this the
best team ever. (No disrespect to my predecessors)

I would put you all up against any of the other
districts anytime and I do not hesitate to brag
about you all whenever I converse with the other
Commodores. Bravo Zulu!

Our members are our most important resource and
I appreciate every member that is in this region.
You are the reason I am both honored and
humbled to be allowed to serve. I wish I could
personally shake each of your hands and thank you
all individually.

Sandy and I hope you all had a very Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year! I hope you
celebrated it with loved ones. While I am on the
subject, I would especially like to thank your
spouse's and families for allowing you the time
away to do this important and rewarding work for
our communities at large.

So Welcome everyone to 2018, a year I trust will be
even better than the great year we had in our
region in 2017. We as a team accomplished much,
and I know we will continue that trend through the
coming year and I thank everyone in Eighth Eastern
Region for all the great work you have put forth.

Division Eleven Change of Watch 2018

Written by Ramon Llorens, Jr SO-PB

HONORING THE PAST PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary being volunteers receive no direct compensation for the many hours of time and effort they donate to the Coast Guard. Recognition is received through the many awards you will see presented, and in many cases this is considered an Auxiliarists paycheck. Every year, across Middle Tennessee active members of this Division teach boating safety classes for the public and provide free vessel safety checks to educate and promote recreational boating safety. Auxiliary members engage in marine safety patrols, search and rescue operations and environmental cleanups in support of the Coast Guard. Auxiliarists stand radio watches at many Coast Guard stations and provide food service by cooking at stations and on Coast Guard vessels. Auxiliarists are true Force Multipliers for the Coast Guard.



Photo by, Ramon Llorens, Jr.



Photo by, Ramon Llorens, Jr.

Above: Fred Gilman, Division Commander 8th ER - 11

Left: Ms. Betsy Woods, Boating Education Coordinator, TWRA

Fred Gilman Division Commander opened the evening with a welcome to all who braved the elements to be present at the Change of Watch and Awards Banquet held at Country Hills Golf Club. As is fitting, we stood and said the pledge of allegiance followed by an invocation by Bruce Anstey Division Lay Leader. The room was decorated with the new display banners and the tables had center pieces of scale model Coast Guard boats from the Gilman's personal collection.

Before the guest speakers and awards, we shared a meal prepared by Our Place Café. For desert, there was a cake donated by First Tennessee Bank and specially prepared by Publix which tasted as good as it looked.

The First speaker introduced for the evening was Boating Education Coordinator for the TWRA, Ms. Betsy Woods. She brought to light some startling statistics when it comes to water safety on the waters of Middle Tennessee. We have a common mission with the TWRA and they appreciate our presence as a multiplier of their forces as they are spread pretty thin with their law enforcement duties and various fishing and hunting seasons.



Photo by, Ramon Llorens, Jr

Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Cory Woods, MSD Nashville

We traditionally have local active duty members address the COW, and this year we were given the chance to meet LTJG Cory Woods as he addressed the Division. He seemed very excited to be at MSD Nashville and looked forward partnering with the Auxiliary in the near future as the recreational boating season ramps up. LTJG Woods also expressed his admiration and gratitude to the Auxiliary in general, as it was some mentoring by one of our members at a previous station who gave him the confidence to do what it took to become an officer and further his career.

The Coast Guard has the youngest cut off for enlistment of the five branches of the military services. One of the things I have been impressed with in my short stint with the Auxiliary is the caliber of the young men and women in active duty. LTJG spoke with confidence and authority yet could not thank us enough for our voluntary spirit and service to the nation as a whole.

Next up at the podium was our own Randy Ventress District Commodore 8 ER. Never at a loss for words the Commodore gave us a quick recap of the year. And what a year it has been highlighted by two major hurricanes, Harvey and Irma, not to mention Nate directly affecting the AOR of the 8th District.



These events tested the Coast Guard having learned some hard lessons during hurricane Katrina. This time they moved pro-actively as they moved people and equipment into place for a response to all of the emergency calls which would certainly come. But the first call was to the Auxiliary to bring



Photo by, Ramon Llorens, Jr.

our training to bear as the force multipliers we are intended to be. DCO Ventress was pleased to report, the Auxiliary responded valiantly, using our training and experience to solve communication problems, organize, identify qualified members and mobilize with incredible efficiency.

The commander shared with us some of the conversations he has had since then with key members of the Gold Side who now have a greater understanding of the Auxiliary and our potential. They were impressed with our training discipline and skills. So much so they have identified areas in which we may better serve in the future.

Our fellow Auxiliarists proved our worth not only monetarily but in dependability. And just like the active duty personnel we partner with for our common goal, in the midst of it all we demonstrated **Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty.**

Of course DCO Ventress wouldn't be doing his job if he didn't challenge us to push the envelope even further. He challenged us all regardless of station but more so to those who are in a leadership role with these words and a couple of action points.

**“Leadership Starts With Yourself
You Have To Look At Yourself First**

**If You Haven't Recognized Your Strengths
If You Haven't Recognized Your Weaknesses
You Haven't Looked Hard Enough!**

**Make Every Member of the Team Feel Relevant
Train With Strategic Intent**

**Ask Yourself As A Leader, How Am I Doing?
What Do I Want To Accomplish
and always remember**

**“There Are No Lone Ranger Leaders. If You
Are Alone, You Aren't Leading Anybody”**

We have had a great year here in District Eight, Eastern Region and I would like to thank you all for being apart. I look forward to serving you all as your Commodore in 2018. I feel we are progressing forward as a team and I know we will keep this momentum going. Our District Excom, District Board, and District Staff have really carried the ball this year and I cannot tell you all how much I appreciate all the hard work and effort you all have put into making this the best team ever. **Bravo Zulu!**

Please direct all comments, suggestions, inquiries and story ideas to Ramon Llorens, Jr. SO-PB RamonLJr@Yahoo.com

Recognition of 2017 Board and Staff

Fred Gilman Division Commander and George Warde Division Vice Commander recognized and thanked all of the board and Staff members for their diligence and support throughout the year. Then they turned their attention to the presentation of Flotilla and Individual awards.

2017 Flotilla Awards

There are three awards given in each category which is received by the Flotilla Commander. These are a collective award which rewards the performance of the Flotilla. The Auxiliary holds the Flotilla as the part of the organization where the work gets done, it is therefore very important for the Flotilla Commander to build a strong award winning team.

1st - Division Commanders Award

Which is a blue plaque.

2nd - Division Vice Commanders Award

Which is a red plaque.

3rd - Flotilla Commanders Award

Which is a framed certificate.

MEMBER TRAINING

Division Commander Award

Flotilla 11-05

Division Vice Commander Award

Flotilla 11-04

Flotilla Commander Award

Flotilla 11-07

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Division Commander Award

Flotilla 11-05

Division Vice Commander Award

Flotilla 11-02

Flotilla Commander Award

Flotilla 11-06

PROGRAM VISITOR

Division Commander Award
Flotilla 11-05
Division Vice Commander Award
Flotilla 11-07
Flotilla Commander Award
Flotilla 11-02

VESSEL EXAMINERS

Division Commander Award
Flotilla 11-02
Division Vice Commander Award
Flotilla 11-05
Flotilla Commander Award
Flotilla 11-04

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Division Commander Award
Flotilla 11-04
Division Vice Commander Award
Flotilla 11-07
Flotilla Commander Award
Flotilla 11-05

OPERATIONS

Division Commander Award
Flotilla 11-04
Division Vice Commander Award
Flotilla 11-05
Flotilla Commander Award
Flotilla 11-07

2017 Individual Member Awards

INSTRUCTOR

Division Commander Award
Michael Brzezicki
Division Vice Commander Award
Randy Ventress
Flotilla Commander Award
Bradley Cochrane

OPERATIONS – CREW

Division Commander Award
Ralph Underwood
Division Vice Commander Award
Bradley Cochrane
Flotilla Commander Award
Halldorsson, Rosemary

VESSEL EXAMINER

Division Commander Award
Randy Hawkins
Division Vice Commander Award
William Welty
Flotilla Commander Award
Halldorsson, Rosemary



Photo by, Lori McNulty



Photo by, Hernan Flores

Above: Instructor Awarded to Randy Ventress and Bradley Cochrane, by George Warde and Fred Gilman Div Commander

Left: Ralph Underwood receives an award for Operations and Boat Crew.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS / PUBLICATIONS OPERATIONS – COXSWAIN

Division Commander Award
Ramon Llorens, Jr.

Division Vice Commander Award
Diane Gilman

Flotilla Commander Award
Harry Stephenson

Division Commander Award
William Weeks

Division Vice Commander Award
Fred Gilman

Flotilla Commander Award
Halldorsson, Rosemary



Photo by, Hernan Flores

Above: Ramon Llorens, Jr. accepts a Public Affairs / Publications award.

PROGRAM VISITOR

Division Commander Award
Bradley Cochrane

Division Vice Commander Award
Michael De-Biase

Flotilla Commander Award
Diane Gilman

Right: Brad Cochrane, Michael De-Biase, George Warde, Fred Gilman Division Commander and Diane Gilman



Photo by, Ramon Llorens, Jr.

Above: Rosemary Halldorsson, Bill Weeks, George Warde and Fred Gilman Division Commander



Photo by, Ramon Llorens, Jr.

AVIATION

Division Commander Award

Stephen Campbell

Division Vice Commander Award

Kevin Gallagher

Flotilla Commander Award

James Williamson



Photo by, Ramon Llorens, Jr.

Above: Fred Gilman Division Commander presents Aviation awards to Steve Campbell and Jim Williamson

2017 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR

went to Randy Hawkins



Photo by, Lori McNulty



While he had the floor, Randy Hawkins presented Larry Carter, Michael Simpson and Randy Ventress with a special Telecommunications coin shown above.

ADDITIONAL AWARDS FOR 2017

Randy Ventress

Silver Hour glass for hours - 25,000

Shane Hicks

Completion of VE-PV combined ribbon award

Steve Campbell

2nd Sustained Service Award - Bronze Star



Photo by, Ramon Llorens, Jr.

Division Commander Fred Gilman meeting and greeting all in attendance at Change of Watch 2018

2018 Bridge and Staff Officers



Photo by, Hernan Flores

Above: District Commodore Randy Ventress leads the group in the oath as he installs the Bridge and Staff Officers for Division 11 as well as the Flotilla Commanders and Flotilla Vice Commanders within Division 11.

DIVISION COMMANDER (DCDR)

Frederick Gilman

DIVISION VICE COMMANDER (VCDR)

Michael Simpson

Division Staff Officers

Flotilla Commanders and Flotilla Vice Commanders

SO-CM	Randy Hawkins
SO-CS	Bill Weeks
SO-DV	Christopher Jones
50-FN	Bruce Anstey
SO-HR	Kelley Crecelius
SO-IS	Diane Gilman
SO-MA	James Mayo
SO-MS	William Welty
50-MT	Randy Ventress
SO-NS	Ralph Underwood
SO-OP	Bill Weeks
SO-PA	Diane Gilman
SO-PB	Ramon Llorens Jr.
SO-PE	George Warde
SO-PV	Diane Gilman
SO-SR	Kelley Crecelius
SO-VE	Ralph Underwood

Flotilla 11-02

Gary Potterpin FC
Paul Fernandez III VFC

Flotilla 11-04

J. Buell Noteboom FC
Ramon Llorens Jr. VFC

Flotilla 11-05

Patrick Brown FC
Bradley Cochrane VFC

Flotilla 11-06

Christopher Jones FC
Charles Bader VFC

Flotilla 11-07

William Welty FC
Dale Leighton VFC