



MIDWEST MARINER



DIVISION 3, SWR

Issue 3 August 2015

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

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CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE-PRIVACY
ACT OF 1974

The disclosure of the personal information contained in this publication is subject to the provisions contained in the Privacy Act of 1974. The subject Act, with certain exceptions, prohibits the disclosure, distribution, dissemination or copying of any material containing the home address, home telephone number, spouses' names and social security numbers except for official business. Violations may result in disciplinary action by the Coast Guard and/or civilian sanctions.

The MIDWEST MARINER welcomes all articles on Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary customs, traditions, heritage, history and current events. The right to decline any submission will be based on content. Articles and photos may be sent via email to the editor, Barbara Rhoades at: bcrhoades@centurytel.net.

Cover photo: Taken from the USPS web site, this stamp is now available as a forever stamp. See page 13 for full story behind the stamp. FIRST DAY OF ISSUE August 4, 2015 • Washington, DC 20066

STAFF OFFICER REPORTS



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - DV

Katey Bernstein

Kaleidoscope



"If there's any message to my work, it is ultimately that it's OK to be different, that it's good to be different, that we should question ourselves before we pass judgement on someone who looks different, behaves different, talks different, is a different color." Johnny Depp

Please take the time to visit Positivity Toolbox/ Quotes about Judging website:
<http://positivitytoolbox.net/quotes-about-judging.html>.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - HR

Gloria Tobin

THE BUDDY SYSTEM

Our inactive members can benefit from having a buddy. Members become inactive for a variety of reasons. A simple phone call from someone in the flotilla who cares enough to ask how they are doing reminds members that they do belong.



Too often, we only call our members when we want something from them or to remind them they have done something incorrectly. Every FSO-HR officer in Division 3 should continuously become aware of people who are not active and those who have not been attending flotilla meetings or fellowship functions. An effort should be made to have an active member with similar interests be a buddy to an inactive member. In order to reactivate our inactive members, we may have to step back and invite them to "join in", much as we do with our new members.

Another area in which the "buddy system" could be utilized is that of our retired members. After having given years of service, these members are also forgotten. Each retired member could be assigned a buddy or one active member could take on the responsibility of buddying all of the retired members in their flotilla. This would require an occasional phone call, invitations to fellowship events and updates on flotilla activities. Active members would also be interested on updates on the retired members.

Try it, you will be glad you did.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - IS

Barbara Rhoades

There has been no information coming down from district or national regarding our hours or how they have been entered which makes my article extremely short.

Of course, as always, if you need help entering hours, let me know. I believe every flotilla has an IS officer with maybe one exception. Below is a chart of the hours reported so far this year by each flotilla.

<u>085-03-04-001</u> KASKASKIA DETACHMENT	<u>085-03-04</u> ALTON POOL FOUR	<u>085-03-07</u> WASHINGTON	<u>085-03-08</u> EIGHTH ST LOUIS		
91.00	1,067.00	1,170.00	673.10		
<u>085-03-10-001</u> THE RIVER DOGS	<u>085-03-10</u> ST CHARLES	<u>085-03-13</u> BLACK CAT	<u>085-03-15</u> PORTAGE DES SIOUX	<u>085-03-16</u> SIXTEENTH ST LOUIS	8WR - Div 03
20.00	2,569.50	2,920.00	183.50	538.60	9,232.70



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - MT

Marilyn Aten

Member Training Never Ends



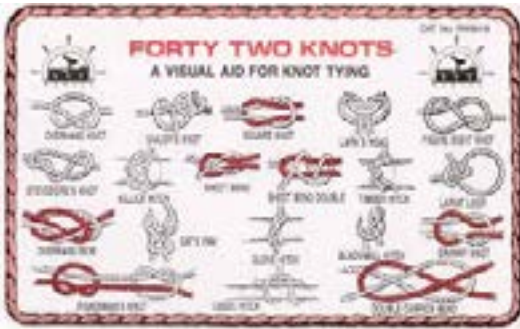
It may be August and many of us have already completed training new members or even current members that were looking to get involved with a new Auxiliary program.

The best way to keep members is to find a program that interests them to assist the Coast Guard in promoting safe boating. Train them and develop a way for them to utilize this training. Congratulations to all FSO-MT's that have gotten members out of REYEAR and even gotten members involved in new programs.

As we head into the fall of the year, it's important to remember that training is ongoing and should never stop. Use your meeting training time this fall to do some in-depth training.

Continued from 4

Extend member's knowledge beyond the ABS class with the more extensive subjects found in the BS&S books. I'm sure some members still have some books around. There should be PowerPoints out there to aid in the training.



Do a class on knot tying. That is almost a lost skill that all of us should be proficient in doing. Keep your new people looking to become crew or coxswain qualified active so they can move along to complete their tasks.

Continue to use this time of the year to keep members interested in the Coast Guard Auxiliary and their many activities.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - PA

Betty Zoellner



**2015 BOATING SEASON
WHERE DID IT GO?**

The boating season flowed rapidly downstream on us for 2015. Since we live where we always have a threat of flooding on our waterways, this year was no different. However, the flooding should never stop us from presenting boating and water safety to the public. Our job is to present this information as it could save a life.

We hear from our news and weather forecasters "know before you go" or "if you see water on a road, do not drive through the water, turn around, don't drown". Well, we have the obligation to do our share of helping the public understand boating and water safety as well.



Now, before we step out and begin our assistance to the public, we need to be prepared with the correct information and proper training about what we are talking about.

With this being said, once again, here it is:

MY SOAP BOX!

I know I had this in the last issue of the Midwest Mariner However, I will continue to have the SO-PB print the information below:

Members need to check out to the National Public Affairs Website and at the very least read thru the public affairs courses. It is important that we are all well versed on what we

say when speaking about the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Coast Guard, our district, division and flotilla.

We must represent ourselves appropriately and correctly.

The New AUXPAO manual has been posted on the National Public Affairs website! There are three changes that we all must adhere to:

The descriptive words for public affairs events are:

- EXHIBIT not BOOTH
- We STAFF (not man) an Exhibit

Uniforms:

- Everyone is to be in the SAME uniform (NO EXCEPTIONS) for any public affair event.
- It is always a good idea to review the Auxiliary manual on uniform and accessory wear before meeting the public.

We must be the best with verbal presentations and look sharp in our uniforms.

Always keep in mind that we are **MARKETING** the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Coast Guard, our district, division and flotilla.

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK 2016



One last thing, if you did not make any plans for National Safe Boating Week for 2015, it is never too early to begin discussions at your flotilla meetings to do something in 2016.

Every mission we have committed ourselves to upon becoming a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary requires some sort of training. Public Affairs is a huge commitment and also requires training. So as our busy season rapidly closes in on us, what better time to start reading the courses on the National website or ask me for assistance.

I end with, enjoy what we have left of boating season and do our missions correctly and well versed.



Paraprosdokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected; frequently humorous. Winston Churchill loved them.

One on growing up:

We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.

And one on paperwork:

In filling out an application, where it says, 'In case of emergency, Notify: 'I put 'DOCTOR'.

FLOTILLA COMMANDER REPORTS



FLOTILLA COMMANDER - 3-13

Mark Zoellner

Well we find ourselves deep in to kind of a messed up summer. The heat and the flooding have wreaked havoc upon the recreational boating public for 2015. WOW! What a shame. Firework displays were cancelled or rescheduled and the flooding, debris in the water, rain, heat and humidity did us all in. With all this happening, 3-13 still did a good job with what we do best, vessel safety check and public affairs.



The summer months produced 156 total VSC's with three VSC Stations, 60 plus MD visits and multiple member training sessions. 3-13 has two people within one class and two more people within two classes of obtaining their AUXOP. We have worked hard. We are down to four people who need to complete the mandatory classes. This is outstanding.

As stated earlier it has been hot, hot, hot. It has been a high water summer and one ABS class may be held yet this fall. This will get people ready for the upcoming boating season and making many of our Illinois boating friends aware of all the new changes in Illinois requirements starting 1 January 2016.

As stated short and sweet but just watch the fall roll!

Hope all had a great summer.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Blessing of the Fleet

The annual Blessing of the Fleet was held at the Shrine of our Lady of the Rivers on the Mississippi River at Portage des Sioux last weekend. Even with the usual 90 degree plus weather, over 125 boats participated in the rescheduled boat parade after weeks of flooding finally disappeared.

Division 3's VCDR Gary Smith was following recent tradition of being one of the judges. VCDR Smith along with RiverBill's, Bill Kelley and the Con Trios Commodore, Rick Flier, diligently surveyed all the boats as they passed the Lady of the Rivers statue to receive a blessing from Father Banken, the pastor of St. Francis of Assisi in the river town of Portage des Sioux.

Continued from 7

This 2015 theme was Gilligan's Island. Many boats had all the famous TV characters all decked out in their finest costumes of Gilligan, the Skipper and more. It was a difficult task but the judges managed to select winners for Best Cruiser, Runabout, Houseboat, Pontoon and Sailboat plus three Judges Choice Awards.

The day's festivities concluded with the presentation of plaques to all the winners.



DVCDR Gary Smith gets judging directions from his wife, Sigrid Miller-Smith, VFC 37. Photo by Marilyn Aten



DVCDR Gary Smith looks over the Mississippi River as the Blessing of the Fleet boat parade begins. Photo by Marilyn Aten.



DVCDR Gary Smith looks over boat parade in the Blessing of the Fleet. Photo by Marilyn Aten

**Valley Park Safety Fair
By: Marilyn Aten**



Flotilla 34 brought boating safety and the importance of wearing your life jacket to the Valley Park Safety Fair held the beginning of August at the home of the Valley Park Lions Club. The fair was a huge success with over 300 people participating.

Charles and Marilyn Aten brought their Public Affairs Exhibit filled with many types and sizes of life jackets for both kids and adults to try. The exhibit was busy all day with lots of questions. They handed out almost 200 Coast Guard coloring books along with lots of safe boating literature including "How to Choose the Right Life Jacket".



Marilyn and Charles Aten from Flotilla 34 are ready to share life jacket know how with 300 safety fair attendees. Photographer unknown.

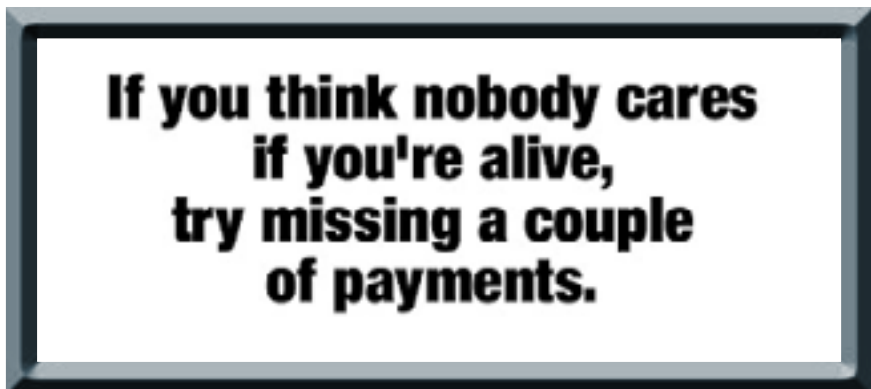


Auxiliarist Ray Amanat, VFC Flotilla 3-10, did an interactive presentation with the kids on how to handle a stranger.

Families had the opportunity to participate in the Child Identification Program which is sponsored by the Masonic Children's Foundation. This program was designed to aid in the identification and recovery of missing children.

This event had many community businesses that helped make it a big success as did organizations that have youth safety programs.

Charles Aten from Flotilla 34 hands a young boater a Coast Guard coloring book. Photo by Marilyn Aten



OUR LIFE IN PICTURES

If you are under 55, you simply won't understand...



Vets, Visitors Flock to Normandy to Remember D-Day

Associated Press | Jun 05, 2014 | by Greg Keller

<http://www.military.com/daily-news/2014/06/05/vets-visitors-flock-to-normandy-to-remember-dday.html>



COLLEVILLE-SUR-MER, France— Ceremonies to commemorate the 70th anniversary of D-Day are drawing thousands of visitors to the cemeteries, beaches and stone-walled villages of Normandy this week, including some of the few remaining survivors of the largest sea-borne invasion ever mounted.

World leaders and dignitaries including President Barack Obama and Queen Elizabeth II will gather to honor the more than 150,000 American, British, Canadian and other Allied

D-Day **veterans** who risked and gave their lives in the battle to defeat Adolf Hitler's Third Reich.

For many visitors, the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial with its 9,387 white marble tombstones on a bluff overlooking the site of the battle's bloodiest fighting at Omaha Beach is the emotional centerpiece of pilgrimages to honor the tens of thousands of men killed on D-Day and the months of fighting afterward.

Continued from 10

D-Day veteran Clair Martin, 93, said he's come back to Omaha Beach three times in the last 70 years — "four if you count the time they were shooting at me."

The San Diego, California resident landed on D-Day with the 29th Infantry Division and said he kept fighting until he reached the Elbe River in Germany the following April. "I praise God I made it and that we've never had another World War," he said.

Ceremonies large and small are taking place across Normandy, ahead of an international summit on Friday in Ouistreham, a small port that was the site of a strategic battle on D-Day. French President Francois Hollande's decision to invite Russian President Vladimir Putin to participate in the official ceremony despite his exclusion from the G-7 summit in Brussels is being seen by some as justified recognition of the Soviet Union's great sacrifice in defeating Hitler, but by others as a distraction given the West's dispute with Russia over Ukraine.

With many D-Day veterans now in their 90s, this year's anniversary has the added poignancy of being the last time that many of those who took part in the battle will be able to make the long journey back to Normandy and tell their stories.

"Three minutes after landing a mortar blew up next to me and I lost my K-rations," said Curtis Outen, 92, of Pageland, South Carolina. Outen, making his first return to Normandy since the war, related the loss of his military-issued meal packet as though it happened yesterday. "Then I cut my arm in the barbed wire entanglements. After that I was all right."

By midmorning hundreds of visitors walked among the cemetery's long rows of white crosses and stars of David. Schoolchildren and retirees, soldiers in uniform and veterans in wheelchairs quietly move from grave to grave, pausing to read the brief inscriptions that can only give hints of the lives laid to rest there:

Edward H. Gesner, Pvt 116 Inf, 29 Div, Massachussets, July 1 1944.

Richard Frank Geigner, PFC 298 Engr Combat Bn, Illinois, June 6, 1944.

Louis Carter Jr, Pvt 8 Inf 4 Div, New Jersey, July 26, 1944.

One young woman stood quietly in soft rain, hand over her heart, and tearfully placed a red rose at a tombstone which read "Here Rests in Honored Glory a Comrade in Arms Known But to God."

"I just wanted to pay tribute," said Marissa Neitling, 30, of Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Nearby, retired lawyer Paul Clifford of Boston kneeled silently and placed a bouquet of red, white and blue flowers at the grave of Walter J. Gunther Jr., a paratrooper of the 101st Airborne Division killed on D-Day.

Clifford said the grave belonged to a relative of his best friend in Boston. The friend has never been able to travel to Normandy to visit the grave, so Clifford has come each June for the last 10 years to pay respect.

"He was my best friend's uncle. When he came down his parachute got caught in the branches. He never made it out of the trees," said Clifford.

EDITOR NOTE: While Memorial Day is past by the time you read this newsletter, it is still an informative article.

The History of Memorial Day

<http://www.military.com/memorial-day>



Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, the head of an organization of Union veterans — the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) — established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. It is believed that date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country.

The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C.

The ceremonies centered around the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Various Washington officials, including Gen. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, presided over the ceremonies. After speeches, children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and members of the GAR made their way through the cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns.



April 17, 2015

U.S. Coast Guard Eighth District External Affairs
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Office: (618) 225-9008

News Release

COAST GUARD RESPONDS TO DIESEL FUEL SPILL NEAR ST. LOUIS

HARTFORD, Ill. — The Coast Guard in coordination with Phillips 66 is responding to a report of a diesel fuel spill in the Cahokia Canal in the upper Mississippi River, Friday.

The Mississippi River is closed from MM 160 to MM 195.

Coast Guard Sector Upper Mississippi River watchstanders were notified that an underwater pipeline ruptured at the Phillips 66-operated terminal near MM 194 at 9:15 a.m.

Personnel from Coast Guard Sector Upper Mississippi River and the Environmental Protection Agency are on scene supervising response and recovery efforts.

Two oil spill response organizations are on scene doing shoreline assessments.

The pipeline has been secured.

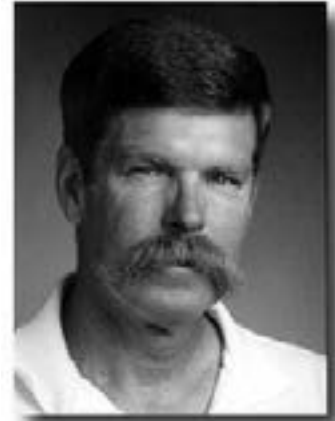
The cause of the incident is under investigation.

*Saving Lives and Guarding the Coast Since 1790.
The United States Coast Guard — Proud History. Powerful Future.*

William S. Phillips creates a postage stamp in honor of the United States Coast Guard

This stamp honors the United States Coast Guard for its role in protecting the security of the nation and advancing its vital maritime interests.

In an oil painting on masonite, renowned aviation artist William S. Phillips depicts two icons of the Coast Guard: the cutter Eagle, a three-masted sailing ship known as “America’s Tall Ship,” and an MH-65 Dolphin helicopter, the standard rescue aircraft of the Coast Guard.



One hundred years ago the agency received its current name, when President Woodrow Wilson signed into law the 1915 “Act to Create the Coast Guard.” The origins of the Coast Guard, however, go back to 1790, when President George Washington signed into law an act that provided for a fleet of ten boats, or “revenue cutters,” to aid in “the collection of duties ... imported into the United States.”

Today’s Coast Guard has 38,000 active-duty men and women; 8,000 Reservists; and many volunteer auxiliary personnel. In addition to saving lives at sea, their responsibilities include enforcing maritime law, overseeing aids to navigation, carrying out icebreaking operations, protecting the marine environment, responding to oil spills and water pollution, ensuring port security, supporting scientific research at sea, combating terrorism, and aiding in the nation’s defense.

Phil Jordan was the art director for the stamp.

The United States Coast Guard stamp is being issued as a Forever® stamp. This Forever stamp will always be equal in value to the current First-Class Mail® one-ounce price.

Learn more about painter, William S. Phillips, at <http://www.aviationarthangar.com/wisph1.html>