

BEAVER LOG

A publication of the

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY



Beaver Lake Flotilla 56 8WRR
Vol XXVII No.1 January 2020 #305
<http://a0850506.wow.uscgaux.info>

ROGERS 2019 CHRISTMAS PARADE



THE “AHWAYS SUMPIN” IS READY TO HIT THE STREET

JANUARY FLOTILLA MEETING

The January 2020 meeting of Beaver Lake Flotilla 56 will be at 7 pm, January 09 2020 at the WalMart Aviation Building, Rogers Airport. Fellowship begins at 6:30 pm, followed by the meeting at 7 pm. Guests are always welcome, and our meetings are open to all who are interested.

MESSAGE FROM THE FLOTILLA COMMANDER By Dale Nichols, FC



I would like to thank you all for this opportunity to serve as your Flotilla Commander for Flotilla 5-6 in 2020. Since I have been in the Coast Guard Auxiliary I have had the opportunity to serve under some great FC's and hope to continue that tradition. With the new year comes changes in command and staff officer positions so I would like to introduce you to them.

FC Dale Nichols
VFC Doug Franklin
IPFC Daryl Decker
FSO-CM Dale Nichols
FSO-CS Randy Lusk
FSO-DV Thiyagarajan Veerappagound
FSO-FN Keith Burt
FSO-HR Alan Main
FSO-IS Doug Franklin

FSO-MA Keith Burt
FSO-MS Allen Kitterman
FSO-MT Jeff Gunnoe
FSO-NS Linda Hart
FSO-OP Thiyagarajan Veerappagound
FSO-PA Jesse Adams
FSO-PB Keith Burt
FSO-PE Avard Hart
FSO-PV Randy Lusk
FSO-SR Sandra Mackenzie
FSO-VE Dale Nichols

Please join me in welcoming all the new and returning command and staff officers.

I look forward to working with all of our new and returning members and hope to see you at our next flotilla meeting January 9th.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF STAFF By Douglas Franklin



I want to thank my flotilla shipmates for allowing me to serve as the Vice Flotilla Commander for Flotilla 56 during the

coming year. Rest assured I will give the position the attention it requires and deserves. I look forward to working with Dale our Flotilla Commander in providing leadership and support as we move forward in serving our community through our valuable volunteer work. I am excited to be working with all of the Flotilla Staff Officers in providing incredible services related to recreational boat safety, marine safety, and operations.

As we enter the New Year with new flotilla leadership I thought it might be helpful if the membership was informed of my views on leadership and management. I have studied the field of leadership since I entered the U.S. Navy Reserve in 1982. As an Intelligence Specialist 3rd Class I was on the low rung of the totem pole. This provided me with the opportunity to observe my peers and superiors and to gain perspective on various leadership models. Some of my superior officers provided excellent leadership exemplars while others fell short. I was fortunate to have been commissioned in 1984 and continued to learn about and practice various leadership ideas and methods. I used those exemplary leadership models as well as the non-exemplars, or poor leadership practices to help form my own views on leadership. I also studied and taught leadership principles in my role as an administrator and adjunct faculty. Throughout my 20+ years in the U.S. Navy and 40+ years as a college administrator and organizational management scholar I have come to the following conclusions. Leadership and management are different and require the understanding and application of different knowledge, skills and attitudes, and the single most important attribute of a leader is trust.

In *On Becoming a Leader* Warren Bennis provides a list of differences between leadership and management, which, if boiled down suggests that a person leads people and manages things. Leadership and management are not mutually exclusive nor are they inherently connected. I've worked with great leaders that couldn't management

their way out of a paper sack. I've also worked and seen managers that no one would follow. Finally, I have found that trust is the essential element of leadership. In a 2011 presentation entitled the *Essence of Leadership*, Secretary of State and General Colin Powell indicates that "trust" is the essential element of leadership using a humorous anecdote that to me sounded all too familiar. Powell regales his audience with a story of being a Second Lieutenant at the Infantry School at Fort Benning when one of his sergeants says to him "lieutenant, you'll know you are a good leader when people follow you if only out of curiosity" (Powell, 2011). Powell then goes on to suggest that the only way people will curiously follow a leader is if they trust her or him. He further explains that selfless leaders that demonstrate a willingness and passion to support those within the organization gain trust

I hope to earn your trust by my actions in putting the membership and those we serve first and foremost in fulfilling my duties as Vice Flotilla Commander.

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AN AUXILIARY JOURNEY

By David Waldrup

It was February of 2009 and I had decided to go to the Northwest Arkansas Boat Show and see what I could see. I had moved to Northwest Arkansas in September of 2007 so I still felt new to the area, but I was always wanting to go somewhere I had not been before. Having sold my old pontoon boat and purchased a 'new to me' pontoon that was parked in Prairie Creek Marina, I really was not in the market for a new boat, but just wanted to look.

The boats all looked great with a lot of great inventory so I was having a great time. I turned a corner and saw a booth with signs that read, 'Join the Coast Guard Auxiliary'! I was greeted by a gentleman who was manning the booth and he explained that the Coast Guard Auxiliary was a true volunteer organization that

supported the Recreational Safety component of the Coast Guard's coastal and inland waterways mission. I asked, "where do they do that?" and he said, 'right here on Beaver Lake.' He told me if I was interested, to give him my name and number and someone would get in touch with me. I really did not know a lot but gave him my information and thought well, I will check it out and can always say NO if it does not look interesting.

A few days later, some guy named Alan Main called me and said he was with Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 56 in Rogers Arkansas. He wanted to me to come to his office and talk about this organization. We made an appointment and met up for about an hour discussion. Alan is a executive with a brokerage company and he very effectively told me about the Auxiliary mission, the close ties to the Active Coast Guard, the work that he had done in his Auxiliary Career and the fun that he had doing it. What Alan did not know at the time was that I loved boats, loved being on the water, loved the US Navy, regretted never having served in the Navy, and really did not know much about the Coast Guard. He filled in the Coast Guard gaps in my knowledge which really prompted me about taking the next step. Next thing I knew, I was filling out paperwork, getting fingerprints done and I was sworn in.

I remember my first operations mission as a trainee on Alan's boat 'Coast Guard 515'. In those days, many wore their tropical uniforms on the water so there I was with a blue button-down short sleeve shirt and a pair of aqua blue dickie's slacks that I picked up at Walmart. There were about 5 of us on board and as luck would have it, we came upon a boater in distress and commenced a tow of their vessel from LaRue to Prairie Creek. I was asked to use a boat hook and attach the tow line to the ring of the disabled boat. Somehow, I got it on there and away we went. Before that day, I had no idea of what a Coast Guard Auxiliary Mission would be like. After that day, I was hooked.

The next meetings and missions talked about the process of getting to be a qualified boat crew member. As I learned knots, side by side towing, stern towing, and information about burns, bleeds, and weather, I remembered what Alan told me at our first meeting, "You will learn more about your boat than you ever wanted to know." I did not think that was possible, but I can assure you, it is.

I have worked in surface operations and performed many other duties. I qualified as coxswain, personal watercraft operator, and patrolled on many Missouri and Arkansas lakes, including the Arkansas River.

On a personal note, I have found some of the best people on the planet are non-paid volunteers with the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. They spent their time and money supporting this worthy organization and its mission. They flex to get the work done when leadership and policies change. I have worked with many consummate professionals that in their life outside of the auxiliary have taught school, led nationwide workforces, worked in law enforcement, served in Army rotary, fixed wing and security duties, Captains of commercial vessels, Telephone Technicians, Gunsmiths, Navy Dentists, Technology specialists, Firemen, Sales men and women, Safety trainers/auditors, Security Analysts, School Administrators, EMT's, Lawyers, Professors, Pastors, Moms, Dads and one very special gentleman that worked for the Federal Aviation Administration.

We have towed every sort of boat, big and small. We have watched boats sink and watched boats burn but used our Coast Guard training to make sure everyone got to safety. We have performed safety parameter patrols for fireworks on the lake and for law enforcement to search for bodies of drowned swimmers.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary cuts across many different occupations and exists with the diversity and capability that is unmatched in

any other volunteer workforce. I have made lifetime friends and learned about so many things that are probably not in the Auxiliary Manual but are still important as we walk through life. I am a better person having spent time with my fellow Auxiliarists and learning from their experiences. All I can say is thank you!

Semper Paratus
David

IN AND AROUND THE LAKE

By the Lake Editor



Beaver Lake, at the time this is written is 1124.45 feet above mean sea level. 1120.4 is normal pool.

CHRISTMAS PARADE 2019

By Alan Main

The Christmas Parade this year went off without a hitch, other than the one on the back of the truck. We were lined up as the third float in the parade which has been our normal spot for several years. The weather was pleasant, cool but not bone chilling cold as it has been before.

For the first time it was required to have “spotters” walking along the four corners of the float, to assist in guiding through the tight spots along the parade route. With the cooperative weather I feel there was a record crowd. The spotters were a big help, I always had a fear of running over someone’s foot making that turn to the reviewers stand. Normally it kind of fizzles out once you get past the main downtown area, but this year there were lots of folks all the way to the final turn.

We had decided to have our spotters hand out candy along the way, particularly since Doug promised his granddaughter he would, and many of the floats did the same thing. My personal opinion was that there were pros and cons to that idea. What I loved was

the interaction between the crowd and our spotters. Even after they had given out about 1300 pieces of candy in about a block and a half.

It has always been interesting to me the different attitudes of the crowd from year-to-year. Some years it seems we get a couple of “Oh, the Coast Guard” and a wave and little else. Some years smatterings of “Yeah Coast Guard!”, this year though, the crowd seemed very responsive to us. There were even two or three times when there was a substantial amount of applause along with “Merry Christmas” or “Thank You” Coast Guard. Well those are things you notice from inside the truck.

Alone in the truck you do have time to think about things while enjoying the exhaust from the old Studebaker in front, and I thought about the walkers and how they had really interacted well with the crowd. It occurred to me that we should have made it a point to shake hands or thank anyone in uniform or wearing something identifying them as a Veteran. No more than a second past when one of our newer members, Jesse Adams, did exactly that with a fellow wearing a Vet Ballcap. A big Bravo Zulu to Jesse, that was awesome to witness. Maybe we need walkers designated just to do that next year.

As we ended the parade route, we undressed the boat in record time at the high school parking lot and saw the very last few floats getting underway. We were done, they were just starting. I skipped down to the roundabout – made it down Arkansas Street to Highway 12 then east to my boat storage locker. I jabbed the boat in with the first shot, unhooked and headed back into town, and the parade was still going on.

I headed for the house down second street, and realized that it was an almost perfect parade. The only thing missing was my usual co-pilot in the cab for the parade, Keith. This year he was under the weather. I don’t know how many years we have been together in that cab pulling a boat. Sometimes it was my boat and truck, his boat and truck, my truck and his boat, if his

happened to be clean and mine wasn't. Well – there is always next year.

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STAFF OFFICERS REPORTS

Communications ~Dale Nichols - FSO-CM~

I will be discussing this in a future flotilla meeting.

Communication Services ~Randy Lusk – FSO-CS

Finance ~ Keith Burt ~ FSO-FN

The bank account stands at \$4236.42

Information Services ~ Doug Franklin ~ FSO-IS

Let me start this month's Beaver Log article by apologizing for not writing an article last month. Time, personal obligations, and personal neglect were mitigating factors in not writing the article. In short what I'm saying here is life happens. Many of you may identify the same or similar reasons why 7029's and 7030's are not submitted each month. Additional factors for not filing these forms include, insufficient work during the month to fill out the form, an intent to group activities on a quarterly or annual basis, its not a priority, the system is bad and a simple personal aversion to filling out forms. I get it; AUXDATA is not everyone's cup of tea. I also get it, "life happens." For those of you that regularly submit your forms, I thank you and for those of you that don't, I'm here to help and I welcome your participation in this very important part of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Also, for those of you that participated in the Rogers Christmas Parade I have recalled your 7030 10Ks from AUXDATA and replaced them with a single 7030 10J with everyone as a lead.

Material ~ Keith Burt ~ FSO-MA

If you need envelopes and stamps, send me an email. And I'll send them to you.

Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Officer ~ Allen Kitterman ~ FSO-MS8WR MS held an Introduction to MS 2020 webinar that I will forward to any interested member who would like to explore the Marine Safety program.

We now have a procedure for participating as Auxiliarists in third party sponsored clean-ups. I need help finding these opportunities for our members to gain MS hours. Please let me know if you are aware of any that are scheduled now or in the future and I will get the information to the Flotilla.

Member Training – Jeff Gunnoe FSO-MT

Aids to Navigation and Chart updating ~ Linda Hart ~ FSO-NS

Vessel Examinations ~ Dale Nichols SFO-VE

We have several new members serving as VE's in 2020 and I look forward to a successful year.

Operations – Thiyaga Veerappagound ~ FSO-OP

Human Resources ~ Alan Main ~ FSO-HR

Flotilla 56 Year End Report

Began 2019 with 36 members on the roster, will end the year with 32. We brought 3 new members to the flotilla in 2019. We had no transfers in or out of the flotilla. There were no retirements or deaths recorded this year in the flotilla.

There were 3 robot inquiries from the national website, two became members. The remaining one has just been interviewed on 31DEC and has committed to join. He is completing his new-member application now, no others are pending. We have 2 of the 32 remaining members in AP status, both have completed partially the required tasks to become BQ, we have 1 listed in IQ

status.

I have been asked to retain the position as FSO-HR for 2020 with the plan to have an informal assistant (Jason Bishop) as encouraged by the AUXMAN to develop his training in HR

Next year goals are:

- Increased focus on recruiting with a goal of 10 -15% increase in membership.
- Create greater communications to flotilla membership to increase engagement of members and retention
- Challenge the flotilla to do more in the cornerstone of fellowship.

Public Affairs ~ Jesse Adams - FSO-PA

A New Year welcomes new opportunities! As your incoming Public Affairs Officer (PAO) my mission is to increase awareness and visibility of the Auxiliary in our AOR. I hope to accomplish this by leveraging the training, knowledge and expertise of every member of our flotilla.

Alan Main has said many times, HR is **everyone's** responsibility. Public affairs is no different. This is an area in which all members can contribute. Speaking engagements, community events and media coverage are just a few of the ways you can get involved.

As we gear up for our usual activities, we must keep in mind new opportunities and ensure good visibility of all events. If anyone has any ideas, I want to hear them. We will work together to chart a course to success. I look forward to serving our flotilla and Team Coast Guard in the PAO role!

Recreational Boating Safety Program Visitation ~ Randy Lusk – FSO-PV

Secretary/Records ~ Sandra Mackenzie ~ FSO-SR

Hope this new year starts off with a tremendous attendance at our January meeting!

Happy New Year!

Public Education ~ Avard Hart ~ FSO-PE

Publications ~ Keith Burt~ FSO-PB

I hope everyone got a copy

Diversity~ Thiyaga Veerappagound ~ FSO-DV

CALENDAR

09 January, 2020 Flotilla 56 January meeting. Hospitality time at 6:30 pm, meeting at 7:00 pm. Guests are welcome

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