

**March 1, 2014**

Newsletter of Division 8 of the USCG Auxiliary’s 8th Western Rivers District. Division 8’s area of responsibility includes Central Illinois, Northeast Missouri (NEMO), and Southeast Iowa.

On Deck There



***Clinton Lake Marina, Ill. – The skipper of the Catalina 25 sloop Argyle last summer as he grilled brats to perfection for the crew. I have heard reports that this same skipper daydreams about being in the marina continually, talks about being at the marina with anyone who will listen, and it is reported he talks in his sleep while dreaming about being at the marina. Will this horrible winter ever end? Photo by Anna Poundstone.***



# Commander’s Comments

By Jeff Poundstone, DCDR



There is nothing wrong, absolutely nothing wrong with scoring an 88% on an exam.....except if you need a 90% to pass. The Nav Rules 70 exam is a huge hurdle for boat crew members who would like to become certified as an Auxiliary coxswain. It’s a legitimate obstacle that needs to be conquered. Would we want it any other way?

To our future coxswain whose internet went out while he was on his way to passing that beast of an exam, I feel for you. I also know that you won’t quit, that your dogged determination will see you passing in the very near future. Don’t let us down.

Next week is our Auxiliary Leadership and Management C-School in Peoria. We’ve got a full complement of Division 8 members accepted, committed, and raring to go. AUXLAMS Part A will be presented the first weekend and two weeks later we’ll complete Part B.

Our AUXLAMS instructor, Michael Brzezicki, the AUXLAMS branch chief, is flying in from Nashville to conduct the training. Michael is a retired USCG Chief Warrant Officer 4 and holds a PhD degree. Dr. Brzezicki’s duty assignment while on active duty was as a LAMS instructor. There is no doubt that our AUXLAMS C-School will leave us with some very valuable leadership training.

The April division meeting will be held at the Army Corps of Engineers Visitors Center near the approach to Lake Shelbyville. Don Ackerman will be conducting his first Auxiliary TCT briefing and Butch Luhrsen will be presenting the annual operations briefing. We will not be doing the 4 hour TCT at the division meeting this year. Crew members and coxswains need both of these briefings to maintain their certifications. At the conclusion of training, we will be holding a planning session. Those wishing to stay and participate are more than welcome to.

It’s supposed to reach 50 degrees today. Boating season is slowly approaching. With that in mind, I’d like to share some uniform information. To participate in surface operations we all need to purchase an operational dress uniform (ODU). The ODU uniform are worn with black boots with an 8-10” upper. The ODU trousers are then bloused 2-3 inches down on your boots.

The boats that our Auxiliary fleet consists of belong to our members. One of the uniform options we have in the Auxiliary is to remove our black boots and wear a pair of brown boat shoes while serving aboard a member’s operational facility. Our members who have offered their boats for use can stipulate or require their crews to wear non-marking boat shoes instead of boots. None of our boat owners made demands like that.

Several of these privately owned and shared with the Auxiliary vessels had their decks badly marked up last season. I am going to ask that everyone participating in boat operations purchase a pair of brown boat shoes to be worn when on someone else’s boat. Wear your black boots as part of your ODU uniform, have a pair of boat shoes in your gear bag, and wear them when you board.

It’s the right thing to do. Please have some consideration for the very expensive property of others. Get a pair of boat shoes for boating season.

***Division 8 Leadership:***

• Jeff Poundstone, DCDR

 Jeff's email

• Chad Wiehe, VCDR

 Chad's email

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 Jim Konieczki

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Jeff Wilson

SO-SR / CS

Bill Slusser

SO-MA

Bud Grimm

SO-IS

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Chad Wiehe

SO-MT

Patsy Smith

SO-FN

Jeff Poundstone

SO-PA / PB

Shawn Burnley

SO-HR

Thomas Keagle

SO-PE

Things That Slither, Things That Crawl

**Identifying and treating poisonous bites**

**By Chad Wiehe, SO-MT**

**Part 1**

I will focus the first part on spiders. Next month will be on snake bites as it’s a little more complicated.

This subject has recently hit close to home for me, as I am actually writing this while lying in bed recuperating from a bite on my calf from what was probably a Brown Recluse spider. While the bite itself may not be a fatal blow, the complications from the bite(s) are what can pose problems in the case of spider bites. So I am able to share quite a bit of firsthand experience on this subject.

In this case, cellulitis has developed, which if untreated could result in the loss of a limb, or in extreme cases, prove fatal. In this is case, as with most venomous spider bites (Black Widow, Brown Recluse, Fiddler) that's the major concern. Depending on your medical history, age, etc., the speed and severity at which these complications develop will vary.

In our work in and around the water, on boats, or on shore, we are all highly likely to encounter these critters. On boats, down in engine compartments, encountering a Brown Recluse or a Black Widow is fairly likely. An actual bite from one is pretty rare, and in most cases, you won't know you have been bitten.

Depending on the spider, will determine how long it takes before you notice the bite. In the case of the Brown Recluse that bit me, it most likely occurred Friday afternoon while working in a dark, damp basement. Saturday morning, I had a formation on my leg that looked and acted a lot like a boil, but in hindsight, it didn't have the pustule at the center. It was more of a pronounced hole with a red swollen area surrounding it. This was in reality, the venom eating the skin away.

**With a Black widow, it’s a little quicker to manifest.**

According to the National Library of Medicine, the first symptom is pain similar to a pin prick. There may be minor swelling, and redness and a target shaped lesion. The target shape is the tell-tale sign of a spider bite.

Within 15 minutes to 1 hour, if the bite is on the upper body, you will usually begin to feel most of the pain in your chest. If on the lower body, you will begin to feel most of the pain in your abdomen.

The following can also occur: anxiety, difficulty breathing, extremely painful muscle cramps, headache, high blood pressure, increased salivation and sweating, light sensitivity, muscle weakness, nausea/vomiting, numbness, restlessness, and seizures (usually seen in children right before death).

Identifying the spider that bit can help, but most paramedics and ER doctors are already familiar with which types are common in your area. The Brown Recluse resides in a limited area, from the south central US through the Midwest. In the eastern, western, or northern US they are non-existent.

If you suspect a bite has occurred, immobilize the victim and keep the bite lower than the heart to slow the spread of venom. This is counter intuitive from other injuries we deal with.

Clean the area with soap and water (to help with the strep or staph infection that can result).

As dispensing medications in any for reason violates standing policy, I will omit that portion.

If the bite is on an extremity, apply a snug bandage above the wound (not a tourniquet) to slow the spread of venom. An Israeli bandage is a good choice here, or something of that type.

Apply a cold compress to the site of the wound. Use a rag dipped in cold water, or containing ice. This further helps to constrict the flow of the venom.

Keep the patient calm. If possible don't mention certain words to them such as venom, poison or other things that may cause distress. This will increase the heart rate and cause the venom to spread quicker.

Immediate transport to an ER with time of bite is crucial as the longer it takes the more the venom can spread.

*Again a brown recluse bite is slower to manifest, and can often be a day or two before the real pain begins.*

Next month I will cover snake bites, and how to determine the difference between a venomous snake bite and non-venomous.

IRBBA Meeting in Peoria

By Jeff Wilson

Deck Plate Leadership Module Presented by Flotilla 84

By Jeff Poundstone

February 22, the Illinois River Basin Boating Association had their meeting at the Grand Hotel in Peoria. Jim Plunket (9WR Division 37 SO-VE) and I gave a presentation to the board of directors of the association and then to the commodores representing the member boating clubs. Topics covered included the boating safety classes the Auxiliary provides as well as the benefits of free vessel exams. Since I had a captive audience, I also tried fishing for some recruits. Our presentation was well received. Jim and I were thanked multiple times for coming. After we were done with our talk, we excused ourselves to a round of applause so that the association could finish their meeting. After their meeting was complete, I was stopped in the hallway by the activity director for the Pekin Boat Club so that he could schedule a vessel exam day. So all in all, it was a pretty successful day.

As I was serving as point of contact for the Division 8 AUXLAMS C-School, I was contacted by the AUXLAMS branch chief, Michael Brzezicki and asked if one of our flotillas would be interested in evaluating a new leadership module that the AUXLAMS instructors were designing to be presented at the flotilla and division levels. I thought about it for 3-5 seconds and handily agreed to volunteer Flotilla 84 as leadership guinea pigs

This Deck-Plate Leadership Module was presented to Flotilla 84. A broadcast email inviting all members of the division to attend was extended. Jim Konieczki, Jeff Wilson, and Don Ackerman joined the members of the Floating Illini as they drove to Farmer City from Peoria to participate.

We set up our screen and projector and began the training module with a pre-video discussion. “Why is it important to know your personal definition of leadership?” and “What are some of your Leadership definitions?” Our facilitator questioned and prodded the room and we all shared what we thought leadership meant to us. There were also a lot of examples from current work and from past military experiences.

We then were presented with a five minute video of Admiral Papp discussing his leadership philosophy.

After viewing the video, our facilitator went about discussing three further topics. First we discussed “How does setting the bar high achieve mission accomplishment?” Then we were asked what does “Relentlessly pursue perfection and you might achieve excellence” mean to you? The final discussion was “ADM Papp said to trust your people. What are the benefits of this trust?”

The video and questions made for a super 90 minute discussion on leadership. The format allowed everyone in the room to participate from DCAPT-E to our newest member. It was a good day to be in the Auxiliary.

If you will be participating in Operations as Crew or Coxswain this boating season you should consider signing up for a weather spotter training hosted by NOAA/NWS this spring. On any given weekend, we Auxiliarists may find ourselves out on the lakes and rivers on patrol with a clear view of the skies or horizon.

Since part of our “awareness” for conducting patrols is to know if the weather is changing and if it will affect operations. At the same time, we can be helpful to responders and NOAA if we know how and where to properly report threating weather conditions. The NWS conducts spotter training classes to help one to recognize the signs of possible severe weather.

This training not only may server to help with the decision making of responders, but may help Coxswains/Crew evaluate (or re-evaluate) your GAR status and if operations should continue or be terminated. You don’t have to have AUXWEA to take spotter training classes. It’s free and you just have to show up and sign in at the beginning of class. If you can find the time, you may want to attend. Classes will be held in most counties during March and April. The schedule can be found at:

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/ilx/?n=spotter>

Take a look at the schedule and find a date and location that would be convenient for you. You will find the classes very interesting and informative.

Spotter Training for Boat Crew Ops

**By Rich Wynne, FSO-HR**

Awards that Represent Super Performance

#### By Jeff Poundstone



For volunteering 30 hours as an instructor, performing 60 or more vessel examinations, and logging at least 60 hours on an operational facility would earn an Auxiliarist the performance awards shown above. From left to right they are the Instructor, Vessel Examiner, and Operations Performance Awards.

Members from the Peoria and East Peoria flotillas joined with the Floating Illini (Flotilla 84) and served as a test flotilla for a new leadership module being created by the AUXLAMS instructors. These modules are being developed to be delivered at the flotilla level. A short leadership video was shown. Three reference documents were handed out and Tom Keagle then facilitated the discussion. Participants then did a thorough after actions review to send to the course developers. Everyone was in agreement that this “deck-plate leadership series” will be of value to flotillas and divisions across the Auxiliary.

The video used in the module was of Admiral Papp being interviewed and discussing his experiences and leadership topics. The admiral was wearing the tropical blue uniform. Something that stood out was that he was only wearing a single row of three ribbons. Here he was the highest ranking and longest serving officer in the Coast Guard, who could wear rows of ribbons reaching over his shoulder and part way down his back if he chose to, humbly wearing a single row of three while discussing leadership.

Three ribbons. I can’t think of three better ribbons for an Auxiliarist to display on their tropical blue uniform then the performance awards. These three performance awards are, in my opinion, the Triple Crown for an Auxiliarist. At next year’s Change of Watch, I’d love to start another division tradition and include awarding the performance ribbons when we present the Auxiliarist of the Year and the other division awards.

The Operations Performance Ribbon is awarded to an Auxiliarist who volunteers their valuable time on the water while conducting surface operation missions. To earn the Operations Performance Ribbon the Auxiliarist must perform at least 60 hours of surface operations as boat crew, coxswain or personal watercraft operator. A bronze “O” device is affixed to the ribbon.

The second performance award of the Triple Crown would be the Vessel Examiner Performance Award. To earn this ribbon a qualified Auxiliary vessel examiner needs to conduct a total of 60 vessel safety checks. I urge everyone to earn the VE qualification. As an organization, we don’t do enough vessel safety checks. We need to do more. It should be our bread and butter. It is who we are. The Vessel Examination Performance Award ribbon comes with a bronze “V” device which is placed in its center.

The last award in the series would be the Instructor Performance Award. Possessing this ribbon would surely qualify the Auxiliarist sporting it to claim the title of “Master Instructor.” To earn the Instructor Performance Award an Auxiliary instructor would perform at least 30 hours in public education. There is no better way to become an expert boater than to teach boating courses to the public. With the Instructor Performance Award comes a bronze “E” device which is affixed to the ribbon.

Nothing would say louder that you are a hard at work doing Auxiliary business that earning and displaying these three ribbons on your dress uniform. Earning the “O”, the “V” and the “E” takes a huge amount of dedication and activity. What a great way to meet the boating community and introduce them to the Auxiliary and your flotilla than by working on earning the Triple Crown. These missions are also the time proven activities for recruiting new members into the Auxiliary.

There is no better way to learn our business of recreational boating safety than by being out there on the water earning the “O”, performing a valuable service to the recreational boater by examining his vessel and earning the “V”, and lastly teaching our craft to the public while earning the “E”.

*I can’t think of three better ribbons for an Auxiliarist to display on their tropical blue uniform then the performance awards.*

Central Illinois SITREP: The Flotillas Reporting in

By Division 8 Flotilla Commanders

**Flotilla 8-1 (East Peoria)**

Jeff Wilson, FC-81 reports that Flotilla 81 met on February 19th at the East Peoria Coast Guard Station. Chad Wiehe, FSO-HR, received an email from the HR-Robot (the recruiting website) regarding a person interested in the Auxiliary. Jeff Wilson, FC, attended and participated in the flotilla level deck plate leadership training presented by Flotilla 8-4 on February 15th. Chad Wiehe, FSO-MT, presented training on anaphylaxis during the flotilla meeting.

Jeff Wilson, FC-81 worked with James Plunket, who is the SO-VE for Division 37 of the 9th Western River District, which borders us to the north, to present information on the Auxiliary to the Illinois River Basin Boating Association at their meeting on February 22nd. One of the results of the presentation was a request for a Vessel Examination Day at the Pekin Boat Club.

We have the Elmwood All-Outdoor Show on 3/1 and 3/2. We will be staffing a safe boating exhibit. Our next flotilla meeting will be held at the CG Station on 3/19. Several of our members will be attending the Auxiliary Leadership and Management C-School on March 7-9 and 21-23.

**Flotilla 8-3 (Hannibal)**

Jess Dawson, VFC reports in for Hannibal that Klaus Stendebach, FSO-FN, has sent in the flotilla dues to the division. They are concerned about members who have not paid last year’s dues yet. Jessica Dawson, FSO-HR received an email from the national Auxiliary recruiting website (HR-robot) regarding a new potential member. She replied and is waiting to hear from the prospective member.

Douglas Keller (AUXFS) is currently augmenting for the cook aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Scioto in Keokuk. Jess Dawson, VFC has received her orders assigning her to duty to the AUXLAMS C-School in March.

**Flotilla 8-4 (Floating Illini)**

Tom Keagle, FC-84 reported that Flotilla 84 met at Imo’s Diner in Farmer City on Feb 15 and held a flotilla meeting and then a presented a Deck Plate Leadership Module to the members and several guests.

Flotilla 84 has a new goal of 4 new members for 2014. Joshua Wilson is now in AP status.

Thomas Keagle, FC-84 was on his way to passing Nav Rules 70 when he lost internet connection. 9 members attended our experimental AUXLAMS Developed Deck Plate Leadership series. We conducted the training and provided the AUXLAMS Dept. with feedback.

Seven members will be attending the AUXLAMS C-School in March.

**Flotilla 8-5 (Peoria)**

Don Ackerman, FC-85 reports in that Peoria’s regularly scheduled flotilla meeting was canceled due to weather. Mr. Ackerman would also like to announce that Flotilla 85’s newest member Joe Macfarlane has completed all of the Auxiliary mandated training modules.

Don Ackerman, Jim Konieczki, and Joe Macfarlane are attending the AUXLAMS C-School in March at the MSD in East Peoria. Patsy Smith and Wanda Ackerman have stepped up to provide meals for the students on Saturday of Part A.

Don Ackerman presented two 8-hour safe boating courses in February. He also has a course scheduled for March 1. Flotilla 85’s next flotilla meeting is March 20.

**Flotilla 88 (Lincoln Heritage)**

Ethan Brewer, FC-88 reports that Flotilla 88’s regularly scheduled meeting was held by phone conference due to inclement weather; attendance was very good. They had no recruiting opportunities. Chris Ware met with a prospective candidate for the Coast Guard G Academy on Feb. 7 Chris Ware, SLO-IL, will be attending dinner at the Illinois state capital on Feb 24.

Ethan Brewer, FC, attended a Hazardous Materials Awareness (Refresher) on Feb. 1 Chris Ware also attended N-Train in St. Louis, Jan 31-Feb 1. Brandon Helm has been made the training officer for the Neoga Fire Department. They had ice rescue training on Sat, Feb 8. Our March 5 flotilla meeting will be held at the Coles County 911 Center in Mattoon.

Our flotilla will be hosting the April 5 Division meeting at Army Corps of Engineers Visitors’ Center, Lake Shelbyville.

Uncle Sam wants you for the USCG Auxiliary! USCGAUX photo.

Ten Principals of Servant Leadership

#### By Barbara Baggerly-Hinojosa, Ph.D.

2014 Coming Events

March 7-9

Division 8 AUXLAMS C-School. Coast Guard Station, East Peoria.

(AUXLAMS Part A)

March 21-23

Division 8 AUXLAMS C-School. Coast Guard Station, East Peoria.

(AUXLAMS Part B)

April 5

Division Meeting

Army Corps of Engineer Conference Center at Lake Shelbyville. 9:00 a.m.

June 6-8

OPEX 2014 – Clinton Lake Marina. Friday 1800 to Sunday 1400.

Robert Greenleaf defined Servant Leadership with ten principles that generally come naturally to a Servant Leader (1970). The ten principles include: listening, empathy, healing, awareness, persuasion, conceptualization, foresight, stewardship, commitment to growth of people, and building community. The principles are discussed by Greenleaf in no particular order. They all are important and they are all necessary to be effective Servant Leaders.

Greenleaf’s first Servant Leadership principle is listening. He describes listening as the active participation and search for understanding. A good listener is ready with an open mind and tries to understand what is being communicated. A Servant Leader listens to others and is known by others as someone who will give the time to really pay attention and listen.

The second Servant Leadership principle is empathy. Empathy is the ability to put one’s self into another person’s situation. Can we really walk in someone else’s shoes? A Servant Leader realizes that each person is unique and has strengths and weaknesses that they bring to the workplace. There will be times when a leader has to comfort others and must be genuine in his/her concern for others.

Healing is the third principle of Servant Leadership and is considered the most powerful principle. Healing involves fostering the idea that people have the ability to make whole. Servant Leaders understand this principle and its power by realizing that what one says can either build someone else up or tear them down. Servant Leaders understand that their words are powerful and should only be used to help others.

The fourth principle is awareness and Greenleaf states that this principle is a disturber and awakener. Awareness involves being aware of others as well as being aware of oneself. With this idea comes being ready to accept whatever one finds. Many times being aware means that something must be done. The Servant Leader is ready to work toward correctly things that are wrong.

Persuasion is the fifth principle. The servant leader uses persuasion to convince others of what needs to be done, as opposed to being coercive or authoritative. A Servant Leader must use this/her power of persuasion to get others to trust and follow.

The sixth principle is conceptualization. Servant Leaders nurture the ability to be visionary in themselves and others. Servant Leaders see a problem and are able to find short and long term solutions. When there are many things going on in organizations, the Servant Leader is able to keep calm even in the face of many struggles.

Foresight is the seventh principle and describes a leader who is intuitive and can make decisions based on the past, present, and future. Servant Leaders are able to identify current trends and make wise decisions.

The eighth principle is stewardship. A Servant Leader understands that he/she is entrusted to take care of things that do not belong to him/her. Stewardship is about our legacy that remains. Are we able to be trusted enough with things that do not belong to us?

Commitment to the growth of people is the ninth principle of Servant Leadership. Servant Leaders are committed to the personal, professional, and spiritual growth of others. Servant Leaders understand that others should be better off knowing them. Servant Leaders recognize that they are responsible for the growth of those around them.

Finally, the tenth principle is building community. A Servant Leader inspires others to work together towards a common goal. This type of leader builds teamwork within organizations and families. A Servant Leader fosters the idea of teamwork by being the glue that keeps everyone working together.

When all ten of Greenleaf’s principles are in place, more work gets done and organizations, communities, and families prosper.

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##### On Deck There