



THE CUTTER



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AND

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COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

TWIN CITIES METRO SOUTH
FLOTILLA
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Fall 2023

Minneapolis/St. Paul
COMMODORE ROBERT HEINZ
Flotilla Commander

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Editor's Notes:

Football, cocoa, pumpkin bread, colder air and even a pre-Halloween snow all signal that fall has come. Changes. And for me, this newsletter signals the return of myself to more active participation after a time of less participation. With multiple older siblings, four grown children and 10 grandchildren under the age of ten years, I assure that I have been busy and unable to dedicate as much time to the Auxiliary as I had previously. But seasons change and time moves on and I am glad to be able to return to more active participation.

As always, some things appear to remain the same while some seem to be much different.

Flotilla 2 continues to fully participate in a variety of activities from among the many specialties open to us. It has continued to carry out public affairs, program visitor deliveries, effective education programs, and vessel examinations. Members continue to attend meetings, gather for fellowship and obtain many of the qualifications and training available to us. We continue to address the many issues that affect our ("gold-side") regular Coast Guard members in addition to our

Auxiliary responsibilities. Locally, for us, this includes our Twin Cities Division 11, and the wider, District 8, Western Rivers level activities. Our Flotilla membership provides our Division 11 with its current Commander (Mr. Trent Jensen). And in Flotilla 02, we have the steady hands of Commodore Robert (Bob) Heinz as Commander and Mr. Craig Campbell as Vice-Commander. And, now, we have our District Northern area Captain's position well-represented by our own, Mr. Jon Knutson. Congratulations to all these folks and we look forward to their continued leadership in the next year.

As always, change is constant and we can look forward to a year of new things. New uniforms, new activities and new celebrations including holiday dinners, Change of Watches and, of course, the things which are *yet to be revealed*.

As we move forward, let's remain grateful for the greatest country in the world and the privilege of sharing in its well-being and safety. And, let us always remain—

Semper Paratus!

Flotilla 02 Announcements, Recent and Upcoming Training, Meetings Etc.

Annual dues collection has been completed. To date there is only one individual who has not yet responded. Como Heinz has indicated that the proper procedures will be adhered to in the case that this individual does not pay dues.

Elections: October 2023

Elections for positions of Flotilla Commander and Vice Flotilla Commander took place at the October Flotilla meeting. Members unanimously chose Commodore Robert Heinz as Flotilla Commander and Mr. Craig Campbell as Vice Flotilla Commander. Congratulations to both members.

Flotilla Staff Officer Appointments for 2024

Commodore Heinz has submitted the necessary paperwork appointing Flotilla members as Staff Officers including the following:

Flotilla Commander	Robert Heinz
Vice Flotilla Commander	Craig Campbell
Immediate Past Cmdr.	John Barker
Finance	Chuck Woodward
Human Resources	Steven Kavros
Information Services	Craig Campbell
Materials	Abe Kazemzadeh
Marine Safety	Trent Jensen
Member Training	Rick Dunning
Navigation Svcs	Tim Hammond
Operations	Robert Heinz
Public Affairs	Bruce Nauth
Public Education	John Barker
Program Visitation	Ronald Fleetwood
Secretary	John Barker
Vessel Examination	Ron Fleetwood

Best wishes to all newly appointed officers. As members let's strive to give these folks our attention and help.

Awards and Recognition



Above: (L-R), Vice Flotilla Commander Craig Campbell, and Commodore Robert Heinz present Ronald Fleetwood (Center) with recognition. 11/14/2023, Richfield, MN. Photo: Bruce Nauth,

Commodore Heinz and Vice Flotilla Commander Craig Campbell, presented Mr. Ronald Fleetwood with a recognition of excellence for his consistent dedication to providing Program Visitor information to area participants and for his help with Vessel Examinations. Congratulations and Bravo Zulu to Mr. Fleetwood.

Flotilla Annual Holiday Party 14 December 2024

The Flotilla's Annual Holiday Party will take place at the "Four -Fives" VFW club in Richfield on 14 December. Menu selection will be from the club's regular menu offerings. Contact Mr. John Barker for further information. Look for emails to respond to Mr. Barker. Guests are welcomed and encouraged.

Change of Watch 6 January 2024

The annual Change of. Watch will take place on 6 January 2024 at the Double Tree-Hilton located at the intersection of Highway 100 and Interstate 494 (northwest quadrant). More information to follow.

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2024 Flotilla Staff Officer Planning

Commodore Heinz has indicated that there will be a Staff Officer planning time set aside on 18 January 2024. More information will be forthcoming. Commodore Heinz has noted the need to review a five-year plan.

Annual Flotilla Audit Committee

The annual Audit Committee for the Flotilla will meet on 18 January 2024 at the Four-Fives VFW club in Richfield. Reviewers will examine 2023 financial records and procedures.

Minneapolis Boat Show: January 19-21

As usual, January in Minnesota isn't a time one thinks about being on the water. That is, of course, unless you are in the Auxiliary. Thankfully, we have the Minnesota Boat Show to remind us of better times and warmer weather. Join us and spread the important word of boating safety to the public. It's a fun time to share our knowledge and our fellowship. It's an excellent place to recruit possible members and have a fun time meeting other groups. More information to follow in emails.

District Leadership Academy

Members, a multi-day leadership training will take place in December. If you are new to leadership and/or need a refresher, tune-in to all or just a few of these excellent training sessions. Check the District Website for more details.

Title: Leadership Academy
Category: Training
Description: 30 min. DCOS Robert Arisman
30 Min. COMO Stephens
1 hr DIRAUX- CDR Cernovich
1 hr Why We Volunteer Ed Oneill

Date / time: 09.12.2023 @ 13:00 - 16:00

Category: Training

Description: 1 hr Essential FC & VFC responsibilities Robert and Diane Arisman
1 hr Essential DCDR & VCDR responsibilities Michael Brooks

Date / time: 11.12.2023 @ 19:00 - 21:00

Title: Leadership Academy

Category: Training

Description: 2 hrs Legal COMO Lawrence

Date / time: 12.12.2023 @ 19:00 - 21:00

Title: Leadership Academy

Category: Training

Description: 2 hrs Finance COMO Maresh

Date / time: 13.12.2023 @ 19:00 - 21:00

Title: Leadership Academy

Category: Training

Description: 2 hrs IS Doug Eubanks

Date / time: 14.12.2023 @ 19:00 - 21:00

Title: Leadership Academy

Category: Training

Description: 2 hrs Leadership, Followership, and the Leader /Follower Dynamic Eric Watters

Date / time: 15.12.2023 @ 19:00 - 21:00

Title: Leadership Academy

Category: Training

Description: 1 hr Teamwork Alan Dykens
2 hrs Vision, Shared vision, Challenging the process, Culture COMO Brock Stephens

Date / time: 16.12.2023 @ 13:00 - 16:00

Title: Leadership Academy

Coast Guard Core Values

By Jon Knutson, Northern District Captain

Editor's Note: Reprinted from 8th Western Rivers Newsletter:
5_3_Oct_Volume-5_Issue_3_Western-Rivers_Web.pdf

The Coast Guard and its civilian volunteers in the Auxiliary are defined by the core values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty. Before reading more, take a minute and think about what this means to you. It may or may not be the same!

The dictionary defines **honor** as both a noun and a verb.

As a noun, it means adherence to what is right or to a standard of conduct. As a verb, it means to fulfill an obligation.

Honor is "adherence to what is right"

Without honor, there cannot be trust, which is the foundation of everything else. After all, we must trust each other to do what is right, we put our lives in others' hands literally in something as basic as driving together on a mission or ensuring you have a hand on someone leaning over the rail of a boat.

Respect is defined as due regard for the feelings, wishes, rights, or traditions of others. We must treat each other with fairness, honesty, and dignity. Without that, there cannot be **honor**.

Devotion to Duty: Accountability for decisions, actions, and willingness to subject themselves to appropriate scrutiny for this purpose. We should maintain absolute and unstinting devotion towards duties and responsibilities at all times. Without Devotion to Duty, there cannot be **Respect** or **Honor**.

The Cape May Training Center offers this definition.

Honor – Integrity is our standard. We demonstrate uncompromising ethical conduct and moral behavior in all off our personal and organizational actions. We are loyal and accountable to the public trust.

Respect – We value our diverse workforce. We treat each other and those we serve with fairness, dignity, respect, and compassion. We encourage creativity through empowerment. We work as a team.

Devotion to Duty – We are professionals, military and civilian, who seek responsibility, accept accountability, and are committed to the successful achievement of our organizational goals. We exist to serve. We serve with pride.

Note just some of the key words you see: standard, uncompromising, ethical, moral, diverse, fairness, dignity, respect, compassion, accountability. Are you applying these standards to your everyday life, to your Coast Guard Auxiliary organization, to your Auxiliary shipmates? Are you holding your shipmates to the same standards?

When you took the new member oath you agreed to:

"Solemnly and sincerely pledge yourself to support the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary and its purposes, to abide by the governing policies established by the Commandant, of the United States Coast Guard."

We may be volunteers, but we owe it to ourselves, our shipmates, and the entire Team Coast Guard to live to these high standards.

COAST GUARD CORE VALUES

Coast Guard Releases Summary of 2022 Recreational Boating Statistics

WASHINGTON — During the National Boating Safety Advisory Committee meeting on May 11, 2023 (NBSAC), the U.S. Coast Guard released a summary of statistics on calendar year 2022 recreational boating incidents, revealing that there were 636 boating fatalities nationwide in 2022, a 3.3 percent decrease from the 658 deaths in 2021.

From 2021 to 2022, the total number of accidents decreased 9 percent (4,439 to 4,040), and the number

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of non-fatal injured victims decreased 15.9 percent (2,641 to 2,222).

Alcohol continued to be the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents in 2022, accounting for 88 deaths, or 16 percent of total fatalities.

The data also shows that in 2022:

- The fatality rate was 5.4 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. This rate represents a 1.8 percent decrease from last year's fatality rate of 5.5 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. (In 1971, when the Safe Boating Act was first passed, the fatality rate was 20.6 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.)
- Property damage totaled \$63 million.
- Operator inattention, operator inexperience, improper lookout, excessive speed, and machinery failure ranked as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents.

Where the cause of death was known, 75 percent of fatal boating incident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 85 percent were not wearing a life jacket.

"Most incidents occur in benign conditions—calm waters, light wind, and good visibility—under which you may least expect to end up in the water, which is why it is critical to wear a life jacket and engine cut-off switch at all times as they are designed to save your life," stated Captain Troy Glendye, Chief of the Coast Guard's Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety. The Coast Guard reminds boaters to ensure life jackets are serviceable, properly sized, correctly fastened, and suitable for your activity.

Where boating instruction was known, 74 percent of deaths occurred on vessels where the operator had not received boating safety instruction. The Coast Guard encourages all boaters take a boating safety course that meets the National Boating Education Standards before they go boating.

The most common vessel types involved in reported incidents were open motorboats, personal watercraft, and cabin motorboats. Where vessel type was known, the vessel types with the highest percentage of deaths were open motorboats (47 percent), kayaks (14 percent), and personal watercraft and pontoons (9 percent).

The data is based on incidents that resulted in at least one of the following criteria: death, disappearance, injury that required medical treatment beyond first aid, damages to the vessel(s) or other property that equaled or exceeded \$2,000, or a loss of vessel.

In addition to wearing a life jacket and taking a boating safety course, the Coast Guard recommends all boaters to attach the engine cut-off switch, get a free vessel safety check, and boat sober.

"We thank our partners in boating safety who have all made it their mission to prevent incidents through educational outreach and enforcement," said Glendye.

The full 2022 Recreational Boating Statistics report should be available to the public on 1 June 2023 at <http://www.uscgboating.org>. The report will be accessible under the "Statistics" menu selection and the "Accident Statistics" submenu selection.

Remember!

**Wear A Life Jacket
Don't Drink
Get An Engine Cut-Off Switch
Take A Boating/Safety Course**

Updating Personal Information on Aux Data

The "Everbridge" system of alerts for disasters and communication with all Auxiliarists in District 8 has been used previously. Every auxiliarist in the District received an email communication to which they were asked to respond. This system of great value in reaching all Auxiliarists in the need for any type of emergency.

We all can remember the suddenness of "9/11". Like that, we never know when we will be called upon to respond to emergencies. **Please, update your contact information**, (i.e., telephone number(s), address, email addresses and other pertinent

personal information). into AUXDATA II. If you need assistance, contact your flotilla's IS officer for help.

U.S. COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY

<https://www.military.com/coast-guard-birthday>



Coast Guard ship "Eagle" surrounded by Coast Guard patrol boats and helicopters. Photo: U.S. Coast Guard.

Each August 4 the U.S. Coast Guard celebrates its birthday. This year is its 233rd year.

The Coast Guard is one of America's five armed forces and traces its founding to Aug. 4, 1790, when the first Congress authorized the construction of 10 vessels to enforce tariff and trade laws, prevent smuggling, and protect the collection of federal revenue. Responsibilities added over the years included humanitarian duties such as aiding mariners in distress.

The service received its present name in 1915 when the Revenue Cutter Service merged with the U.S. Life-Saving Service to form a single maritime service dedicated to the safety of life at sea and enforcing the nation's maritime laws.

The Coast Guard is a multi-mission, maritime, military service and the smallest of the five-Armed Services. Its mission is to protect the public, the environment and U.S. economic interests in the nation's waterways, along the coast, on international waters, or in any maritime region as required to support national security.

U. S. Air Force Birthday

<https://www.military.com/air-force-birthday>



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Keith James/Released

Photo: B-1 Bomber: Photo courtesy of Keith James, U.S. Air Force.

The U.S. Air Force was officially founded on 18 September 1947, and in the decades since it has established itself as an air force second-to-none.

Yet the Air Force's history and heritage goes back the turn of the twentieth century.

Between 1909 -- when that the US military purchased its first aircraft -- and 1947, the U.S. Air Force did not exist as a separate and independent military service organization. It went through a series of designations: Aeronautical Section, Signal Corps (1909); Aviation Section, Signal Corps (1914); United States Army Air Service (1918); United States Army Air Corps (1926), and United States Army Air Forces (1941).

WWII illustrated the value of airpower, and the need to change the basic organization of the US Military Forces. The result was the creation of a single Department of Defense with a strong Joint Chiefs of Staff with Army, Navy, and Air Force chiefs. In 1947 President Truman signed the National Security Act which established this new defense organization, and along with it the creation of the US Air Force as an independent service, equal to the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy. The official Air Force birthday is Sept. 18, 1947.

Veteran's Day: November 11th

Veterans Day honors all military personnel in the U.S. that have served. It also marked the end of World War I. Thank you to all who have answered the call to protect the United States in war or peace.

November

07 November	Election Day
10 November	U.S. Marine Corps Birthday
11 November	Veterans Day
16 November	Flotilla 02 Meeting 0700; 4'5's VFW
23 November	Thanksgiving Day

December

07 December	Pearl Harbor Day
09 December	Division 11 Meeting 1900 hrs.
12 – 16 December	District Leadership Training
14 December	Flotilla 02 Holiday Party
21 December	Winter Begins
25 December	Christmas Day

January 2024

01 January	New Year's Day
06 January	Change of Watch
15 January	Martin Luther King Day
18 January	F02 Audit Mtg
18 January	Flotilla Staff Mtg.
18 - 21 January	Mpls. Boat Show

The Cutter is a quarterly publication of the South Twin Cities Metro, Flotilla 08-02-11, of the 8th Western Rivers Region of the 8th Coast Guard District—U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Please send all articles, comments and/or suggestions to: Dr. Bruce M. Nauth at bruce.nauth@gmail.com