

# RIVER CURRENTS



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 9CR 18-5 Newsletter, Volume III, Issue 1

Spring 2016

## From The Bridge

Congratulations to everyone in Flotilla 18-05 for being awarded the Meritorious Service Ribbon for District 9 Central under the leadership of IPFC Steve Grosinske. This was an unexpected surprise and the recognition it gave to the Flotilla was appreciated. This award is given annually to one flotilla in each district. The winning flotilla is subjectively judged by the DCO (District Commodore) and Director (Director of the Auxiliary) to have made the most significant contributions to the Auxiliary program that year. Auxiliarists are eligible to wear the award's ribbon and receive the award's certificate.



This past season kept us busy with the Detroit Boat Show. Helping Division 20 with their hunting and fishing shows in Novi. The Public Affairs Booth for "Finest Hours" box office release at the Imagine Theatre in Royal Oak promoted the Auxiliary well. The Spring Conference is behind us and many members went there for training and fellowship. A Boating Skills and Seamanship class was conducted right here at the Livonia senior center. Additionally, several newspapers published articles about our Flotilla and Boating Safety week. Thanks to all for attending the May meeting with your life jackets.

One important task is to have 100% completion of mandated training early in this season. Without completion, no orders will be given. Please contact your Member Training Staff Officer for assistance.

Now that spring is here, it is time to put all that training we have taken to good use in helping the Coast Guard complete their missions. Each of us plays an important role in assisting the U.S. Coast Guard at Station Belle Isle and Sector Detroit. All of our contributions dealing with the public and boating safety not only save lives but allows the Gold side to have more time for their mission critical and Law Enforcement activities. We conduct safety patrols, SAR (Search and Rescue), watch stand, teach boating safety, conduct vessel examinations, promote public awareness, patrol the air and relieve the gold side from guard duty and watch standing so they can conduct their Homeland Security operations.

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# From The Bridge (continued)

The Auxiliary Service priorities include:

- Promoting and Improving Recreational Boating Safety
- Providing trained crews and facilities to augment the Coast Guard and enhance safety and security of our ports, waterways and coastal regions
- Supporting Coast Guard operational, administrative and logistical requirements

Several new members have joined the Flotilla this year or are in the process. Be sure to do whatever you can to welcome them and assist with the challenging task of purchasing and proper wearing of the uniform. Help them fit in by explaining procedures and the acronyms that we frequently use.

My special thanks to all of the members who have accepted Flotilla Staff Officers positions here in 18-05.

Bob Bloom  
Flotilla Commander



**DETROIT, MI. — Auxiliaries Mitch Swoboda 18-11, Stephen Fletcher 18-07, Dan Getts 18-05, Connie Mays 18-05, David Booth 18-10 and Coastie at the 2016 Detroit Boat Show.**



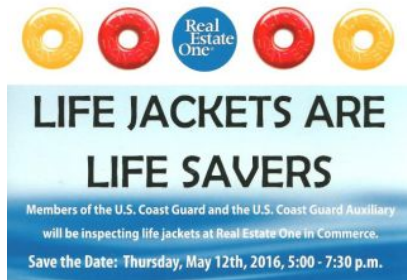
# National Safe Boating Week: May 21-27

## *Life Jackets Save Lives*



**COMMERCE, MI. — Auxiliarists Dan Getts 18-05, Dennis Nicole 18-05, Mary Nicole 18-05, Tony Malia 18-05, Jay Combs 20-18, Dave Pederson 20-18, Meagan Hanna 18-05, and Bill McDonald 20-18.**

Photos courtesy of Mary Nicole.



On May 12, 2016, members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary held a public service event at the Real Estate One office in Commerce Michigan. This event was held in preparation for National Safe Boating week and to kick off the start of the boating season in Michigan. During this event, the public was invited to participate in a free life jacket inspection by members of the Auxiliary. The event provided an opportunity for Auxiliary members to interact with recreational boaters in the community to promote boating safety.

Many thanks to Mary Nicole and John Burdick for organizing the event. A special thanks also goes out to the Real Estate One team for promoting and hosting the event in their Commerce office.





**LIVONIA, MI. — Members of U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary 18-05 kick off National Safe Boating Week. Front row: Meagan Hanna, Abdulhamid Chebab, Kim Alger, Jerome Helton. Middle row: Bud Nusley, John Burdick, Connie Mays, Denise Nicole, Mary Nicole, Amy McGarrah, Joan Nusley, Tony Mallia. Back row: Ken Miller, James Jackson, Dave Chrisco, Stephen Collins, Jack Broadhurst, Bob Bloom, Steve Grosinske, Stephen Moore, Dan Getts.**

## Did You Know?

- June 23, 1939—Congressional legislation establishes the Coast Guard Reserve as a volunteer civilian organization for the purpose of promoting recreational boating safety and to facilitate the operations of the Coast Guard.
- February 19, 1941—Congressional legislation changes the name of the reserve to the Auxiliary and in addition, creates a military Coast Guard Reserve under which enrollees are subject to military law and the Articles of War.

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*We would love to hear your feedback and comments about this newsletter. As well, we welcome your articles, photos, and ideas to consider for this publication.*

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