



VESSEL EXAMS SAVE LIVES!



OUR 1ST ON THE WATER ACTIVITY OF THE SEASON

We started our Vessel Exams schedule for the 2013 season. We are ready, are you? If you are an Examiner come out and do the boaters a favor – make them safer on the water. Not an Examiner? Come see what the program is all about, shadow an Examiner, you might like it. While you're there you can also help with the scheduling and hand out safety literature. If you don't know where any of the Marinas are contact our FSO-VE for directions.

We do enjoy what we do at the VE days, mixing with the public and boaters. It is a good feeling knowing they need our help and knowledge to be safer on the water. The schedule follows.

2013 Bliz dates: - Start time 1000 each event
Finish about 5pm or when done.

Markley Marine 01 June

Belle Maer 08 June. Selfridge DNR ramp 22 June.

Study and pass the VE test now and be ready to get signed off at one of these events. You can come for the whole day or when you can, to help cover the scheduled time. If possible, let the FSO-VE know when you plan on coming. Tony Dzbanski,



This is what the decals looked like when I was an Examiner years ago, quite large. The exams were called Courtesy Motorboat Exams.

SYMPOSIUM – GREAT SUCCESS

Lynn Heasel, Ed

Our Symposium went through a few changes before all the activities and classed began, but it all worked out just fine. The training was excellent. I took two classes, HR paperwork and WEBX. Both were well presented and I learned a lot. I heard nothing but praise from everyone. There was a great variety of subjects presented, something for everyone.

The Friday lunch was very tasty and quite a few awards were presented. I was honored to receive a Commandant's Auxiliary Commandant Achievement Metal for my work at the Sector OTO office this past summer when I was the only one in the office for 5 months.

The Friday evening event was fun and gave us all a chance to visit with long time friends and meet and make new ones. It is interesting to learn how our missions are carried out in different climates. Our northern friends have some very different challenges than we.

Saturday, after classes we had our more formal evening with some additional awards passed out to our deserving members. ADM Parks spoke of the Aux and C.G's. future with the strain on the budget. This was his last Conference; he is retiring, and will be missed.

Those of you who couldn't attend this Symposium close to home really missed a chance for some training that isn't usually readily available. These events allow more variety in our training than our local Divisions can present. They draw training talent from the entire 9CR and further, thus allowing for more varied subject matter presentations.

Table of Contents

Cover: VE, Symposium

1. Board and Staff, RBS Insignia, PE 2. Upcoming events, VE, 3. Leadership. 4. Leadership, SOS, editor.

[Type text]

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Flotilla 20-19 meets the 1st Thursday of each month, 1930 hrs, at the VFW Bruce Post, Jefferson Ave - north of 11 Mile, St Clair Shores.

Division 20, 2013

Commander, Norm Raymond
 Vice Commander Skip Gladstone
 Division meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month, location SANB, CG Air Sta. Detroit

**AUXILIARY RECREATIONAL
 BOATING SAFETY INSIGNIA**



Tony Dzbanski, FSO-VE

I came across the Auxiliary RBS Insignia getting ready for the upcoming VE season. The cool thing about this award that it includes VE, PA, PE & MDV activities, either just one category or a mix to earn this award so this means it is open to more members instead of just VE's. If this interests you check the AUX Manual & see if you qualify or what you need to qualify. You can contact Mike Blake, FSO-IS to see how you stand for earning this award. Any questions don't hesitate to e-mail me.

**SPRING BOATING COURSE
 ANOTHER SUCCESS.**

Mitchell T. Kamlay FSO- PE 20-19

Flotilla 20-19 completed its winter 2013 Boating Skills and Seamanship course in March. The students were outstanding in the level of their enthusiasm and participation. Fifteen students graduated. One class member is joining our flotilla. The course was team taught by Richard Dichtel, Carl Hikade, Thomas Fisher, Robert Burrell, Tony Dzbanski and Mitchell Kamlay. Flotilla 20-19 expresses its gratitude to the courteous staff at the Clinton Macomb Public for providing our perfect venue every Tuesday evening.



Tony demonstrates knots to two of the students



FIREWORKS ALONG THE WATER

New Baltimore, Anchor Bay – June 20th.
 Marysville, St Clair River – June 21st.
 Mt. Clemens, Clinton River Downtown – June 28th
 Lake St. Clair, Metro Park – July 1st.
 Belle Maer & MacRay, Anchor Bay – July 4th
 St. Clair, St. Clair River – July 4th.
 Algonac, St. Clair River – July 5th.

Events & Fireworks supplied by Skip Gladstone,
 Division Vice Commander

UPCOMING MARINE EVENETS

Jobbie Nooner, Gull Island, Friday, June 28
 Detroit Gold Cup Races, Detroit River –
 July 12th, 13th, & 14th.
 Port Huron to Mackinaw Race – Saturday,
 July 20th & Festival of Lights (evening hours).
 St. Clair River Classic Offshore Race –
 July 26th, 27th, & 28th.
 Aqua Palooza, Belle Maer Marina – Saturday,
 July 27th & 28th.
 Raft Off, Muscomoot Bay – Saturday, August 10th.
 Jobbie Nooner 2, Saturday, September 7th.
 Help may be needed.

Human Brain not yet Obsolete

I have a spell checker,
 It came with my PC
 It plainly marks four my review
 Mistakes I cannot sea
 I've run this poem threw it,
 I'm saure you please to no,
 Its letter perfect in it's weigh,
 My checker tolled me sew.

From "The UpBound Channel" newsletter of
 Flotilla 17-05, 9CR in 1993. Thought you
 might enjoy it.

VE DAY IN REVIEW

By: Lynn Heasel

I arrived about 0900 and the table was set up and ready for the boaters. We noticed there were not a lot of boats in the wells; I saw a lot still in their plastic wrap. I wondered if the fear of low water or the economy was to blame. We were there only about 15 min when a boater came for an exam. We were off! Soon another arrived with the same request.

As the day progressed more arrived and wanted an exam. The Examiners were kept busy.

They finished the day with 34 completed exams done by 6 VEs: Tony Dezbanski, Tom Fisher, Mitch Kamlay (recerting) Richard Dichtel, Sharon Gayeski and John Schott. One of our perspective members, John Lawrence, came to observe. The weather was great and most of the boats passed. What could be better?

Our next Safety Check Blitz is June 1 at Markley Marina which is usually very busy. If you are an Examiner this is a good day to get your required exams done and then some. If you think you may want to become one or want to just help as needed, come experience what they are all about.



Mitch affixes a decal to a just inspected boat. Pix by Tom Fisher.

**Let's Make
2013 the Best
we've Seen.**

Check out our flotilla web site

<http://dev02.cgaux.org/generic/index.php?flo=091-20-19>

Part II

LEADERSHIP IS ACTION

By Tony Dzbanski, FSO,VE

The actions a person takes are a reflection of that person's character. This essential and self-defining principle is what separates leaders from those *wanting* to lead. A leader's perception on what needs to be completed cumulates with his or her actual and responsive actions. Further, action is the hardest thing a leader can fake—a leader will either lead through action, or fruitlessly attempt to lead from behind. But, also, a leader must learn when *not* to act, and how to encourage his followers to perform successfully.

Before any leader can motivate others, he or she must lead them by example. The best and most effective way to employ this strategy is accomplished when leaders are *seen* in motion. This reality (that is, opening yourself so that your subordinates can see you lead) will, by its own nature, force the leader to work alongside his or her followers on some matters. Certainly the leader's time and energies may be genuinely committed to engagements impacting his or her followers that those followers are unaware of. However, it is implausible that those followers will likely bestow the benefit of doubt onto their leader if that leader has not previously made efforts to lead with them directly. To many of those followers, it is easy to believe that when the leader is out of sight, then they are out of his or her mind. Resentment can breed, and divisiveness can linger between the leaders and those that ought to be led. Directives are negligently fulfilled (if not first ignored), and any initiative that might have been grasped upon is likely lost. All this happens simply because the leader failed to connect with his or her followers.

Action is more than charging forward or cutting through red tape. It is not simply the typical thoughts of physical progression. Action is in the details, where your followers work. It is in planning and brainstorming. It is in constructive conversation and new ideas. As seen in *Leadership is Listening*, it is in listening to your followers. Anything that advances your organization or unit, no matter how miniscule, is a form of action. Does not the cook tasked with feeding others *act* when preparing meals? Does not the engineer tasked with ensuring the safety of people he'll never meet *act* in drafting those plans? Does not the street sweeper tasked with maintaining the cleanliness of a city *act* when he brushes away trash? Does not the secretary tasked with typing and manning the phones *act* when she does so? All these people advance underlying goals of an organization through their individual actions. And so too, must the leader be *seen* acting by his followers, or soon they will come to believe all the action is done by them alone.

While leaders should make great efforts to lead by example, they should not act *simply to act*. One of the more difficult responsibilities attached to leading is knowing when *not* to act. Ask any follower this question and you will universally get the same answer: Has there ever been a time when your leader committed more harm through *action* than would have been committed through *inaction*? That this answer will always be "yes" shows a great trouble coupled with the duty of leadership: the leader never has the advantage of hindsight when making decisions. While it will forever remain impossible to lead without making mistakes, the number of mistakes actually made can be dramatically reduced if all leaders applied some fundamental practices. As aforementioned, when leading by example through action alongside your followers, your followers have the ability to share their concerns with you. Many of these concerns, if left unchecked, may lead to the added number of mistakes that could otherwise have been avoided. If the leader properly employs the listening techniques discussed in *Leadership is Listening*, his followers will swarm to him or her with further matters that can be evaded and prevented. In those circumstances, the followers do not fear retribution, anger, or demotion, and they see their leader as standing in front

In many realms of life and interactions with others, it can be rather easy to present a false image of oneself. A person may look or act one way to somebody, and then look or act entirely different to someone else. It is not hard to temporarily appear smart, dress nicely, act serious, or chant a slogan. cont pg 4

LEADERSHIP, Cont

But to *truly* be smart, nicely dressed, serious, and one who believes in a slogan, an extra level of energy and persistency is required. So, too, must a leader persevere in maintaining his or her leadership qualities. Action is perhaps the best way to sustain that behavior, for it *cannot* be faked. Just as a person cannot pretend to be a good singer (you either are or you are not), a person cannot pretend to act—you either commit to action or you do not; there is no middle ground. While a person may be acting under false pretenses (that is, perhaps in an attempt to get promoted or show followers that he or she can act), we do not care about his or her intentions if good comes from them. What do intentions matter if success is achieved? Whether a person acts in hopes of making more money or out of the kindness of their heart is of no consequence to the organization so long as those intentions do not interfere with underlying goals. Intentions are something to be dealt with between the person and his or her conscience—the organization does not care, so long as good comes from them.

The difficulty found in leadership is that it requires people to think beyond themselves and about many angles. But it also requires trust. Trust in yourself, trust in your organization, and trust in your people to confront challenges. This ability to trust and let go of the reins from time-to-time does not mean you lose control of your unit. Rather, avoiding micromanagement tells your followers that you believe in them and have great expectations of them. Expect great things from y them, and you will see them accomplish every expectation. Leading is not easy, and good leaders are sporadically found. Just as a child's birth will not guarantee a couple's ability to be good parents, a group of followers does not guarantee a person will be a good leader. Leaders instead must take the initiative to act *for* their followers, on *behalf* of their followers, and *with* their followers.

DID YOU KNOW THE MEANING OF SOS AS DISTRESS CALL?

The Marconi Yearbook of Wireless Telegraphy and Telephony, 1918 states, "This signal [SOS] was adopted simply on account of its easy radiation and its unmistakable character. There is no special signification in the letter themselves, and it is entirely incorrect to put full stops between them [the letters]." All the popular interpretations of "SOS," "Save Our Ship," "Save Our Souls," or "Send Out Succour" are simply not valid. Stations hearing this distress call were to immediately cease handling traffic until the emergency was over and were likewise bound to answer the distress signal. The letters **SOS** spelled out in Morse Code (•••—•••).

EDITOR'S COLLUM

THE LOOKOUT is published for you, the members. I try to put interesting information in it for you, but I need your help. Any articles dedicated to our missions, or of general interest to our members are welcomed and needed. Pictures help too. If possible, identify the subjects in the pix and where it was taken. We cannot print anything that is copywrited without written permission from the author.

The next deadline is the July 2013 meeting.

Anyone can submit an article, picture or information of interest.



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