



# SCUTTLEBUTT

Official Publication of

Flotilla 35-12 Chicago of the Ninth District (Western Region)



## Homeland Security

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
**United States Coast Guard Auxiliary**



Visit us on the web at: <http://a0953512.uscgaux.info/>

**FLOTILLA COMMANDER  
(FC) Rhett Skubis**

**FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER  
(VFC) Chris Hillas**

**February, 2013**

### Commander's News:

Looking back to the early days of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary can provide both illumination into our collective past and inspiration to guide our shared future.

Chartered by Act of Congress in 1939 (originally as the Coast Guard Reserve), the Auxiliary came into being as the shadow of world war loomed over the Atlantic and Pacific alike. Unlike the Germans and Japanese, who had been stockpiling arms and producing warships for almost a decade, the U.S. maritime forces were stretched to the breaking point after Pearl Harbor. All of the resources of the Navy and the Coast Guard were mobilized to protect transatlantic shipping lanes to our European Allies, leaving almost no operational assets to guard the vast East Coast of America from the threat of German U-boats (submarines). U-boat skippers roamed at will, lying in wait in shallow waters to sink unprotected shipping. The crucial middle years of the war – 1942 and 1943 – looked bleak.

Brave volunteers of the Auxiliary stepped forth in this time of travail, putting their own small boats on the water, and their very lives on the line, to form the last line of defense for our coast. Thanks to their efforts, U-boats were spotted and sunk (with Navy blimps dropping explosives), crews of stricken ships were pulled from the water, and sabotage missions of German infiltrators were thwarted. A contingent of small-boat sailors even volunteered to travel to the South Pacific, to help General MacArthur's campaign to retake the islands from Australia to the Philippines.

Today, we are fortunate not to face such a grave and tangible threat to our liberty as a conquering, despotic empire bent on world domination. However, the need for volunteers to bolster the resources of the Coast Guard and promote the vital missions of recreational boating safety and maritime security remains urgent. In a time of economic anxiety and budget uncertainty, the Auxiliary will be asked to pull an increasing load.

Willingness to serve, along with a commitment to continuous personal development and training, sets apart the men and women of the Auxiliary as we face the challenges of the 21st Century. Let's make good use of these miserable Chicago winter months to learn new skills, polish old proficiencies, and educate the public.

*Semper Paratus.*

**Rhett Skubis**

FC 35-12 Chicago

### Member Training

Saturday training has resumed at Mead Westvaco Warehouse Training Room, 1450 East 98th Street, Chicago. Classes usually begin at 1000, with refreshments available about an hour before the class and a buffet lunch available following.

Some of the coming topics will meet at the Coast Guard Station for more space. We are coordinating training with the "gold side" to share opportunities. These will start at 0900, to maximize training time available.

When Boat Crew Program topics are presented in the morning, Coxswain topics will be presented following the lunch. Mentors are encouraged to attend both sessions!

*Submitted by Mike Scott*

### 35-12 first meeting of 2013

On 15 January, 2013 Flotilla 35-12 conducted the first meeting of 2013. During the meeting FC Rhett Skubis and VFC Chris Hillas presented a smooth and information packed meeting. New members of the flotilla were introduced formerly to veteran members, and FSO vacancies were presented. Following the conclusion of the meeting, Members retired to a nearby restaurant for fellowship.

### Sailing Skills, Seamanship, and CPR classes Filling Up

When the information was posted on the National PE site, we began getting registrations from Sea Scouts and other Auxiliarists. We are looking forward to a good class with varied backgrounds to increase our diversity.

Frank Rojas a new member to 35-12, a Paramedic with the City of Chicago will be conducting a CPR and First Aid class to reserivist on 16 February, 2013 For more information on classes contact Frank @ rojasauxiliary@gmail.com

## Remembering WLB 391



January 28th marks the 33rd anniversary of the sinking of The USCGC Blackthorn (WLB-391). The Blackthorn was a 180-foot sea going buoy tender (WLB) which sank in 1980 in a tragic collision near the Sunshine Skyway Bridge of Tampa Bay, resulting in 23 crew member fatalities.

Rest in peace Shipmates

Reprinted from The Chief, January 2013

## Station Calumet Harbor New Security Gate!



The station has completed installation of a new security system. The gate box now works for entry to the station. Please press the "blue" button and your call will be directed to the watchstander.

Reminder: Everyone is "**Required**" to sign in at the station.

-Maryellen Begley

## Mike Scott receiving an Award at the Station Calumet Harbor Christmas Party in December of 2012



Mike Scott 35-12 receiving a plaque of appreciation from FS1 Kevin Johnson Station Calumet Harbor for all of his support to the Station this past year. During out Flotilla Change of Watch Mike Scott received over 5 Awards in recognition for his service to the U.S.C.G Auxiliary during the 2012 year.

**New AUXLMS system.** This new system will be the vehicle to take higher level Gold and Silver side training available to Auxiliaries. (This includes the new online ICS-210 course and all of the new future mandatory training programs.)

Our past mandatory training (Sexual Harassment, Ethics, Information Privacy, etc.) will be administered through this online site, so all members will need to register on the site at some point. **PLEASE NOTE:** All members will be required to have a valid email address to use this site.

In order to register on the site:

- 1) Navigate to: <https://auxlearning.uscg.mil/>
- 2) Click on the "forgot password" link.
- 3) Type in the email address you have on file in the AUX Directory(<https://auxofficer.cgaux.org/>) as the "User Name" and click the "Submit" button.
- 4) You will receive an email at the address you entered with your password.

5) Log in to the AUXLMS site with your email address and password. You will be prompted to change your password at this first login.

6) Stay tuned for future direction on how the new mandatory training program will work

-Gary Markle, FSO-IS, HR

## *Shipmates of the Month*

For their work, dedication, and overall drive serving on the COW committee, Shipmates of the Month are Nevin Hofing and Ed Fahrner.

### "HELP WANTED" - CGAUX NATIONAL STAFF VACANCIES

To view a complete listing of all posted national staff vacancies, please visit:

<http://cgaux.org/members/wantads/index.php>

### CROSSING THE BAR: COMMODORE DONALD L. FRASCH



Commodore Donald L. Frasch, 73, of Hudson, Fla. passed away on January 13, 2013.

Frasch served as deputy national commodore, recreational boating safety and Atlantic area east from 2010-2012. He previously served as district commodore in the Seventh Coast Guard District Auxiliary from

2009-10, district vice commodore from 2007-08, and as division captain, Division Eleven from 2005-06.

Commodore Frasch received advanced education from Youngstown State University in Youngstown, Ohio and majored in applied mathematics with a minor in electrical engineering. Frasch's education focused on the mathematical modeling and computer simulation of physical processes.

Frasch joined the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary in May of 1985 in District Nine, Eastern Region. While in Rochester, N.Y., Frasch served as flotilla vice commander, Flotilla 42, flotilla commander, division vice captain and division captain of division four. Frasch then served three successive district commodores as coordinator, special projects and as the district awards chairman. Upon retirement in 2000, the family relocated to Hudson, Fla. where Frasch again resumed service to the Auxiliary. Frasch achieved qualifications as coxswain, vessel examiner, instructor and uninspected passenger vessel examiner.

Frasch retired from Digital Equipment Corporation in 2000 holding various sales and sales management positions focusing on high technology Original Equipment Manufacturers, and Simulation and Simulator Systems for Industry and Government. Prior to Digital Equipment Corporation, Frasch held positions as an electronics engineer designing hybrid computer systems for simulation and as project manager for the design and development of computerized color matching systems for the paint, plastics and textile industries.

Frasch served in the U. S. Army National Guard in New York as a non-commissioned officer and reached the rank of chief warrant officer, CWO-2. Personal awards include the Auxiliary Meritorious Service (2 Awards), Auxiliary Commendation Medal, Auxiliary Achievement Award, Auxiliary Commandant's Letter of Commendation, and the Auxiliary Sustained Service (11) Awards.

Frasch is survived by his wife Sandra, three children Claudine, Allison, and Andre, eight grandchildren and a brother William Frasch.

Dept. of Homeland Security U.S. COAST GUARD CG-3615 (Rev. 10-09)		AUXILIARY – RECORD OF UNIT MEETING			
PAGE 1 OF 2					
UNIT NO.		UNIT NAME (As recorded in AUXMIS)			Members Present BQ + AX
Ø95W3512ØØØ		TWELVE CHICAGO			11    4
DATE	MEETING TIME	MEETING LOCATION		TYPE OF MEETING (X)	
15 Jan 2013	1900	Moody Bible Institute, Sweeting Center 860 N LaSalle Street Chicago, Illinois		REGULAR X	SPECIAL
UNIT OFFICERS PRESENT (List office abbr. and last name only) FC Skubis, VFC Hillas, IPFC Begley, FSO-FN Hendele, FSO-PA/MA Hofing, FSO-HR/IS Markle, FSO-SR Spohr, FSO-PB Rojas, FSO-VE Markle.					
GUESTS PRESENT: Jade Crittenden, Gina Crittenden, Raymond Blanchard					
<b>CONDENSED VERSION OF REPORTS AND MOTIONS VOTED ON:</b>					
FC Skubis called the meeting to order at 1900, Chris Hillas led the Flotilla in the Pledge of Allegiance.					
<b><u>Communications to the Membership:</u></b>					
-If there are any interpreters among the membership that are willing to serve please contact the FC					
-Circulation of the Navigator- hand them out and place them in various locations					
-The is a big emphasis being placed on the mentor program					
-Float Coats/PPE audit.					
<b><u>Division 35 Meeting Summary:</u></b>					
FC Skubis and IPFC Begley provided summary of Division 35 meeting, including reports of division staff officers. Specific discussion surrounding Division geographic. 9 <sup>th</sup> District symposium will take place in Dearborn, MI on 7 April 2013.					
<b><u>Staff Officer Reports:</u></b>					
FSO-SR Spohr: November meeting minutes have been distributed to the membership.					
FSO-FN Hendele: All Bills have been paid and flotilla is in good financial health. Audit for 2012 in progress.					
FSO-IS Markle: No report					
FSO-HR Markle: Interest from 1-12 individuals and will be connecting with them to get information. Training reports to be distributed to all members. Any outstanding transfers have been processed.					
FSO-PB Rojas: No Report					
FSO-VE Markle: Will be compiling list of 35-12 Vessel Examiners. Goal of performing 3 Blitz's this year. If you are interested in becoming a VE or attending Blitz's contact FSO-VE. Even if you are not interested in performing VE'S it still helps to have presence at Blitz's.					
FSO-PA Hofing: Symposium mentioned.					
FSO-MA Hofing: We have a supply of ribbon racks and other materials. If you have any unused items please contact FSO-MA. If you have any request for materials please use the catalog/ ANSC#					
FSO-CS: Position has been filled. Paypal account information has been received from S. Whittaker. In process of getting rights to 35-12 website.					
<b><u>Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:</u></b>					
M. Spohr moved to accept draft minutes as printed, F. Rojas second. Motion carried					

<b>Dept. of Homeland Security U.S. COAST GUARD CG-3615 (Rev. 10-09)</b>	<b>AUXILIARY - RECORD OF UNIT MEETING</b>
<b>095W3512000 – TWELVE CHICAGO - PAGE 2 OF 2</b>	
<p><b><u>Old Business:</u></b> A motion was introduced by M Begley, seconded by Frank Rojas's for reimbursement for programs and misc. Valued around @260. Motion was passed</p> <p><b><u>New Business:</u></b> 1. A motion was introduced by G Markle, seconded by C Hillas, to recognize Nevin Hofind and Ed Fahrner as shipmated of the mouth, for their service setting up the Change of Watch. Motion was passed.</p> <p><b><u>Member Training Topic:</u></b> none</p> <p><b><u>Member / Guest Comments:</u></b> None</p> <p><b><u>Adjournment:</u></b> Motion to adjourn by J. Hendele, seconded by Mike Spohr. Motion carried at 2035 hrs.</p> <p><b><u>Remarks:</u></b> None.</p>	
<p>NEXT BUSINESS MEETING (<i>Give time, date, and location</i>). TIME: <b>1900</b>      DATE <b>19 FEB 2013</b> Location: <b>Moody Bible Institute (Sweeting Center), Chicago, IL</b></p>	
DATE SUBMITTED 2 Feb 2013	SIGNATURE OF PERSON SUBMITTING REPORT Michael Spohr.

**2012 Flotilla Staff**

Flotilla Commander .....Rhett Skubis  
Vice Flotilla Commander .....Chris Hillas  
Immediate Past FC .....Maryellen Begley  
Communications ..... Vacant  
Computer Sciences ..... Vacant  
Finance .....John Hendele  
Information Services .....Gary Markle  
Human Resources .....Gary Markle  
Materials.....Nevin Hofing  
Navigation Services .....Mark Chertow  
Public Affairs .....Nevin Hofing  
Publications .....Frank Rojas  
Secretary.....Michael Spohr  
Vessel Examinations .....Shelley Markle  
**VACANT STAFF OFFICES**  
Member Training .....Public Education  
Marine Sciences .....Operations  
Diversity

**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

- 1/26 Helo Ops and Dewatering
- 2/2 Crew: Marlinespike/Coxn: SAR
- 2/9 Crew: Life Support/Coxn: Boat Handling
- 2/16 First Aid (joint training)
- 2/23 Crew Duties/Coxn: Casualties
- 3/2 Crew: Towing/Coxn: Towing
- 3/9 Crew: Life Support/Coxn: Wx

**WORKSHOP Dates for your Calendar:**

- 3/23 Vessel Examiners
- 4/6 Program Visitors
- 4/13 New Member Orientation
- 4/20 8-Hour TCT
- 4/27 Operations

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY  
FSO-PB 095 - 35 -12  
2819 W. Diversey Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60647

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