



Making Way For 35

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



**Homeland
Security**

Official Publication of
Division 35, Ninth District
(Western Region)



Visit us on the web <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=095-35>

DIVISION COMMANDER

Maryellen Begley

DIVISION VICE COMMANDER

John Hopkins

April, 2014

Vessel Safety Checks Take the Lead in the Spring

Division 35 has presented two VE workshops that satisfy the currency requirements for 2014, and another was available at D-Train. Now, as we wait for the ice to thaw and snow to melt, we can beat the bushes for trailered boats that will benefit from an early Vessel Safety Check.



Where will we find Paddlecraft and Sport Utility Boats to offer our services? What pamphlets and materials will we need? ("If found" decals, etc.) Don't forget to look for the WUS when required ☺!!

Instructors have expressed their appreciation for the wealth of information presented in the PowerPoint presentations, which they are now passing on to their students in public education classes.

One emphasis was the differences in state regulations. Below are two web sites that provide specific state regulation guidance when questions arise for other parts of the country:

http://www.uscgboating.org/state_boating_laws.aspx
<http://www.fintalk.com/resources/navigation/boating-laws.pdf>

Sign Up for Division 35's First Game Night

Saturday, 4/12 join friends at the Mead Training Room from 1500-1900 for a contest of Auxiliary-based *Pictionary*. Light snacks and beverages will be offered for \$5, coordinated by John Hopkins.

Please RSVP to Jennifer Hampton
<Jenhampton_aux3509@gmail.com>

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Looking After Our Own Since 1924

April is CGMA Month.

(CGMA) is the official relief society of the U.S. Coast Guard. CGMA is a non-profit charitable organization established to provide financial aid to the entire Coast Guard family. While CGMA works closely with the U.S. Coast Guard, it is an independent corporation. Its mission is to promote the financial stability and general well being of Coast Guard people through interest-free loans, grants, and financial counseling.

CGMA provides essential financial aid to the entire Coast Guard family (including Auxiliary), primarily through interest-free loans, grants, and financial counseling. Established and operated by Coast Guard people for Coast Guard people, CGMA provides a way to extend compassion to one another in times of need. It serves as a vital financial safety net, promoting financial stability and general well being, fostering high morale and encouraging a sense of loyalty to the Coast Guard

The central purpose of Coast Guard Mutual Assistance is to assist our clients during their time of financial need. In general, assistance is provided through counseling, short-term interest-free loans, financial grants, referrals, and other related means. Assistance is provided under a large variety of conditions and situations usually involving everyday essentials including emergency, housing, and medical needs that are beyond the individual's ability to meet at the time assistance is requested. Coast Guard Mutual Assistance should be used to supplement, not replace other forms of available assistance.

CGMA is the only corporation that has been approved for donations from Coast Guard Auxiliary units in accordance with the new standing rules.

Save the Date: 5/17 Open House Set for Station Calumet Harbor



CWO Stevens has announced that Station Calumet Harbor will host an “Open House” on Saturday, May 17th from 1000-1400 to kick off National Safe Boating Week. Members of Division 35 will again support the station to help present the Safe Boating message to the public.

In addition, it presents an opportunity for members to show their families and friends where they donate their time and services.

If you are willing to help work at the Open House, contact your FSO-PA and FSO-VE to pass your interest on to the Division Staff. Suggestions for improvements should also be passed up the “chain” to Ruth Aurigemma, SO-PA 35 (POC). Thank you!

Service, honor and food

Food Depository, VA center, AmeriCorps team up to open veterans pantry at Jesse Brown VA Veterans Food Pantry

In Cook County, there are more than 18,000 veterans living below the poverty line. There are 76,000 new veterans in Illinois, with more expected to return from duty in the coming years. Of that population, 7 percent live below the poverty line. This staggering need requires more than one response to veteran hunger.

Ultimately, the Food Depository’s veterans response is meant to honor those who served our country, and provide them and their families with the nutritious food needed to live a fulfilling life.

The Food Depository participates in veterans’ Stand Down events, which provide services including food, shelter, clothing, and health screenings. Since June 2013, the Food Depository has provided hot meals to more than 700 veterans at two different Stand Downs, and has distributed bags of shelf-stable items and produce to nearly 1,400 veterans.

Copied from Greater Chicago Food Depository newsletter

Editor’s note: This story is provided for thought for one way we may support our returning veterans.

Coast Guard, Chicago PD respond to report of person in water, determine emergency was hoax

Police locate, arrest person who made false distress call

CLEVELAND — The Coast Guard and the [Chicago Police Department](#) responded to a report of a person in the water near Edgewater Beach in Chicago on Sunday morning.

Just before 8 a.m., a 911 dispatcher notified the Coast Guard that they had received a report that a person had slipped into the water but were not able to collect any further information before the reporting source’s cell phone lost power.

Boat crews from [Coast Guard Station Calumet Harbor](#), located in Chicago, and [Coast Guard Station Wilmette Harbor](#), Ill., responded aboard [25-foot response boats](#). An air crew from [Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City](#), Mich., was also dispatched aboard a [Dolphin helicopter](#).

The crews arrived on scene and searched the area but found no signs of any person.

Further investigation revealed that the phone number from which the report came was the same used to report another emergency to the Chicago Police Department earlier in the day.

Chicago Police were able to trace the call and locate the phone. The phone’s owner confirmed making the false distress call and was arrested by the police.

The Coast Guard reminds mariners that making a false distress call endangers everyone on the water. It puts rescue crews needlessly at risk and, when personnel are diverted to false alarms, it may affect their ability to respond to people who are actually in distress. Additionally, it’s an unnecessary expenditure of taxpayers’ money.

[In August 2013, an Ohio man was convicted of making a false distress call and was sentenced to three months of federal custody and ordered to pay nearly \\$500,000, which is how much the search cost the agencies involved.](#)

See more at:

<http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2134318/Coast-Guard-Chicago-PD-respond-to-report-of-person-in-water-determine-emergency-was-hoax#sthash.FtFDFQOc.dpuf>

Save the Date: 9/16 White Sox Tailgate

The annual tailgate party at White Sox park has been scheduled for September 16. CWO Stevens has indicated he plans to return to join the tailgate party again this fall.

If your flotilla meets that night, perhaps you will want to move your meeting to the ball park?

Reports from the District Board Meeting

• 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

A new logo has been developed to celebrate the anniversary.

The anniversary will be celebrated at the Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival in July. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Beacon Inn for 9WR use.

• LEADERSHIP

DCO emphasized the importance that elected officers must mentor and encourage qualified members to prepare to continue the leadership.

A “Command Climate” needs to be fostered and maintained throughout the Auxiliary.

Emphasis for Auxiliary programs is being placed on Recreational Boating Safety. Three areas identified for primary emphasis are: Leadership, Air Crew, and IT Training

FCs should be encouraged to attend District meetings, so they can revitalize their enthusiasm. (It was observed many FCs have jobs that prevent attending weekday meetings. It was suggested future district meetings could be held on Saturdays.)

Electronic meetings will be embraced. GoToMeeting is the service chosen by National to support electronic meetings.

• PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Coast Guard Public Affairs personnel will no longer be travelling to cover events such as Changes of Command. This will provide Auxiliarists an opportunity to provide photographic support to the Coast Guard.

The first week of each month is 9WR Week for our DIRAUX’s reports to the District Commander. Photos of current events are encouraged!

• ASSIGNMENT TO DUTY:

Reminder to contact appropriate elected or staff officers to establish “assignment to duty” for Auxiliary missions. Equally important is the documentation of such assignment to duty. E-mail with response/acknowledgement is suggested, to create a *paper trail* should it be required later.

• INTERPRETER CORPS:

DIRAUX explained how the Auxiliary Interpreter Corps was used to comfort the family of a Coast Guardsman who died in service. The family did not speak English, and the CG asked for an Interpreter to attend memorial services to help comfort the family in their native language.

DCO Van dinter encouraged elected officers and HR staff officers to make this opportunity known to our new members and help them meet the requirements in the Auxiliary Manual:

8.B.10

The Auxiliary interpreter corps program is a component of the Auxiliary International Affairs Directorate. The Auxiliary Interpreter Corps was established in 1997 to provide interpreter support to Coast Guard operational, administrative, and public affairs missions. Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, whether or not they are also Coast Guard active duty, reserve, or civilian employees, may join the Auxiliary Interpreter Corps based on their linguistic skills.

B.10.a. Interpreter Levels of Proficiency

(1) Level “A” is applied to a person who fluently reads, writes, speaks, and understands a foreign language in addition to English.

(2) Level “B” is applied to a person who speaks and understands a foreign language in addition to English, but does not necessarily read or write fluently in any language.

• Sturgeon Bay is being named “Coast Guard City” in early May. Auxiliary support has not yet been determined.

• DCO discussed the results of the recent member survey. Top reasons why we are Auxiliarists are: Patriotism, Opportunities to Serve, ... Also included is Fellowship.

• PADDLESPORTS:

DCO encouraged Vessel Examiners to emphasize the importance of a loud sound producing device on paddlecraft, which are usually low in the water and hard to see. We can help them by providing them a loud safety whistle when we perform VSCs.

• COMMUNICATIONS:

DCO expects news that is passed “down the Chain of Leadership” to reach the lowest member level in 24 hours. (Does this create e-mail overload for the average member?)

• **AUDITS** have identified numerous discrepancies in our organization. Some examples were:

- ◆ Flotillas writing checks for “boat repairs” or “boat costs” when the flotilla does not own a boat
- ◆ Flotillas collecting less money in dues than they spent for div/dist/natl dues
- ◆ Accountable property (issued by the Coast Guard) disappearing off inventories without proper survey procedures

Some flotillas have not been presenting or approving monthly financial reports. DIRAUX emphasized monthly reports should be detailed, not just a statement of “no bills outstanding” or “everything’s okay”.

Inventories should be reviewed for obsolete equipment. Before equipment that was issued by the Coast Guard can be surveyed (destroyed), check with DIRAUX to ensure necessary paper trail has been completed.

Annual forms may need revision and recommendations are solicited for the National Conference.

• **TRAINING:** District is suggesting bringing training to “the local level”. In turn, “the local level” may need to pay the expenses for providing the training.

One division suggested providing training in “smaller bites”. Topics such as APC or ICS might be taught over multiple sessions, so members attending are not as challenged by each session.

• **BEST PRACTICES**

The weekly training program in Division 35 (with the incorporated fellowship) was the only best practice that was presented when DCO asked the board for their ideas.

• The Coast Guard was the first organization to pass their military audit.

• **CGMA** – Members are encouraged to donate to Coast Guard Mutual Assistance

• **MEMBER SURVEYS**

The 2013 Member Survey has been released. Some of the top reasons why members find the Auxiliary rewarding include Patriotism, Civic Duty,

Operational Support to the Coast Guard, Operations, Fellowship

The entire report is available at:
http://cgaux.org/strategic_analysis/documents/2013%20Member%20Survey%20Report.pdf

CONGRATULATIONS

The following Auxiliary Annual Service Performance Awards and Certificates were presented at the Division April meeting:

Surface Operations

- Rudy Lyles
- Jim Bell
- Maryellen Begley
- Mel Marcus
- Ruth Aurigemma
- Mike Scott

Vessel Examinations/ Program Visitor

- Jim Bell
- David Mosca

Public Education

- Jim Bell
- John Hopkins
- Tom Mullally
- Mel Marcus
- Phil Aszling
- Paul Malave
- Mike Scott

HAZWOPPER

- Rob Juskiewicz
- Rhonda Rush

Who are Our Mentors?

Potential mentors for Crew, Vessel Examinations, Program Visitors, Instructors, and elected office are the members who have completed those qualifications.



All too often, members complete qualifications and forget how they got there. Completing a qualification carries two responsibilities: to be an active participant in the program, and to help a new member complete the qualifications as a *mentor*.

Where are Our Members at Meeting Time?

At a Division 'round table' of elected officers in early March, one Flotilla Commander (FC) suggested more members would attend meetings if more training was presented at flotilla meetings. It was further suggested that we run an article with possible training topics to stimulate discussion in each flotilla. To that end, please use the list following to start your thinking, and tell your flotilla leadership what you would like to see at your meetings.

- Preparation for elected office: the Auxiliary Procedures Course (APC) test and ICS 100 / 700
- Materials – what is available from ANSC, and how do you order it?
- Vessel Safety Check best practices
- DVDs – show the videos in the flotilla library (“What Now, Skipper?”, “60th Anniversary of the Auxiliary”, “Cold Water Boot Camp”, etc.)
- Uniforms – how to wear them, where to buy them
- Mandatory training – how to access AUXLMS
- “Value Added Training” topics available from the National web site
- Marlinespike practice – how to tie common knots faster, and more complicated knots that may be useful
- Splicing – 3-strand splices, double-braided splices, and splices in braid line
- Fire fighting
 - How is it different shipboard?
- Damage control – what to do when it’s a long way to get help?
- Visual Distress Signals – how do SOLAS differ from recreational flares?
- Navigation Systems – review the aids to navigation
- Charts – sources for new PDF formats
Free software for electronic charts
- Compass – variation, deviation, adjustment
- GPS – functions available, how to use them
- Review the topics and material available on the Online Classroom at <http://classroom.cgaux.org/>
 - Presentations from N-Train and NACON
 - Mini Courses
- Information Systems – review the progress of members for entering their activity for the current year
- How to fill out IS reports to receive credit
- How to update AUXDATA files using the 7028 Webform available through the Auxiliary Directory
 - How to use the Aux Directory search functions
- On line Testing Site offerings
- Specialty Courses available

- Maritime military customs and protocol
- How to Winterize a Vessel (DVDs available from commercial sources free such as West Marine)
- History of the Coast Guard
 - Rescues of the U.S. Life Saving Service
 - “You have to go out, but “ where did it come from?
 - How the CG helped the Wright Brothers
 - CG developed telephone systems
 - CG develops air assets
 - The development of the seaplane
 - First TransAtlantic Flight
 - Helicopters
 - LORAN
 - LORAN-A in WW II
 - LORAN-C post-war
- History of the Coast Guard Auxiliary
 - World War II / Temporary Reserves
 - The Corsair Fleet
 - Late 20th Century
 - Post – 9/11/2001
- Radio procedures and prowords
- Digital Selective Communications systems
- Rescue 21
- New Coast Guard assets in Deep Water
- Code flags and International Code of Signals (Pub 102) – how they are still relevant
- Reports following Operations (air show patrol, etc.)
- How to Create an Effective Booth/Display
- How to be a good Program Visitor
 - Where is the flotilla maintaining contacts?
- Awards writing – How can we recognize superior work?
- Newest innovations in Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)
- First Aid &/or CPR
- AUX FS – Sanitary and safety regulations in the galley

When a flotilla has chosen a training topic, the next challenge is to find somebody to present the material!

- Flotilla staff or elected officers
- Division staff or elected officers
- General membership who have expertise to share
 - This is a way to help them on the path to Instructor qualification
- Professionals who will share their knowledge
 - Active duty CG
 - Marine mechanics, surveyors, etc.
 - Community FD, PD

Submitted by Michael Scott, SO-MT 35

Signs of the Cold Winter of 2013-4

These pictures of the Lighthouse at St. Joseph were shared by Michael Foley. Compare them with the summer photo at the end.



Try to imagine what it would have been like to be a light keeper in the days when they had to walk out to the lights twice daily - once to light the lanterns at sunset and gain to extinguish them in the morning?

Is it any wonder why the predecessor of the Coast Guard has such a respected reputation and tradition?



THOUGHTS FROM A FLOTILLA MEMBER TRAINING STAFF OFFICER

The Auxiliary is a great place to get training. It costs you, the member, nothing but your time. On the other hand, those people who present the training class must spend hours to prepare the material to present at these classes, putting forth a great commitment of time and effort. Their only payback is that feeling of worth that you get when you've made someone a little smarter.

Now think about the time you had that special event at school when you were a kid or maybe that special event at work, where you were going to be the "star" and someone special didn't show up. What a feeling of disappointment you got.

Well, folks, that's what we do in the Auxiliary all too many times to those who are presenting or doing a mission when we just don't show up. Sooner or later there won't be people wanting to offer training or teach us if we don't support their programs and follow through with our commitment to show up. So think about what the training means for you and our organization. If you sign up to attend, make sure you do. Make it your priority for that day, because someone is making it their priority to add to your knowledge.

Submitted by Michael Foley, FSO-MT 3512

THINK YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE?

It might be time to double-check

What's the difference between:

33° 34' 35" N 118° 21' 54" W

33° 34.35' N 118° 21.54' W

33.3435° N 118.2154° W

Answer: Anywhere from half a mile to more than 15 miles!

That discrepancy could matter a great deal if you find yourself in the middle of a large body of water on a disabled boat. You might assume you'll just whip out your phone, give BoatUS your coordinates, then sit back and relax, knowing they'll be there in a jiffy. But not so fast. If you say, "33 34 35 North," it may be a long time indeed before anyone figures out where you are.

Traditionally, positions have been reported in degrees, minutes, seconds, and decimal seconds, if needed. But with the rise of computer-based mapping systems, decimal-based conventions for reporting positions are becoming more common. To accurately communicate your position from a GPS or smartphone to another person, you both need to understand which convention you're using. If you say, "33 34 35 North," those numbers could be interpreted as any of the three positions in the first example above, which would take the person trying to find you to three different places.

TowBoatUS and BoatUS Vessel Assist captains have begun reporting these kinds of miscommunications. Similar confusion has arisen over position-tracking reporting systems for racers and offshore sailors. To find out whether it's degrees, minutes, seconds, or decimals you're looking at, and how to communicate so it's understood, see the article "[Know Before You're Towed](#)".

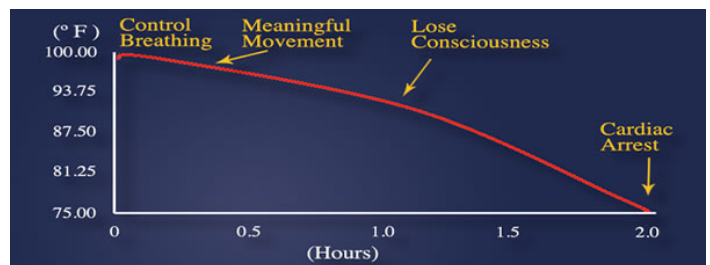
Beth A. Leonard

<http://www.boatus.com/magazine/2014/april/reports-holding-the-magenta-line.asp>

Copied with permission from the BoatUS Magazine April/May 2014

1 – 10 – 1 → What Does It Mean?

One minute. Ten minutes. One hour.



These are the important numbers that we want our students to come away with, when they view the "Cold Water Boot Camp" DVD. Each flotilla received this DVD in the past. If your flotilla has lost your copy, your flotilla may wish to order a replacement at:

<http://coldwaterbootcampusa.org/dvds.shtml>



April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 Flo 3512 ABS	31 Anderson Grant	1	2	3 Division Mtg 1900 @	4	5 Flo 3507 ABS @ Nav Review @ Mead
6 Flo 3509 ABS 1PM- Flo 3512 ABS	7	8 Flo 35-1 Mtg 1930 Flo 35-7 Mtg 1900 @	9	10 Flo 35-9 Mtg 1900 @	11	12 Flo 3507 ABS @ IS Workshop
13	14	15 Flo 3512 Mtg 1900 Flo 3516 Mtg 1930	16	17 Flo 3511 Mtg 1930	18	19 Div Ops Wkshp
20 Easter Sunday	21	22	23	24	25	26 Flo 3501 ABS @ Towing
27	28	29 Flo 35-6 Election	30	1 Division Mtg 1900 @	2	3 Flo 3507 ABS @ Training TBD

May 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29 Flo 35-6 Election	30	1 Division Mtg 1900 @	2	3 Flo 3507 ABS @ Training TBD
4	5	6	7	8 Flo 35-9 Mtg 1900 @	9	10 4-Hr TCT
11 Mothers' Day	12	13 Flo 35-1 Mtg 1930 Flo 35-7 Mtg 1900 @	14	15 Flo 3511 Mtg 1930	16	17 CG Open House @
18	19	20 Flo 3512 Mtg 1900 Flo 3516 Mtg 1930	21	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27 Flo 35-6 Mtg 1900 @	28	29	30	31