

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

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



DIVISION COMMANDER Tom Mullally

DIVISION VICE COMMANDER Rich Persiani

April, 2011

Commander's Quarters Tom Mullally DCDR

The District board meeting was held on March 30th and 31st. I will try to convey the items that were discussed at the Board Meeting.

- A notification system called Everbridge is being developed by 9th western. Everbridge is a commercially available service that sends notifications to phones, email addresses, text messages, etc. No time was set for implementation of this system.
- In 2013, the 9th District Symposium in the month of March in Dearborn, Michigan.
- Our DirAux, Commander Willis, will be retiring effective November 1st of this year. His retirement ceremony will be August 5th at Grand Haven.
- PSI fingerprint checks will take a bit longer. Manpower has been cut at their facility.
- There is discussion of possibly letting AP status personal function like any other Auxiliarist, EXCEPT they cannot hold an elected office. . DirAux office is looking at issuing a certificate upon the candidate's application. This certificate would have their member number on it.
- Of interest to members who are 'Clergy', there is a new Corp being developed within the Coast Guard Auxiliary. If a volunteer is 'credentialed', that individual may apply for the 'Civilian 1st Responder Corp'. Only Department of Defense clergy are Chaplains. Please contact Chaplain Jeffrey Plummer at: Jeffrey.S.Plummer@uscg.mil If interested. As always, keep your chain of leadership in the loop.
- A re-enactment of the War of 1812 will take place during this year's Chicago Air show.
 The US Navy will be present during this event.
- All future training seminars (referred to in the past as Conferences) will take place in September and not October or November. This is to keep in line with the Coast Guard budget. The Coast Guard's fiscal year runs from October to September.

Commander's Quarters (Continued)

Visit us on the web at http://a09535.uscgaux.info/

- Any legal contracts for any Auxiliary functions, purchases, services, etc. must be forwarded to DSO-LP Bob Egan prior to being accepted. This includes change of watch locations, catering, etc.
- All elections must be by written secret vote. This holds true for even one person running for a particular office. If a quorum is present, the majority of the votes must be for the one person. If not, then a second vote will be taken until a majority vote is reached, or the office remains vacant. More on this to follow later.
- The District DDC's have been re-organized. There are only 3 DDC's now.
- There is discussion of allowing Coxswains the ability to teach the 8 hour TCT. This is ONLY in the discussion phase.
- ICS-210 is being developed to be offered online. More to follow later.

For awards processing, please contact Mrs. Shelly Markle @ <u>shelley@markle.com</u>. Mrs. Markle has developed a very easy and smooth process to submit recommendations for individuals or groups to receive awards. Minimum lead time is 60 days.

Division Vice Commander Rich Persiani

WOW what weather we are having. Division 35 is already busy for this season. Division and Flotilla training is going strong, PA, PE, events going on all over the Division. I am proud to be member of this Division. I can't believe that Division 35 is only 3 years old. This Division is coming together as a team. A team concept will only get this Division to move ahead with Rear Admiral Michael Parks "Great Lakes Maritime Strategy". The Auxiliary is a big part of the strategy. "Great Lake Maritime Strategy" can be downloaded from D9's website.

Keep using the Divisions Staff Officers for information. We have Division Staff Officers who have the knowledge of there specific areas. If, they don't have an answer they are able to get you the answers that you are looking for. Member Training Mike Scott SO-MT

District Awards

Division 35

New Member Orientation

All members who are overwhelmed by the variety of programs available in the Coast Guard Auxiliary are invited to a brief program to explore many of them. Experienced members will be available to answer questions and suggest how to start any of them. Get to know new members in other flotillas, and network to help each other advance in directions that interest you.

Orientation will begin at 1000 - 1230 on Saturday, 21 April at the Mead Division 35 Training Room, 1450 E. 98th Street (Building 8), Chicago, IL. Flotilla 3509 will host a buffet lunch and breakfast pastries. Please register with SO-MT (09535.somt@gmail.com). training.

Crew Training Patrol Scheduling

As pointed out in the Division operations report, flotillas are going to have to work together and support each other to accomplish their training goals in Crew/Coxswain training. Three flotillas have no coxswains and two flotillas have only one coxswains each. Flotilla 3509 has two coxswains, and Flotilla 3512 has three coxswains. In addition, Divisions 37 and 39 have asked Division 35 for help providing underway training for their members.

Flotillas 3509 and 3512 are suggesting that all coxswains and trainees could meet on Saturday, 05 May (following VDS training scheduled at the Coast Guard Station) to work on an underway training schedule. We will try to identify when facilities will be underway (for two-boat drills) and when trainees can expect patrols to be available.

<u>Flotillas</u>

Membership Growth – (five-way tie for 4th Place) – 35-16 Operations – 1st Place 35-12 Public Education – 3rd Place 35-07 Member Training – 1st Place 35-07 Vessel Examinations – 4th Place 35-16 Public Affairs – 2nd Place 35-07 Coast Guard Support – 2nd Place 35-12 Recruiting – 4th Place 35-16

Most Active Member

2nd Place - Thomas Mullally 35-07

Individuals

Coxswain (hours) – 2^{nd} Place Michael Scott 35-12 Crew (hours) – 1^{st} Place James Bell 35-09 Member Training – Instructor – 1^{st} Thomas Mullally 35-07 Vessel Examinations (number) – 3^{rd} David Bossert 35-12 Coast Guard Support (hours) – 2^{nd} Maryellen Begley 35-12

PROMOTE PADDLESPORTS AMERICA Phil Aszling SO-PE

The Coast Guard and the Auxiliary are very concerned by the fact that the fastest growing segment of recreational boating has also brought an inordinate number of accidents and fatalities. We would like to enlist your help in countering this disturbing trend.

While sales of canoes and kayaks continue to grow by 10 to 20 percent each year, casualties from boating accidents involving paddlecraft grow by about 30 percent.

A paddle craft offers wonderful access to the water at a minimal price. Unfortunately, many purchasers of paddlecraft don't understand the limitations of their boats: their vulnerability to weather and seas; their relationship to larger boats; and their responsibilities as boaters according to state and federal boating regulations.

Many paddle craft operators seem to be fascinated with the maneuverability of their craft, and thus take very dangerous risks. In July 2010, Auxiliary 242039 was escorting the Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw back to Navy Pier in Chicago from the cutter's position on the starting line of the Mackinac sailboat race. Suddenly, 039 became aware of a kayak in the process of crossing the Mackinaw's bows less than 15 yards in front of the cutter. The crew of 039 could only hail the kayak and urge the paddler to get out of the way of the cutter with all speed. Had 039 attempted to approach the kayak, she would have been in grave danger.

Incidents like this emphasize the need for the Auxiliary to go the extra mile to promote boating safety education – specifically, our Paddlesports America course. Even if you aren't directly involved in Public Education, we ask you to be on the lookout for opportunities to conduct this school. You might find these opportunities in Park District programs, scout or church programs, military units, or at sporting goods stores or boat dealerships.

If you discover a chance to host Paddlesports America, contact your FSO-PE. If there's an issue with the fee that's usually charged for the course, your FSO-PE will work it out.

Finance Reuben Barrett SO-FN

Banks are businesses that offer a variety of convenient services. The free services are paid for operationally by shifting of those costs to other services provided by the bank.

Not too long ago Banks charged fees for inactivity to your credit card. This was stopped in 2010 when Congress and the Federal Reserve enacted new regulations that included banning inactivity fees.

What are some of the means that the Banking Businesses recoup those operational costs?

ATM's: The fees banks charge for using ATMs are just another way for the banks to recoup operational costs and generate profit. ATM services are a huge expense for banks -- including the vast network linking required to connect all the different banks around the world. ATM fees are one way a bank can recover those operational costs.

Checking: When you deposit a check from someone and that check bounces. Not only are you out of the money from the check, but you will also pay a fee for the returned deposit each time your bank attempts that transaction. Consider asking for cash or a money order after receiving a bounced check. Most businesses will charge you a fee -- if you are the one that bounced the check to recoup their operational costs.

Online Banking: Saving money in fees by banking online only and receiving e-statements. Banks have been raising and creating fees to make up for lost revenue from tougher regulations. Fortunately, Banks have also been creating new types of accounts with lowered fees for customers that make the change to go paperless and only bank online and use ATM's. A local Bank charges no fees for complete online banking. However, if you decide to deposit a check into you online account the fee is \$50.00 per transaction. Here you can expect very high fees if you fail to completely do your banking online as the conditions of the account state.

AGENDA FOR MONTHLY MEETING

05 April 2012

Meeting Begins at 1900

- Welcome and Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Introduction of Guests
- Member Training
- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- FC Reports
- Staff Officer Reports
- Committee Reports
- Old Business
- New Business
- Honors & Awards Presentations
- Comments Members and Guests
- Adjournment
- Fourth Cornerstone

Calendar of Upcoming Events

19 May – Armed Forces Day
19 May to 25 May – Safe Boating Week
26 May – Chicago Memorial Day Parade
07 June – In Water Boat Show – 31st St Marina
09 June – National Marina Day
22 June – Operation Dry Water
05 July – Gary, IN Water Show
21 July – Dragon Boat Races
21 July – Mackinaw Race
23 July – EAA Air Venture – Oshkosh, WI
27 July – Grand Haven, MI Festival
11 August – Bud Billiken Parade
16 August – Chicago Water Show

22 August – NACON – San Antonio, TX

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY SO-PB 09535 1 South 641 Brook Court Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Official Business

FIRST CLASS

