



Making Way For 35



Homeland Security

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

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



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

DIVISION COMMANDER
Tom Mullally

DIVISION VICE COMMANDER
Rich Persiani

August, 2012

Commander's Quarters Tom Mullally DCDR

The dog days of summer are upon us as Operations, Vessel Safety Checks and Public Affair events are in full swing. For those of you functioning in the sun, remember: Hydrate, Hydrate and Hydrate. The Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven was a class act as usual. The Cutters Hollyhock, Ice Breaker Tug Neah Bay and the Canadian Cutter Griffin were available for tours to the public. My thanks to all the members from Division 35 who supported this event, particularly Phil Aszling and Ruth Aurigemma. Cutter tours and Color Guard participation were the main activities members participated in. It has come to my attention that orders may be available for those participating in tours next year. Grand Haven pictures are available for viewing at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/8m0vzv8tjmplp5p/E3Jc-Y1Ogy>

While marching in the parade on Saturday, 04Aug12, there were approximately 100,000 people lining the main and side streets stretching from the curb to the front doors in many cases. I've said it before, but I have to say it again; the enthusiasm and pride that the citizens and guests of Grand Haven bestow on the Coast Guard AND the Auxiliary is something you have to experience.

On Sunday, 05Aug12, Commander Karl Willis celebrated his retirement from the U.S. Coast Guard. The 9th Western Color Guard was honored to present colors at his ceremony. The quilt that we all had heard so much about was presented and stretched approximately 6' wide by 9' long. It was quite a showing of auxiliarians at his reception. Good luck Mister Willis in your new endeavors. Pictures of his retirement are also available at the web link listed above.

Even though we're still breaking out the 'Coppertone' and sun block, it's time to start thinking of the Division elections. NACON is this month with National elections. Commodore Ross is running for Atlantic West. District elections are in September at the 9th Western Fall training seminar in Milwaukee (try to attend) and the Division elections will take place at October's Division meeting. This leaves November available for Flotilla elections. Time to pick your BEST leaders.

Lastly, to all the Division Staff Officers, THANK YOU! This year has been especially taxing ON OUR Division with all the special events occurring. It is your endurance, willingness and dedication that has allowed for all these events and the annual duties to be fulfilled. BRAVO ZULU.

Vice Commander's Deck Rich Persiani VCDR

It is August already; time is sure moving fast. Division 35 is looking for someone to take over Ruth Aurigemma's position as secretary for the Division. If you know of someone or if you are interested, please contact Tom Mullally or myself. Ms. Aurigemma will train whoever is picked to take over.

Thank you, for all your hard work

Finance Reuben Barrett SO-FN

Shipmates let me share with you that under the terms of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions (FACT) Act of 2003, the three nationwide credit reporting agencies must establish a centralized source for consumers to request and obtain a free copy of their credit report once every 12 months.

In order to request a copy of your credit report, you can login to the dedicated web site www.AnnualCreditReport.com, or call the toll-free telephone number 1-877-FACTACT (1-877-322-8228). Their postal address is:
Annual Credit Report Request Service
P.O. Box 105281
Atlanta, GA 30348

Further, the credit reporting agencies must provide the consumer with his/her requested credit report free from charge within 15 days of receiving the consumer's request. Additionally, any disputes raised by the consumer must be reinvestigated within 45 days of the consumer's dispute. Moreover, you can request a copy of your credit report from any of the credit bureaus provided below:

You may also view your credit report online at:

<http://www.credit.equifax.com>
<http://www.experian.com/consumer>
<http://www.transunion.com>

**Grand Haven CG Festival is Challenging
and Fun for Auxiliarists
Phil Aszling SO-PE**

Few will dispute the feeling of Western Michigan's Auxiliarists that supporting the Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival falls first to them (especially Grand Haven's own Flotilla 31-05). But many Auxiliarists are needed to help this Festival run smoothly, and 31-05's Joe Sedlock, the Auxiliary's Liaison to the Festival, welcomed those of us from "Across the Lake" who went to Grand Haven this year, from 27JUL to 5AUG. For DCDR Tom Mulally (35-07), SO-PA Ruth Aurigemma (35-07), and me (SO-PE, 35-06), working the Festival was a challenge and a lot of fun.

Although there were a good dozen events that Auxiliarists worked (including Coastie), we really made a difference in supporting the Gold Side by assisting with the tours of visiting ships – which allowed most of their crews to go ashore for some rock & roll, corn dogs, and elephant ears. Joe Sedlock reports that the three attending cutters (USCGC *Hollyhock*, USCGC *Neah Bay*, and Canadian CCGC *Griffon*) hosted "a total of 24,435 visitors, including one dog and one monkey" during the ten days of the Festival.

Typically, three Auxiliarists worked each ship for each two-hour public tour. One admitted and counted visitors at the gangplank, boarding as many folks as exited the ship minutes before. Another worked on the foc'sle, boat deck, or fantail as needed. The third helped out on the bridge. A couple more Auxiliarists for each tour would have been very helpful. For example, visitors tend to linger on the bridge. Of course! It's full of electronic wonders and provides a fascinating opportunity to chat with a bosun's mate or petty officer who *actually drives the ship*. Frequently, the bridge was packed to the bulkheads, and the Auxiliarist had to placate visitors who came up from the boat deck. Furthermore, the watertight door to the bridge has a very high threshold, that visitors trip over; and the companionway ladder off the bridge to the deck below is extremely steep. Two Auxiliarists on the bridge could benefit greatly, freeing the BM or CPO to fascinate the visitors. Similarly, two Auxiliarists to work the waiting line at the gangplank would help. It can include up to a thousand visitors, eager to go aboard, if only 20 to 50 at a time.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Auxiliarists to "sell" the people in line our programs: VE's, membership, and above all boating-safety courses. (Bring those 9thWestern business cards!)

Next year's Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival is scheduled for Friday 26JUL to Sunday 4AUG. Come if you can; the more Auxiliarists, the smoother the Festival will go. Check with SO-PA Aurigemma about arrangements, and sign up early, because hospitality resources get scarce. And when you're not on duty, have fun exploring the area, from Holland to Ludington. It's about as "pure" as "Pure Michigan" gets!

9WR Color Guard @ Grand Haven Festival



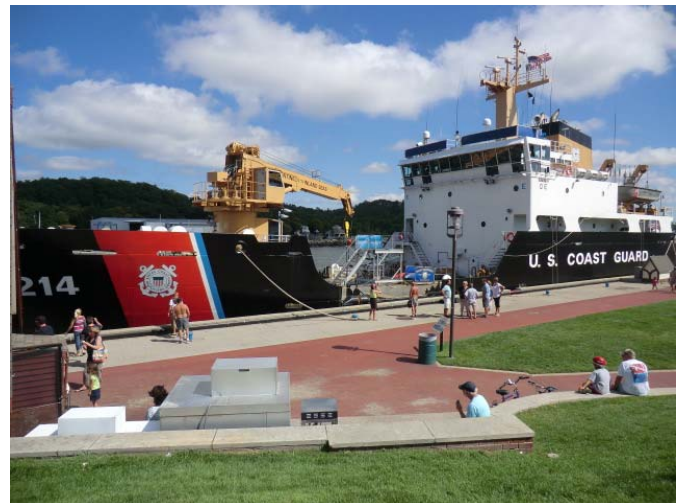
RADM Parks and CDR Willis

Retirement Ceremony for CDR Willis

Photos From CDR Willis's Retirement Party



More Photos From Grand Haven Festival



AGENDA FOR MONTHLY MEETING

06 September 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

11 August – Bud Billiken Parade

16 August – Chicago Water Show

22 August – NACON – San Antonio, TX

21 September – 9WR Conference – Milwaukee

22 September – 9WR Conference - Milwaukee

Division 35 meets at **1900** on the First Thursday of every month, except December, at USCG Calumet Harbor Station. Use parking across the street from the Station

Visitors are Welcome!

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
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Official Business

FIRST CLASS

