



Making Way For 35



Homeland Security

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



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

Visit our Web site: <http://a09535.wow.uscgaux.info/> and our Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/Division09535>

DIVISION COMMANDER
Melvyn Marcus

DIVISION VICE COMMANDER
Jen Hampton

October 2016

Fall D-Train Conference

The Fall D-Train meeting will be held at the Lisle Hilton Hotel in Lisle, Illinois. This conference will host two additional activities: AUXLAMs Parts A and B, and AUX17.

Here are the schedules:

Friday, October 21 through Sunday, October 23.

AUXLAMs, Part A

Wednesday, October 19 through Friday, October 21 at 12:00 NOON.

AUXLAMs, Part B

Friday, October 21 starting at 12:00 NOON through Sunday, October 23

AUX 17

(Crew Resource Management for the Aircrew program)

Friday, October 21 through Sunday, October 23

Details regarding registration information, as well as meal selections and costs, will be published in the near future.

This promises to be one of the best conference experiences ever. Mark your calendars for the third weekend in October, and make plans to attend the training activity best meets your needs.

We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Timothy Bishop
9WR DTRAIN
Conference Chair
US Coast Guard Auxiliary

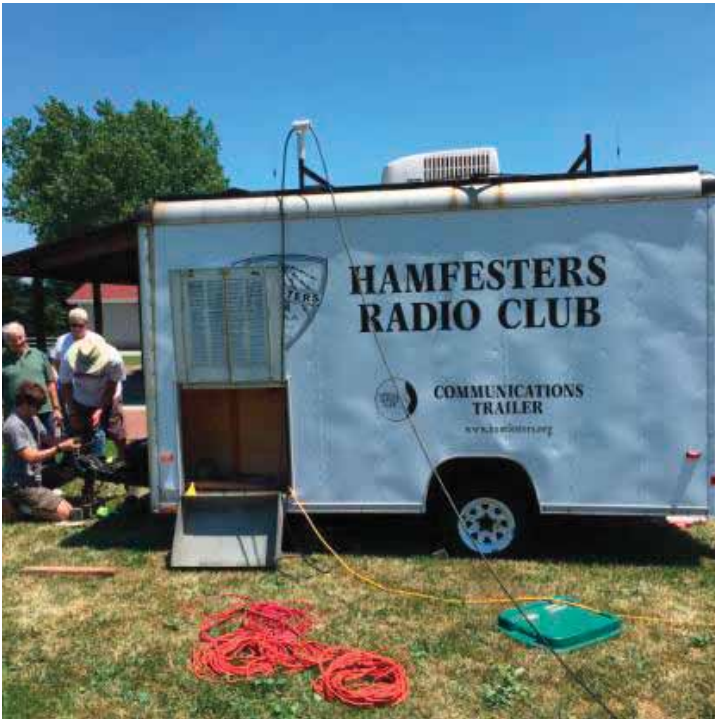
Calling all U.S.C.G. Auxiliary amateur radio operators !

Announcing an amateur radio special event commemorating the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary's 77th anniversary

All U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary members, who are interested or active in amateur radio, are invited to operate our "special event radio station" on Saturday October 22, 2016. We will transmit worldwide on amateur H.F. frequencies to commemorate the 77th anniversary of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. This annual event provides an opportunity to exercise our capabilities while demonstrating our skills to a wide and diverse audience.

There are more than 20,000 amateur radio operators in Illinois and more than 15,000 in Indiana, including many Coast Guard Auxiliary members and recreational boaters. This year, we have a special station callsign (W3C) so we can demonstrate how ham radio resources can be mobilized to show our ability and willingness to assist the Coast Guard in emergency communications.





Hamfesters (W9AA) communications trailer

We are collaborating with the local Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club from Crestwood, IL (W9AA). The Hamfesters Radio Club communications trailer will be located at the USCG Station Calumet Harbor parking lot and antennas will be temporary installed during this event.

Several CG Aux Division 35 9WR members are ham radio operators, including Mike Vannier (callsign N9NNL), our Division Commander (Mel Marcus, K9ZAV), Doug Kiser (KD4CXG), and Bill Peterson (W9OWQ). In the 9th Western Region, there are many CG Aux members who have ham radio licenses, including Commodore Jay Staggs (N9XCE).

RBS Job #1 Summer 2016 Newsletter for Recreational Boating Safety

A new Recreational Boating Safety Committee, led by DVC Jen Hampton has been formed to increase Recreational Boating Safety through events held in Chicago and surrounding areas. Members are encouraged to join and attend the next committee meeting that will be held at the USCG Station Calumet Harbor at 6 PM, preceding the Division 35 monthly meeting.

The Summer quarterly issue of RBSJob #1, our combined directorate (B, E, and V) newsletter for Recreational Boating Safety is now available. Issues will feature news on Recreational Boating Safety for Instructors, Vessel Examiners, Program Visitors and all Coast Guard Auxiliarists interested in recreational boating safety. This issue will focus on activity in the E Directorate and other topics not recently addressed.

<http://bdept.cgaux.org/wp/wpcontent/uploads/2016/08/RBSJob1201602Summer.pdf>

Look for new ideas on expanding public education through courses and outreach to other organizations that share our recreational boating safety mission. In RBS, we are 'selling' a free service with infinite 'payback'; don't miss these ideas for making our public approach easier and more effective. And check us out on social media link:

<https://www.facebook.com/RecreationalBoatingSafety>, too!

We also encourage all readers to submit articles on RBS topics for publication. Please send your articles and photos to Mel Borofsky at [.melborofsky@comcast.net](mailto:melborofsky@comcast.net).

Enjoy, communicate and participate!

EVERBRIDGE Membership information

Everbridge is an automated notification system, implemented on the internet and through the phone system. This system can contact CG Auxiliary members using their AUXDATA registration information to notify them of emergencies. This system is implemented and activated at the District level as part of the Incident Management & Preparedness (IM) program (<http://www.cgaux9wr.com/programs/im/index.php>).

As an example, this past July a tornado was tracked from southwest of Grand Rapids on the ground for 50 miles. Most of the damage was done in the southwest area of Grand Rapids. Trees were uprooted, there was damage to buildings, and power was lost.

During such an emergency, the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary must have a rapid, easy way to contact its members for personnel accountability to determine if assistance is needed. This is accomplished through the

Everbridge automated notification system which is a flexible, simple way to contact the volunteers.

The process works through the chain of leadership and in this case, after the storm had passed, the Division 31 commander called the DCAPT E, Tom Mullally, who then made the request to the DCO to activate Everbridge. The automated calls are made to the phone numbers that are listed in AUXDATA. The DCDR was advised by Mr. Mullally to contact the FCs and have them check on their members. Unfortunately, some folks could not be contacted due to outdated information.

To maintain preparedness and efficiency, we ask that all members of Division 31 and 35 to please make sure your contact information is current. You can correct the information yourself in AUXDIR (auxofficer.cgaux.org) or contact your FSO-IS or FC. If there are any questions please use the COL (chain of leadership).



Important

If we can't **contact** you,
we can't **alert** you as to
the emergency.



New Basic Qualification Course (BQC II)

A new Basic Qualification course (BQC II) is available to all members. While aimed primarily at Application Pending (AP) status members that want to rapidly move towards Basically Qualified (BQ) status, it provides information on Auxiliary missions, programs, policies and structure to better prepare all members for their service. The Basic Qualification Course (BQC II) introduces the member to the Auxiliary Manual (AUXMAN) in 7 student study guide modules. Each module covers one or two chapters of the AUXMAN but with a major reduction in the reading required. The modules are stand alone and can be taken in any order. At the conclusion of each Module, the member takes a 22 question exam located on the National Testing Center (NTC) website. Passing the open book exam with at least 90% is recorded in AUXDATA for your permanent record. The AUXDATA record also shows up in your AUXDIR(OFFICER) profile. The BQC II Course link can be found on the Training Directorate website. Go to the National Website at CGAUX.org, then go to the Directorate pull down menu and select "Training". In the left hand column, you will see the link to "Basic Qual II Course". The BQC II material is also available by direct link at:

[http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=TDEPT & category=basicqualification](http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=TDEPT&category=basicqualification)

Elections are Coming

Division and Flotilla Screening Committees will be making their reports in October, in preparation for flotilla elections in November. All members should be aware of their eligibility through lists provided to their Flotilla Commanders. It is important to vote in these elections to select the candidate(s) that represent you best.



A new web portal for the Coast Guard Auxiliary has been released at <http://my.cgaux.org/>

If you visit this webpage and log in as a member (all members are automatically recognized by this system), you'll find that you are already a member of several "Groups", including one for your flotilla, Division 35 and the 9th District Western Region. This facility shares many characteristics with Facebook, but is limited to Coast Guard Auxiliary. The system was introduced at the recent NACON meeting in Phoenix by the leader of the development group, Daren Lewis, Assistant National Commodore - Information Technology. (<http://www.darenlewis.com/p/us-coast-guard-aux.html>).

Significant resources are devoted to this effort, and it is expected to play a major role in the future of the Coast Guard Auxiliary internet communications.

Please visit our Division 35 Facebook page



<https://www.facebook.com/Division09535/>

Becoming qualified in the Auxiliary Telecommunications Program as a Telecommunications Operator (TCO)

To become involved in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Telecommunications program, applicants must become certified as Telecommunications Operators (TCO). All operators of fixed land and land mobile radios must be certified as TCO, except for those members who completed AUXCOM prior to 1 August 2008. The first step a person interested in the Telecommunication Program should take is to get in contact with a member of the Telecommunication Staff in their Flotilla or Division. The Telecommunication Staff member will make sure that the member has the correct information on how to proceed through the qualification process.

The specific requirements surrounding the Telecommunications Program are detailed in Annex 4 of Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual COMDTINST M16798.3E and in the Auxiliary Telecommunications Qualification Standard (PQS). In general, the qualification process involves study of the appropriate manuals, demonstrating understanding of them and demonstrating the ability to perform various tasks. Once a member applicant completes the TCO PQS, it is reviewed and approved by a communications staff officer (CM) or a TCO certified member. The CM signed-off TCO PQS is submitted to DIRAUX for certification and entry into AUXDATA as a Telecommunications Operator (TCO). If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in joining us in the Telecommunications Program, please feel free to contact any member of the Telecommunications staff at any time.

We are in the midst of organizing a TCO one day class at the Westrock Training Center, probably in November. If anyone is interested in this training, please notify Jim Bell, SO-MT or Mike Vannier, SO-CM. We will provide further details as soon as they are available.

FirstNet Educational Video

Similar in some respects to Everbridge, FirstNet provides Illinois public safety first responders a dedicated cellular-type nationwide data network. The Illinois FirstNet team is focused on: completing all statutory requirements; engagement and education our emergency responders so they better understand what FirstNet will deliver; listening sessions with our public safety stakeholders so we can better convey their unique needs with FirstNet; and ultimately make a recommendation to state leadership about whether Illinois should opt in and allow FirstNet to build this network in Illinois or opt out and Illinois will construct its own network linking to the federal program. Keep in mind: no decisions have been made, no recommendations have been written. Today this FirstNet network only exists in concept and Illinois has a blank canvas...now it is our opportunity to provide critical input from our public safety practitioners.

Here is a link to an 11 minute FirstNet educational video the Illinois team just produced. **Please distribute** this video to anyone you think may benefit.



For watching on YouTube
<https://youtu.be/3mScAbou9BI>

For those that can't access "YouTube" from work, below is a Vimeo link.
<https://vimeo.com/184942543>

If you have any questions or want to learn more about FirstNet please contact:.

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Ham Radio License in a Day

Amateur radio is increasingly popular in the US since the Morse code requirement was eliminated. Many first responders, mariners, and Coast Guard Auxiliary members have ham radio licenses. In cooperation with local amateur radio clubs, we have begun planning to offer a one day course on the essential information needed to pass the initial (e.g., Technician Class) ham radio license test.

We are working to provide Auxiliarists with a one day course this Fall at the Westrock training center. In advance, we will provide a syllabus and links to online video. There will be an all-day class taught by senior ham radio operators.

At the end of the class, a testing session will commence with FCC-designated examiners. A 35 question multiple choice test on the laws governing radio emissions and ham radio operation, as well as related technical topics will be administered.

Many groups have used this mechanism to train new ham radio operators. If one is not successful with the exam on the first try, make-up tests will be provided.

A ham radio license is a useful complement to the USCG Auxiliary Telecommunications Operator PQS, Watchstander PQS, and the AUXCOM program (required for AUXOP).

If you have interest in this program, please notify Jim Bell (SO-MT) or Mike Vannier (SO-CM) and we will provide further details as they become available.

New Aux Weather Course

The Training Directorate is tasked with developing the next generation of Operational Specialty Courses (AUXOP) including: Weather, Communications, Seamanship, Patrols, and Navigation. We are announcing that the new Weather Specialty Course (AUXWEA) will be available mid-October 2016. The new AUXWEA course includes the new: student study guide (SSG), PowerPoint slides (PPT), and the new AUXWEA exam on The National Testing Center Website (NTC).

The new course eliminates unnecessary complications from the description of weather phenomenon, and adds modern terminology and concepts to the class. In addition, there is a new chapter that discusses weather from the coxswain's perspective. Existing AUXWEA course material will be available until mid-October; after that all AUXWEA material will be converted to the new course including the NTC exam. For those instructors that teach AUXWEA and members interested in starting to study AUXWEA, we recommend waiting until mid-October for the new material to be available. Those members currently studying AUXWEA have until mid-October to complete the old exam.

We are planning to offer a one day short course on severe weather conducted by Dave Bukowski, System Administrator of Next Generation Weather Laboratory (NEXLAB) at the College of DuPage Meteorology program (<http://weather.cod.edu>). Dave is a ham radio operator and certified instructor for the SKYWARN weather spotter program. Upon completion of this short course, attendees receive a certificate and can participate actively as weather spotters. Dave has extensive experience with severe weather in northern Illinois and Indiana, and his lecture is illustrated with many examples of important recognizable patterns that we can observe.

To Test Your DSC System

To initiate a test call on your VHF radio, you should use the nationwide Coast Guard MMSI number, 003669999. Enter this number into your radio's calling memory and select the "Test Call" option from the radio's list of individual DSC calls. Only then should you can press the "call" or "enter" key. Your radio will silently hail the Coast Guard with a digital signal on channel 70. If everything is working properly, your radio will almost immediately receive the Coast Guard's acknowledgement of your call, providing assurance that both your radio and the Rescue 21 system are operating properly. You must be boating in an area served by Rescue 21 to use this test. Alternatively you may also use the DSC function to privately hail another boater's MMSI number so that they can verify what MMSI came upon their ID display. The DSC functions do not work at all until an MMSI number is entered into your VHF radio. If your VHF radio is connected to a GPS, the signal will also provide your exact coordinates.

Test transmissions on VHF DSC calling channel 70 should be made to another VHF DSC radio by using a routine individual call to their Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI).

For VHF DSC radios equipped with the Test Call feature, test transmissions should be made to the US Coast Guard MMSI 003669999 to receive an automated VHF DSC test response. You must use the "Test Call" category of your radio because "Individual" category calls to this address will NOT receive an automated response. For older radios not having a test call capability, testing can only be performed by using a routine individual call to their Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI).

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL A DSC DISTRESS ALERT BE SENT TO TEST YOUR RADIO. IT IS A VIOLATION OF THE RULES AND CAN RESULT IN HEAVY FINES.

Please consult your owner's manual for the proper operation.

Division 35 Calendar

AUX DIVISION 35

Today ◀ ▶ **October 2016** ▼ Print Week **Month** Agenda ▼

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	Oct 1
		7pm Flo 35-6 M				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				Division Mtg 1		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Columbus Day	Flo 35-1 Mtg Flo 35-7 Mtg	Flo 35-9 Mtg			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	6pm Detachme	Flo 3512 Mtg Flo 3515 Mtg		Flo 3511 Mtg	D-Train	CG Aux 77 th Anniversary D-Train W3C Special Event Station
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
D-Train		7pm Flo 35-6 M				
30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4	5
	Halloween			Division Mtg 1		

Events shown in time zone: Central Time + Google Calendar