

Flotilla Commander's Message



Your Elevator
Speech

How many of you have an “Elevator Speech” for the Coast Guard Auxiliary? Are you not familiar with

the term?

An elevator speech is a clear, brief message or “commercial” about you or your organization. It communicates who you are, what you’re looking for and how you can benefit a company or organization. It’s typically about 30 seconds, the time it takes people to ride from the top to the bottom of a building in an elevator. (The idea behind having an elevator speech is that you are prepared to share this information with anyone, at any time, even in an elevator.) It can be used to cite the virtues of an organization as well, i.e. the Auxiliary when talking to prospective members.

Here’s a sample:

“The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the volunteer arm of the U.S. Coast Guard. With the appropriate training, we can do everything the “Gold Side” does (we’re known as the “Silver Side”- it has to do with our uniforms). The sole exception is that we don’t engage in Police or Military activities as we don’t carry weapons.

We operate in all of these areas:
Safety and Security Patrols; Search and Rescue; Mass Casualty or Disasters; Pollution Response & Patrols; Homeland Security; Commercial Fishing and Vessel

Exams; Platforms for Boarding Parties; Public education on Recreational Boating and Marine Safety.

All with one common objective, i.e. to save lives!”

So the next time you’re in uniform and someone asks you what you do in the Auxiliary, use your elevator speech. And say it with passion and conviction.

Semper Paratus!!

Joel Hammer
Flotilla Commander

Change of Watch 2016, Basque Cultural Center, South San Francisco

Flotilla 1-7 Change of Watch dinner and awards started off with a welcome from out going Flotilla Commmander Julie Vincenzini and followed by the pledge of Allegiance by Allyssa Adair, wife of Captain Simone Adair.



Change of Watch Ceremony for reciting the Oath of Office for Elected Officers, and the swearing in of Appointed Officers by Capatain Simone Adair.



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Veterans Award

“U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Mission as Part of Team Coast Guard”
Presentation By Roger Bazeley FSO-PA
F17 to the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Canyon -

I met a wonderful group of Vietnam Veterans and spouses during Fleet Week 2015, while touring the San Francisco Bay on the Coast Guard Cutter George Cobb. After a day filled with conversation while photographing the Fleet Week activities and Navy Blue Angles, I was invited to visit their organization at their February monthly dinner meeting -Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley- to be a guest speaker and present a program about the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and its relationship with the active Coast Guard as part of “Team Coast Guard” on February 4, 2016. The dinner meeting was held at the Crow Canyon Country Club - 711 Silver Lake, Danville. I spoke and presented a Power Point on what the USCG Auxiliary is about, its activities and relationship with the U.S.C.G. active enlisted, reservist, and civilian components and public service missions.

The attendance was between 60 and 90 Vietnam Veterans from the United States Armed Forces Navy, Marines, Air Force, Army, and U.S. Coast Guard as well as some guests. It was a great Public Affairs opportunity to get the message out about our missions and impact upon saving lives through many of our recreational boating safety events, classes, public education, and annual vessel exams. The other area of Public Affairs messaging was to reinforce our public image and brand of being a part of “Team Coast Guard”. As each Veteran introduced their selves to the audience and told a bit about their service in Vietnam, the realization of what an

incredible collective of iconic history and devotion to service was evident. It was truly an honor to be able to speak to this wonderful organization about our missions and activities. At the conclusion of my 45 minute presentation utilizing lots of exciting photos for telling the story of various activities and key participation events, I was graciously presented with an engraved Honorable Speaker plaque, inscribed with the presentation’s subject and purpose.

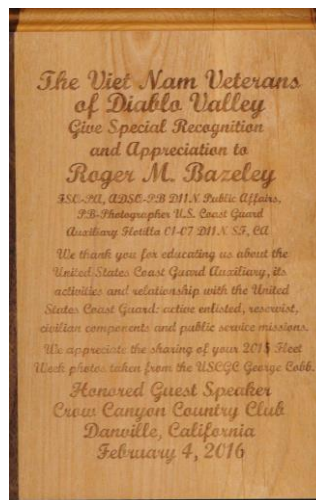


Photo by Roger Bazeley

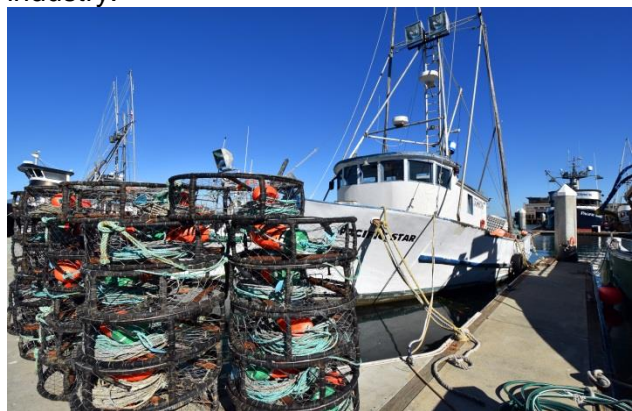
Commercial Vessels

Fishing Vessel Safety Program Enhanced By Coast Guard Auxiliary as a TEAM COAST GUARD Partner Commercial Fishing is one of the most dangerous occupations in the world. USCG Auxiliary and USCG Commercial Fishing Vessel Inspection Teams covered multiple ports providing inspections prior to the opening of the 2015 crabbing season in spite of a significant delay of the 2015 Crab Season due to warmer waters algae bloom contributing to high levels of toxic domoic acid, a neurotoxin in crabs. The Eleventh North Coast Guard District has approximately 1,400 fishing vessels operating in its waters. The USCG Auxiliary and USCG past approach to implementing

Bravo Zulu

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fishing vessel regulations has focused primarily on communication and education. The USCG Auxiliary has been actively engaged in performing dockside commercial fishing vessel safety exams with USCG active duty, reserves, and civilian employees to facilitate servicing the industry.



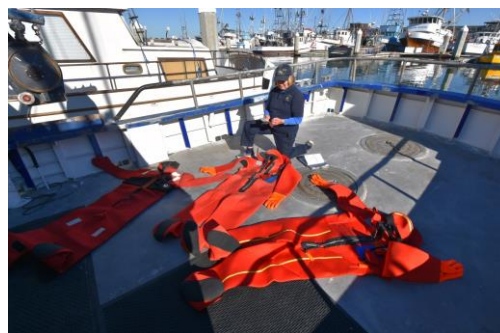
Hyde Street Pier commercial fishing vessels with crabbing pots on docks waiting for crab season start.

This year there were multiple teams that offered safety examinations to commercial fishing fleets and owners located at Crescent City, Eureka, Fort Bragg, Bodega Bay, San Francisco's Hyde Street Pier, Pillar Point-Half Moon Bay, Santa Cruz, Moss Landing, and Monterey teaming up with USCG active and reservists for hands on training. The Vessel Examination Teams met for a day of classroom training at Coast Guard Island with instructors Manny Ramirez, CFVE and Reservist Lt. Cdr. David Cripe. The teams of examiners were deployed to nine fishing fleet locations the following week, prior to the scheduled opening of the 2015 crab season.



USCG Primary Examiner and Instructor Reservist Lt. Cdr. David Cripe examining immersion suit in class.

The USCG Eleventh District North Prevention Division states, "The heart of our enforcement program is the mandatory dockside examination. The dockside examination program involves a inspection by qualified Coast Guard team members to help fishermen bring their vessels into full compliance with federal regulations (CFR). The primary goal of the examination program is aimed at prevention and reducing the high injury and death rate in the commercial fishing industry.



Crab pots waiting to be loaded on to fishing vessel. Auxillarist Sonia Foster inspects vessel life raft.

These free examinations are thorough vessel checks, which examine all safety equipment. The examinations are done by qualified Coast Guard and USCG Auxiliary personnel, or a third party organization accepted and designated by the Coast Guard. The fishing vessel operator is required to possess a valid current commercial fishing vessel examination



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decal and USCG Certificate of Compliance for vessels operating beyond three nautical miles, off the baseline of the U.S. territorial sea. The examination educate the fishing public and to ensure vessel safety. The penalty for not passing the exam generates an official 30 day notice of deficiency. However, if the exam is passed, a Safety Decal and USCG Certificate of Compliance is issued indicating the vessel is in compliance with all current applicable Coast Guard regulations.

Example of Safety Requirements Subject to Examination for Commercial Fishing Vessels:

There must be at least one Coast Guard approved PFD device of the proper size for each person on board the vessel. Immersion suits (also known as "Exposure or Survival Suits") carried on board, are acceptable as long as they are maintained and in good condition. All devices must have 62 square inches of retroreflective tape (31 square inches on the front and 31 square inches on the back and the same on the inside if the device is reversible). The retroreflective tape on immersion suits must be placed so that the tape can be seen if the wearer is in a floating position. When vessels operate on ocean, coastwise, and Great Lakes voyages a Coast Guard approved PFD light must be attached to the front shoulder area of the required device. A Coast Guard approved throwable flotation device (orange ring life buoy with 60' of line for vessels of 26' to 64'), or throw able cushion for vessels 26' and below, must be carried on board. Commercial fishing vessels are required to carry a Coast Guard approved survival craft of sufficient capacity to accommodate every person on board out of the water, as determined by the USCG requirements tables.

"The Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 changed the requirements for examinations

from voluntary to mandatory for the majority of commercial fishing vessels, effective October 15, 2015. The Act increases the requirements for safe practices, appropriate manning levels, and for drills and emergency procedures. While responsibility for commercial fishing vessel safety continues to rest with the boat owners and operators, the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary provides increased oversight of safety practices and regulatory compliance." (USCG Auxiliary Prevention Directorate)



Pillar Point examination teams on board vessel performing inspections, including AUX Michael Mitchell, MST1 Jeffery Merrell, MSTC Ayla Benavides, MST3 Zuroski, MK2 Joe Rielly, and CWO Robert Neefe and owners.

The Auxiliary is currently training additional personnel including USCG Reservists to assist the active duty Coast Guard to perform commercial fishing vessel examinations. The various teams that went out this year were a combination of Auxiliary, active Coast Guard, and USGC reservists who worked together as "Team Coast Guard" in performing this year's commercial fishing vessel inspections.

"The Commercial Fishing Vessel Examiner qualification for Auxiliary members is exactly the same as for active duty and reserve

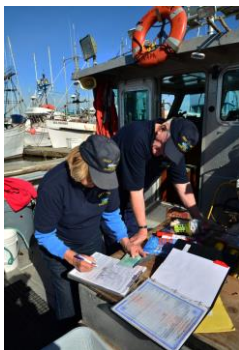


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personnel. A high level of professionalism and acceptance of responsibility is required for the qualification, as well as an ongoing commitment to improve the safety outcomes for the fishing vessel industry. There is a formal education requirement, either from the local sector or the CFVE C-School.” (USCG Auxiliary Prevention Directorate Website)



Auxiliarist Sonia Foster preparing 2015 Commercial Fishing vessel passed examination decal.



Auxiliarists Sue Fry and Chester Bartolini are checking required fishing vessel documents including crew list.

Rear Admiral Joseph A. Servidio the Commander of the Eleventh Coast Guard District has previously spoken at a NLUS/USCG award luncheon of the accomplishments of the dedicated enlisted, civilian, and volunteer auxiliary members of the U.S. Coast Guard Team that support the successful missions and goals for ensuring maritime safety, recreational boating outreach, and maintaining port and national

security, as well as environmental quality through rapid incident response. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary plays a vital role as a force multiplier in many of these key missions including the annual examinations of Commercial Fishing Vessels.

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The U.S.C.G Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian component of the U.S. Coast Guard and supports the U.S.C.G. in nearly all mission areas. The U.S.C.G. Auxiliary was created by Congress in 1939. For more information, please visit www.cgaux.org.

D-Train, March 18-20, Reno

Hopefully you will be attending our D-TRAIN at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno on the weekend of 18 - 20 March. Registration forms are on line at the following link: <http://resource.d11nuscgaux.info/d-train/>.

In addition to great training opportunities, there will be the 'almost world famous' Friday Member Appreciation Night ... a.k.a. "Fun Night". In addition to a Chili Cook-Off, there will be an AUXILIARY'S GOT TALENT show ... with prizes!!!! Please see the attached flyer for details. This should not be missed!!!!!! See you in Reno!

Wally Smith, District Chief of Staff

For more information about D-Train or the AUXLAMs course, contact: Mary Kirkwood, DSO-MT divermmary@comcast.net 415-209-9999

2016 Boater Kits & 2016 Dockwalker trainings

How US Coast Guard Auxiliary Benefit from Becoming Dockwalkers?



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The Dockwalker program is consistent with the Coast Guard marine environmental pollution message and fulfills your commitment to carry out the mandate of the Commandant of the Coast Guard. The Dockwalker program complements the USCGAUX Vessel Examination program, supports Public Affairs/Public Education events, and counts towards the annual Marine Safety service requirement for the TRIDENT program. Hours of Dockwalking may count towards earning the Aux Recreational Boating Safety Insignia.

Thank you and we looking forward to hearing for you

Vivian Matuk

Environmental Boating Program Coordinator
California State Parks Division of Boating & Waterways -
California Coastal Commission
Ph: (415) 904-6905 Fax: (415) 904-5216
45 Fremont Street, Suite 1900 S F, CA 94105

Vivian.Matuk@coastal.ca.gov
www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com

Member of the month . . .

Meet Carlos Carmona –

Born and Raised in Hayward, Carlos is of Mexican Descent and stands at a very tall 6' 5". To say the least when in uniform, he is a sharp stand out. He joined Flotilla 17 about a year ago was an appointed Flotilla Officer for 2015 then appointed Navigations Officer for our Flotilla 17 of YBI. Carlos has dedicated countless years to the Bay Area Community in Service. Carlos was one the Auxiliarists who was deployed out and responded to the devastating Lake County Fires. He played a vital role in teaming up with CDF Fire Fighters, Search and Rescue. Carlos was able to help Spanish speaking families reunite with lost family members. Carlos Carmona came to the Coast Guard Auxiliary for the very same reason, to be of service and help people in need. He works full time as an Education Consultant for Oakland Unified School District and has worked in Education for the last 15 years throughout the east bay developing youth programs for various schools.

A unique quality about Carlos is that he is also a Violence Prevention Expert in the City Of Oakland. With his knowledge and expertise he trained Oakland Police Departments School Units on Violence Prevention and Safe School Strategies. He recently was accepted by and became a valued member to the NLPOA (National



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Latino Police Officers Association) in Alameda County.
One of Carlos Carmona's proudest duties is being a dedicated father to both of his young daughters Giselle and Janessa Carmona. In his free time he is always out and about with his girls.

Way – join us!

All photos by Roger Bazeley USCGAUX, FSO-PA, ADSO-PB D11N unless otherwise noted..

Please submit your photos and stories to Cynthia Dragon: sergequeen@aol.com

Calendar of Events

February

13 Flotilla meeting YBI

March

12 Flotilla meeting YBI

April

09 Flotilla meeting, YBI

2016 Staff Officers

Communications (CM) Desmond Thorsson
Communication Services (CS) Jane Fong
Diversity (DV) Simone Adair
Finance (FN) Arlene Huber
Human Resources (HR) Julie Vincenzini
Information Services (IS) Julie Vincenzini
Materials (MA) Gerald Norton
Marine Safety (MS) Bill Burns
Member Training (MT) Bruce McPhillips
Navigation Systems (NS) Carlos Carmona
Operations (OP) Sue Fry
Public Affairs (PA) Roger Bazeley
Publications (PB) Cynthia Calhoun Dragon
Public Education (PE) Bruce McPhillips
Program Visitor (PV) Gerald K Norton
Secretary of Records (SR) Robin Stewart
Vessel Examinations (VE) Bill Bermudez

Our monthly meeting place is Operations System Center (OSC), YBI at 10AM on the second Saturday each month.

Sometimes we gather for lunch following the meetings at TI Bar & Grill, 60 Clipper Cove