



<p>A message from our Commander <i>In military organizations the "Color Guard" historically</i> <i>Page 1.</i></p>	<p>Longest serving Member, Dale Hawkins.USCG-AUX since 1979. Page 2</p>	<p>Dates to Remember, Flotilla "Color Guard" Page 3</p>	<p>Bill Beacom's Corner <i>PFD- Pet Flotation Device</i> Page 4</p>
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A Word From Our Commander

In military organizations the "Color Guard" historically refers to a detachment of soldiers assigned to protect the regimental colors. This duty is so prestigious that the "color" is generally carried by a young officer, while experienced non-commissioned officers are assigned to protect the flag. These NCOs, accompanied sometimes by warrant officers, can be ceremonially armed with either sabers or rifles. Color guards are generally dismounted, but there are also mounted color guard formations as well. Being assigned to the color guard is considered an honor due to the fact that these individuals present and carry the symbols of their unit and country. Depending on the circumstance and subject to the orders of their commander, members may wear full dress, or less formal uniforms. It is mandatory for all members of the color guard to wear headgear: a garrison cap or service cap. While we won't ask our "Color Guard" to fight for the colors as shown in the historic image, left our members do participate in many local events. This month's newsletter highlights and is dedicated to our Flotilla 1-5 Color Guard.

The fight for the flag between French line infantry and Russian Guard at the Battle of Austerlitz (1805).



THE COMPASS ROSE

Our Longest Serving Member

Dale Hawkins grew up in Iowa, joining the US Submarine Force out of high school, serving two patrols as a navigation electronics technician before his submarine career was cut short by illness.

Some of the positions he served.

- 1980 joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary.
- served as instructor, vessel examiner, communications specialist, navigator and master and aviator.
- served as Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the Naval Sea Cadet units at NAS Miramar for 11 years.
- USCG AUX, Flotilla 1-5: Flotilla Commander,

When word went out in 1983 that Division 1 was creating a new aviation flotilla, Dale jumped at the opportunity continuing his membership in Flotilla 1-5, Montgomery Field.

He moved to Vermont in 1998, reporting to the Burlington Coast Guard Station on historic Lake Champlain, where he was informed that the Coast Guard gets their air support from the Air Force. At their request, Mr. Hawkins joined the Civil Air Patrol, serving as a check pilot and Wing Safety Officer. He joined the Vermont Air National Guard as a command post controller, all the while serving as a member of Flotilla 1-5.

In 2003, Mr. Hawkins' career brought him back to Tehachapi, CA. as a member of the Coast Guard Recruiting Station Fresno. Mr. Hawkins attends job fairs, helps administer Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) exams, gives presentations to community groups and represents the Coast Guard at Tehachapi's "martial celebrations". Dale is proud to be known as "Mr. Coast Guard" in Tehachapi.

Today Mr. Hawkins spends his time tending his gardens, enjoying his telescope under Tehachapi's dark sky, teaching martial arts, and making sure that kids in Tehachapi know about opportunities in the Coast Guard. Even though he is now surrounded by mountains, his heart still is with the Coast Guard and the Mission Bay flotilla.



THE COMPASS ROSE

Our Flotilla's Color Guard

The Flotilla 1-5 Color Guard was organized and supervised by auxiliarist and former Flotilla 1-5 Commander, Will Tisch. The idea of a "Color Guard" was originally brought for consideration by the Division but was turned down. Flotilla 1-5. then picked up the reins on this venture, including expenses for the flags and drill rifles. Will now serves as Color Guard Commander.

Current members include Skip Thompson, Bill Beacom, Angie Ginn, Vern Torres and Ed Samsen, all from Flotilla 1-5. Randy Houck and auxiliarist from other flotillas also participate as needed to fill-in.

Another important member of the Color Guard is Eileen Tisch. She is always present providing an excellent pair of eyes to determine that the "Colors" are displayed properly and uniforms worn according to regulations and protocol. She also acts as photographer, documenting the events the Color Guard participates in during the year. These included: Padres Game, Labor Day 2010, Veterans Day 2010, and Memorial Day 2012. Next events will be Veterans Day Parade, San Diego and the Holiday Bowl Parade.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, October 12th	Scripps Oceanographic Institute Tour	1000 -1400 (tentative)	
Saturday, October 27th	La Mesa Environmental Festival	1000-1400	
Wednesday, November 7th	Special Event at Maritime Institute "Rags Laragione"	1900-2100	
Sunday, December. 1. 2012	Northpark Toyland Parade, Color Guard & Booth Activity	1300-1700	

THE COMPASS ROSE

PFD - Pet Flotation Device

Do you think pets should have Life Jackets (PFDs)? Well, that depends. PFDs are made for pets, mostly for cats and dogs. Well, mostly for dogs, but there are a few cats that wear them as well. There is a myth that says "All dogs can swim" - not true! While many dogs and dog breeds love the water, there are a few that don't want anything to do with it, and some that should not be near the water as it would be dangerous. Some breeds, like Dobermans, Greyhounds, and Whippets have very low body fat mass. This may make it more difficult to stay afloat and to regulate body temperature. If they are not familiar with being in the water, fear and anxiety can also play apart, just as it would with humans. On the other hand, there are other breeds, like Retrievers and Labradors that just love being in the water. Then why should they use a PFD? Again it depends on the situation. A dog in deep water for a long time would have

to swim continuously to stay afloat. They could get very tired. If a dog falls off a boat, they might sink a considerable distance before bobbing up to the top, and of course might start to panic.. So they do make PFD's (PET Flotation Devices) for animals (dogs and cats.). The first thing to note is that unlike human PFDs, the US Coast Guard does not regulate animal PFDs.. However, the Boat US Foundation has done extensive studies on many manufactures. They can be reached at: <http://www.boatus.com/foundation/Findings/52/default.asp> for additional information. There are a number of manufacturers of dog and cat PFDs, most of which seem to work well. There are some items to note when looking for a pet PFD. First, size DOES matter. Every manufacturer offers several models in different sizes. There is little consistency though. In naming the sizes, i.e. a 'small' in one line, is a 'large' in another line. It is highly recommended that a dog be

taken to the store to try on a PFD to be sure of the correct size. One of the better PFDs recommended was the 'Outward Hound' brand. Why do people buy PFDs for their pets? Primarily for peace of mind. And the animals don't seem to mind, either !. I haven't seen any PFDs for parakeets and pet fish - don't think they need one!

(Submitted by Bill Beacom)



Our website:
<http://a1140105.world.uscgaux.info/>

**Flotilla 1-5 meets 1st
Monday each Month
at "Marina Village**

**Convention Center"
(1900-2100)
Perspective
members always
welcome.**