



# Peninsula Waypoints

Division 4—District 13

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

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## DIVISION COMMANDER'S REPORT



by Joe Langjahr, DCDR

Summer is finally here! The days are nicer, the weather is warmer, and people are taking to their boats again. Unfortunately, the safety statistics for recreational boaters in the 13th District is sobering. In 2011, 33 of the 47 boating fatalities were not wearing life jackets. And paddle craft make up about 47% of the district's fatalities.

A large proportion of our fatal accidents involve capsizing, falls overboard, and collisions.

Nationally, the smaller the boat the greater the chance of capsizing or falling overboard. About 86% of the accidents on vessels under 16 feet in length result in a fatal drowning accident. This has to do with the operator's ability to accurately assess the vessel's stability, improper (or no) pre-departure evaluation of weather and sea conditions, and underestimating the vessel's or the operator's own capabilities. Small motorized open boats and paddle craft, such as canoes, kayaks and stand-up paddle boards are most susceptible.

These statistics are the reason that the Coast Guard has tasked the Auxiliary to focus on recreational boating safety, with an emphasis on smaller boats. The causes for most of the fatalities are due to a lack of education and poor risk assessment on the part of the operators. We can help the Coast Guard by continuing to offer public education classes so that the boating public is better able to operate their boats and properly assess their risks.

Vessel safety checks are another key element in our efforts to reduce these statistics. During the checks, the vessel examiner has the opportunity to spend some one-on-one time with the owner to not only check their safety equipment and ensure that the vessel meets federal and state requirements, but also to discuss with the owner how and when to use the gear. Vessel examiners should take advantage of these safety checks to help in our education efforts.

Sometimes overlooked are our marine dealer visits. Besides ensuring that there are ample materials available to the public, our visitors spend time with the

dealers and marina operators to tell them of our public education classes and provide contacts for our vessel examiners. These visits are an important part of our efforts.

All of these efforts, public education, vessel safety checks, and marine dealer visits, together with our operational patrols, help to protect the boating public. We may not always have the satisfaction of a successful SAR response, but these activities are our "preventative SAR" efforts.

On a personal note, as some of you may know, besides serving as your Division Commander, I also serve as DSO-LP or the District Legal Officer. I have found that trying to do both jobs has been difficult and time consuming and I have decided not to run for re-election as DCDR next year. Elsewhere in this newsletter there is an explanation of the new election process outlined in our Standing Rules. I encourage anyone who has served as a flotilla commander to consider running for either DCDR or VCDR.

My thanks to all of you for your service and all that you do to support the Auxiliary, the Coast Guard, and the boating public. As always, please be safe in all your Auxiliary and personal activities and always look to the safety of your shipmates and your families.

## DIVISION OFFICERS

DCDR	Joseph Langjahr
VCDR	James L. Kight
IPDCDR	David Aho
SO-CM	Don Millbauer
SO-CS	Tim Westcott
SO-DV	Jaclyn Ayzenberg
SO-FN	Ed Taylor
SO-HR	Jaclyn Ayzenberg
SO-IS	James Zard
SO-MA	Ellen Decker
SO-MS	Roald Bendixen
SO-MT	Kurt Schultz
SO-NS	Tim Westcott
SO-OP	Dee Meek
SO-PA	Ian McFall
SO-PB	Loretta Rindal
SO-PE	Grant Winther
SO-PV	Robert Gibbs
SO-SR	Loretta Rindal
SO-VE	Robert Gibbs

## FLOTILLA OFFICERS

### Flotilla 41

Simeon Baldwin, FC  
Peggy Welker, VFC

### Flotilla 42

Gerald Decker, FC  
Sylvia Oster, VFC

### Flotilla 45

Albert Gonzalez, FC  
Paul Newman, VFC

### Flotilla 47

Henry Loesch, FC  
Victoria Brandon, VFC

### Flotilla 48

Gregory Baker, FC  
Dick Read, VFC

## ELECTION OF DIVISION OFFICERS

This year the Division (as well as each flotilla) has a new set of Standing Rules. There have been some significant changes to the process of electing division officers.

Instead of the Division Commander appointing a nominating committee which seeks candidates for office, division members wishing to be candidates for either of the division elected offices (Division Commander and Vice Division Commander) shall submit a "letter of intent" to seek election of that office to the Division Commander at least 60 days prior to the scheduled election.

In accordance with our new Standing Rules, I have appointed our Immediate Past Division Commander, David Aho, as the Screening Committee. He will verify the eligibility of those candidates who have submitted a letter of intent to be elected to office.

The Auxiliary Manual, Appendix C, sets forth the requirements for division elected offices. Basically, division members must have completed a regular term as a flotilla commander, completed ICS 200 and 800, have obtained an Auxiliary qualification and be current in one of the Auxiliary programs, have served as a staff officer or elected officer for the previous year, and have 25 hours of activity in Auxiliary programs for the previous year.

Candidates for elected office who have submitted a letter of intent and have been vetted as eligible by the Screening Committee, do not need to be present at the election to be elected.

Prior to the elections, nominations may also be made by any member of the Division Board (the flotilla commanders, the DCDR, VCDR, and IPDCDR). No second is required. Candidates nominated at this time must be present.

Elections will be held in the first part of October at a date to be selected by the Division Board. Therefore, candidates for division office should submit their letter of intent no later than the first part of August.

### In this issue

- 1 Division Commander's Report
- 2 Election of Division Officers—New Procedure
- 3-6 Division Staff Officer Reports
- 6 The Elmore, the Aux & the Wooden Boat Festival
- 7-9 Flotilla Reports
- 8 Division 4—First Helicopter Facility in D13

# COMMUNICATIONS—DON MILLBAUER, SO-CM

## Communication Enhancement Proposal

Under the leadership of Don Millbauer and M. Asbury, FSO-CM Flotilla 41 proposes to establish and implement a procedure that will allow the flotilla increased radio exposure in our immediate area of responsibility (AOR).

### Purpose/Objective:

- 1) Augment existing radio facilities in to an organized network herein after referred to as AUXNET 41. The primary objective is to determine availability of resources, identify weaknesses, provide a training platform and develop a model 'net' that might benefit other flotillas.
- 2) Provide an alternative to surface operations for those Auxiliarists that wish to contribute to the Auxiliary mission through communications support on VHF and potentially HF.
- 3) Eventual coordination support of on-water operations with emphasis on paddlecraft communication support, particularly improvement on comms with Sector Puget Sound.
- 4) Have a net in place for purposes of assisting local and regional emergency governmental groups in the event of disaster.

### Plan:

- 1) We have surveyed the Flotilla and identified "41" personnel that are willing and possess the immediate resources to participate in the VHF NET.
- 2) Next, we will hold an informal radio check on VHF channel 69 at 6:00 pm on June 13, 2012. This will identify radio capabilities within our AOR. Auxiliarists with VHF will be asked to call net control on channel 69 VHF for a radio check and state their current position. Proper radio etiquette will be maintained at all times.
- 3) We will then create a map of the AOR and position each responding VHF resource on the map using the vessel name as the identifier.
- 4) Once we know what capabilities we do have, we will attempt to identify and backfill areas where comms are weak or nonexistent with additional resources.
- 5) Test the program at the first opportunity, hopefully with a paddlecraft operation in the North Hood Canal, where radio comms have been prob-



lematic. Prior to that we will identify a VHF control facility, probably at the fire station.

### Future:

Once we have the AUXNET identified and up and running, we can move to have all VHF facilities willing and able to provide a support function certified by the appropriate USCGA authority. At that point, we should have a platform for attaining our goals and objectives as stated in Section 1 above.

## HUMAN RELATIONS—JACKIE AYZENBERG, SO-HR



Division wide membership is up for the first time in several years. Currently, membership stands at 188 active members which is up 3 over this time last year. Pendings are running out even so you are all doing an excellent of recruiting. Nationals has instituted a new system of notifying all flotillas in a 50 mile radius when someone fills at the online “contact me” form. HR and FC should be sure to read everyone of them and see if that individual is in your immediate area.

## INFORMATION SYSTEMS—JIM ZARD, SO-IS

Auxiliary information Systems are becoming ever more integrated. This is good news because typically, our members can learn one system and it is nearly replicated when something new comes out. This is the case for WebForms which are being used in more and more areas. WebForms key to the individual member so that the source of input is clearly identified. The downside is that YOU need to do your own reporting; someone else can't do it for you (unless you're prepared to give them your log-on information (never a good idea)!

Although the form 7028 has existed as a WebForm for over a year, many members were still unaware of it. Therefore, whenever the member moved, got a new email address, new phone number, etc. they would send email inquiries about in an attempt to learn who needed to be contacted about these changes only to learn that they have the capability/responsibility to do so.

Just in the past week, the new Auxiliary Directory was rolled out. Within the directory is documentation explaining its improvements. Among those improvements is the ability to record skills information. Last week all previous skills information was purged from the system with a plan to convert this bank of information to the Bureau of Labor Statistics standard occupational codes.

The Skills Bank is a new application from the Auxiliary IT Group (of which we are a part) that enables both the Auxiliary and active duty to locate members with specific skills and qualifications in time of urgent need. For this information to be useful, the data must be loaded.



What does this mean to you and me? It means that every member is being asked to update their skills information. D-9 is already in the testing phase of this effort using every means possible to contact each member in their District encouraging them to update their record. D-13 is scheduled next for a blitz in this effort. Now is the time to visit your record in the Auxiliary Directory (AUXOfficer) to submit this information.

The IS Officer (me) has been asked to make these changes as quickly as possible in AUXDATA on a first come first entered basis. As you can imagine, this may create a heavy workload for me so please be patient; I will respond to each individual when I've made the changes.

## MEMBER TRAINING—JIM ZARD, SO-MT

Now that Summer is upon us, on-water operational training is in full swing. Currency Maintenance sessions are being scheduled and last minute on-water tasks are being completed by boat crew trainees. However, the logistic organization has reported that Dry Suits will no longer be issued to trainees. This will create problems for our area where the water temperature is so low. Since the Mustang coveralls also are no longer being issued we'll have to become creative. There are a number of members who are holding both the dry suit and the coveralls in their possession, so we should be able to "loan" coveralls to trainees when needed.



will not appear on this site and are still on hold. This provides us with a particularly useful tool for members preparing for the closed book NavRules test and the open book Operations Policy test.

ICS-210 classes have been rare and as a result, tend to become a roadblock to coxswain qualification. I believe we've got significant enough numbers of members either currently working toward their coxswain qualification or planning to in the near future to justify a Division IV class. I've contacted an ICS-210 instructor and am attempting to set up a class in Port Ludlow at the end of July or beginning of August.

The long awaited Coast Guard Auxiliary Learning Center <http://classroom.cgaux.org> is finally available. All courses previously available at the "Virtual Classroom" are currently available at the learning center. The new site uses your universal username/password (same as Auxiliary Directory, National Testing Center, WebForms, etc.). Please note that the "on hold" Mandated Training (Privacy Training, Suicide Prevention, etc.)

I recently passed along to the FSO-MTs a Member Training Compendium which provides links and information on a multitude of training information including which training requires a proctor, links to follow to locate member training courses and testing, PQS for active Duty training, what the prerequisites are, etc. My accompanying suggestion was to post this compendium on the flotilla websites. Posting this on the Division website would also be highly desirable.

## OPERATIONS—DEE MEEK, SO-OP



For the month of June we had 17 patrols, 4 training, 1 SAR operations, 7 operations training, 2 federal and 3 SAR standby orders. Unfortunately one each category had a cancellation, except the Federal. The federal was a RAD/NUC training at Sequim with state and federal officials involved.

The half year's summary is that we have had 113 patrols, with 27 cancellations. There were 55 more patrols last year, in comparison. I feel the cause is more the money shortage but maybe some from the boats being sold and member retirements. Flotilla 42 is down to 3 facilities berthed in Sequim, 45 has 2, 47 has 4, but may be losing one through sales, 48 has 7 and 41 is the biggest with 11. The biggest difficulty we have is getting facilities west of Sequim. Flotilla 42 has no capability out of Port Angeles except with one trailerable boat out of Sequim, which would have problems with the heavier seas. As Flotilla 47 has several facilities berthed in Sequim, considering AOR's becomes

difficult. Stressing recruitment out of Port Angeles would really be a benefit

The biggest division involvement was with the MFPU exercise in May, in the Hood Canal submarine exercise where 7 facilities were involved, from two flotillas, with the PATCOM operating from an on-site facility.

We now have no funds budgeted for fuel but do have approximately \$35,000. set aside for that purpose, which is 1/2 that of last year. So far, we have used only \$7,000.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION—GRANT WINTHER, SO-PE

Flotilla #42 Sylvia Oster reports that since March a boating safety class has been taught each month.

Flotilla # 47 reports that they have had no PE activity for the reason that their IT & FSO-PE Brian Moratti, is REYR and has not been able to receive a waiver for hour requirements. Flotilla # 48 may be able to help him with hours if able.

Flotilla # 45 put on a Water Safety class in Keyport for ages 5 to 15. They were asked to participate in the Armed Forces Day parade.

Flotilla # 48 taught an ABS Class and is developing a Chart Plotting/Chart Reading & GPS Familiarization Class which may be out by Fall.



Flotilla # 41 taught ABS and Suddenly in Command on May 19 and June respectively for a total of 12 students. They also did a Boating Fun class at Cottonwood Elementary YMCA Summer Day Camp for 29 students and the following day did Waypoints at Crownhill Elementary YMCA Summer Day Camp for 51 students.

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## JOIN US AT THE WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL! PORT TOWNSEND—SEPTEMBER 7-9, 2012



Once again, the historic tug ELMORE will be on display at the Wooden Boat Festival in Port Townsend on September 7-9. The ELMORE is an Auxiliary facility owned by our Division 4 SO-OP, Dee Meek and will showcase the Auxiliary. Besides offering tours of the tug, there will

be displays and literature about the Auxiliary and sign-up sheets for vessel safety checks, public education classes and information about membership.

This is a great opportunity to educate the public about the Auxiliary. However, we need volunteers to represent the Auxiliary for 4-hour shifts. The show starts on at 0900 and goes to 1700 on Friday and Saturday, September 7 and 8, and from 0900 to 1200 on Sunday, September 9.

Dee also needs crew to move the boat from Port Hadlock to Port Townsend on Thursday before the show and back again on Sunday afternoon.

Besides spending time on this historic vessel and meeting the public, volunteers get a free pass to the Wooden Boat Festival and will be able to visit the other boats and displays.

Volunteers must be in proper uniform (either tropical blues or ODUs). If you are interested, please contact Dee Meek and commit to a scheduled time.

# FLOTILLA 4I—PORT LUDLOW

## WATER SAFETY EDUCATION: KIDS

submitted by Simeon Baldwin, FC

With Lynn Hyman as instructor and Stan Kriegel as my first mate, we taught 31 students yesterday at Crownhill Elementary, Bremerton, and 51 students today at Cottonwood Elementary, Silverdale. 164 “Kid-hours” of instruction by my count.

Waypoints & Boating Fun were the youth PE courses taught. We did the ever popular Type IV PFD toss, the trying on & fitting of Life Jackets, as well as the close-out “Ice-Bucket” hypothermia drill. Of course also covered was the course material as well as take-home orange stuff bags.



## PADDLE THE DRAGON

Jeff Welker and Simeon Baldwin served as safety kayaks for the “Paddle the Dragon” paddle craft race which was held in conjunction with the Northwest Adventures Days event held in Port Gamble.



It was a 9 mile kayak race from Port Gamble, north on the Hood Canal and then back to Port Gamble via the driftwood dragon located on the north end of Hoods Head.

About 60 paddle craft ranging from rowing skulls and kayaks to stand up paddle boards participated in the event. We also set up a RBS booth in the vendor’s area.

Photos by Jeff Welker.



## FIRST HELICOPTER FACILITY IN D-13

A few months ago, the D-13 USCG Auxiliary Aviation added a new facility, a Robinson R44 Clipper II owned by Greg Baker of Flotilla 48.

This being the first helicopter facility in D-13 both a facility inspection and Greg's check ride for First Pilot were conducted at CGAS Port Angeles by LCDR Scott Sanborn, assistant Operations boss at the Air Station. D-13 is also home to a Bell 206 B model (Jet Ranger) asset and an number of fixed wing assets based in and around the Puget Sound and Columbia River areas. Both D-5 and D-11 also have Aux Air helicopter assets, one an R44, the other a Bell 47.

The R44 is well suited for the District's needs with a relatively low operating cost, capacity for three passengers and a potential range of more than 300 NM. The Clipper II is equipped with pop-out emergency floats adding to its safety and flexibility.



All About "Air," Jim Beyea (r) makes presentation to Helicopter Pilot, Greg Baker

Auxiliary Aviation is organized at the District level with the DSO-AV and DFSO (District Flight Safety Officer) in co-equal leadership positions, both reporting to the DCO. Other staff positions can include ADSOs for operations, training and air station liaison.

Our OIAs are the two air stations, CGAS Port Angeles and CGAS Astoria. While we sometimes receive tasking from Sector Seattle or Sector Columbia River, such requests are still run through the air stations per national policy. Just as the surface side does for Sector and the small boat stations, we serve as a force multiplier for the air stations performing MOM, MEP, logistics and familiarization missions.

Photo by Rindal



# FLOTILLA 48—NORTH KITSAP

Report: Operations and Boater Safety Education



Above: Brown, Clarke and Lindsley, Training Patrol



Greg Baker & Knots



Spellbound students & Joe Dunstan



Grant Winther



Knotty Mom & Daughter

Photos: Beyea & Rindal



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