



Peninsula

Waypoints

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U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary District 13, Division 4 Newsletter

Spring 2016



Division Four supports six regional flotilla's in Northwest Washington state covering Puget Sound, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and Hood Canal. We provide administrative assistance by coordinating activities between flotillas and providing communication to Coast Guard Auxiliary District 13. Our Mission is to make Division Four a support force between the six regional flotillas, the boating public, and the US Coast Guard in Northwest Washington state.

Flotilla 41, Port Ludlow & Brinnon; Flotilla 42, Sequim; Flotilla 44, Port Angeles; Flotilla 45, Bremerton;
Flotilla 47, Port Townsend; Flotilla 48, North Kitsap

Division 4 website: <http://a13004.wow.uscgaux.info>

Division Officers

DCDR	David Larkin
VCDR	David Grant
IPDCDR	Henry Loesch
SO-CM	Dennis Tilton
SO-CS	Larry Kight
SO-MA	Richard Moore
SO-FN	Danny Reynolds
SO-IS	David Grant
SO-MA	Richard Moore
SO-MT	Grant Winther
SO-NS	Joseph Langjahr
SO-OP	David Larkin
SO-PB	Loretta Rindal
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SO-SR	Loretta Rindal
SO-VE	Lucinda Eubank

Flotilla Officers

Flotilla 41
David Aho, FC
Sonya Quitslund, VFC

Flotilla 42
Leo Leonard, FC
Marilynn Leonard, VFC

Flotilla 44
Joseph Treece, FC
Danny O. Reynolds, VFC

Flotilla 45
Daniel Saikkonen, FC
Jason Kardos, VFC

Flotilla 47
Sylvia Oster, FC
Harry Dudley, VFC

Flotilla 48
Larry Kight, FC
David Shutz, VFC

AUXILIARY MATTERS

submitted by Art West. D-CAPT-N

We are well into a new boating season and things are "Happening." As I scroll through the various Division and Flotilla web sites, I am pleased to see so many activities scheduled.

As you all know our main goal is RBS. Classes are being held around the District with good enrollment. We, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, are well known for promoting Safe Boating through education. Statistics show we DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Because of the increase in Paddle craft and the need to educate less experienced boaters, the auxiliary is considering an educational partnership with the American Canoe Association with the Auxiliary teaching the shoreside training and ACA the on-the-water training.

To further our abilities and professionalism we need to continue to complete our Mandatory Training Classes. We are 3rd in the Nation at this time. We can do better. Show everyone we are number one, not number three.

Online classes continue to be a hot topic of our National arm. Possible new classes being considered are New member training, Navigation and BS&S.

Failure to mentor new members continues to be the reason for declining membership rolls. Appoint existing members as mentors and recognize accomplishments of those who are progressing in our Organization. Remember, new excited members are a great way to recruit. Take the time to get them involved.

Did you receive the call? The recent Accountability Drill was successful—a 68% response within 4 hours, 72% a few hours later. Please see that your contact lists are up to date. Several contacts were not made due to out dated contact information.

Safety of our members is of utmost importance and I know you all will be prepared and "think" before you act. We can't help those in need if we are not properly prepared. It's going to be a great season for boating. Take the time to enjoy, be safe and remember, if you efforts result in saving one child's life it's worth it!" Semper Paratus.

Please let me know your thoughts, ideas, what works and what we can do to improve.
art.west@comcast.net

In this issue

- 2 Auxiliary Matters D-Capt North**
- 3&5 Division Commander Remarks**
- 4 Auxiliary Public Affairs C-School Training**
- 6&7 Division 4 Joins in CGC Station Seattle Training Exercise**
- 8-10 Flotilla Activities**

DIVISION COMMANDERS REMARKS

Greetings Shipmates,

As we sail into the warmer season I would be happy to tell you that Division Four is strong and leading the way in the District. While some of that is true, in other areas we have some challenges that will take teamwork to resolve.

Mandated Training. In the area of member training, specifically the mandated training, we are doing well. The mandated training has become the baseline for IQ, BQ and AX members to maintain just as the new member exam and boating safety course are the baseline for AP members. The mandated training is not Auxiliary specific; it applies to every employee in the Department of Homeland Security and other Departments. For those that have not yet completed the eight core courses, along with FEMA's IS-100 and IS-700, please do so as soon as you can. We are now well past the date when the USCG stops supporting us without those completed. We were first notified that we needed to complete these in 2009 so they have been more than patient with us. If you still need one or more of them and are having trouble contact your FSO-MT for assistance.

Turning to surface operations, we have serious needs for more surface facilities and qualified crews. We need larger vessels that can handle the Straits and smaller/trailerable boats for inshore work, as well as mobility. For example we have requests to patrol Lake Crescent in Olympic National Park (federal waters). The USCG has the responsibility to patrol there occasionally and they have asked if we can do that for them. Clearly trailerable facilities are needed in places like that. We are receiving regular requests to support the USCG in their law enforcement training by providing facilities as boarding platforms. The need to routinely patrol the Hood Canal is there and we need enough depth in our surface forces to be able to do that without burning out the members we have.

Recruiting members into surface operations has gotten easier now that we have CWO Jon Wall as the new OTO at DIRAUX. He has stated very clearly that we will issue PPE to trainees (all except the PLB) so they don't have to beg and borrow to find gear.

The Division now has a PPE locker located at AIRSTA/SFO Port Angeles. A big thank you to FC Leo Leonard of FI-42 for providing space in their MA locker for the Division equipment. We have a large selection of gear available for issue (or exchange if you need a replacement item) so please check the current listing of available PPE on the Division web page before you order from DIRAUX. I keep the inventory updated and published in the "Members Only" section of the page located at a13004.wow.uscgaux.info.

Incident Management. I could talk all day on this topic but I will keep this short and specific. After face to face meetings with Captain Raymond, Commander of Sector Puget Sound, there are definite needs in the ICS structure that we can fill. He was pretty clear that the Auxiliary will probably not be filling the upper level positions and that makes sense. But he did say there is a clear need, USCG wide, for good trained personnel to fill the various supporting functions like



liaison officer, agency representative, documentation unit leader, Check in/Status Recorders, Display Processors, Receiving and Distribution Managers, Responder Rehabilitation Managers, etc. It's those "less glamorous" jobs that we can really help out in. Our stable workforce and local area knowledge is well suited to those roles. Think about a few of those that you may be interested in and let's pursue those ICS qualifications.

The one other item that I will mention regarding incident management is communications. Specifically radio communications. The fact is that we need more capability in this area. Once upon a time we could use modified amateur radios to communicate on USCG Aux frequencies. Those days are long past us and because the frequencies we use are Federal they fall under the NTIA, not the FCC. The NTIA has tighter requirements for the radios than the FCC. Normally "tighter requirements" means "higher cost" and while that is true, it's not as bad as most people think. We have a number of USCG Aux radio facilities up and running and we were able to buy used, excellent condition radios on eBay for under \$150. For example I have 2 Icom IC-F121's (one in my
(continued, page 5)

AUXILIARY PUBLIC AFFAIRS C-SCHOOL TRAINING

by Brian Moratti

The Auxiliary Public Affairs program touches all areas of volunteer service within the Auxiliary. For that reason, and because Auxiliary Public Affairs Officers may serve in that role directly for the Coast Guard, the Auxiliary provides in depth training for its members. The Auxiliary Public Affairs course AUX-12, or C-School, is available to members wishing to serve in that capacity for their flotilla, division, or district organization.

I attended the AUX-12 C-School offered in St. Louis in January of 2016. National Branch Chief for Public Affairs C-School Manny Romero, Ed.D. and David McClure, Ed.D. National Branch Chief for Public Affairs Training co-taught the three-day course. Thirteen Auxiliary members from across the nation attended the training event. The students represented a range of Auxiliary qualifications and experience beyond their focus on Public Affairs.



The Auxiliary places certain requirements on members selected to attend AUX-12 C-School. The C-School is open to District Staff Officer (DSO), Division Staff Officer (SO) and appointed Flotilla Staff Officers for Public Affairs or Publications (FSO-PA and PB). In addition, any elected leader, members of the Auxiliary Interpreter Corps, and members of the AUXPA National Staff may attend. Every Auxiliary public affairs officer is expected to enroll in and complete AUX-12. Students are sent on Reimbursable Orders for this three-day Public Affairs “boot camp.” This means that travel costs are covered by the USCG for students attending and successfully completing the course. As a prerequisite, students must complete the online AUX-20 course prior to attendance. The instructors may also require pre-course assignments to be completed prior to attendance.

The classroom sessions over the three days included team break-out session exercises in writing, photography, and public speaking. Each evening instructors assigned homework that realistically represented the work of the Public Affairs Officer. This included writing press releases, feature articles, photography, and planning for communications management in national incident responses as a Public Information Officer.

The capstone of the course involved students participating in teams in a simulated Incident Command System Joint Information Center (JIC). Each team had a different scenario to present to the “press corps” which was represented by the other students and instructors. The presentations were recorded on video and students learned the basics of this critical role and discovered how they

performed on camera when pressured on the spot by representatives of the press.

After attending C-School students have more work to do when they return home to officially complete the course. This includes compiling

a list of their community media contacts, writing a press release with included photographs and captions, and completing a presentation on the Auxiliary Public Affairs program to their flotilla, district, or

C-School is a major step in qualifying as an Auxiliary Public Affairs Officer. But, to complete the qualification candidates must follow a formal Personnel Qualification Standard (PQS) process. This includes the completion of key functions in the AUX-PA role, meeting required hours of service, and passing an oral examination board review. Candidates may advance from Auxiliary Public Affairs Officer I to levels II and III through a similar process.

For further information on Auxiliary Public Affairs contact the appropriate staff officer in your area. You can discover more online as well at: www.auxpa.org which will direct you to the new website for the directorate.



home and one to be installed on my boat) that are working great. They are 128 channel narrow band radios and Dennis Tilton (SO-CM) and I both have the programming software for them. They also work well on HAM frequencies and others so if you happen to be a member of a local fire department they can do double duty. It's not hard to meet the requirements to have an Auxiliary stations (you need your TCO qual).

If you have an inspected surface facility you don't even need a separate inspection as your boat facility number will be the call sign. We have 2 repeaters in our area (Lookout near Bellingham and on top of the Federal Building in Seattle), 9 Auxiliary specific simplex channels and seven USCG repeaters in the Puget Sound area to use. These are not marine radio frequencies so we can use them for operations or training and not be monitored by the public (unless they have those channels in a scanner). When (if?) the "big one" hits good old fashioned radio will be all we have to communicate so let's get prepared.

We need to address recruiting. Our membership has had a steady slide over the years due to many reasons. While there is a lot to be said for "right sizing" I feel we have gone below that mark. In a volunteer organization we need to have enough depth in the ranks to have 3-4 qualified members for each task so the chance of having a qualified member available increases. We all have a tendency to recruit our peers. That is good, but as we get older so do our peers. We should focus our recruiting on those people we can groom to take our place and lead the Auxiliary for the next 20 years. The mid 30-40's age folks are usually getting steady in their lives and may have the funds to participate (we all know it costs a lot to be in the Auxiliary) so those should be prime candidates. We should also target college age members. One way to sell this to them is to tell them that if they have a FSO or higher level position they can put "program manager" and "leadership" on their resume. Also target the young (Navy JROTC, Sea Scouts, etc) and remember that they only need to be 17 to join. If they are thinking at all about going in the military, this could be a good stepping stone to see if they like the military system.

The next logical discussion after recruiting is our own internal leadership. We are at a critical point in finding members willing to step up and assume the role of Flotilla Commander or Vice Commander. It has become so bad that we lost a few Flotillas last year and may even lose a Division soon. In our own Division we have a crisis in this area. We are finding the same members needing to run again and again due to lack of candidates. I would encourage each of you to consider taking a turn at the helm. I won't lie, it does involve work, but if you have the support of your crew in FSO roles you really can delegate a lot of it. The term may be "Commander" but it's really more "manager." There is a lot of help available from above, below and the other Flotilla Commanders so it's not as scary as you think it may be. Please think about running next time and seeing what it's all about.

All of these areas are things we can work on and as a team I think we can continue to lead District 13 and show how we can get things done.

I will leave you with these thoughts.

First, we are one Coast Guard. From the active duty, reserves, civilians, contractors and Auxiliary we are all working towards one goal, to meet the assigned missions of the US Coast Guard. We are not a separate organization. At the Auxiliary level we are not individual units. We are one Auxiliary who happens to meet in various locations for convenience. Always reach out to the Flotillas around you for support when you have an activity and step up to support them.

The second thought is to think outside the box. That term gets tossed around a lot but it really applies. Always think of new ways of doing things. If we continued to do things the same way we would still be in sailing ships.

Stay safe, and stay ready.

David Larkin, DCDR

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DIVISION 4 CGC STATION SEATTLE





photos by: Kent Brown ASC- Puget Sound FI 12



4 JOINS IN E TRAINING EXERCISES

Training with Station Seattle—March 26, 2016

Below is a photo at trainings end—the AUX boat saving the CG 45 from disaster. We took them in a stern tow then brought them alongside to a side tow. Shown at our debriefing and discussion of how the evolutions went.

Jeremy Court, Flotilla 18 had the 36 ft white trawler. Kent Brown ASC- Puget Sound FI 12 had the trailerable 28 footer. Dave Grant 48 provided the 21 footer, Tom Lindsley the 26 ft. The mix provided the LE trainees a variety of boarding situations including interacting with the boating public (portrayed by instructors nice and not so nice all of the time) in close quarters.

—Larry Kight



AROUND THE DIVISION

The Division has been calling on flotilla-wide support for many of the public events which are being held this spring & summer.

The current call is for participants to man a booth at the annual Brinnon Shrimp Fest coming up May 28 & 29.

Every flotilla responded to the newsletter editors call for information/articles/reports for this newsletter. All had this in common, a focus on member recruitment and retention and building a program of activities to support RBS and Marine Safety which would stimulate enthusiasm and participation.

A brief look at Easy Reports provides another picture of flotilla activities.

Flotilla 41

Beginning to direct Flotilla focus towards one mission "Paddle Craft Safety." Designing and developing a booth display and get all members to participate.

Flotilla 42

1. Conducted two Mandatory Training Classes for FL-42.
2. Initiated training for PV's and VE's for qualification.
3. Several members completed the TCO course and First Aid CPR and AED Course.
4. Conducted ABS Class.
5. Our Mess Night, Past Commander's luncheon, are major fellowship events in our flotilla.

Flotilla 44

Established our qualified R&S OFFICER and advised the OTA, in oversee the inspection and testing of the PPEs. Coordinated a breakfast for the USCG Boat Station Port Angeles crew with 11 Auxiliary members and 20

Coast Guard personnel.

We have one new member who has completed all the necessary paper work awaiting District review and approval.

We have two mobile UHF/VHF radios installed and inspected to qualify as a facility. Paper work has been submitted now awaiting approval.

We have a fellowship breakfast fellowship weekly with good attendance.

FC and DCR attended Cascadia Rising meeting in Forks.

Established a training program in Marine Safety for all flotilla members.

In April DCR presented program on the history of the CG Auxiliary in the Port Angeles area to the Port Angeles Yacht Club.

Two flotilla members participated in the Auxiliary UHF Radio net in April.

KITSAP COUNTY WATER FESTIVAL FLOTILLA 41



Simeon Baldwin and Sonya Quitslund presented at Kitsap County Water Festival in April to five classes of 4th graders on water safety, hypothermia, survival in the water, life jackets & the basics.

PORT ANGELES KID'S FAIR—FL 44 & 47



March 2016

Division members staffed a booth at the Port Angeles Kids Fair. Among materials handed out over 380 Coast Guard coloring books.

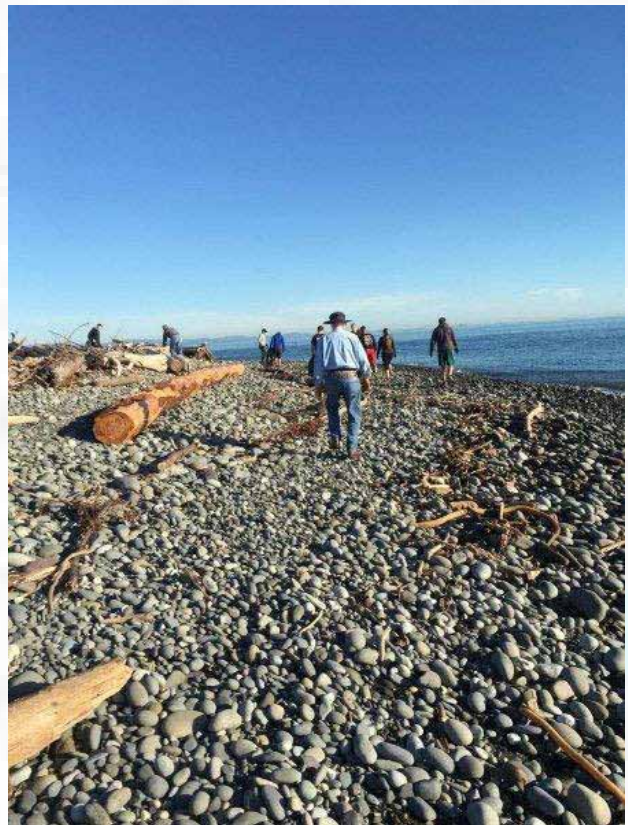
Shown left: Sylvia Oster, FC 47,
Joe Treece Treece, FC 44
David Larkin, DCDR

AIRSTATION, PORT ANGELES—THE BEACH, FL 44-42

March 2016

Members of Flotilla 44 joined with the crew of Station Port Angeles for an early morning beach clean up along the tip of Ediz Hook onboard AIRSTA/SFO Port Angeles.

Afterwards the group was treated to a brunch cooked by Auxiliarist Richard Fleck of Flotilla 42.



FLOTILLA 48

About Boating Safety, March 12 and June 11, 2016



Kids 'N Water:
May 27, June 3 and June 10, 2016



Spring On-the-Water Training: Flotilla



Spring On-the-Water Training with USCG Station Seattle



Bainbridge Island Boater's Fair
June 4, 2016

