



# MORNING STAR NEWS

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 63, Tillamook Bay

July 2012



## Flotilla 63 - News From Tillamook Bay

### From the Helm

*Dennis V. Jacob, FC Flotilla 63*

Hello Everyone!

Oh my goodness it's time for another "From the Helm" article. Hmm, what to write about this time.

On Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> of July I was in Spokane, Washington for a 8 hour Vessel Inspection School to take back to the various Division FSO-VE's. The actual class material I'll talk about at some later date.

What impressed me the most was the professionalism of our District 13 Staff Officers. On another note, on our drive to Spokane, we followed massive rainstorms with lots of lightning. Folks in Spokane were very surprised to see such storms at this time of the year. I told all who would listen "What do you expect would happen when you let a bunch of Oregonians in your state."

Hey! Enough of me. Enjoy the rest of our Summer.

See you at the Picnic in August.

Cheers!  
Dennis Jacob  
FC

### Awards & Recognition

*By Anya Doll*

At the June meeting of Flotilla 63, Mike Davis was recognized for his courageous part in the harrowing adventure you will read about in Cammy Hickman's article about the Rose Festival escort.



#### 2011 Officers

Flotilla Commander - Dennis V. Jacob  
Vice Flotilla Commander - Robert Hickman  
Finance & Materials - Terri Southwick  
Communications - Bill Yaremchuk  
Operations - Ray Neubig  
Public Education & Computer Services - Mike Davis  
Secretary, Public Affairs - Cammy Hickman  
Publications - Anya Doll  
Information Services - Kay Neubig  
Human Resources - Mike Johnson  
Vessel Examiner, Member Training & Marine Safety - Dennis Jacob

MSN Edited by Anya Doll, FSO-PB. Unless otherwise noted, all photos were taken by Anya Doll

## Rose Festival Fleet Escort

By Cammy Hickman

Two Division 6 Auxiliary facilities, #221177 (Betty B owned by Ron Hillburger - Flotilla 62) and #211283 (Beach Bum owned by Bob & Cammy Hickman - Flotilla 63) along with boats from Multnomah, Clatsop and Clark County Sherriff Departments, provided security escort for the US Navy fleet on their voyage to the Portland for the 2012 Rose Festival. Division 6 facilities were assigned to the Lower Columbia leg which ran from Buoy 14 to the east end of Puget Island, approximately 35 river miles. Three ships, the USS Lawrence, USS Dewey and the USS Ingraham, made up the US Navy contingent.

The USS Dewey arrived in Astoria on Wednesday, June 6 where it moored over-night and took on civilian passengers for the upriver voyage on Thursday, June 7. The USS Lawrence and USS Ingraham came in on June 7. Initially two US Navy vessels were expected, however a third vessel was added. With only two Auxiliary boats, we had to leap frog each other to get all three ships covered for both the upriver trip on June 7 and the down river trip on June 11. Our mission was to intercept pleasure boaters along the way, advising them not make any aggressive moves toward the ships and to maintain their distance. The US Coast Guard safe boats covered the Astoria harbor and bridge, conducting security sweeps prior to the ships arrival in Astoria and as they transited under the bridge.

For #211283, June 7 began at 0330 hours – yes, that is 3:30 AM! We moored at the West Mooring Basin and had to be underway by 0430 to meet the USS Lawrence. We were actually hoping they would be a bit later as it was not yet daylight. And it was raining heavily – all day! That pretty much described the entire trip. Because of the weather, there were not many pleasure boaters out. At the east end of Puget Island we handed off the ship to the Upper Columbia escort from Division 7 – Portland – and then raced back to meet the USS Ingraham.

Monday, June 11 began a bit later in the day getting underway at 0630 am and running up to

the transition point at Puget Island. Mike Davis joined us that day and we really needed a third person on the boat. In addition to relieving Bob at the helm for most of the day, he also was integral in securing our lunch.

Did you know the US Navy has a ‘drive up window’? Monday we were running a bit ahead of the USS Lawrence and heard some of the sailors calling to us. They signaled us over to the side and indicated they wanted us to come alongside the ship. Keep in mind the ship is moving down the river at over 18 knots – approximately 20mph -. Bob is at the helm as we pull alongside – 18 knots and a 6’ wall of water in front of us from the wake of the ship and nothing but 30’ high gray steel on the port side--- they want us even closer! I think we were within 3’ of the side of the hull. Then they drop a canvas sea bag over the side down to us. While Bob is driving, I have one arm on our boat upright and the other grabbing Mike’s belt while he reaches for the sea bag. When he pulls it onto the deck and opens it we find an anchor and three hot lunches on paper plates wrapped in foil; complete with utensils! I emptied the bag – except for the anchor – and the sailors pulled it back up to the deck. We had hot chicken breast, rice, broccoli and corn for lunch courtesy of the USS Lawrence!!!! I’m sorry to say I did not get any photos of this event as we were all three a little busy!



*US Coast Guard Safe Boat, Port of Astoria  
(photo by Cammy Hickman)*



*AUXFAC211283 (photo courtesy of Lee LaFollette)*



*AUXFAC #221177. FC FL-62 Ward Payne, Lee LaFollette, Ron Hillburger (Photo by Cammy Hickman)*



*Official escort (photo by Lee LaFollette)*

## **Ship Information**

*(From Wikipedia)*

**USS William P. Lawrence (DDG-110)** is an Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer built by Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding. She is the 60th ship in her class. The ship is named for Vice Admiral William P. Lawrence (1930–2005), a Naval Aviator, fighter pilot, test pilot, Mercury astronaut finalist, Vietnam War Prisoner of War, a U.S. Third Fleet commander, a Chief of Naval Personnel, and a Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy.

*William P. Lawrence's keel was laid down on 16 September 2008, at the Ingalls Shipbuilding shipyard, in Pascagoula, Mississippi. Lawrence was launched on 15 December 2009, and was christened on 17 April 2010, sponsored by VADM Lawrence's widow, Diane Lawrence, and his daughters, Dr. Laurie Lawrence and CAPT Wendy Lawrence (USN Ret, and former shuttle astronaut). Lawrence's plank owning captain is CDR Thomas R. Williams, II. The ship was commissioned at the Port of Mobile, Alabama on 4 June 2011.*



*USS Lawrence, East end of Puget Island (photo by Cammy Hickman)*

***The USS Ingraham (FFG-61)***, the last American Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate to be built, was the fourth ship of the United States Navy to be named for Captain Duncan Ingraham (1802–1891). The USS *Ingraham* was laid down on 30 March 1987 at the Todd Pacific Shipyards Co., Los Angeles Division, San Pedro, California. She was launched on 25 June 1988. As of June 2011, *Ingraham* is commanded by CDR Kristin Stengel, USN who hails from Redding, California. *Ingraham's* homeport is at NS Everett, Washington, and is assigned to Destroyer Squadron 9.

On 6 January 2008, the destroyer USS *Hopper*, the guided-missile cruiser USS *Port Royal*, and the frigate USS *Ingraham* were entering the Persian Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz when five Iranian motor boats approached them at high speed and in a reportedly threatening manner. The American ships had been in the Arabian Sea searching for a sailor who had been missing from the USS *Hopper* for one day. The U.S. Navy reported that the Iranian boats made "threatening" moves toward the U.S. vessels, coming as close as 200 yards (180 m). The U.S. Navy ships received a radio transmission saying, "I am coming to you. You will explode after few minutes." While the American ships prepared to open fire, the Iranians abruptly turned away, the U.S. Navy officials said. Before leaving, the Iranians dropped white boxes into the water in front of the American ships. The American ships did not investigate the boxes. Officials from the two countries differed on their assessments of the severity of the incident. The Iranians claimed that they were conducting normal maneuvers, whereas American officials claimed that an imminent danger to American naval vessels existed.



*USS Ingraham and AUXFAC 211283 – this photo is deceptive, we were a bit further away than it appears (photo by Lee LaFollette)*

***USS Dewey (DDG-105)*** is an Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer in the United States Navy. *Dewey* is the third Navy ship named after Admiral of the Navy George Dewey, hero of the Battle of Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War. The ship is part of Destroyer Squadron 21 of Carrier Strike Group Three which is currently headed by the aircraft carrier USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN-74). She was authorized on 13 September 2002 and was built by Northrop Grumman Ship Systems. The keel was laid down on 4 October 2006 at the company's shipyard in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

## Fun in the Sun at Garibaldi Days 2012!

By Mike Johnson & Anya Doll

Yes, the SUN! The booths and streets were packed with sun-drenched individuals and families for Garibaldi's city-wide, Summer celebration. This year featured food and craft booths, live trout fishing pond for the kids and, yes, the all-important parade. The coast Guard led off with the ceremonial Color Guard, followed by Coast Guard Station Tillamook Bay personnel with rescue boat in tow. Bob and Cammy Hickman's Auxiliary Facility, packed with eager parade participants (all wearing life jackets of course) was not far behind. And to complete our presence, Flotilla Commander Dennis Jacob drove his side-by-side loaded to the gills with bags of safe boating information, coloring books and candy to be distributed among the crowd. Thank you to all who participated and helped in preparing the information bags, and especially Terri Southwick for ordering materials! Let's all do it again next year!



*Coast Guard Color Guard Led the Parade  
(Photo by Mike Johnson)*



*Cammy Hickman & Kathy Jacob ready for the parade  
(Photo by Mike Johnson)*

## Promises Kept

By Mike Johnson

Elliot Herder could be seen at Garibaldi's Boat Basin performing both recreational and commercial vessel exams throughout his Auxiliary carrier, often topping the list for individual Division totals performed. Early in 2012, Dennis Jacob FC-63 and Bob Hickman VFC-63 made a pledge to perform 100 Auxiliary Vessel Examinations each, in remembrance of Elliot. Promise Kept! Both Dennis and Bob have complete over 100 Vessel Exams for 2012!



*Elliot Herder received Division 6 Vessel Exam Award 2010*

## Coming Events & Activities

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Flotilla 63 events and activities.

- **Flotilla 63 Annual “Coastie Picnic”** – August 18th 1130 hours, Upper Station picnic area. Auxiliary members are asked to bring main dish or salad and a dessert
- **Flotilla 63 meeting** – September 18<sup>th</sup>, 1900 hours, Upper Station
- **Fall Division 6 Meeting** – October 7<sup>th</sup> 1000 hours, location TBA

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## For Our Amusement:

*Long ago there lived a seaman named captain Bravo. He was a manly man who showed no fear in facing his enemies. One day, while sailing the seven seas, a look-out spotted a pirate ship and the crew became frantic. Captain Bravo bellowed, “Bring me my Red Shirt!” The First Mate quickly retrieved the captain’s red shirt and whilst wearing the bright red frock, he led his men into battle and defeated the pirates.*

*Later on that day, the look-out spotted not one, but two pirate ships. The captain again called for his red shirt and once again, though the fighting was fierce, he was victorious over the two ships. That evening, all the men sat around on the deck recounting the day’s triumphs and one of them asked the captain, “Sir, why do you call for your red shirt before battle? The captain replied, “If I am wounded in the attack, the shirt will not show my blood and thus, you men will continue to fight unafraid.”*

*All of the men sat in silence and marveled at the courage of such a manly man as Captain Bravo. As dawn came the next morning, the look-out spotted not one, not two, but TEN pirate ships approaching from the far horizon. The crew stared at the captain and waited for his usual response.*

*Captain Bravo calmly shouted, “Get me my brown pants!”*

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*From Westmont.edu*

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