



MORNING STAR NEWS

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

March 2012



Flotilla 63 - News From Tillamook Bay

From the Helm

Dennis V. Jacob, FC Flotilla 63

Hello everybody – it's good to once again be able to share some of my thoughts with you.

The other day I was doing my morning walk and the thought occurred to me that some of our Division 6 members are doing several jobs (staff officer positions etc.) at the same time. So I decided to count how many staff positions does it take to operate a USCG AUX Division with six Flotillas? Are you ready for this? There are 137 officer positions in Division 6 of which 14 are elected. Nine Flotilla Staff Officer Positions are not filled. There are about 180 members in Div. 6.

So I wondered how many different names were listed for the 137 positions. I was surprised to find that there were only 65 different names filling the 137 positions of office needed to administrate and provide the leadership for Div. 6.

The word that came to my mind with this factoid was Thankfulness. Thank-you to you 65 people of enthused involvement in our Coast Guard Auxiliary.

See you at the meeting in April.

Dennis Jacob

FC

Awards

By Mike Johnson & Anya Doll

At the March meeting of Flotilla 63, we honored three members for their service. Steve Dana was noted for his thirty years with the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Cammy and Bob Hickman were also recognized for their five years of service.

Steve's thirty years have resulted in an impressive body of knowledge that gives him unique insight into fishermen and boaters.

Bob and Cammy are active on the Flotilla level as well as Division level, both holding multiple offices. The Auxiliary benefits greatly from Bob's helpful spirit and interest in others as well as his

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 Mike Johnson

knowledge and skills in boating. Cammy's competent and thorough efforts keep us all informed of Flotilla and Division happenings.

To all, thank you for your dedication and commitment and congratulations on reaching these important milestones in your Auxiliary service!



Steve Dana receives 30 Year Service Award



VFC Bob Hickman receives 5 Year Service Award



FSO-PA, SR Cammy Hickman receives 5 Year Service Award

Division 6 Meeting

By Cammy Hickman

McMinnville, OR – US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Division 6, held their spring meeting March 16-18 at the American Legion Post 21 in McMinnville, Oregon. Flotilla 63 was well represented at the meeting with 7 members in attendance.

Special guest, Commodore Peter Raisewell, gave opening remarks on Saturday morning. His comments focused on the budget, member discipline issues and membership. The national Auxiliary budget has seen a significant decline over the past four years along with a corresponding decline in the US Coast Guard's budget. The Auxiliary budget for 2012 is \$220,000 down 44% over the 2008 annual budget. The majority of the cuts to the Auxiliary will be in travel expenditures with a goal of reducing those by 30% this year. He felt that the fuel budget for operations would remain stable.

Time spent by Division and District officers resolving a discipline and member problem has been on the rise. He encouraged all Flotilla Commanders and staff officers to resolve conflicts at the lowest level possible in the organization and to not 'jump the Chain of Command. The longer a personnel issue takes to resolve the more of a disservice it does to the organization.

In the last two-three years the Auxiliary has seen an 8% drop in membership. Currently there are approximately 1550 Auxiliary members in District 13. Recruitment and retention of members is key to a Flotilla's success.

To keep members engaged, it is extremely important to provide mentors for new members and to recognize the contribution of current members for the value they bring to the flotilla.

Saturday was devoted to training with DCAPT Daren Lewis delivering a workshop for Paddle Craft. Rachel Bullene of the Oregon State Marine Board gave a presentation on their 'Clean Boater' and 'Clean Marina' program. Both programs are focused on raising awareness of water pollution through oil and gas spills, waste, garbage and invasive species entering Oregon waters. Check stations for invasive aquatic species are set up at the Oregon/California border. In the past, stopping at the check station was voluntary. This past session, the Oregon Legislature authorized law enforcement to stop motorists who do not voluntarily stop at the check stations. Mel Chaput, Flotilla 65, delivered the mandatory 1 hour TCT training and Dale Jacobs, Flotilla 65 presented the 2012 Operations Workshop. A new addition to the traditional training agenda was an open forum with the Division Staff.

Saturday evening all enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by the American Legion post. Past DCAPT, Dick Siefert received an appreciate plaque from current DCAPT Daren Lewis. A raffle with wonderful prizes was held after the dinner.

The business meeting on Sunday consisted of approval of the Division Standing Rules and Appendices and submission of the Proposed Budget for approval. Following discussion and reductions in line items – mostly travel – the budget was adopted.



DCDR Nolan at Division 6 Meeting, introducing Rachel Bullene of the Oregon State Marine Board (Photo by Cammy Hickman)

Coast Guard Pizza Party

By Mike Johnson

The proprietors of the Bar View (Jetty) Store have once again shown their appreciation for the shipmates of coast Guard Station Tillamook Bay by opening up their front doors,... and their oven doors,... for an all-you-can-eat pizza feed. Thanks for all who participated (pass the pepperoni!), Coast Guard personnel, Auxiliary Members and families! For more than a couple years now this tasty event has been a great opportunity for fellowship and full bellies. Thank you Bar View (Jetty) Store, we could not do this event without your generous support! See you all next year! Bon Appetit!



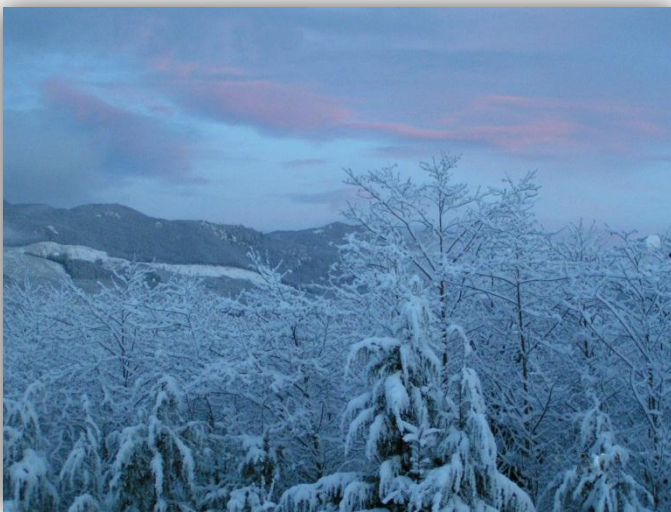
A full Auxiliary Member is a happy Auxiliary Member



Coast Guard and pizza go great together

Children's Water Safety Festival Cancelled Due to Heavy Snow at the Coast!

March 13th, whether a lucky or unlucky number, whether one is superstitious or not given to superstition, saw the deepest snows dumped on Tillamook since records began being kept. And, while children around the county likely celebrated a day off from school, though some had to endure power-outages for a time, they also missed out on this year's Water Safety Festival. In any case, children will not miss out on water safety information from Flotilla 63; coming in May, we'll be sure to get information out to them at the Tillamook library in our National Boating Safety Display!



Late winter snow at the beach and in the mountains
(Photo by Cammy Hickman)

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Coming Events & Activities

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

- **Flotilla 63 meeting** – April 17th 1900 hours, Upper Station
- **Flotilla 63 meeting** – May 15th 1900 hours, Upper Station
- **National Safe Boating Week** – May 19th – 25th
- **NSBW Display up at Tillamook Library** – through the Month of May
- **NSBW Special Vessel Check** – May 13th 1200-1600 hours at the North end of Fred Meyer parking lot in Tillamook
- **Blessing of the Fleet**, – May 27th , Place memorial wreaths/bouquets in Ocean with the Coast Guard

For Our Amusement:

Two men rent a boat on a local lake and proceed to have their best day ever on the water. Did they catch fish! So, one says to the other, "man, we have to remember this spot!" Then the other guy gets an idea and takes out a pencil and draws a large "X" in the middle of the floor, right between them.

His friend looks at him, amazed and confused, and stammers, "Are you that stupid? Are you really that stupid?" The guy that drew the "X" says, "What do you mean?"

His buddy replied, "How can you be sure we'll get the exact same boat next time!?"

From WMI.org