



THE MORNING STAR.

MORNING STAR NEWS

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

October 2013



Flotilla 63 - News From Tillamook Bay

From the Helm

Bob Hickman, FC Flotilla 63

We did very well on our t-shirt sales and I'd like to commend all that assisted with that project. From the consensus of the membership, it appears we will have them for sale again this coming year. I am pleased with our discussion at this last meeting and that everyone understood our position on fund raising. We now have adequate funding for all of our annual programs and activities. Job well done! We do still have an inventory of shirts available for sale, so if you would like to take a few and sell them on your own, please let Cammy know.

Winter is approaching and in addition to winterizing your home and boat, be sure to take proper care of your PPE gear. Make sure it is dry and stored properly. This time is also a good time to put your noses in the books. Those of you studying for Crew membership – dig out the manuals and check the sign-off sheets for tasks that you can complete 'on land'. IF there is training classes you need, please let me know. There are excellent resources on line for those interested in becoming Vessel Examiners or instructors. Contact me if you need help locating them on the USCG Auxiliary website. Sometimes that can be a daunting effort. I'd also like to note my appreciation to Ray & Kay – they are the best mentors a Flotilla can have! Salute!

Bob Hickman, FC

"Voyager upon life's sea;

To yourself be true,

And what'er your lot maybe,

Paddle your own canoe."

Dr. Edward P. Philpots 1844

2013 Officers

Flotilla Commander – Bob Hickman
Vice Flotilla Commander – Ray Neubig
Immediate Past Flotilla Commander – Dennis Jacob
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 & Marine Science – Mike Johnson
Vessel Examiner – Dennis Jacob

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

Awards & Recognition

By Anya Doll

Flotilla 63 officially welcomed Martha McCandless to our ranks. Martha has been very active with the flotilla for almost a year now and it is good to be able to count her among our numbers now as a full member! Along with her certificate, Ms. McCandless received her Crew Training book. Both she and our other newest member, Bill Browne are eager to begin training and qualifications for Crew.



Martha McCandless is given her official welcome and certificate from Bob Hickman, FC (photo by Mike Johnson)

Bouy 10

By Cammy Hickman

Bob & I assisted with the Bouy 10 Fishery Boating Safety Program this past month by working the boat ramp at Hammond, Oregon. We were on duty at 5:30 am working under the lights. Even at that hour, the lines of fishermen waiting to launch were beginning to lengthen. We worked with Auxiliarists from Flotilla 62 passing out bags of safe boating information, advising the boaters of the US Coast Guards strict enforcement of Rule 9 of the Navigation rules; which in short requires recreational boaters to stay well clear of large ships navigating in the channel. The fine for violation of that rule is \$5,000. We also reminded them to check that the plug was in their boat. On the ramp, we assisted boaters to move their boats

down the docks to provide room for others to launch. The weekend before over 350 boats launched at Hammond in a 3 hour period.

SAR Cases: 43

LE (Law Enforcement) Boardings: 164

Public Contacts: 17,912

VSC Exams: 145 with 94 vessels passing the exam

Personnel (Auxiliary) Hours Expended: 786

Glenn Wood, Flotilla 62 made certain the ramps were adequately staffed, the RBS information was distributed, kept the launches moving on the ramp, and ensured that the operation proceeded smoothly and collected the statistics from all 5 manned ramps daily. This was an excellent safe boating campaign for the volume of boating traffic moving through the ramps. We heard a lot of positive comments from the public during our 3 days at Hammond.

The program put together by the US Coast Guard and Flotilla 62 was exceptional.



Things have calmed a bit by daylight; instead of 6 boats launching at the same time there are only 3 (Photo by Cammy Hickman)



*Apparently 5 wheels work just as good as 6 to get the boat launched!
(Photo by Cammy Hickman)*



Bob talking with a boater (Photo by Cammy Hickman)

An Update for the Station

By Anya Doll

It's the Twenty-first Century and women serve in myriad capacities throughout the Coast Guard. This goes without saying. It seems obvious. So to hear that Station Tillamook Bay saw the qualification of its first and second female to Coxswain on the 47' MLB this past Spring was at first a surprise and then instantly a delight. Given the year, and given all the advances for women in the military, to hear some achievement yet unmet is a little surprising. At the same time, it is good to see the job well done. In Flotilla 63, we are especially pleased to hear that this fete was achieved by our Liaison to Station Tillamook Bay, Kate Spallinger BM3! March 12, 2013, Kate received her Coxswain Letter. Additionally, the Station quickly saw the addition of its second woman to qualify as Coxswain, this spring on the 47' MLB, Amber Archer BM3.

Kate was kind enough to answer some questions regarding her experience training and qualifying for Coxswain. Below is her interview:

Has Coxswain always been a goal for you since entering the CG?

Kate: *I originally joined the CG with the intent to go MST, however it was Valentine's Day in 2009 that I first stepped foot on the MLB and went for a ride. I instantly fell in love with that boat and knew from that day on that I wanted to drive that boat and pursue the surfman career.*

What inspired you to achieve this goal?

Kate: *I had a few supervisors at Station Neah Bay while I was there as a non-rate that pushed me to become a Boatswain's Mate and work my way towards coxswain. They had all the faith in the world in me and I truly looked up to them. It wasn't until I transferred from Station Morro Bay to Station Tillamook Bay that I found my niche and was finally able to overcome all my obstacles and make coxswain. I wanted to be a coxswain, and I wanted it really bad. I knew that it would be a great achievement and I'm so happy that I was able to push through and make it.*

More T-shirt Opportunities!

By Anya Doll

The T-shirt fundraising has been a wonderful success! Though there was no October Flotilla meeting, the report for September's meeting stated that the cost of the shirts had been recouped and a \$615.53 profit had already been realized! With further order forms passed out at the meeting and Coasties requesting shirts, the profits are likely increased since then. You'll also find an order form at the end of this newsletter in case you'd like to purchase some shirts as gifts for the Holidays.

What inspired you as you worked toward the goal?

Kate: *Knowing that my command had my back was a huge inspiration. I didn't want to let them, or myself down.*

What challenges to reaching the goal are you most proud/gratified that you overcame?

Kate: *I had a pretty rough time when I first transferred to Station Tillamook Bay. I was dealing with a plethora of issues, mainly regarding my family life. I tried not to let it affect my job and my qualifications but I know that it did to some extent. Making coxswain was one of the greatest achievements I've ever accomplished. My main problem was being confident in myself but I was able to overcome it and that was maybe one of my proudest moments!*

How has becoming Coxswain influenced your experience in the CG?

Kate: *I love driving those boats and being out on the water! It is such a neat experience and I feel blessed that I was given the opportunity to follow my Coast Guard dream. I've been thinking about getting out of the Coast Guard, but I leave for Heavy Weather Coxswain School in November and depending on how that goes, I may just end up staying in and ultimately working towards Surfman. We'll see though! :)*

Were you always aware there had never been a woman to make Coxswain at Station Tillamook Bay? Did this have any influence on your decision to pursue the position?

Kate: *I was completely unaware that I was the first female to make Coxswain at Station Tillamook Bay. I didn't find out about this until Ray and Kay Neubig told me right after I got qualified! I was blown away, honestly.*

Where do you see yourself going from here?

Kate: *I am leaving my options open and trying not to put all my eggs in one basket. My enlistment ends December 1, 2014 and I am still unsure whether I want to get out or reenlist. I am currently about half way through the academy for the Tillamook Bay Sheriff's Department to become a Reserve Deputy and if I have a good chance of getting hired on with them, then I may opt for that. If I decide to stay in, I plan to push ahead and work towards making Surfman. I'd like to stay in the Pacific Northwest, regardless. I love it up here!*

Division 6 Meeting

As we all are painfully aware, the Government Shutdown has long and deep effects. Yet we all must carry on as best we can. The Division 6 Meeting scheduled for October 18-20 was well put together and it was looking like the training would be very engaging and helpful as well, yet we have learned while standing ready often means ready to act, ready to assist, ready for duty, sometimes it means we must also stand ready to step aside should such orders be necessary.

At this time, no dates have been given for the Fall Meeting should that take place. A big thank you to George Long, Greg Sebastian and Flotilla 65 for their hard work planning the October Meeting! The Division has until mid-November to in some form or other conduct elections. In the mean -time, Semper Paratus!

Welcome to our Newest Member!

By Anya Doll and Martha McCandless

We already know Martha McCandless has a lot of patience. And we know she is committed to her involvement in the Flotilla. Martha has been coming to meetings regularly and has participated in several events with Flotilla 63 for almost a year now. And at September's meeting, she was given her official membership certificate; but what she seemed most eager about was that training booklet she also received. I asked Martha to send us a little information about herself that we may not know, here is her response:

I moved to Oregon from New Mexico to attend Reed College, majoring in psychology, with an emphasis on brain function and perception. I had previously studied technical theater (lighting design) and philosophy. I didn't realize that Albuquerque and Santa Fe were going to become TV and movie powerhouses! (Might've been able to work on Breaking Bad...).

Anyway, I've lived here a long time, and I love the coast. Reading, flying high-powered kites, and messing with

computers keeps me out of trouble. I crunch numbers for the SETI@home project, which I encourage everybody to do (great community and good science). Ask me about it, and I'll get you started.

Joining the Auxiliary has been a wonderful addition to my life, with such great people, fun things to do, and opportunities to learn so many new things. I'm a professional student, I guess! My twenty pound orange cat Sagan and I thank you for your fine welcoming!

Martha, It's good to have you aboard!

Member Training

Ray and Kay Neubig along with help from Bob and Cammy Hickman, Mike Davis and Mike Johnson put Crew Trainees Bill Browne, Martha McCandless and Anya Doll through some charting exercises.



Coming Events & Activities

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

- **Flotilla 63 Meeting** – November 19th – 1900 hours at the Upper Station.
- **Santa Party** – Saturday, December 14th Wrapping and decorating in the morning, partying with the Coastie Families in the afternoon. Details in the November MSN
- **Christmas Party** – Sunday, December 15th Details in the November MSN

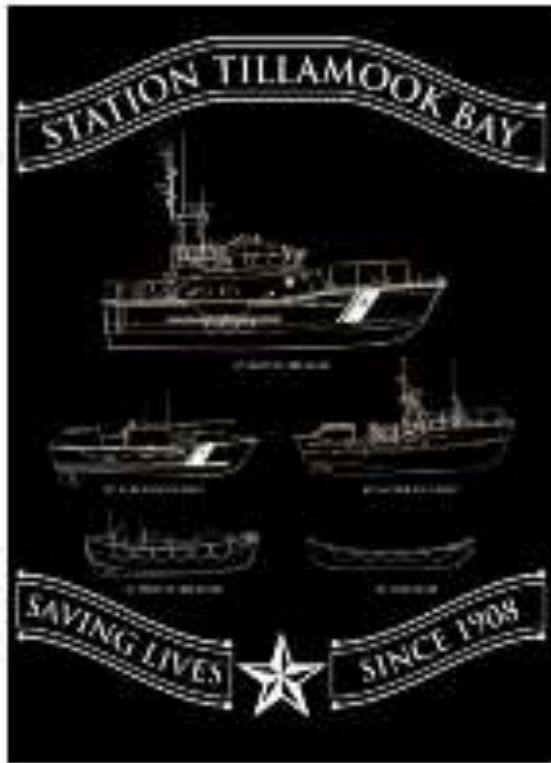
For Our Amusement:

A terrible skipper was going back and forth through the anchorage, searching for a place to drop the hook before dark. Looking up to heaven he said, "Lord take pity on me. If you find me a good spot, I will donate to charity, give up the demon rum, treat women with respect, pay my taxes, and never again give my crew all of the blame and none of the glory!"

Miraculously, the boat with the best spot in the bay began pulling up anchor to leave. The skipper looked up again and said, "Never mind, I found one myself."

From www.stormforce.biz

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All shirts are navy blue. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

Make your check payable to Camile Hickman and send to address below. All orders and payments must be received by:

NOVEMBER 10, 2013.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Camile Hickman
 17414 Lucky Lane
 Nehalem, OR 97131
 503-368-6717, 503-901-2212

U.S.C.G. TILLAMOOK BAY T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

SIZE	T-SHIRT (\$6.50)	LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT (\$8.50)	ADULT HOODED SWEATSHIRT (\$16.00)	YOUTH T-SHIRT (\$6.50)	YOUTH LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT (\$8.50)	YOUTH HOODED SWEATSHIRT (\$16.00)	ADULT QTR. ZIP SWEATSHIRT (\$19.00)
SMALL							
MEDIUM							
LARGE							
XLARGE							
XXLARGE	\$8.50 ea.	\$10.50 ea.	\$18 ea.				\$20 ea.
XXXLARGE	\$9.50 ea.	\$11.50 ea.	\$19 ea.				\$20 ea.
TOTAL							



Sector Columbia River OPERATION BUOY 10

01 August – 02 September 2013

UNCLAS//FOUO

Involved Agencies/Units

Clatsop County Sheriff's Office
 Oregon State Police
 Sector Columbia River VBST
 Station Cape Disappointment
 USCGC ALERT
 US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 64

Totals

SAR Cases/LE Boardings	Contacts	Vsl Exams Completed	Vsl Exams Passed	Personnel (Aux) Hours Expended
43/164	17, 912	145	94	786

