



Rogue River REPORT

Issue #8 May 2025



Newsletter of the Grants Pass Flotilla 130-0509

National Safe Boating Week

By Kurt Nelson, FC

The City of Grants Pass has agreed to join with us to promote safe boating. We will have the use of Baker Park and its boat ramp to celebrate and promote safe boating on Saturday, May 17th. The City of Grants Pass has agreed to help promote the event through their press contacts. This is a superb opportunity for our flotilla to get the word out—about safe boating as well as the Auxiliary. Please plan on being there. More will be passed on as we learn more.

Fellowship Picnic

The Auxiliary was established by Congress and signed into law on June 23, 1939, which means we celebrate the Auxiliary's birthday on June 23rd. This year, that is on a Monday.

At the March membership meeting we held a vote and we decided to celebrate the birthday by having a picnic on Saturday, June 21 at TouVelle State Park. While more details will be forthcoming, MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

FLOTILLA CALENDAR

APRIL

TUESDAY, 15TH MEETING

- REGULAR MEETING
- LOCATION: RCC
- TRAINING: TCT, PART 1
- 1830

MAY

TUESDAY, 20TH MEETING

- LOCATION: RCC
- 1830
- TRAINING: TCT, PART 2
- SAFE BOATING WEEK

JUNE

MEETING: TBA

- LOCATION: TOUVELLE SP
- TIME?
- SEE ARTICLE

It was decided the flotilla would buy hamburgers and hot dogs (and buns) but we would request that you bring a side. Please let me know what you are bringing.

It was also decided to invite members of District 5. It could be a lot of fun!

TouVelle State Recreation Area has hiking trails, a boat ramp (Think **VSCs**), horseshoe pit, a BBQ. But you will NEED to bring chairs or a blanket.

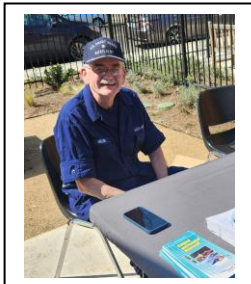
Vessel Safety Checks

We will have three VSC opportunities this spring. These will provide shipmates with the chance to get qualified or to maintain certification. The first event will be on Saturday, April 26th in Grants Pass. The second will be on Saturday May 3rd in Jackson County. And NSBW on May 17. We need members to help with both of these events. Please mark your calendars and plan to be there! Please remember Boating Safety is the Auxiliary's JOB ONE!

Flotilla News

A Reminder: Member Challenge!

I have a challenge for my shipmates: A special gift to every member who gets someone to join the Auxiliary! AND IF YOU GET A SECOND PERSON TO JOIN, then there is another, additional gift for you! Your efforts will be recognized! Make the effort and I will return the effort! And you will receive a special award or awards! I am still awaiting the first presentation!



And Speaking of Gaining Members

Please welcome our newest shipmate: Tom Miller! Tom is a re-tread. He once was not merely a member of Grants Pass Flotilla, but a past commander. He went on to be Division 5's vice and commander. WELCOME BACK, TOM!

Vessel Examinations—Josephine County

As mentioned above, the first of two VSC events will be on Saturday, April 26th. I have talked with Deputy Wolf of the Josephine County Sheriff's Office, the sole marine deputy for the county, and he will join us in our VSC effort. Further, he has obtained permission for us to hold the event at the Sheriff's Office: 1901 NE F Street. With good press and a turnout by Grants Pass Flotilla, this could be a very positive event. Please plan on helping out. The uniform of the day will be ODUs.

Vessel Examinations—Jackson County

The first field effort for Jackson County to do VSCs will be Saturday May 3rd. First, we will meet at Table Rock Road and Kirtland Road (OR140) at 9 am. Then, we will visit one state boat ramp, perhaps 2 Army Corps of Engineers' ramps, and as many as five Jackson County Ramps, depending on the number of shipmates who sign up.

Grants Pass Fire Rescue—ON THE WATER!

While Josephine County has the majority of the river, a lot of people use the Rogue River within the City of Grants Pass. Far too often in the summer you will see a person floating in an innertube, no PFD, and a beer in both hands. No wonder rescues are needed and within the city, rescues are conducted by GPFD.

Using one of the city's boat ramps, Fire gets boat to the water just as we do—on a trailer.



But once in the water, the inflatable has a jet drive allowing it not only to go fast, but into shallow waters. Sadly, GPFD makes too many rescues each season.

Perhaps the USCGAux can help with



their

water,



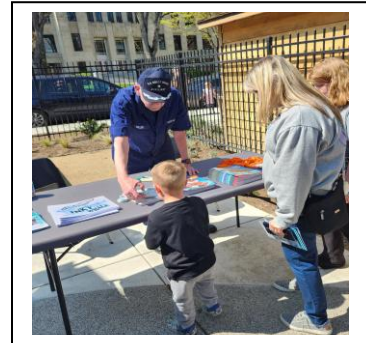
those numbers. Let's get the word out to marine dealers and stores such as Costco, Fred Meyer, and Walmart.



Children's Museum Hero Day

Two of us were welcomed as Heroes at the Medford Children's Museum Hero Day event. We spoke with more than 110 children and parents stressing water safety—WEAR YOUR

PFDs! We handed out orange bracelets, Inkly the Whale, Sam the Sea Otter, a coloring book on the USCG, and PFD info on children. Tom Miller was great with the kids!



Another Award

One of our shipmates received the Membership Service Award: Brie J. Krogman. She earned the award through "five years of dedicated service as a member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary." BRAVO ZULU (or should that be proper Latin: Brava Zulu?).

Can You See into the Future?

A good guide to the future is looking at the past. So, what do I see as the future of 1300509? Much like the ghost of "Christmas Yet-to-Be," these foretold happenings are not yet carved into our tombstone, but they are most likely our future.

Tonight, three members were at our meeting (well, one of the three is not technically a member, yet so make the count two). Two members have done VEs, one has done program visits, four worked a sportsman show, and one (plus a prospective member) the Children's Museum event. Of the 14 members of this flotilla, five have done *something*. So, what is our future? Unless things change, we will either go away completely or become a detachment of another flotilla. We have until the end of the year: ***It is your choice!***