

# The Cape Ann Quarterly

District 1NR, Flotilla 46 – Cape Ann

Volume 2 – Issue 1, 2015

Welcome!

Welcome to the Flotilla 46 – Cape Ann eNewsletter. The main goal of this publication is to enhance communications between elected and appointed flotilla staff and the general membership. Every three months we highlight the accomplishments of the previous quarter and broadcast flotilla-related events for the upcoming quarter. Members unable to regularly attend flotilla meetings can find some of the important, interesting and exciting goings-on here. In addition, annual member training requirements and flotilla member-submitted articles are included in these pages. So, welcome to *The Cape Ann Quarterly* – your eNewsletter.

## Mandated Member Training

The deadline for Mandated Training (MT) has been extended to 31 December 2016, with the exception of new enrollees who must complete all eight Auxiliary MT courses in their first year of enrollment. For this purpose, the first year of enrollment extends to 31 December of the year following the new member's Base Enrollment Date. If you have issues completing these courses on-line, the flotilla will have Instructor-Led versions scheduled, post flotilla meeting, throughout the year. Review your training requirements with the FSO-MT and your current training records with the FSO-IS.

## Upcoming Events

- Apr 9<sup>th</sup>, May 14<sup>th</sup>, Jun 11<sup>th</sup> Next Quarter's Flotilla Meetings
- May 2<sup>nd</sup>, About Boating Safely (ABS) Course, Essex
- May 16<sup>th</sup>, D-Train Spring Conference, Wakefield
- May 16<sup>th</sup>, Station Gloucester Safe Boating Day Open House
- June 14<sup>th</sup>, Boat Crew Training Day, Station Castle Hill
- June 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, St. Peter's Fiesta, Gloucester
- June 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, Operation Dry Water



USCG Station Gloucester

## Commander's Corner



### Evolution of the Auxiliary

For a new member without any prior military background, the Auxiliary will appear regulation-bound beyond any previous experience. We have regulations for everything. Regulations can be slow and difficult to change, and can easily take on a life of their own. Our new member might easily conclude that the Auxiliary is relatively static and unlikely to change. Not a few of our senior members have a similar view. Yet all around us the world is constantly changing.

History shows that the Auxiliary has changed dramatically over the years, often on relatively short notice. Founded in 1939 as an organization of volunteer civilian yacht owners, only two years later the Auxiliary became the Temporary Reserve, armed volunteers operating as enlisted seamen and petty officers under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

Continued on page 2.

# The Cape Ann Quarterly

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## Evolution of the Auxiliary (Commander's Corner, cont.)

In the late 1970's the requirement for boat ownership was dropped, increasing the pool of potential members -- and helping to alleviate a chronic shortage of boat crew in Auxiliary Operations. A more dramatic change occurred in the mid-1980's, when the modern Boat Crew Program was introduced. The new requirements for boat crew and coxswain were much more demanding. The introduction was not without friction, and some members who had been active in operations for years chose to retire rather than re-qualify.

In the 1990's numerous Coast Guard mission areas were opened to Auxiliary volunteers. This trend has continued into the present day, where we now have Auxiliarists active in over 200 mission areas. Along with Auxiliary augmentation of the active-duty Coast Guard came the Auxiliary Air (AuxAir) program during the 1950's. AuxAir today provides a very significant enhancement to Coast Guard awareness and monitoring of the maritime environment at a very minimal cost compared with the use of active-duty aircraft.

The September 11th attacks brought about further changes. A higher level of security clearance was instituted to allow the use of Auxiliarists in mission areas where sensitive information might be overheard. Enhanced ID cards became a requirement for access to Coast Guard bases and stations. Auxiliarists in surface and air operations became much more cognizant and observant of key infrastructure within their patrol areas.

Now the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary face new challenges. Changes will be necessary to meet the challenges. The Coast Guard is operating under very significant budgetary constraints. Funding has been cut dramatically, and there is the additional problem of inconsistency, when funding runs out due to political maneuvering in Washington. As a volunteer organization without many fixed assets, the Auxiliary is very cost effective. But we need to increase our

efforts to support our parent service, and pick up some of the burden wherever we can.

We will need to increase our membership. At the leadership level, we talk a mean game about diversity. But look around any Auxiliary meeting, and you are likely to see a room full of white, grey-haired men. We need more diversity, both to ensure our survival as an organization, and to better serve the U.S. Coast Guard and the boating public. Diversity is not about meeting some abstract goals or quotas. Diversity is how we will increase the strength of our organization, and improve the quality and quantity of our boating safety and Coast Guard augmentation efforts. Diversity is not just about bringing in members who look different -- it's about bringing in members who think differently and have new ideas and insights.

We need to actively recruit a more diverse membership, a younger membership, a membership that more accurately reflects the cultures that make up this great country. We also need to be open and supportive of the new ideas and perspectives that these new members will bring. No one joins an organization in the hope that their ideas will be ignored. There will be friction -- change always brings friction. There will be a need for mentoring of our new members, and also for mentoring of our peers. If we meet the challenge, the Auxiliary will survive and prosper, becoming a more tightly integrated and valued component of the U.S. Coast Guard than ever before.

*Semper Paratus* -- John B. Mellen, Flotilla Commander



# The Cape Ann Quarterly

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Previous page: (Left) Auxiliarists conducting a Courtesy Marine Examination, ca. 1950. (Photo is courtesy of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary History Program.) (Right) John Keyes (Flotilla 46 - Cape Ann) conducts a Vessel Safety Check during the Essex Safe Boating Day event, 2012. The *Motor Boat Examination Program*, formalized in 1947, which was later renamed the *Courtesy Marine Examination Program*, and is today called the *Vessel Safety Check (VSC) Program* has had to necessarily change with the times. (Photo by G. Winchester, VFC Flotilla 46.)

## Aux Food Service Division - Ready to Serve

By Russel R. Venti, DVC-HA

The Auxiliary Food Service (AUXFS) program enhances Coast Guard mission readiness, effectiveness, and execution by providing food service support to Coast Guard Units and the Auxiliary. AUXFS supports and maintains food preparation and service in Coast Guard Galleys ashore and afloat for regular meal service and for special events such as promotions, change of command, and retirements.

AUXFS personnel are also available to support a wide variety of Auxiliary events. The Division is supported by one Division Chief who maintains leadership and guidance of policies for the program and Branch Chiefs who help maintain operational readiness for local Coast Guard Units.



Guests enjoy the wide variety of hors d'oeuvres prepared by active duty and Auxiliary Food Services personnel during the annual reception at Hospital Point Lighthouse. First District Commanding Officer, RADM Linda

Fagan, generously opens her home during the reception to honor the legacy of Lighthouse Keepers. (J.W. Keyes)

Food Service Branch Chiefs serve as point of contact for Auxiliary Food Service (AUXFS) and Auxiliary Leadership for information or guidance regarding participation in authorized AUXFS programs. Branch Chiefs also promote the AUXFS program through the Auxiliary Chain of Leadership and Management. Each District is supported by AUX Food Service Chairs who are the point of contact for all District AUXFS activities. These AUX Food Service Chairs are usually ADSO-HRs for Food Services.



Skills learned by trained AUXFS Ralph Milroy (not pictured) come in handy during the summer fellowship event held aboard Coast Guard Station Gloucester. Auxiliary, active duty, reserve, and family members were invited to join in the festivities in the station galley. (J.W. Keyes)

All fully qualified AUXFS participants have been trained using a Coast Guard Approved Guide. Training includes both classroom and hands-on work. A standardized PQS must be completed within one year of their initial class. A Hepatitis A vaccination and a medical screening are required as AUXFSs, as are yearly Sanitation Class and Team Coordination Training.

The AUXFS staff brings relief to Coast Guard Food Service staff so they can attend classes, go on leave, or attend other training. When AUXFS personnel are asked to suggest menus, they are able to bring some home-style cooking to the crews. As a Force Multiplier, AUXFS personnel provide back-up for both routine meal service and large events at

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Coast Guard facilities. They provide from single meal preparation service to running a full station galley.

AUXFS Division - *Ready to Serve You!*

(This article was previously published in *Keeping You Posted*, the Human Resources Directorate's newsletter, Vol. 1 Issue 1, April 2014. Reprinted with permission.)

## National Safe Boating Week Preparations Begin

This year, National Safe Boating Week is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup> through May 22<sup>nd</sup>; Coast Guard Station Gloucester and Division 4 kick it off with a Safe Boating Day Open House at the station. As in previous years, planning for the event begins in January with representatives from the station, local Auxiliary flotillas, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Massachusetts Environmental Police (MEP), local harbor masters and first responders, and maritime businesses from around Cape Ann. The event draws hundreds of visitors each year and is both entertaining and educational.



Planning for the Annual Safe Boating Day Open House at Station Gloucester gets underway months in advance of the event. Representatives from federal, state, and local agencies and businesses meet to hammer out the details. The Open House draws as many as 500 visitors to the station, for many it is their first introduction to the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. (J.W. Keyes)

For the past four consecutive years, the first day of National Safe Boating Week was observed with Station Gloucester's Safe Boating Day Open House – and this year is no different. On Saturday morning the gates will open to the public, who will be allowed to tour the station, meet the service members stationed there, and get hands-on with some of the equipment they use. Tours of the 29-foot Response Boat, the 47-foot Motor Life Boat, and a 55-foot Aids-to-Navigation Boat will be the highlight of some visitors' day.

Once again this year, Auxiliary members of surrounding flotillas will be present to assist aboard the station. Along with guiding tours and controlling the crowd, Auxiliarists will man the Public Affairs booth, the Paddle Smart display, and the "Ready, Set, Wear-It!" challenge. There is even a chance COASTIE will make an appearance to delight the kids.



During Station Gloucester's Safe Boating Day Open House, the *Ready, Set, Wear-It!* event is a perennial occurrence. Last year, Auxiliary members from throughout the Division, NOAA representatives, MEP Officers, and open house visitors all contributed to set a new world record: 6,973 participants wore personal floatation devices. (J.W. Keyes)

Station Gloucester's annual Safe Boating Day Open House has become a keynote event on Cape Ann, marking the beginning of the recreational boating season. Each year the event has been held in fair weather and in foul. The number of attendees varies with the weather and with competing local events, but one thing never changes: the members of Division 4 turn out to assist in the event's success.

# The Cape Ann Quarterly

District 1NR, Flotilla 46 - Cape Ann

Volume 2 - Issue 1, 2015



Phil Karwowski (SO-PA, Division 4) demonstrates the proper tying of a bowline knot. During Station Gloucester's Safe Boating Day Open House, several safe boating displays are offered to the public; including public education opportunities, paddle smart instruction, lifejacket wear, boating regulations, and environmental concerns. (J.W. Keyes)

## Flotilla 46 Accomplishments To-Date, 2015

134 hours recorded in AUXDATA  
3 shore-side ATON Missions completed  
4 hours standing NET Control Radio Watch  
1 BS&S Public Education Course Underway  
9 RBS Partner Visits completed  
1 Public Affairs Event supported  
1 Member Training Event completed  
1 AUXAIR Ice Reconnaissance / AFAM Flight

## Awards & Recognition

John Keyes – Sustained Auxiliary Service Award  
David Foss – ICS 100/200/210/700/800 Completed  
Carol Winchester – Completes 1<sup>st</sup> Year of Membership  
Nolan Godfrey – Completes 1<sup>st</sup> Year of Membership  
Scott Mellen – Completes 1<sup>st</sup> Year of Membership  
Patrick McNiff – Completes 1<sup>st</sup> Year of Membership  
Paul Maglio – Completes 1<sup>st</sup> Year of Membership

## Updated Commandant Workforce Policy Statements

The Commandant of the Coast Guard has issued updated versions of the following workforce policy statements:

- A. Commandant of the Coast Guard's Equal Opportunity Statement
- B. Commandant of the Coast Guard's Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Statement
- C. Commandant of the Coast Guard's Diversity Policy Statement

All flotilla members are strongly encouraged to review the new statements. They can be found on the Coast Guard Office of Civil Rights web site at:

<http://www.uscg.mil/civilrights/History.asp>

## Newsletter Submissions

Do you have an interesting story to tell? Submit it to the flotilla commander for review and inclusion in *The Cape Ann Quarterly* newsletter today. Mission successes, Auxiliary history, membership interest stories, and photographs are all welcome. Your story should be told.

## Lifesaving Trivia

*This Quarter's Question:* After contributing 750 documented volunteer hours, an Auxiliarist earns what service award? The answer will be revealed in the next issue.

*Last Quarter's Question:* Who was the first National Commodore of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and when did he serve? *Answer:* Bert C. Pouncey, Jr., from Hughes, Arkansas, was elected the first National Commodore of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary in 1951. A post he served for two years. NACO Pouncey had risen through the ranks to be elected commodore of the old 2nd District (now D8CR). Simultaneous to his election, the Auxiliary National Board was established.

# The Cape Ann Quarterly

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Volume 2 - Issue 1, 2015



National Commodore Bert C. Pouncey, Jr., held office 1951-1952  
(Photo is courtesy of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary History website.)

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## Safe Boating Day!

### USCG STATION GLOUCESTER

- Commercial Fishing Education
- Recreational Boating Booths
- Signal Flare and Fire Extinguisher Demos at 1000 and 1200
- Fishing Vessel Safety Examinations
- Try out Safety Gear
- Learn about Safety Equipment Requirements
- VHF Radio Use Class
- Rescue Boat, Police Boat, and Cutter Tours
- Health and Well-Being Booths
- Drop Off Your Expired Safety Flares

When: 16 May 2015

Time: 9:00am to

1:30pm

Where: 17 Harbor Loop  
Gloucester, MA

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Publication cleared for release 04-05-2015.

Flotilla Website: [www.USCGACapeAnn.com](http://www.USCGACapeAnn.com)  
Flotilla Message Center: 978-304-9269  
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