

# The Cape Ann Quarterly

District 1NR, Division 4, Flotilla 46

Volume 1 - Issue 2, 2014

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.

## Required Member Training

All Qualified Vessel Examiners are required to complete a mandatory VE Workshop in order to maintain currency. The workshop will be held at District Conferences, may be conducted as a flotilla-level class, and can be completed online using the AUXLMS website (<https://auxlearning.uscg.mil/>). Failure to complete the workshop by June 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 will result in an REWK status and the Vessel Examiner will be unable to complete exams until the workshop is completed. Failure to complete the workshop by December 31<sup>st</sup> 2014 will result in an REYR status.

## Upcoming Events

July 19<sup>th</sup> Blackburn Challenge, Cape Ann  
Aug 24<sup>th</sup> Salem Antique & Classic Boat Festival  
Aug 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> Gloucester Schooner Festival



## Commander's Corner



As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, we should be proud to be active members of this distinguished volunteer organization. We all know at least the outline of the story: Organized on the eve of war, serving with distinction during World War II, reorganized and refocused on the boating safety mission following the war. The implementation of the modern boat crew program in the 1980's, and the beginning of Auxiliary air operations. Then the expansion of Auxiliary activity into virtually every Coast Guard mission area, excepting only military, intelligence, and law enforcement. Along the way, the Auxiliary has served in good times and in disasters, in classrooms and at boat ramps and marinas, on CG picket boats and in our own small craft, on cold and lonely patrols and in the thick of hectic marine events. We can all take pride in our history of meeting the challenge.

With our minds on the past, we look forward to the future and how we can build upon our many successes. For more, please continue reading my comments on page 2.

Semper Paratus,  
John Mellen - Flotilla Commander

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Thoughts on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Commander's Corner, cont.)

I would like to share my thoughts about the future, and the next 75 years. The road ahead will not be easy. We can expect that the Coast Guard will face serious financial constraints in the years ahead. Every budget item, including Auxiliary budgets, will be closely scrutinized. Our performance will determine if we are seen as expendable, or if we are seen as a cost-effective part of the solution. We are well-poised to be part of the solution, if we grow and change to meet the challenge.

We need to think out-of-the box about improving and streamlining our administrative processes. As an experienced member, I am still often surprised at how difficult it is to get things done. For new members, and especially younger new members, the delays are unconscionable – we are bringing aboard people who are used to getting things done instantly on the web. We are fortunate to have many outstanding volunteers who provide administrative services, yet they are hamstrung by outdated processes and procedures. We can make their jobs easier by streamlining processes and providing better tools.

Another challenge area will be surface operations. We have more people retiring from operations than are newly qualified each year. Our entire infrastructure, from QE's to experienced coxswains to operational vessels, is aging. We need to cultivate an ethic of "giving back", of getting the next generation active and qualified. We also need boats. Economic conditions and current design trends in pleasure craft have created a perfect storm of scarcity in suitable vessel facilities. We need to think out-of-the box here as well: Should the Auxiliary adopt retired CG vessels? Should we make it easier for flotillas to own vessels? Or should the Auxiliary serve on CG-owned vessels? Everything should be on the table.

Both of these areas impact our third major challenge: expanding our membership base. We need to cultivate a more diverse membership. Welcoming other cultural and ethnic groups will strengthen us. Increasing our recruitment of younger members will strengthen us as well. A strong program in surface operations is an important draw for these new members, and provides credibility for our efforts in other areas. Streamlined administrative processes would assist us in bringing these new members aboard quickly, and getting them involved before they lose interest. The Auxiliary can, and should, serve as a farm team for the active duty Coast Guard and the Reserves – but we must recast our organization as an attractive option for a younger and more diverse membership.

These are significant challenges. Yet we are part of an organization that has strength, resiliency, and great potential. Look around you in the Auxiliary, and you will see a great depth of knowledge and experience in your fellow members. We have some strong personalities and not a few disagreements at times, but if we work together there is not a doubt in my mind that we can make it happen for the next 75 years. *Semper Paratus!*



Members of Division 4 join VDCR Henry Livingston during the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake cutting aboard USCG Station Gloucester. (J.W. Keyes)



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## Flotilla Accomplishments To-Date, 2014

684 hours recorded in AUXDATA  
6 shore-side ATON missions completed  
1 Marine Mammal Observation mission completed  
2 VE/PV workshops conducted  
1 Boating Skills & Seamanship Course completed  
2 About Boating Safely Courses completed  
29 PV Visits completed  
12 Vessel Safety Checks completed  
2 Public Affairs Events presented  
1 Beach Cleanup Event hosted  
Supported Operation Dry Water

## Awards & Recognition

All Auxiliary Members – Coast Guard Unit Commendation  
Flotilla 46 – The COMO Joseph A. Polito VSC Plaque  
Nolan Godfrey – New Member Completed  
Carol Winchester – New Member Completed  
Paul Maglio – Team Coordination Training  
Ralph Milroy – Five Year Anniversary  
Ralph Milroy – Team Coordination Training  
Ben Johnson – Civil Rights Awareness Training  
Ben Johnson – Ethics Training  
Ben Johnson – Influenza Training  
Ben Johnson – Prevention of Sexual Harassment Trng  
Ben Johnson – Privacy Awareness Training  
Ben Johnson – Security Education and Awareness Trng  
Ben Johnson – Sexual Assault Prevention Training  
Ben Johnson – Suicide Prevention Training  
Heather Johnson – Civil Rights Awareness Training  
Heather Johnson – Prevention of Sexual Harassment Trng  
Heather Johnson – Suicide Prevention Training  
John Keyes – Ethics Training  
John Keyes – Suicide Prevention Training  
John Mellen – Information Services Workshop



Bob Amiro talks Paddle Smart with a visitor to USCG Station Gloucester's Safe Boating Day Open House. (J.W. Keyes)

## 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: During what years did the U.S. Coast Guard operate an Air Station on Ten Pound Island in Gloucester Harbor? The answer will be revealed in the next issue.

Last Quarter's Question: What was the name of the first U.S. Lifesaving Service Keeper to man the Station at Old House Cove in 1900? Answer: Captain Nelson F. King.

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USLSS Captain Nelson F. King (later USCG Chief Boatswain King) in front of Coast Guard Station #23, Old House Cove Gloucester, circa 1920. (From the editor's collection.)

## Coast Guard Unit Commendation Citation

"For exceptionally meritorious service from June 24, 2009 to June 23, 2014, while providing unprecedented levels of dedicated public service and operational support to the U. S. Coast Guard's missions. Demonstrating remarkable professionalism and boating safety expertise, the Auxiliary performed over 1.1 million vessel safety checks and marine dealer visits, delivered over 540 thousand hours of boating safety course instruction and conducted over 809 thousand hours of public outreach. Displaying superior underway and airborne operational proficiency, Auxiliarists logged over 19.8 million hours of support and patrol missions, saved over one thousand lives, assisted over 20 thousand boaters in distress and prevented the loss of more than 185 million dollars in property. The Auxiliary always answered the call, remaining in lockstep with the Coast Guard's response to every major incident. In 2010, unique Auxiliary talents were brought to bear in the international response to the Haitian earthquake, blazing new trails in the application of social media to locate and save dozens of trapped victims. Also during that year, well-qualified Auxiliarists filled essential incident command post watch positions and augmented active duty units to support the Deepwater Horizon response. Similarly in 2012, Auxiliary commitment following Super Storm SANDY and Hurricane IRENE was instrumental to effective Coast Guard response and recovery operations.

The Auxiliary consistently found innovative ways to support the Coast Guard, including establishment of the Auxiliary Food Services program which trained Auxiliarists to augment Coast Guard galleys, afloat and ashore. Auxiliarists involved with Public Affairs, Interpreter Corps, America's Waterway Watch, and many other programs further contributed to Coast Guard success by volunteering their professional talents, mastery of trade, and disciplined initiative wherever and whenever needed. The Auxiliary's unwavering efforts directly contributed to unprecedented national boating safety achievements, highlighted in 2013 with the fewest boating fatalities in 50 years. Despite incredible challenges amid keen competition for America's volunteers, the Auxiliary grew its membership, provided over 22 million hours of inspirational support to the Coast Guard, and kept our Nation's coasts, lakes, and waterways safe and secure. The professionalism, pride, and devotion to duty displayed by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard."

Signed,

P.F. ZUKUNFT  
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commandant

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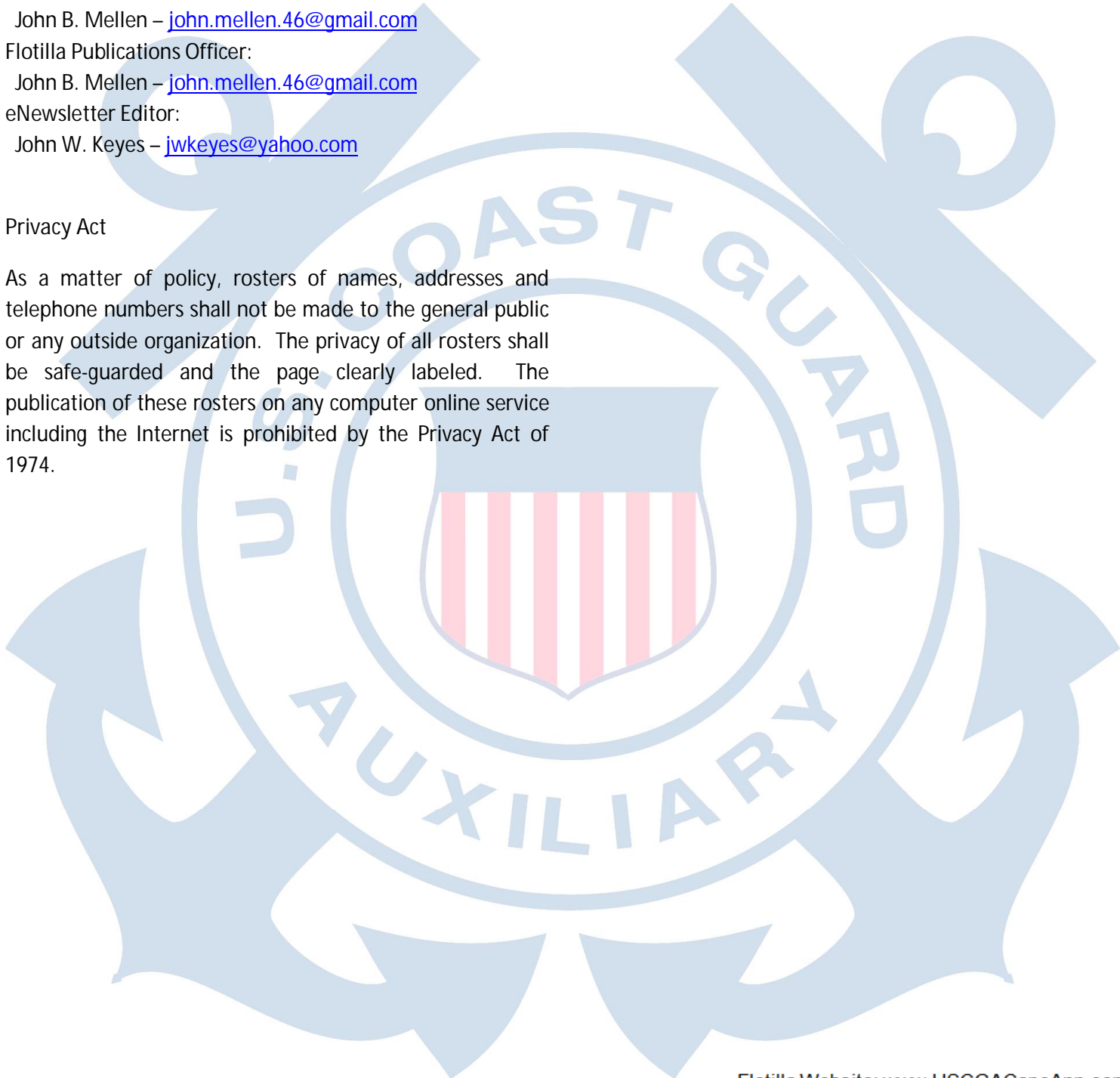
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