

The Cape Ann Quarterly

District 1NR, Flotilla 46 – Cape Ann

Volume 2 – Issue 2, 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 (AUXMT)

Completion of AUXMT requirements places Auxiliarists on the same footing as other members of the Coast Guard workforce and allows seamless integration with their active duty, reserve and civilian employee counterparts. It also ensures that all members of the Coast Guard workforce stand ready to provide Service to Nation, fulfill our commitment to Duty to People, and reflects our Commitment to Excellence. For all Auxiliarists, events occurring after 01 January 2016 such as eligibility for certain awards, elections, Auxiliary ID cards, C-Schools, and augmenting the Coast Guard will require AUXMT to be completed prior to those events. Mandated Member Training includes:

Course Code	Course Number	Course Name	Frequency
SP	502379	Building Resilience and Preventing Suicide	every 5 years
SETA	810030	Security Fundamentals	every 5 years
PAWAR	810015	Privacy at DHS/Protecting Personal Information	every 5 years
POSH	810000	Sexual Harrassment Prevention	every 5 years
SAP	810045	Sexual Assault Prevention and Response	every 5 years
CRA	502319	Civil Rights Awareness	every 5 years
ET	502306	Ethics 1 / Personal Gifts	1 time only
INF	502290	Influenza Training	1 time only

**Note that IS 100.b and IS 700.a are also AUXMT taken 1 time only on the FEMA website here: <http://training.fema.gov/is/nims.aspx>

Upcoming Events

- Aug 2nd & 3rd, Beverly Homecoming, Hospital Point Lighthouse Tours
- Aug 22nd-23rd, Salem Antique & Classic Boat Festival
- Aug 22nd, Flotilla Annual Fellowship Cookout, USCG Station Gloucester
- Sep 5th-7th, Gloucester Schooner Festival, USCG Station Gloucester

Commander's Corner



Half of the year is gone and the Recreational Boating Season has officially begun on the North Shore. For most of us that means more mission hours, more Vessel Safety Checks, and more Program Partner Visits (not to mention more paperwork). As our operational tempo increases, we need to ensure we continue to go about our tasks in a safe manner. Be sure that, whatever it is you are doing, you are doing it safely.

As the weather becomes more conducive to conducting Auxiliary business, you are likely to find more people seeking out your time and talents. Be sure you lend your support to those missions you have time for, you are qualified for, and you enjoy. Don't be afraid to politely turn down an invitation if you are unable to attend. Don't let operational tempo burn you out.

Stay active, stay motivated, and stay safe!

Semper Paratus!

John Mellen – Flotilla Commander

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Operation Dry Water and St. Peter's Fiesta in Gloucester

Alcohol use is the leading contributing factor in recreational boater deaths, according to the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA). Alcohol use can impair a boater's balance, vision, judgment and reaction time, and along with environmental stressors like sun and wind, increases the risks associated with recreational boating. The goal of *Operation Dry Water* (ODW) is to reduce the number of alcohol-related accidents through increased boater awareness.



Operation Dry Water logo.

While ODW is a year-round boating under the influence (BUI) awareness and enforcement program, it culminates on the weekend prior to the Fourth of July with heightened awareness through public education and increased enforcement via nationwide coordinated law enforcement efforts. These efforts happen to coincide each year with the St. Peter's Fiesta weekend festivities in Gloucester harbor. The scale of the St. Peter's event necessitates the coordination of assets from multiple entities with a stake in recreational boating safety.



USCG Station Gloucester-based crew of the 29-foot Response Boat were on hand throughout St. Peter's Fiesta. During the fiesta, more than 100 recreational boating vessels were present. (J.W. Keyes)

St. Peter's Fiesta draws thousands of visitors to Gloucester each year, many by boat. During the Seine Boat Race and the Greasy Pole event, more than 100 powerboats, personal watercraft, and paddle craft converged on Gloucester harbor to view the festivities. The huge waterborne crowd and the carnival-like atmosphere meant extra precautions had to be taken to ensure the safety of participants and guests alike.



Greasy Pole "walkers" wait for their turn to try to capture the flag, and a place in history, during St. Peter's Fiesta. Below the Greasy Pole, Gloucester Harbormaster and USCG Station Gloucester assets maintain a safe perimeter. (J.W. Keyes)

Resources from the Gloucester Harbormaster, the Gloucester Police Department, USCG Station Gloucester, Massachusetts Environmental Police, and USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 46 – Cape Ann provided a coordinated effort before and during St. Peter's Fiesta in order to support the goals of Operation Dry Water. While increased enforcement of BUI laws was left up to law enforcement resources, Auxiliary members were responsible for improving boater awareness during RBS Partner Program visits and Vessel Safety Checks. Since the launch of Operation Dry Water in 2009, the number of boating fatalities with alcohol as a contributing factor has decreased from 19 percent to 16 percent, according to USCG Recreational Boating Statistics from 2013.

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Welcome aboard Petty Officer First Class Devan Smith, the new Station Auxiliary Liaison Officer (AUXLO)



Petty Officer First Class Devan Smith joins the crew aboard USCG Station Gloucester. He will be acting as the station's AUXLO. (J.W. Keyes)

Petty Officer First Class Devan Smith is a Massachusetts native, currently assigned as the Operations Officer on-board USCG Station Gloucester and acting as the station Auxiliary Liaison Officer (AUXLO). He enlisted in the Coast Guard in October 2005 and his prior tours include: USCG Station Little Creek in Norfolk, Va, USCG Vessel Boarding Security Team in Norfolk, Va, and USCG Cutter *Legare* home-ported in Portsmouth, Va. One of his most notable accomplishments is a drug interdiction conducted off the coast of Nicaragua in September of 2012. Acting as the Pursuit Coxswain, he successfully interdicted a suspected narcotics vessel and oversaw the seizure of more than two tons of cocaine with an estimated worth of \$56 million. He is currently one of four Heavy Weather coxswains on board Station Gloucester and is thrilled to be back home in Massachusetts. "This tour was an easy decision for me. I would be challenged by the furious weather experienced here in the northeast, and I would be close to family. That's a win-win situation," said BM1 Smith. If you see Petty Officer First Class Smith around the station, shake his hand and welcome him to Gloucester.



Petty Officer First Class Rick Bowen receives a token of the Division's appreciation from Division Commander Henry Livingston. BM1 Bowen served as the Station Gloucester Operations Officer and Auxiliary Liaison Officer from late 2012 through the summer of 2015. (J.W. Keyes)

Using your Abilities to Conquer your Disability

By Christopher Ware, BC-DAW

In July 1997, at the age of 25, everything was going great in my life. I had bought a house in 1995 and had two great jobs with State Farm Insurance and the police department. Who would have dreamed that I would suffer a severe stroke while directing traffic at a car accident in Bloomington, IL on my way home from work? There I lay in a hospital bed where I couldn't speak and was completely paralyzed on the right side of my body (from head to toe). My doctor rated the stroke a 9.5 on a 10 point scale and was calling around to move me to a nursing home for the rest of my life. I told the doctor I wasn't going to a nursing home and was going to walk out of that hospital.

Through hard work with occupational, physical and speech therapists, I did walk out of that hospital after a month and returned to work three months later. Seventeen years after the stroke living life with a disability still brings its challenges. I am still partially paralyzed in my right hand and arm, walk with a limp in my right leg, and have learned to

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speaking again. I left the police department in 2000 due to residual effects from the stroke.



Branch Chief (BC-DAW) Christopher Ware on the bridge of the USCGC Mackinaw. BC-DAW Ware is an excellent example of what is possible in the Auxiliary when you are determined to succeed. (Photo is courtesy of BC-DAW Christopher Ware.)

In 2002 while visiting Washington D.C., my life was changed forever by a Coast Guard Auxiliarist. I attended a service fair featuring all departments of the United States government as well as all five branches of the Armed Forces in the Mall Area of DC. I went through all the information booths and when I came upon the Coast Guard Auxiliary booth, I was invited to join. I was thrilled with being asked, but quickly replied that I couldn't because I have a disability. The Auxiliarist explained that the Auxiliary was the civilian volunteer arm of the Coast Guard and that people with disabilities were welcomed. I joined up!

In time I discovered that there are many participation opportunities for people with disabilities, but you need to know what your physical limitations are and be willing to make others around you aware of what you can and cannot do. The Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary have so many missions you can participate in and there is something for everyone. I am honored to have served in a wide range

of positions and missions and I am now honored to serve as a member of the Diversity team.

(The preceding article was previously published in *Partners in Auxiliary Diversity*, the Diversity Directorate's bulletin, First Edition 2015.)

Flotilla 46 Accomplishments To Date, 2015

- 614 hours recorded in AUXDATA
- 6 shoreside ATON Missions completed
- 18 hours standing NET Control Radio Watch
- 1 BS&S Public Education Course completed
- 1 ABS Public Education Course completed
- 44 RBS Partner Visits completed
- 3 Vessel Safety Checks completed
- 2 Public Affairs Events supported
- 4 Member Training Events completed
- 3 AUXAIR MDA Mission Flights completed

Awards & Recognition

- John Mellen – Sustained Auxiliary Service Award
- David Foss – Team Coordination Training Completed
- John Keyes – AuxAir Observer Qualification
- Ralph Milroy – Telecommunications PQS
- Gardner Winchester II – Telecommunications PQS

Coast Guard Service to the Nation: 225 Years Strong

The Coast Guard celebrates and traces its history to August 4th, 1790. On that date, President George Washington signed a law that authorized construction of ten revenue cutters, and under the leadership of Alexander Hamilton, established our earliest fleet of cutters, which was the precursor of the modern Coast Guard.

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All flotilla members are encouraged to review ALCOAST 273/15 for details related to the 225th celebration. The message can be found here:

http://www.uscg.mil/announcements/alcoast/273-15_ALCOAST.txt

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: Identify the sailing knot below and what it is used for:



Last Quarter's Question: After contributing 750 documented volunteer hours, an Auxiliarist earns what service award?

Answer: The Sustained Auxiliary Service Award is presented to an Auxiliarist contributing a documented total of 750 volunteer hours of Auxiliary service. Subsequent awards are presented for each additional 750 hours of service.



The Sustained Auxiliary Service Award ribbon, awarded for 750 documented hours of volunteer service.

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