

The Cape Ann Quarterly

District 1NR, Flotilla 46 - Cape Ann

Volume 1 - Issue 4, 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.

Election Results

Congratulations to John B. Mellen (Flotilla Commander) and Gardner H. Winchester II (Flotilla Vice Commander), re-elected to their posts for 2015.

Required Member Training

All annual certifications should be submitted prior to the end of the year to avoid an REYR status. Late submissions will require waivers up the chain of leadership in order to avoid the recertification process. Review your training requirements with the FSO-MT and your current records with the FSO-IS.

Upcoming Events

Jan 2nd-4th D-Train Winter, Newport Rhode Island

Jan 8th Next Flotilla Meeting



Commander's Corner



For Those Who Stand the Watch

With the holiday season upon us, we in the Auxiliary get to stand down for a while. We enjoy the chance to spend time with family, friends, and loved ones. We share our stories and our hopes for the future. We feast and exchange presents. We have time to reflect on the year gone by and the year ahead. But let us not forget that while we celebrate, others are standing the watch. Somewhere a cutter is out on patrol. Somewhere a SAR alarm will go off, and a boat will head out to sea. Somewhere a "helo" crew will work through a pre-flight checklist, and spin up their rotors.

In our sister services, it is much the same. Somewhere a maritime patrol aircraft is sweeping endless miles of ocean. Somewhere a submarine is slipping silently through the depths, always listening. Somewhere jets are approaching for a carrier landing, even as their relief are catapulted into the sky.

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Division 4 Commander (elect) Henry Livingston (center) congratulates John B. Mellen and Gardner H. Winchester II on their successful reelection to Flotilla Commander and Flotilla Vice Commander for 2015. Elections were held during the November Flotilla Meeting. (J.W. Keyes)

For Those Who Stand the Watch (Commander's Corner, cont.)

We may dream of a world where such things are not necessary, but in our waking moments we know the price of the Peace on Earth we crave is our eternal vigilance. There are many bad actors in the world, ready to take advantage of any weakness or inattention.

Our vigilance takes many forms. Some missions are tedious. Some missions are hectic. Some are not a little dangerous. Most of the sailors, pilots, airmen, soldiers, and Marines on those missions would rather be home with their families as well. They are out there for us.

For all of us - all those who value democracy, freedom of religion, freedom of expression, and personal liberty. This year, say a prayer for those who stand the watch. Pray that their watch will be uneventful and that soon they will be home for some much deserved time with their own families and loved ones.

Peace on Earth. - John B. Mellen, Flotilla Commander

24th Annual New England Service Academy Night

Each year in November, for the past twenty-four years, Congressional Staff gather during the New England Service

Academy Night in Danvers to discuss the academy appointment, selection and nomination processes with hopeful high school students and their parents. More than 300 local family members attended the event this year to speak with representatives from the various service academies and institutes. Auxiliary involvement in the event is facilitated through the Academy Admissions Partner Program (AAPP). The Academy Admissions Partner Program took the place of the Career Counselor Program in 2007, and is designed to support Coast Guard Academy cadet recruitment.

Led by Academy Admissions Partner Ralph Milroy (FSO-MT), members of Flotilla 46 (Cape Ann) were on hand to assist with the high-profile event. While only certified Admissions Partners can speak with any authority regarding academy admissions, other Auxiliary members could offer administrative assistance to the active duty staff and provide information on Auxiliary membership to motivated students looking for a "leg up" on their competition. Mr. Milroy has been assisting the Master of Ceremonies, CAPT Ed Bryant (USCGR, Ret.), in his duties for a number of years.



Academy Admissions Partner Ralph Milroy (FSO-MT, Flotilla 46) and Master of Ceremonies Captain Ed Bryant (USCGR, Retired), during the 24th Annual Service Academy Night. This would be CAPT Bryant's last opportunity to host the event, he is passing the torch. (J.W. Keyes)

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The three hour event, held aboard the Danversport Yacht Club, affords high school hopefuls the unique opportunity to speak one-on-one with Academy Cadets, Midshipmen, active duty officers, service recruiters, military institute admissions officers, and ROTC officers.



John Mellen, Flotilla Commander (foreground), assists USCG Academy Admissions Officers Ensign Marvi Rivera and Lieutenant (j.g.) Gregory Mitchell during the 24th Annual Service Academy Night in Danvers, Mass. More than 300 local family members attended the event. (J.W. Keyes)

Marine Environmental Protection

The unofficial motto of the Cape Ann Quarterly is, "*Nauta, Navis, et Mare*" which loosely translates from Latin as, "Sailor, Ship, and Sea." The motto is meant to highlight the three subjects of Auxiliary missions: boaters, their boats, and the marine environment. While the Commandant has identified Recreational Boating Safety as the Auxiliary's primary mission, there is no shortage of important missions related to the protection of our waterways and natural resources – and Flotilla 46 is hard at work on several Marine Environmental Protection missions.

Gloucester is home to many beautiful public beaches, enjoyed by thousands of visitors every summer. But once

the summer is over and the beachgoers depart, the evidence of their visits is often left behind. For the past four years, the serving FSO-MS has coordinated beach cleanups around Gloucester, and this year was no different. Two beach cleanup events were organized by Scott Mellen and focused on the beaches in historic Stage Fort Park, removing hundreds of pounds of garbage.

On the water, Flotilla 46 contributes to the Marine Mammal Observation Program each year aboard the 7-Seas whale watching vessel *Privateer IV*, recording the tour route and reporting the sea mammals observed. Once the data is collected, it is forwarded electronically to NOAA representatives for cataloguing and analysis. Data compiled has been used to analyze sub-surface noise levels, surface vessel traffic patterns, and to identify mammals in distress. The Auxiliary has proven itself a cost-effective force multiplier in this critical mission.



Land, Sea & Air: Scott Mellen (FSO-MS) and John Mellen (FC) pitch-in during a beach cleanup event, despite the cold (left). Two humpback whales are spotted during a recent Marine Mammal Observation mission (center). An electronic Air Sectional Chart with (notional) Maritime Domain Awareness mission route plotted. (J.W. Keyes)

In the air, trained pilots, air crew, and observers lend their talents to the Maritime Domain Awareness Operations in the AUXAIR Program. Organized at the district level, trainees for this program progress through an intense certification process before they are authorized to participate in any air operations. AUXAIR missions range from Search and Rescue and Marine Safety to Pollution Response and Ice Reconnaissance, with pilots and crew flying privately own aircraft under Coast Guard orders.

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Whether in the air, on land, or sea – Flotilla 46 is upholding its pledge to protect the marine environment, its natural resources, and the inhabitants of our coastal waters. The ultimate goal is to preserve these natural treasures for the enjoyment of future visitors and the local community. Each day, Flotilla 46 is pursuing the ideals of the motto "*Nauta, Navis, et Mare*" through its involvement in the various Marine Environmental Protection missions authorized by First Coast Guard District.



The Blynmann drawbridge, at the south end of the Annisquam River, is one of the thirty lighted buoys and structures surveyed each month by the Flotilla ATONs Team. Transiting "the cut" is USCG Station Gloucester Response Boat 25629. (J.W. Keyes)

Flotilla 46 Accomplishments, 2014

- 1,560 hours recorded in AUXDATA
- 10 shore-side ATON Missions completed
- 3 Marine Mammal Observation Missions completed
- 20 hours recorded standing Radio Watch
- 2 VE/PV Member Workshops conducted
- 8 Public Education Courses delivered
- 88 RBS Partner Visits completed
- 37 Vessel Safety Checks completed
- 7 Public Affairs Events supported
- 4 Member Training Events completed
- 2 Beach Cleanup Events hosted
- 1 new Auxiliary Food Service Qualification
- 1 new Operational Facility added
- 1 AUXAIR Ice Reconnaissance / AFAM Flight
- Supported Operation Dry Water on the North Shore

Supported Yellow Ribbon Program Event in Boston
Supported Service Academy Night in Danvers

Awards & Recognition

- John Keyes – VE/PV Annual Service Award
- John Keyes – The Captain Arthur J. Benway Award
- Paul Maglio – Division Distinguished Service Plaque
- John Mellen – All Mandated Training Completed
- Renee Winchester – Five Year Membership Award

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>



Veterans Day 2014: Flotilla 46 sponsors a wreath-laying at the Coast Guard Air Station Ten Pound Island memorial. Ten Pound Island, home of the first permanent Coast Guard Air Station, is pictured in the background. (J.W. Keyes)

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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: Who was the first National Commodore of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and when did he serve? The answer will be revealed in the next issue.

Last Quarter's Question: What Coast Guard Admiral was responsible for the creation of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary seventy-five years ago? *Answer:* Admiral Russell R. Waesche, Sr., the eighth Commandant of the Coast Guard, was instrumental in the development of the Coast Guard Reserve and the Coast Guard Auxiliary.



Admiral Russell R. Waesche, Sr., service 1906-1946.
(Photo is courtesy of the U.S. Coast Guard Historical Archives.)

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