

The Beacon



Volume 25, Issue 25

Feb 2022

Greetings from our Flotilla Commander



I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest gratitude and convey what an honor it is to be elected as your Flotilla Commander. When I joined in September of 2016 as a new member, I didn't think that during my time in the Auxiliary that I would earn the privilege to hold this office, and yet here I am today. I am proud of what this Flotilla has accomplished during my years as a member, and plan to continue our success in the coming year and beyond. With that being said, there are a few key items that I would like to focus on this year in order to maximize our success:

- Effective communication to and from fellow membership and leadership
- Creating training opportunities for membership and assisting members with obtaining certifications
- Fostering new partnerships and strengthening our relationships with State & Local Agencies and our community
- Recruiting new members and retaining our current membership

New for 2022, besides another 200 variants of the Coronavirus, we are welcoming aboard a new detachment Flotilla through Norwich University located in Northfield, Vermont, and I look forward to working with them and welcoming them to our Flotilla. There are also several exciting new deployment opportunities within the Culinary Assistance program, participation in our District Staff

Burlington VT Flotilla 15-2, D1SR

Flotilla Commander: Brendan Day
Flotilla Vice Commander: Alan Nye
Human Resources Officer: Robert Walls-Thumma

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/about.php?unit=014-15-02>
<https://www.facebook.com/US-Coast-Guard-Auxiliary-Flotilla-15-02-Burlington-VT-351235695499189/>

Open Flotilla Positions

**FSO-MS Marine Safety &
Environment Officer**

**FSO-SR Secretary/Records Staff
Officer**

Please volunteer for the positions listed above. You will learn a lot, help the flotilla function more effectively, and receive help from other knowledgeable members when needed.

**Have you submitted your
7029/7030?**

Each member should submit one
monthly.

**USCG Station Burlington
1 Depot St.
Burlington, VT 05401**

**Meeting virtually 1st Wednesday of
every month at 7 p.m.**

Officer College Program, and new membership benefits in the coming months from the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association.

Speaking of Coronavirus, due to the rising number of Omicron Variant cases in the state, I believe it's best for the safety of our membership to pivot back to a digital model until further notice. Even with Omicron being a less severe strain than others, I take the welfare of our immunocompromised members very seriously and believe going back to a Zoom model to be the best option for the time being (also, who doesn't like attending a meeting in sweatpants?).

Bravo Zulu to all of you for your time and efforts to the Coast Guard Auxiliary for whatever moniker we end up labeling the year 2021, and I look forward to continuing that success into 2022. Our valiant efforts do not go unnoticed and I would like to thank all of you for your valuable dedication and time put forth to aiding the Gold Side and our community. I have the chutzpah to say that we have the best Flotilla in our District, and even New England, and I'm sure that District Commodore Mark Stone would attest to that. Our fellowship and character speak volumes, and as General Norman Schwarzkopf put it: " Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without the strategy."

Let's have ourselves a great year.

Upcoming Events

Boat Crew Training via Zoom

Contact Alan Nye ASAP if interested

D-TRAIN

Postponed until Sep 2022

Division Change of Watch (COW)

Nov 2022

Published by the USCG Auxiliary at no expense to the U.S. Government.

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Submit articles/photos NLT 2 weeks
prior to the next meeting, or as directed.

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USCG Auxiliary University Program (AUP)

<https://www.cgau.edu.us/>



“Welcome to the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary University Program (AUP). Our mission is to provide a continuous resource of well-trained viable officer candidates which can develop into career officers in the United States Coast Guard or similar service agency, without the commitment of an ROTC Program.

“The United States Coast Guard has an ever-increasing need for officer candidates not only for Surface and Air Operations, but for Environmental Protection, Marine Science, Legal, Marine Safety, Engineering, Facilities Management, Humanitarian Assistance and Homeland Security just to name a few of the career paths open to successful AUP program graduates.

“The AUP offers college students multiple levels of training culminating with an Active-Duty Coast Guard Internship placement program and AUP graduation status once the program courses are successfully completed per the AUP Program of Study. At present the United States Coast Guard is looking to commission 500 new officers each year for the next five years, with less than half of that number coming from The Coast Guard Academy graduates. The Coast Guard Auxiliary University Program is striving to be the predominant source for the remaining 250 plus officer candidates needed annually. We welcome you to be part of this program.”

“Enrollment in AUP is open to students enrolled at any accredited American college or university.

“Students attending a school with a campus presence participate directly in that AUP Unit; students at schools without such a presence must work through the AUP Remote Collaborative Unit (RCU) with a nearby flotilla to complete any underway, waterfront, or other on the job service requirements.”

The AUP offers multiple benefits and opportunities: increased diversity within the Coast Guard Auxiliary; increased opportunity for long-term Auxiliary membership; first-hand experience working with the Auxiliary on real-world missions; development of leadership skills; expansion of academic experiences; and internships with USCG units.

Our flotilla is currently working with Norwich University to provide the AUP to their students. Michael Butcher is our Auxiliary Unit Coordinator, who will provide local administrative support and mentoring to AUP students.

For more information on the AUP Program of Study and Requirements, please visit the website <https://www.cgau.edu.us/>



Secretary/Records Staff Officer (FSO-SR)

DUTIES

- a. Maintain close liaison with the Division Secretary/Records Staff Officer (SO-SR).
- b. Be responsible for the recording and publication of the minutes of the flotilla when it meets in official sessions.
- c. Maintain a current record of flotilla officers, committee assignments and such other appointments as may be made by the FC.
- d. Maintain a current list of division officers.
- e. Maintain such other records as may be required to ensure the correctness and continuity of administration.

SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL SECRETARY/RECORDS OFFICER DUTIES GENERAL DUTIES

- a. Assume staff responsibility for matters pertaining to administrative and personnel reporting.
- b. Maintain a current roster of flotilla members. Cooperate with the Flotilla Information System Staff Officer (FSO-IS) in ensuring the member's records in AUXDATA are correct.
- c. Maintain a copy of the division and flotilla Standing Rules and other records as may be required to ensure the correctness and continuity of administration.
- d. Conduct ballot by mail when so directed.
- e. Submit articles to the unit publication when deemed necessary to keep the membership informed or when requested.
- f. Actively take part in the planning and execution of seminars, workshops, forums, and panel discussions.
- g. Report monthly to the Flotilla Vice Commander about the activities and progress in carrying out these duties.

SPECIFIC DUTIES

- a. Maintain mailing lists for all members, and prospective members. Coordinate with FSO-IS to ensure a correct, up-to-date list.
- b. Make a monthly mailing of the flotilla meeting notice, with meeting agenda, to all categories of members. Notices are to be mailed so as to be delivered no later than the Monday prior to the meeting.

Note: Much of the information required for these duties is maintained electronically, and is submitted electronically via email. Members are required to keep their information up to date in AUXDATA.