



The Gazetteer

Published Quarterly by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary's Fifth District Southern Region, Division Five

Introduction to "The Gazetteer"

Hello, and on behalf of all division leadership, welcome to your newsletter! As many mariners know, a gazetteer is used to index important maritime information for reference. We hope to create a similarly informative and relevant publication that you will find both useful and interesting. This newsletter will be published quarterly each year and will include pertinent news and stories. If you would like to submit an article for publication, or if you have a suggestion for consideration, please feel free to pass it along. Thank you for reading!

- Garrett Hendrickson, SO-PB

What to Expect in Your Newsletter

In this first issue of your newsletter, and in all subsequent issues, you can expect some of these sections of both import and interest:

- **On the Horizon** – Upcoming events in Division Five, including both one-time and recurring events. If there is an event you would like included, please pass that information along.
- **Nautical News** – News geared toward the mariners in the division. Stories might include changes in regulations, marine safety alerts and interest pieces.
- **In the Cockpit** – News geared toward the aviators in the division. Changes in regulations, stories of lessons-learned and interest pieces are likely to be featured.
- **Officer Report** – Every issue, a division officer will author an article to give you visibility on the things happening in their field, as well as to give you the Division Five position and progression on certain issues.

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New Year Message from Division Commander

“The single biggest problem with communication is the illusion that it has taken place.”

- George Bernard Shaw



Welcome to the first edition of the Division 5 newsletter, and welcome to 2014. This newsletter is the first step in improving communications among ALL Division 5 members. And THAT is the theme of 2014 – COMMUNICATION!

With the new budget climate the Auxiliary lives in, we are looking to our members to voice their needs and desires more than ever. Your Vice Division Commander, Al, and I will be visiting each flotilla twice this year so you will have at least four face-to-face opportunities to “bend our ears.” The District Captain, Jim Clark, will also be visiting each Flotilla this coming year. Al and I also plan to participate on a patrol with every facility in the division that includes surface, air and radio – so be assured there will be ample opportunity to share with us your thoughts and ideas.

Regardless of these face-to-face meetings, PLEASE talk to your Flotilla Commanders, Vice Commanders, and Flotilla Staff Officers – use your Chain of Leadership and Management. This organizational concept functions where elected officers at one level are responsible to elected officers at the next higher administrative level and to all members they represent by virtue of the elected office. All contact information for your elected leaders is located on the AUXDirectory website. Every member of the Auxiliary has access to this information using his or her individual login/password. Your Flotilla Staff Officers are a deep pool of information. Many of these staff officers have been in the Auxiliary for many years and enjoy the mission they are leading. When you choose a mission you enjoy doing and learn all you can about that mission and how it supports the Coast Guard and the boating public, the rewards seem to multiply upon themselves. Sharing your excitement and knowledge with other auxiliaries gives you an even bigger sense of accomplishment.

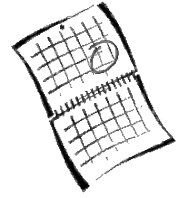
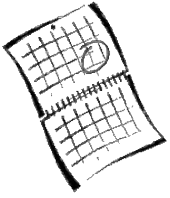
I am not planning on living forever, and I want my successors to be just as excited about the Auxiliary as I am – and so I must be the one to mentor as many as I can. Thank you for being the glow of activity in an otherwise stormy volunteer environment!

Division Leadership

The following individuals are your elected and appointed officers for 2014. We look forward to a productive and successful year!

Division Commander:	Michelle Thornton
Vice Division Commander:	Alfred Coke
Navigation Services:	Stanley Miley
Communications:	William Photinos, III
Communication Services:	Rawl Gelinas
Diversity:	Gerard Williams
Finance:	Colleen O'Neil
Human Resources:	Michelle Thornton
Information Systems:	George Langdon
Materials:	Alfred Coke
Maritime Safety:	Richard Mayes, Sr.
Member Training:	Russell Brawsell, II
Operations:	Richard Dunnington
Public Affairs:	Francis Hilliker
Publications:	Garrett Hendrickson
Program Visitor:	Peter Faleski
Secretary:	Troy Tripamer
Vessel Examinations:	Michael Hanson

If you need to contact a division officer, please route your request through the appropriate chain of leadership!



On the Horizon

February 7 -9:

Visit the Virginia Beach Convention Center on Friday (from 1200 – 2100), Saturday (1000 – 2000), or Sunday (1000 – 1700) for the Virginia Beach Boat Show.

February 20:

Join us at The Old Coast Guard Station (24th Street and Atlantic in Virginia Beach) at 1900 to watch “Rescue Men: The Story of the Pea Island Life-Savers.” This pictorial exhibit honors the history of the lives and service of African-Americans in the USCG and its predecessor organizations. Dr. William Thiesen, USCG LANTAREA historian, will be speaking at the event. Light refreshments will be served. Free admission. RSVP is encouraged at 757-422-1587.

March 8:

Make efforts to attend the Sector Hampton Roads Auxiliary workshop at Training Center Yorktown. Times to be determined.

Flotilla 53 Boating Safety Class:

Join Flotilla 53 from 0800 – 1700 at the Towne Bank Conference Room in Chesapeake for their boating safety class on the fourth Saturday of each month. Cost is \$35.00. Register by contacting Colleen O’Neil at 757-482-1931 or Ed Cart at 757-482-2942.

Division Meetings:

The second Tuesday of each month at 1900 in the Wheelhouse Facility on USCG Base Portsmouth.

Next Issue of The Gazetteer:

Expect the next issue of The Gazetteer to be made available around May 2014.



Nautical News

NOAA – Nautical Chart Development and Distribution:

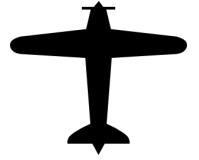
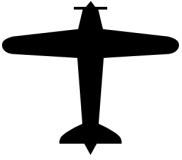
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is requesting feedback on the planned changes to the printing and distribution of both paper and digital charts. Through January 22, 2014, NOAA is providing free digital chart files in PDF format. Digital charts are also being made available in NOAA-certified print-on-demand format. NOAA is providing high-resolution raster navigational charts of selected areas for public testing and evaluation. An online viewer of NOAA's electronic navigation charts is also available. Comments should be submitted by February 3, 2014. (79 Fed. Reg. 112; January 2, 2014).

Coast Guard Marine Safety Alert – Entanglement Accidents:

After a recent casualty onboard an inspected passenger vessel, the Coast Guard is warning mariners to take extreme caution to avoid accidents brought on by entanglement. Loose clothing, jewelry, and long hair can potentially become caught in various sorts of moving and rotating equipment – including shafts, fan blades, belts, and linkages. To avoid such accidents, the Coast Guard recommends securing clothing, hair, and other items that could potentially become entangled when operating near this equipment. More suggestions from the Coast Guard are: install protective guards to prevent contact with the equipment; post appropriate hazard signs; avoid energizing machinery unless certain that all personnel are clear; develop procedural safeguards that reduce the need for a crewmember to operate in the vicinity of such equipment; and to regularly conduct onboard safety training to emphasize safety procedures and the hazards of machinery.

USCGC Polar Star Receives National Attention:

Recently, one of the two U.S.-owned icebreakers – both operated by the United States Coast Guard – was called into action to clear a path for two stranded vessels in the Antarctic. Although the Polar Star was subsequently waved off, it reminded Americans of the important role the Coast Guard plays in icebreaking operations. In light of this, top U.S. Navy and Coast Guard officials explained that as the ice in the Arctic region thins, it will be possible for U.S. icebreakers to clear new sea lanes of communication, increasing commercial passage and access to resources. Ultimately, the Arctic will become a new frontier for increased U.S. presence, and the Coast Guard will surely be utilized even more heavily in the region.



In the Cockpit

Aviation Flotilla New Leadership:

Congratulations to Mr. Mike O'Neal and Mr. Larry Pennington for being elected the Flotilla Commander and Vice Flotilla Commander, respectively, of Division Five's very own aviation flotilla – 05-10 in Suffolk! Their "steady as she goes" leadership philosophy will ensure that positive momentum from last year continues on into 2014, making for a very successful year ahead.

Newest Air Crew Gets Wings:

At the January 11 flotilla meeting, Mr. Larry Byers was awarded his Air Crew wings. Mr. Byers is a veteran Air Observer who has proven himself to be a true value in the cockpit, and he will continue to do so as Air Crew. Congratulations, Mr. Byers!

Coast Guard to Trade Aircraft with Air Force:

The National Defense Authorization Act for 2014, which was passed by the House in late 2013, includes provisions for the United States Coast Guard to trade seven C-130H aircraft to the United States Air Force in exchange for fourteen C-27J aircraft. The aging fleet of C-130Hs, which is in the process of being phased out by the USCG, will be retrofitted by the Air Force into air tankers and given to the U.S. Forest Service. As the Coast Guard is making broad attempts at replacing its aging fleet of cutters and aircraft, budget constraints are making things difficult. This trade will serve as a much-needed augmentation to the Coast Guard's fleet, as well as it will allow the service to cancel orders for 18 HC-144A Ocean Sentry aircraft, saving the USCG approximately \$600 million. The C-27J is a twin-engine, medium-range surveillance aircraft that will be used for missions such as maritime patrols, search and rescue, drug and migrant interdiction, and disaster response. It is expected to begin flying sometime in mid to late 2014.

It has yet to be released which air stations will receive the C-27Js, but it is possible to see one in our area in the not-so-distant future. Although Air Station Elizabeth City is not forfeiting any C-130Hs for the trade – making it an unlikely candidate to receive any C-27Js – the air station is home to the Coast Guard Aircraft Repair and Supply Center as well as the Aviation Technical Training Center, meaning it is fairly likely a C-27J will be visiting ECITY for one reason or another once they become fully operational.



Officer Report: Diversity

By: Gerard Williams

The New Year presents us with a new opportunity for Auxiliary members to demonstrate our dedication to the readiness of the U.S. Coast Guard by learning more about diversity and how it relates to readiness. One way we can all contribute to Coast Guard readiness is to take an introspective look and identify something within ourselves that we can use as a diversity benchmark. OK, Gerard, what's a "diversity benchmark?" I am using that term to define some personal characteristic that each member can call his or her own. These are factors about your life that make you special, different, unique, proud, and secure in your persona. What makes you "you?"

So what's your personal diversity benchmark? Now, how does your benchmark apply to the Auxiliary? How does it help you to be successful as an Auxiliary member? Do you rely on your benchmark when faced with challenges? Do you use it to help you develop plans? Does it provide you with a sense of comfort and assurance? How do you apply your benchmark when working on a team?

Confused? What's all this got to do with diversity? See, I am not talking about Affirmative Action or Equal Opportunity here . . . I am talking about what makes you a unique and wonderful person who provides valuable input to Team Coast Guard, about how we achieve mission accomplishment by adding **YOU** to the team. **YOU** are diversity!

Having fun with this brainteaser so far? I hope this little introspective adventure has helped you think about how your unique qualities are important aspects of who you are as a person and a teammate. From the team's perspective, it's your personal traits that allow you to contribute to more robust solutions. Your input is valued and highly desired by your Coast Guard teammates.

So, how does the thought of valued inclusion make you "feel?" I hope you feel very good about the concept. I hope you feel that you are special and that you make a difference to those around you. If yes, your team is on the right course. If no, we have some work to do to raise our collective diversity benchmark.

As I said, 2014 provides us with a new chance to develop readiness. Diversity is readiness. Diversity of talents, and skills, and ideas, and experiences add to good plans and, therefore, helps commanders to reduce operational risk - because many minds are generally better than one.

Please think about personal and team diversity benchmarks, where they are, and where they can be if we work together to develop them. We should each be proud of our diversity. As dedicated members of the Auxiliary, and Team Coast Guard, we should actively seek the diverse input of our teammates and look for ways to recruit more people to our great organization to increase our readiness. Let's all dedicate ourselves to encouraging others to contribute their special talents for the betterment of the Coast Guard in 2014 and beyond.

 *Gerard, a retired Commander in the United States Coast Guard, is our Division Five SO-DV.*

Announcement of Division Logo Contest



What does your division mean to you?

Put it in a picture, a logo, a drawing – anything you can think of – and submit it to the Division Five Logo Contest!

The winning design will be chosen by a committee, then produced and reproduced on this newsletter, the Division Five website, DCDR's and VCDR's stationary, T-shirts, cups, and other logo products you can think of!

Your ideas can be written, drawn, photographed, or any other creative still media.

Submit your idea by February 28, 2014, by e-mail to DCDR Michelle Thornton – seachele00@gmail.com

This is a great opportunity to create an important and lasting symbol for your division – the more entries the better, and get creative!

Division Change of Watch



COMO Ted Potter spoke at this year's Division Five Change of Watch.



DCDR Michelle Thornton (far left) presents gifts to some of Division Five's leadership.



Division Five officers for 2014 are sworn in.

To view all pictures from the change of watch, or to order prints, visit: VirginiaPeninsulaPhotography.com