



The Flotilla Times

21 October 2024

The Chapel Hill Flotilla News

1st Edition

Preparing for the next “big one”

The state is still reeling from the devastation of Hurricane Helene. North Carolinians are currently facing levels of devastation previously thought to be impossible so far inland. In the far reaches of the Appalachian mountains, we have seen the creation of a volunteer airlift operation calling themselves the “Appalachian Air Force.” Due to the difficult geography of the mountainous areas, these volunteer groups have proven a great help as local, state, and the federal government continue their response operations. This disaster has proven to be a wake up call for many living in mountainous regions, as well as those living near any body of water, as proven by dam breakage and overflowing lakes. It is important now, more so than ever, to use the awareness promoted by these disasters to ensure we are prepared should something similar happen again. Below are some particularly useful resources pertaining to both hurricane and general disaster preparation. Access the resources by clicking on the **bold and underlined** portion.

First and foremost, as members of the Auxiliary we are eligible for assistance under Coast Guard Mutual Assistance. To check eligibility and apply for assistance for yourself or qualifying family members, **click here**.

To assess your risk of your residence being flooded, FEMA created a flood map. With this resource, you can input your address or other location and get a detailed report about risk factors impacting the likelihood of a flood in your area. **Click here to access**.

The American Red Cross continues to be a primary resource for those at risk or affected by disaster. **Here** they have compiled a list of things to do before, during, and after being effected by a hurricane. The ARC has many resources that should be further explored.

A brand new newsletter

Good day everyone and welcome to the new Flotilla 054-09-08 Newsletter. Firstly, we hope everyone affected by Hurricane Helene is now safe and we wish you the best and hope you can utilize the above resources. This newsletter will have recurring editions published frequently and feature articles and messages from within the flotilla. Involvement with the newsletter, as with the flotilla, is strongly encouraged. Consider voting for next week’s “Member Showcase” or recommending what you would like to see in this publication by clicking the Google Forms link in the email or **clicking here**.

“Now hear this”

Messages from leadership and staff

FC

Kim Isaacs

Upcoming dates and events to be aware of:

Marine Safety and Environmental Protection training:

When: All lessons will take place 1900-2030 (7pm-8:30pm)

November 11 + 14 (Lesson on Aquatic Nuisance Species)

December 9 + 12 (Lesson on Sea Partners/Outreach)

Where: Zoom classroom accessible **here**

D-Train

When: January 16-19, 2025

Where: Marriott Shortpump, Glen Allen, Virginia

Change of Watch Ceremony

When: January 25, 2025

Where: NC State University Club

FSO - PB

Brady Aygun

Good day everyone and welcome to the publication. I am still settling on a format that is befitting the Auxiliary newsletter but still easily readable for everyone in the flotilla. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions, comments, or concerns. I can be reached via the attached Google Form or by my email address in the Aux Directory.

Member Spotlight:

Flotilla Commander Kim Isaacs



Isaacs (center right) while on a visit to Coast Guard Airstation Elizabeth City with Flotilla Auxiliary University Program students

For the inaugural edition of the Flotilla Times, it was only right that we showcase our Flotilla Commander, Kim Isaacs. Isaacs is a Professor of Medicine at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine in Chapel Hill, N.C. Through this skill set and some life factors that resulted in a desire to serve, she has become a huge asset to the Auxiliary as well as the Coast Guard itself. We sat down with Isaacs to learn more about her and her Auxiliary service.

Kim Isaacs joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary in 2019, motivated by her daughters service as an active-duty Coast Guard aviator.

This led Isaacs to the Auxiliary as she wished to support active-duty personnel through the use of her professional skillset as a doctor. Alongside her service as Flotilla Commander of the Chapel Hill Flotilla, Isaacs also serves on the National Staff as a Division Chief of Student Programs. In this role, she continues a position she has undertaken prior to joining the Auxiliary, beginning this role in 2013, in which she assists Coast Guard Academy recruiting through introducing the Academy and the Coast Guard to high school students. Isaacs splits her time between Flotilla Commander and Division Chief duties with medical duties at Coast Guard Air Station Elizabeth City, providing internal medicine and gastroenterology care to Coast Guard members.

Isaacs proudest achievements of her Auxiliary service has been supporting students in the Auxiliary University Program and seeing them flourish throughout their Auxiliary and post-college lives. Isaacs has also been honored as a medical professional, being recognized for excellence by the American Gastroenterological Association and the American College of Gastroenterology.

District and Division News

- Utilize the brand new, interactive uniform guide. You can access it [here](#).
- Check you Aux Directory periodically to ensure your contact information is correct, especially with recent natural disasters making accountability checks more likely
- The division scored 77% on accountability
- National Commodore, Mary Kirkwood, sent an email on 10/20 detailing resources for members in need. It is worth a read to stay in the loop on Auxiliary operations and resources

Flotilla News

- **ELECTION!** The election will be at the next flotilla meeting, 12 November, at Bru's Pub in Carrboro. You are encouraged to arrive by 1800 (6pm) to mingle and enjoy a "Dutch treat" which will be followed by the meeting and election at 1900 (7pm). The meeting for Zoom attendees will begin at 1900. We hope to see you there.
- **Uniform inspections!** If you are BQ status or higher, you need to have an inspection done by the end of the year. Please see Kim Isaacs for an inspection. These could be done via emailing pictures or in person.
- The flotilla is currently putting together all unused uniforms and insignia, reach out to Ron Craig if you have any unused items you wish to pass on to other members.
- Chapel Hill flotilla scored 86.2% for accountability in the wake of Hurricane Helene, it was not a drill. Great job shipmates!