



October 11, 2016

From 10-05

All members of 10-05 are safe and accounted for after the not so sudden visit by Matthew. We had a huge response to my email requesting to know who was staying put and who was evacuating, but not 100%. Still, more than the usual % of responses to FC emails. The first list on members who had not responded to AIMS was only six – out of 87, and five of those responded after the list was created. The lone holdout replied to my email. The latest version of AIMS seems to be very effective.

50th Anniversary of 10-05

We will be celebrating our 50th anniversary as a flotilla in January 2017. Invitations are in the works. The anniversary date is January 7th, but we will be holding our banquet on Friday, January 6th. This will also be our COW. More details will follow. Carol Urgola, our historian, has been very busy preparing for the event(s). She has published eight editions of Historical Highlights to set the stage.

Flotilla elections

We have one qualified candidate for FC and one for VFC. We will hold our election at our November flotilla meeting on November 15th.

Membership

We've had a net loss of five members during 2016. We started the year with 92, have enrolled seven new members, dis-enrolled ten and retired two. We had eight retired members on our inactive roster on January 1st and as of now have the same number. The two new retirees offset two others who crossed the bar this year.

Of the seven new members, (one of which is a re-enrollment) two have enrolled since the new Provisional Member program started. I have requested a waiver from the 90-day waiting period for the first, who is actually a re-enrollment. He was wearing his uniform before I was forced to tell him he could not. So far, my request has not been approved even though Barbara Pohlman went to bat on our behalf. Even though his base enrollment date was established in AUXDATA as May 4, 2013, for purposes of the 90

days, DIRAUX chose to set the calendar at July 22, 2016. As of the date of this meeting, we are only six days short of the 90.

I continue to have two objections to provisional membership:

1. Ban on wearing uniform
2. Pre provisional membership applicants still in AP status cannot get an id card, but under prov mem, newer applicants can

We currently have ten members in AP status, eight of which are not eligible for provisional membership and early ID cards. Three of the eight have been approved pending completion of mandated training, two of which have promised to get it done before year-end. Of the remaining five, two joined in 2015 and one of those has completed her mandated training – some months ago. A fourth joined in January 2016 and has also completed his mandated training.

Mandated Training

I have no problem with the requirement, but the rules need re-visited. It is insane to spend the resources to process a psi if the member doesn't complete AMT. We've had two members approved who subsequently dis-enrolled. New members are still told they have until the end of the year following the year of enrollment, but penalized a number of ways until they complete AMT. I suggest the requirement be changed. Applicants should be told they have 90 days to complete all ten AMT courses, or be dis-enrolled. The PSI process should begin when they've completed the 10th course.

The goal is to get to 75% by 12/31/16. We currently stand at 67% and need seven more to hit the goal. Of the twenty-nine who are incomplete, twelve would be considered active. Of these, four only need the two FEMA courses and another seven also need the two courses in addition to some of the eight LMS courses. One needs only one LMS course. Five of these "actives" have completed no courses as yet, but to be fair, two of these are new members.

Two of our members who are active but still in AP status are still in school, one in college, the other high school. The latter told me he completed his but his dog ate his homework.....

That leaves seventeen who are not active and I do not expect them to take any more of the courses than they already have – at least by year-end. But I've been surprised before.

King Mackerel Tournament – Sept 30th – October 1st

The tournament was a huge success with close to 500 entrants. The weather got off to a rocky start, but cleared up in time for the fishermen. We supported the Coast Guard with three patrols on each of the two days, and handled radio communications as well.

RBS

Public Affairs

We had a very busy September. In addition to many press reports and radio/TV coverage, we provided PA booths on three occasions:

1. Oak Island Arts & Crafts Festival – Sept. 4th
2. Big Toy Day – Sept. 17th (along side a 29 from SOI)
3. Southport Wooden Boat Show – Sept. 24th

We've also used flotilla funds to print paddle craft safety brochures. The initial circulation of these brochures was intended for Saturday, October 6th at Bill Smith Park in Southport for the dedication of a new paddle craft boat launch site, but it had to be re-scheduled because of Hurricane Matthew.

Public Educations

We held our last ABS class of 2016 on September 10th. This year, 101 students graduated from our ABS classes, up from 55 last year. Another 16 completed our BS&S class, the same as 2015, and still another 16 completed our Paddle Sports class compared to only four last year.

The next ABS class is scheduled for 14 January 2017 at Oak Island Rec center and is a Women Only class.

VE & PV

According to AUXDATA as of 10/11/16, we have given 460 VSC's with 86.7% passing. We have completed 501 program visits. More complete reports have been submitted by our Staff Officers. We believe there are still more that have not yet been reported.

Jack Gordon
FC, 10-05
October 11th, 2016