

Flotilla 10-05 Division Report – January 2016 – Submitted by Jack Gordon, FC

As January draws to a close, we have completed:

Audit of flotilla finances and turned over the books to Steve Lange. Steve is off to a good start but has some seasoned shoes to follow with Tom Cavanagh wrapping up 20 years in this position. Tom will be presented with a special award at our February meeting.

We start the year with 92 members, and would expect to add another ten this year. But, we currently have 13 members in AP status, the oldest of which has a BED of 16 October 2014. We are cautious with our recruiting, and hope this “backlog” will be cleared up in 2016. Only two members who joined in 2014 have been cleared and are BQ, and both are staff officers in their second year. Two others in AP are staff officers in their first year, and another has qualified in Boat Crew. We keep encouraging this group to “hang in there.”

Our Public Education dates have been established and we’ve already completed our first ABS class for 2016 – an all-women’s class taught by our lady instructors. Our Public Affairs calendar has taken shape and of course will be expanded as the year progresses. We kick off this coming weekend with the local filming of THE FINEST HOURS. We will be present during the performances over the first three days of viewing at Surf Cinemas.

Our VE and PV program goals have been established, and our objective is to increase yet again our level of activity from 2015. We have appointed our respective FSO-PV and FSO-VE as co-coordinators for Safe Boating Week. And our IPFC has volunteered to organize our involvement in Station Oak Island’s Safety Day scheduler for April 30th and has engaged two lieutenants to help out.

Our member-training program is rapidly taking shape. This is our year for mentor refresher training, we have planned our one hour TCT refresher, and are scheduling training for prospective VEs and PVs, and laying plans for 2016 crew training.

We also are planning for our Flotillas’s 50th Anniversary which occurs on January 17, 2017. We have requested a replacement charter from DIRAUX – the original charter document was destroyed in the fire at Station Oak Island in 2004.

We have distributed a member survey to all members, taking the pulse of the membership in order to gain some insight into how our flotilla can be more effective for our members. We also are planning the next issue of LOUDHALER and continuing to increase our presence on Facebook.

We are exploring opportunities in Marine Safety with some level of frustration, and planning our Navigation Services activities for 2016. We have two new Staff Officers in

CS and IS, both working on process changes. They are replacing two veterans, so have their work cut out for them.

Our FSO-CM is also a veteran, returning yet another year in service of the Division, also. That's the Short of it. Proceed to the detail in the second attachment at your own pace.
The various FSOs have outlined their plans in detail.

Flotilla 10-05 Division Report – January 2016 – Submitted by Jack Gordon, FC

(Detail addendum to summary report in separate document)

Operations

Subject: Operational outlook for 2016

The objective of Boat Force Surface Operations is to provide a ready force of vessels and trained crew to augment the USCG mission. Operational control of Auxiliary facilities when under orders is maintained through Station Oak Island.

To accomplish this, Southport Flotilla 10-05 has an ongoing cycle of safety patrols to monitor recreational boating activity in our AOR and combines this activity with underway training to advance skills and proficiency in our Surface Operations.

Patrols are scheduled as needed to provide specific training for: crew candidates: to maintain currency: and to recertify coxswains and crew.

Requests for patrols from Station OI for special events, for safety zones and for joint training are scheduled throughout the year.

In year 2015, thirty-two members were active in Boat Force Operations. This comprises approximately one third of total Flotilla membership.

Flotilla 10-05 has twelve operational facilities, ten coxswains and twenty-two certified crew.

In addition we have mentors, qualified instructors and experienced members who are committed to guide and train willing candidates, both ashore and afloat, to qualify as crew.

New members are strongly encouraged to join Boat Force/Surface Operations.

Respectfully submitted,

George Asimos, FSO-OP

Human Resources

I. NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT.

Flotilla 10-05 is the largest flotilla in District 5SR and one of the largest on the east coast. We have been able to maintain a robust membership successfully for many years without

the need for a discrete recruiting effort. Our new members typically come from the following sources:

A) Contact with the public during RBS activities.

- Public affairs events. People who stop by our display at events such as Safety Day, Wooden Boat Show, Big Toy Day, and Oak Island craft fair get information about Auxiliary membership.
- Public Education classes. The most prolific source of new members has been our ABS and BS&S classes. Students are apparently enchanted by our erudite instructors in their spiffy uniforms, so they want to join up.
- Vessel Safety Checks. Vessel Examiners have one-on-one contact with boaters, an ideal opportunity to discuss membership with interested people.
- Program Visitors. Displays at local businesses include handouts such as “Join the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.”
- Patrols. While at the dock preparing to get underway, fueling, or returning from patrol, boat crews can talk with folks who are interested in what the Auxiliary does.

Recommendation. We should continue to rely on the RBS program to bring in new members. Instructors, Vessels Examiners, Program Visitors, and boat crew should be reminded to incorporate recruitment into their activities. Newspaper or social media notices about boating safety classes or other flotilla events should continue to include a contact for those wanting information about joining.

B) Word-of-mouth.

- An effective way of acquiring new members has been for current members to bring in friends, neighbors and relatives.

Recommendation. Flotilla members should be asked periodically if they know anyone who may be interested in joining.

C) Self-generated interest

- Robot inquiries. There is a national recruiting website – <http://join.cgaux.org> – that people can use to inquire about how to become a member of the Auxiliary. They submit contact information which is sent to the appropriate District based on their location. The information is forwarded to the appropriate SO-HR, and then to FSO-HRs of nearby flotillas. During the past year our flotilla received about six such inquiries. Within one day of receiving an inquiry notice, we send an email followed up by a phone call. One of our new members in 2015 joined by first using this system.
- Walk-ins and call-ins. On rare occasions someone has shown up at the station for a flotilla meeting unannounced, or has contacted a flotilla officer saying he wants to join. Such folks usually already have knowledge about the Auxiliary, but were waiting to relocate or to retire before joining.

Recommendation. We should continue to make timely and informative responses to robot inquiries.

II. NEW MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

Of the nine members who joined during 2015, two have are very active and four have been somewhat active (attended some meetings and training). One of the other three works full time and travels, one has been a member for only three weeks, and the third has decided to be inactive.

Although this record of involvement is not terrible, there is much room for improvement. The flotilla set up a sponsorship program in 2014 to assist new members in becoming acquainted with program areas and opportunities that exist within the Auxiliary, as well as to help them with the nuts and bolts of buying uniforms, filling out forms, etc. The program has been somewhat successful, but improvements should be made.

Recommendation. We need two or three more sponsors. These should be experienced members who really want to help new enrollees by working with them one-on-one. Sponsors should be proactive in offering their advice and assistance, have a broad knowledge and familiarity with Auxiliary topics, and be committed to spending as much time as needed with a new member.

It has been suggested that we set up a “buddy system” in which each new member is assigned a partner. Although that is not much different from sponsorship, the advantage of the latter is that sponsors will have the knowledge, resources and the level of commitment that a “buddy” may not have. In 2016, the FSO-HR in 2016 should give significantly more attention to making the sponsorship program work.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Halladay, FSO-HR

Public Education

GOAL #1: Locate different venues to conduct boating safety courses.

- Reach out to community centers and various clubs and organizations.

GOAL #2: Increase the amount of boating courses.

- Historically boating safety courses started in March with the BS&S course. This year we scheduled 2 extra ABS, one in January and one in February, and one extra Paddle Sports course in June. The early ABS courses might gather more interest for the March BS&S course.

GOAL #3: Sell ABS coupons to marine dealers to give out to their customers

- Working with the FSO-PV on this goal.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Smith, 1247295

Vessel Examinations

Goals and Objectives for Flotilla 10-05 will closely align with suggested goals set by SO-VE David Tester and Perry Taylor ADSO-VE for Sector North Carolina. The goals for Division 10 and the Flotillas are area specific but will keep the end result for Perry Taylor in mind.

GOAL #1: TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF VSC FROM 356 TO 430, A 20% INCREASE.

- To attain this goal will require a total team effort. I have solicited each VE in the Flotilla for input to the plan. This will create a buy in and ownership of the process that will be needed.
- Monthly plans will be put in place with dates and times of VE days. Sign-up sheets will be used to keep all VEs in the loop and increase the ownership of the program.
- Paddle Craft VSC will be high focus this year. Only 5.5% of all VSC were done on paddle craft in 2015. That was a 50% increase over 2014 but far from adequate. We will be very pro-active in this area.
- The "I want a VSC" program must be fully utilized with each request given follow up. Not responding to these requests will lead to a loss of confidence of our boating public and tarnish the reputation of the USCG and the Auxiliary.
- Timely reporting of VSC activity must be emphasized. This will insure accuracy and a tool to measure the progress of the program.
- The FSO-VE is to set up a monthly calendar similar to the one in use by the Surface Operations team to sign up crew for patrols. Use calendar to identify areas for VSC, ie:boat ramps and marinas, and have VEs sign up for a specific day and time. Keep this updated weekly and communicate opportunities to all VEs.

GOAL #2: INCREASE THE PERCENTAGE OF VEs PERFORMING CLOSE TO FLOTILLA AVERAGE.

- Fifty percent of the Flotillas VE performed about 90% of the Flotillas VSC. It is needed to bring the lower 50% closer to the average VE performance. The average VSC per VE for Flotilla 10-05 was 23.7. We were second in Division 10 to Wrightsville Beach with 34.7 VSC per VE.
- The FSO-VE will assign a high performing mentor to a lower performing VE to coach and re-energize them and invite them to accompany them when offering VSCs.
- Organize events at high boat volume marinas and launches and encourage an “all in” participation.
- Set up competition VSC contest. Keep weekly updates and offer praise and encouragement to all participants. The August Challenge in 2015 produced excellent results.
- Work closely with near-by Flotillas to open up greater areas of opportunity for each VE.

GOAL #3: INCREASE VE PARTICIPATION

- Address all REYR VEs and set up mutually acceptable plan to assist in getting the proper training and supervised VSC to bring them current.
- Set up training sessions for all VE, especially new members and those in REYR. Great refresher course for all VE. This process is already in the works by Peter Urgola. Dates and times have been set.
- Make them feel they are an important part of the team and any contribution is greatly appreciated.

GOAL #4: IMPROVE BOATER EDUCATION PROCESS WHEN DOING VSC.

- Suggest all VE set up pre-filled packets to distribute to boaters when offering a VSC. A sample of what should be in each packet has been sent to all VE.
- EVERY boater should be given a packet, especially those boaters that do not wish to have a VSC done. These boaters are potentially at a greater risk due to safety education and may opt to have a VSC done after reviewing some of the material.
- Talk to all boaters if time permits especially if working with more than one VE. It is great that we spend time with the Vessel operator or owner but the passengers are probably at greater risk when on the water. They need to be aware of all the safety equipment and practices in the event of mishap.
- Work closely with FSO-PV and FSO-PE on the education process. Encourage the cross training of all Program Visitors and Vessel Examiners.
- Encourage Boaters to attend one of the many classes offered by the Auxiliary. Carry a class schedule with you and make the boater aware of the times and dates.

These are *basic goals* for Flotilla 10-05 VE program. This is a *fluid set of goals* and will be amended when all VE suggestions have been received and their input worked in. Monthly adjustment will be made to ensure our goals are still attainable and to measure where we need to improve.

Respectfully Submitted on 14Jan16 by:
David Tester FSO-VE, 10-05

Program Visits

When I (Lee Garvin) was appointed to the position of FSO-PV on June 1, 2015 there were 46 Program Partners and 9 PV's active in our Flotilla. On December 31, 2016 we had 55 Program Partners and 11 PV's. For 2015 there were 613 visits to our partners.

The goals for 2016 are as follows:

Total Program Partners: 75, a 36% increase

Total PV's: 15, a 36% increase

Total Partner Visits: 825, a 35% increase

Educate as many boaters and boat passengers as possible with the ultimate goal to save lives

In addition to providing the display materials at our partner locations (10 Boating Safety Pamphlets, booklets and vessel safety inspection information), in partnership with FSO-VE David Tester, we are asking the VE's to provide a packet of the same materials to all boaters (inspected or not) at each VE encounter.

Respectively Submitted

Henry L. Garvin@FSO-PV@1248837

17JAN2016

Public Affairs

2016 Public Affairs Tentative Goals and Plan

EVENTS

February

Mardi Gras Parade – Boat

March

Wildlife Expo, Wilmington – Support 10-06

April

Azalea Festival, Wilmington – Support 10-06

Safety Day at station – Booth, Coastie

May

Ride The Tide Kayak Float, OKI Parks & Rec event – Booth

NSBW event with station

Ramp Day – Booth and VE in conjunction with NSBW, Coastie?

Library Display OKI or SPT

June

Library Display OKI or SPT

July

NC 4th of July Parade – Boat

Maritime Museum – Booth during NC 4th of July Festival, Coastie?

August

Oak Island Arts Festival – Booth

September

Big Toy Day – Booth and CG Boat

Wooden Boat Show – Booth, Coastie?

October

Fire Safety Day, Shallotte Home Depot – Booth

NC Festival By The Sea, Holden Beach – Booth

December

Oak Island Christmas Parade – Boat

RBS MARKETING

Create marketing plan to promote scheduled activities of PE and VE.

Work closely with FSO-FB, Bob on Facebook, FSO-CS, Jim on website, FSO-PV, Lee on flyer distribution, Dawn and others on photography, and FSO-PB, Dennis on member awareness. Focus media, events, and displays, on promoting RBS activities.

NSBW

Create committee early and layout ideas. Start with RBS Marketing Team outlined above as core. Perhaps each of those FSOs can invite one member to assist to form committee.

Coordinate with RBS team activities.

Present, at town meetings, proclamations to towns of Oak Island, Southport, Caswell Beach, Boiling Springs Lakes.

Time press releases, media coverage of events, and stories.

MEDIA

Ongoing press releases to support vessel exams, safety classes, awards, proclamations, and events where we have a presence.

Story Series Ideas

1. Human interest member profile series, goal of three features
2. Paddle sports safety
3. Water 'N Kids program
4. Vessel safety equipment, to coincide with NSBW and Ramp Day
5. ATONS, basics and uniqueness in our AOR with lots of on the water photos

Visit all media on regular basis. Present certificates of appreciation in January.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

Develop community outreach with goal of one speaking engagement per month

Contact local civic groups that regularly want speaker at meetings

Schedule speakers

Accompany speakers on engagements

OTHER PA INVOLVEMENT

Presence at scheduled vessel exam days to learn and look for story ideas and photograph

Presence at scheduled safety classes to learn and look for story ideas and photograph
Start crew training with an eye open for story ideas and photograph

PA and RBS TRAINING

PA Specialist 3
Purchase AP Style Guide
Qualify for Coastie operation
Qualify for VE and PV

Submitted by Glenn P. McVicker, FSO-PA
December 31, 2015

Diversity

GOAL #1: Locate different venues to conduct boating safety courses and spread information about the Coast Guard Auxiliary

- Reach out to community centers and various clubs and organizations.
- Conduct a women's only boating safety class.

GOAL #2: Assist other flotillas efforts in diversifying or training.

- Offer up assistance when there are seminars or expos that highlight diversity in other flotilla's AOR if it looks like they do not have the resources available and 10-05 does.
- Assist in diversity training if requested.

GOAL #3: Reach out to various schools to educate in the roles of the Auxiliary and Coast Guard in general.

- School career days.
- Lectures
- Instruct ROTC in Coast Guard duties and responsibilities in cooperation with the gold side.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Smith, 1247295

Historian

History Project for 2015-2016

The purpose of the project is to organize and catalog the documents, photos, memorabilia and anecdotal stories that outline the flotilla's history, and plan a celebration for the flotilla's 50th anniversary of its charter, dated **January 7, 2017.**

Activities completed in Dec 2015 –

1. Newspaper research for 1967 – 1972 has been completed and is in the process of being compiled into notebooks.

Activities planned for 2016–

1. Continue to gather information.
 - a. from prior members
 - b. from current members
 - c. identify all photographs
 - d. consolidate interviews
 - e. newspaper research
2. Catalogue electronically and/or hard copy for future reference.
3. Create notebooks with a section for each year.
4. Create a spread sheet for priority details, which will be the basis for a one page summary for each year.
5. Apply to Diraux for a new Flotilla charter and 50th anniversary streamer.
6. Incorporate the actual anniversary into the COW for 2016/2017.
7. Create displays for Safety Day and for a big 50th celebration in May 2017.
8. Execute 50th anniversary celebration.
9. After the celebration, create an SOP or Process Guide to handover to the new Historian so that our history will continue to be recorded.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Urgola
Historian

Marine Safety

Subject: Marine Environmental and Safety Report/Plans for 2016

There was very little involved activity in Marine Safety in our Flotilla in 2015, due to the resignation of the appointed FSO-MS.

After I assumed this position, I searched for multiple ways to improve and promote Marine Safety through PA Events, Marine Dealer Partners, and the general public. Some activity was accomplished, but much less than expected.

I discussed this important role with Sector NC, Captain Murtagh and was informed that there were no PQS opportunities available outside the Gold Side training group. Anyone wanting to qualify for the MS Ribbon and certificate would have to use the MEES guide and take a proctored test under a qualified MS member. At this time, only Bob Eldridge is eligible to proctor this exam and after several attempts to contact him, I've been unsuccessful in setting this up.

My plans for the Division as well as the Flotilla in 2016 are to explore this in greater detail and try to find available resources to get more qualifications for our members on the Division and Flotilla level.

Also, I plan to become more involved in local PA events along with Glen McVickers to promote the Marine Safety concerns in our AOR.

I hope to have more information available in the coming months. As of now, I've been asked to put together an hour presentation at our Spring Training Session for the Division at Cape Fear Community College.

As always, I will welcome any input or suggestions for Marine Environmental and Safety in both the Division and Flotilla levels.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Wheeler
IPDCR, SO-MS, FSO-MS

Navigation Services

The 2016 Patrol Season is coming up. We have PATON verifications that are required for 2016. Again, we will be requesting NS specific patrols to complete these requirements.

Aids to Navigation verifier training will be offered again this year and as soon as a classes becomes available I will inform the flotilla via email.

Repeat Comment:

NS continues to encourage all patrols to be aware of and be on the lookout for ATON and PATON integrity. An Aid causing imminent danger to marine traffic should be reported to the Station immediately. (Also, please copy the FSO-NS).

All other observations should be communicated to any certified AV in the flotilla for action and reporting!

- All *Auxiliarists* (especially those on Patrols) should have a general knowledge of ATON and PATON (S) and keep an awareness for their integrity, Again, reporting all discrepant ATON or PATON observations to any AV (aids verifier) in the flotilla for action / reporting. (Please copy the FSO-NS)
- An ATON PATON observation need not be made only from the water, it can be made from any place at any time.

Respectfully submitted,
January 05, 2016
Eric Palmer 1239916