

Potomac Guardian Newsletter

Vol. 9

June 2025

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY



**America's
Volunteer
Guardians**

Promoting Boating Safety, Security and Stewardship since 1939

2025 Member Offices

Division 054-25

DCDR Brandon Brown
VCDR Mitchell Mutnick
SO-AS Craig Burkhardt
SO-CA Robert Harlan
SO-CM Julius Jackson
SO-CS Izak Rosenfeld
SO-FN James Servidea
SO-HR Susan Duke
SO-IS Barbara Allen
SO-MA Barbara Allen
SO-MS Guy Campbell
SO-MT Joshua Bradley
SO-NS Barbara Allen
SO-OP Mitchell Mutnick
SO-PA Carol Hostetter
SO-PB Carol Hostetter
SO-PE Peter Marks
SO-PV Joe Hostetter
SO-SR Roger Hale
SO-VE Joe Hostetter

Wear your life jacket to work Day



Auxiliarist Eric Roos,
Flotilla 25-06



Auxiliarist Dave LaMay, Flotilla 25-12

Around the Division this May



Flotilla 25-06 Annual Summer Bar-B-Que

Auxiliarists Mitchell Mutnick and Leon Nicely at the Commissioning Ceremony at Mt. Vernon Yacht Club



Division 25 Partners with
West Marine during
National Safe Boating Week



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National Safe Boating Week

As National Boating Safety Week drew near, many Auxiliarists focused on Vessel Safety checks, boat crew, parades, and collaborations with West Marine for public outreach. As an educator and an Art



Teacher at Greenville Elementary in Fauquier County I had the unique opportunity to engage an entire school of students.

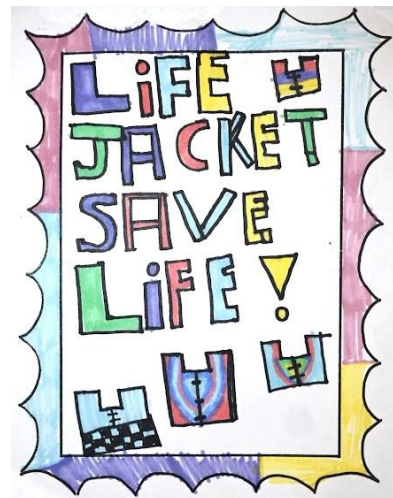
Wearing my life jacket to work sparked conversations not only with the students but also with

parents and staff during bus drop off and parent pick-up. The first question everyone asked was about the life jacket, which allowed me to discuss the significance of wearing them as summer approached.



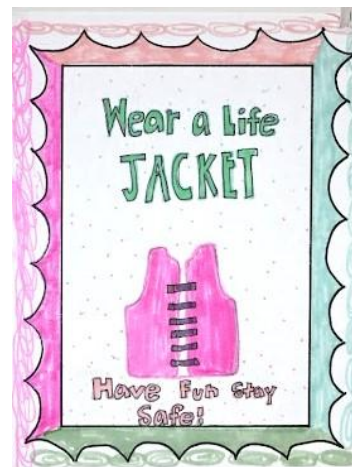
The buzz continued as students walked into the art room where there was a display of various size and types of life jackets. The questions flew and the conversations started. I explained to them what the USCG did and I talked with each class about the importance to wear a life jacket. When asked how many wore a life jacket while on a vessel most said they did but there were quite a few who didn't. We discussed the law requiring them to wear one when out on the water and the different types for different purposes. Then I opened it up for discussion.

The students were enthusiastic in sharing their experiences and asking numerous questions, such as: "What if I already know how to swim?" "Why are only 12 and under required to wear one?" "Why don't we need to wear one in a pool?" "Do I need to wear one on a cruise ship?" Many shared stories of boating accidents, capsized boats and instances where life jackets had saved lives. These personal accounts were far more impactful than any lecture I could provide.



For the younger students (K-2nd grade) I read the "True Story of Inky the Whale" discussing the importance of keeping the waters clean and how they can help by picking up trash along the beaches and shores. They received an activity book and a coloring sheet illustrating how life jackets save lives. The older students (3rd -5th grade) were tasked with creating a stamp for NSBW/Life jacket saves lives and their creative solutions were impressive.

By the end of the week I had engaged with 22 different classes reaching over 500 students, staff and parents. Each class was ended with the statement "I look forward to hearing all about their fun and safe times on the water this summer."



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Events 2025

Past Events

January 10th-12th – 2025 Fredericksburg Boat and Water Expo, Fredericksburg VA

January 11th – Boating Safety Class, Fredericksburg, VA

January 26th – Change of Watch- Mount Vernon Yacht Club, Mt. Vernon VA

February 22nd – Boating Safety Class - Hope Springs Marina

March 1st - Sector Training: Coast Guard Yard Curtis Bay, MD

March 7th – VSC – Pohick Bay Rental Kayaks

March 7th – 9th – Chantilly Family Boat Show – Chantilly Expo Center

MARCH 15TH – Boating Safety Class – Prince William Marina

March 21st – Paddlecraft VSC - Pohick Bay Rental Kayaks

March 22nd – Paddlecraft VSC – Occoquan Rental Kayaks

April 10-13 – D Train - Richmond VA

April 12th – VSC Prince William Marina

April 19th -VSC Columbia Island Marina

April 28-May 2 - Spring AUXPAD Training – Charleston, SC

April 26th – VSC - Belmont Bay

May 10th – Boating Safety Class – Prince William Marina

May 10th - VCS – Prince William Marina

May 16th – Wear your Life Jacket to Work Day

May 17th – 23rd - National Safe Boating Week

May 17th – PA/VSC West Marine - Woodbridge

MAY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

www.printable-calendar.com

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May 24th VSC – Neabsco Creek, Pilot House & EZ Cruz

May 24th – PA/VSC West Marine , Alexandria

May 24th – VSC Columbia Island Marina

May 31st - Wessynton Waterway Celebration (11am-4pm): Shore based event - will setup PA table, perform VEs, and may perform demos in pool

Upcoming Events

June 3rd – Boat Crew Training

June 7th – VSC, Neabsco Creek

June 4-5 - AUX CA Support for USCGC Rankin Special Events

June 7th - Occoquan River Paddle Challenge (Time TBD).

June 14th – Paddlecraft Support – Baltimore Inner Harbor Flotilla

June 14th VSC – Gravelly Point or Capitol Yacht Club

June 17-18 - AUX CA Support for USCGC Rankin Special Events

June 19th -22nd – Auxpad Academy - Yorktown Training Center

June 29th – Great Falls National Parks Event – Fairfax County VA

June 29th - Gwynn Island Paddlecraft Regatta (8am-1pm): This event is just for fun. Register here - <https://mocva.net/regatta/>.

July 5th – VSC – Columbia Island Marina

August 1st - Change of Command ceremony for LCDR Kim Jenish – Station Washington

August 16th – VSC – Gravelly Point

August 16th-24th -National Training Summit, Dallas TX

Sept 1st – VSC – Columbia Island Marina

Sept 6th - Pohick Bay Kayak Races (Time TBD). Need AUXPAD Operators for on-water patrol

Sept 13th – Safety at Sea- USCG Yard Curtis Bay, Baltimore

June 2025

No.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

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FIFTH SOUTHERN DISTRICT MARINE SAFETY FORUMS 2025

- AUX-Assistant Container Inspector (AUX-EC), Container missions in the Port of Baltimore will continue.
- AUX-Assistant Pollution Responder (AUX-ED), Training with Sector MD-NCR at USCG Yard, Curtis Bay, MD has resumed on the first Wednesday of the month from 0900-1100 the first class was 2 April. If interested in participating let your ADSO-MS, SO-MS & FSO-MS know by the last Wednesday of the month.
- Sea Partners/Environmental (70N) Opportunities: Auxiliary Beach Cleanup Guide –
 - National Park Service (NPS), Fort Washington Park, Shoreline Cleanup, 8 Mar, 12 Apr, 10 May –
 - NPS, Fort Foote Park, Shoreline Cleanup, 15 Mar, 19 Apr –
 - Leesylvania State Park, Shoreline Cleanup, 26 Apr, 7 Jun, -
 - Mason Neck State Park: Shoreline Cleanup, 30 Mar, 25 May, 1 & 29 Jun, 27 Jul, 31 Aug –
 - Widewater State Park, Shoreline Cleanup via Kayak, 7 Jun –
 - Four Mile Run Conservator Foundation: Shoreline Cleanup, 27 Apr –
 - Prince William Trails & Streams Coalition (PWTSC): Neabsco Creek, Shoreline Cleanup, 1 Mar –
 - PWTSC: Marumsco Creek/Veteran's Park, Shoreline Cleanup, 22 Mar –
 - Friends of the Occoquan (FOTO): Shoreline Cleanup, 5 Apr - NOVA Cleanup, Roosevelt Island: Shoreline Cleanup, 7 Sep

Sessions will be held on the below dates from 1900 to 2030. Access to forums will be with the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6092892496?pwd=V3B2VXZjdVBvemt1QlhGRXBDUUJoQT09&omn=86393146620>

February: 10th (MON): Introduction to Prevention

13th (THU): Introduction to Sea Partner

March: 10th (MON): AWW (America Waterway Watch)

13th (THU): Microplastics Effect the Environment

April: 14th (MON): Environmental Impact of Recreational Boating

17th (THU): GOODMATE

May: 12th (MON): IMSEP (Introduction to Marine Safety and Environmental Protection)

15th (THU): High Tide Flooding in D5SR

June: 9th (MON) and 13th (THU): Training Topic: TBD

July: 14th (MON) and 17th (THU): Training Topic: TBD

August: 11th (MON) and 14th (THU): Training Topic: TBD

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September: 8th (MON) and 11th (THU): Training Topic: TBD

October: 13th (MON) and 16th (THU): Training Topic: TBD

November: 10th (MON) and 14th (THU): Training Topic: TBD

December: 8th (MON) and 11th (THU): Training Topic: TBD

Please send all future
information to Carol Hostetter
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