

Potomac Guardian Newsletter

Vol. 8

March 2025



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-FN James Servidea
SO-HR Susan Duke
SO-IS Barbara Allen
SO-MA Barbara Allen
SO-MS Guy Campbell
SO-MT Larry Markham
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 Aaron Taylor
SO-VE Joe Hostetter

Culinary Team Steps Up

Station Washington requested breakfast for the crew that responded first to the plane crash. Naturally, our CA team was eager to help. Mitchell crafted a wonderful breakfast spread, including fruit, juice, coffee, tea, eggs, bacon, sausage, warm bagels, lox, cream cheese, and chocolate cookies. The crew had a SAR case during the night, so they were able to sleep in, but we ensured the food was left for them to enjoy at their leisure.



Culinary Assistant Mitchell Mutnick serving the Coast Guard a delicious breakfast.



S-Train

On the first Saturday of March, numerous Auxiliary members gathered at S-Train at the USCG Yard in Curtis Bay, Baltimore. The event commenced with opening statements from District Captain Henry Hays, Commander Otani, Commodore Thomas, and Captain Burkett, Commander Sector MD/NCR. Deputy Commander Caron Damon Sector MD/NCR recognized those Auxiliarist who had assisted the Coast Guard at the sites of the Key Bridge disaster and the collision at National Airport.

Participants had the opportunity to engage in various classes, including New Member Orientation, Introduction to Marine Safety, Life Jacket Awareness, Air Observer Awareness, Human Resources Refresher, CPR, IT PQS, Operations Workshop, and TCT/RM Refresher. Additionally, they were able to complete uniform and PPE inspections.

The curatorial staff presented an on-site exhibit featuring intriguing items from the Curatorial Services Resource Center, while the Coast Guard provided tours of Sector MD/NCR.



Coast Guard reserves stand by during opening remarks.

Images from S-Train

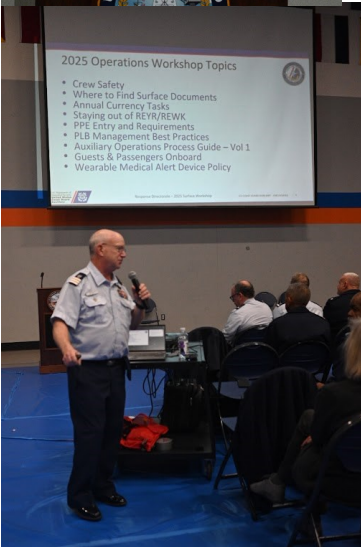


Active Duty and Reserve members of the Coast Guard were present to discuss how Auxiliarists could assist the Coast Guard.

Captain Burkett, Commadore Thomas, Commander Caren Damon, and DCapt Henry Hayes during opening remarks.



Auxiliary Members listening to the opening remarks.



Mitchell Mutnick teaching the Operations Workshop.



Artifact display from the National Coast Guard Museum.



Events 2025



Past Events

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

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 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

APRIL 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			

www.printable-calendar.com

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

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Upcoming Events

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

MARCH 15TH – Boat America Class – Prince William Marina

March 21st – Paddlecraft VSC - Pohick Bay Rental Kayaks

March 22nd – Paddlecraft VSC – Occoquan Rental Kayaks

April 1—Boat America Class - 4 week course by Flotilla 25-10

April 10-13 – D Train - Richmond VA

April 12th – VSC Prince William Marina

April 25-27- AUX CA training —Yorktown VA POC Robin Moon

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

April 26th – VSC - Belmont Bay

May 2nd – 4th -DC Boat Show – National Harbor

May 10th – Boat America Class – Prince William Marina

May 10th - VCS – Prince William Marina

May 17th – 23rd - National Safe Boating Week

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

June 7th – VSC, Neabsco Creek

June 14th – Paddlecraft Support – Baltimore Inner Harbor Flotilla

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

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



Please send all future information to Carol Hostetter at:
carolhostetter@yahoo.com

Fifth Southern District Marine Safety Forums



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

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



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

MARINE SAFETY ALERT

Inspections and Compliance Directorate

February 6, 2025
Washington DC

Safety Alert 06-25

BOW SEATING EJECTION HAZARD

This Safety Alert addresses the dangers identified for passengers seated at the bow of bow rider style vessels, while the vessels are on plane or in rough sea conditions. A 23-foot Cobalt bow rider style recreational vessel was underway with 12 passengers onboard on the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway when it encountered a large wake created by another vessel ahead. The wake caused the Cobalt to roll severely and pitch forward, swamping the bow. Nine of the occupants were ejected. The passenger seated at the forwardmost bow seat was subsequently struck by the vessel's propeller and killed. A similar fatal accident occurred in July of 2022, when an overloaded 24-foot boat capsized while traveling at high speeds in the Hudson River off Manhattan with passengers seated in the bow area.



Swamping of the bow can happen quickly and without warning, even when a boat is loaded in compliance with the manufacturer's capacity plate, as in the scenario described above. The operator's judgment is crucial in considering securing access to the bow area when the vessel is operating in less than ideal sea conditions. The likelihood of the vessel experiencing unstable or erratic motion will increase with greater sea state, speed, and vessel loading conditions with passengers and gear at the bow. These circumstances, as well as individual passenger capabilities, should be considered when determining if the closure of the bow area is necessary.

The U.S. Coast Guard **strongly recommends** that operators of bow rider style vessels adhere to manufacturer's recommended occupant positions as applicable. If no manufacturer recommendations are available, operators should relocate passengers from the bow seating area to aft seats while their vessels are operating on plane, above 5 mph, or in rough conditions.

The U.S. Coast Guard **strongly recommends** that manufacturers of bow rider style vessels take the following measures:

- Designate occupant positions and weight allowances for vessels operating on plane, above 5 mph, or in rough conditions. The occupant positions should be illustrated on a label aboard the boats, as well as in the owner's manual. Placards and updated owner's manuals should be distributed to existing boats.

February 6, 2025
Washington DC

Safety Alert 06-25

- Establish an advisory of the hazards of using bow seats while the vessel is on plane, above 5 mph, or in rough conditions. This advisory should be posted on a label aboard the boats, as well as in the owner's manual. Placards and updated owner's manuals should be distributed to existing boats.

This Safety Alert is provided for informational purposes only and does not relieve any domestic or international safety, operational, or material requirement. Developed by Sector Charleston and distributed by the Office of Investigations and Analysis. Questions may be sent to HQS-SMB-CG-INV@uscg.mil.