

June 2024



Lake Wylie Flotilla 26-02

2024 Officers

Mark Briggs
FC

Beverly Butlin
VFC, CS, SR, VE

Rick Croasdale
IPFC, HR, OP, PE

Mark Wilson
DCDR, MS, MT

Mike Ellis
DV

Patrick Hughes
CM

Larry Hoover
PB

Stephen McCann
PA

James Nass
CM

Mike Silva
MA

Mark Valdes
PV

Ray Webber
NS

Steve Whittaker
FN, IS, SO-SR

Ray Webber
NS

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U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Flotilla 26-02
5th Southern Region Division 26
Lake Wylie

In Remembrance of D-Day



(The American Cemetery in France. Photo by Michael K. McMahan)

June 6, 1944 is the 80th anniversary of D-Day, codename Operation Overlord as it is also known. The assault was the largest military operation in history sending 145,000 Allied soldiers against Germany in an all-out assault. Nearly ten thousand men lost their lives in the first twenty-four hours of the attack. The beach ran red with American blood at Omaha and nearby with British and Canadian blood and Russian blood as they pushed west. In less than one year, Hitler was defeated and dead.

OVERLORD brought together land, air, and sea forces of the allied armies and delivered five naval assault divisions to the beaches of Normandy. The beaches were given the code names GOLD, JUNO, OMAHA, UTAH and SWORD. The invasion force included 7,000 ships and landing craft manned by over 195,000 naval personnel from eight allied countries. Almost 133,000 troops from the United States, Britain and their allies landed on D-Day. Casualties from these countries during the landing numbered 10,300. By the end of June over 850,000 men, 148,000 vehicles, and 570,000 tons of supplies had landed at Normandy. Fighting by allied forces western front and Russian forces on the eastern front led to the defeat of Germany. On May 7, 1945, Germany General Alfred Jodl signed an unconditional surrender at Reims, France.

How many troops died on D-Day? Of the 4,414 Allied troops killed that day were Americans. More than 5,000 were wounded. In the Battle of Normandy, 73,000 Allied forces were killed and 153,000 wounded. German casualties have been estimated at 4,000 to 9,000 men. Allied casualties were documented at least 10,000, with 4,414 confirmed dead.

(Michael K. McMahan is a resident of Gastonia.)

Calendar of Events

- **June 23 – United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.** Established 84 years ago as the United States Coast Guard Reserve. On February 4, 1939, it was re-designated the **United States Coast Guard Auxiliary**.
 - **August 4 – United States Coast Guard.** Established 233 years ago on August 4, 1790.
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- **June 10 - Flotilla Meeting.** Cabela's , Ft Mill, SC from 1900-2100. Social at 1830.
 - **June 15 - Allison Park - VSC.** Time TBA.
 - **July 15 - First Aid/CPR class.** George Manos residence, Waxsaw, NC. 0900-1500 hours.
 - **June 22 - BSC (Boat America).** Cabela's. TBA.
 - **June 30 - Division/Flotilla Social.** David Ludlow's residence, Monroe, NC..
 - **July 08 - Flotilla Meeting.** Cabela's (or Zoom). 1900-2100. Social 1830.

Announcements

- ✓ **Assignment to Duty (ATD) - Remember - Do not forget to notify our FC or VFC of any Auxiliary travel, on-the-water patrols, SARs, etc.** In most cases, a verbal or email **Assignment To Duty (ATD)** is sufficient, but would suggest email.
- ✓ **FSO-AS vacancy.** We still have an opening for the FSO-AS (Scouting) Staff Officer position. If interested contact Mark Briggs or David Ray for details.
- ✓ **Membership Status.** As of June 1, AUXDATA-II shows our head count at 4 members in AP status, 20 in BQ status and 10 in AX status for a total of 34 current members.
- ✓ **Inflatable PFD's - Remember - Do not use!** Must be returned to Mark Briggs or Rick Croasdale at next meeting.
- ✓ **Member Accountability.** During Hurricane Season, Jun 1 - Nov 30, please respond to this message when received.
- ✓ **Annual Uniform and Auxiliary ID Inspections** have been implemented.

Report Your Hours

And don't forget to **Enter, Save and Submit** your Auxiliary hours and mileage at end of each month on Webform 7029 at

<http://webforms.cgaux.org/forms/7029/index.php>

SEMPER PARATUS

(Always Prepared)

