



THE LAKERS



Official Publication of the UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

7th District

Flotilla 43

Division 4

Meeting the first Saturday of each month at 1000 hours
Mid-Florida Lakes, 201 Forest Drive, Leesburg, Florida 34778

Flotilla Commander: John Lockwood

Vice Commander: Dan McFadden

Publications Officer: Richard Stephenson

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by John Lockwood, FC

As we head into the hot summer months and begin to see some of our members head to their summer homes and some of us taking some time off for family vacations, I want to wish everyone a very relaxing and SAFE time away and return. This has been a very active spring with all of our scheduled public events, classes and programs we have had. I want to thank all who contributed and participated to make the first half of this year a success and propel us well on our way to meeting and even surpassing our stated goals. As the weather now is becoming hotter and the rains more frequent, we usually gear down a little on activities, but for the ones we do, be sure and prepare adequately to avoid any illnesses. Semper Paratus!



FROM THE VICE

By Dan McFadden, VFC

We are not quite half-way through the year and already we are seeing strong numbers from AuxData regarding Vessel Examinations, Program Visitor, Public Affairs and Operations. Bravo Zulu to everyone involved. We had a great turnout for the Antique Boat Show in Tavares. Martin Goodwin and Bob Musco did a great job of setting up the booth and several members gave of their time and energy to staff the booth. The BS&S course is wrapping up soon and many Flotilla 43 instructors participated in the course to make it a success.

The area we need to pay closer attention to is communication. I am not speaking about radios or computers, but rather interpersonal communication: The exchange of information between two or more people. As Flotilla Staff Officers go about the business of managing their programs, it is important to communicate what you are doing to any flotilla members who are certified to work in your program as well as any trainees. Nothing erodes team spirit more than after an FSO gives a monthly report a certified member of that program say they knew nothing about those events. Remember working together builds teams and shares fellowship.

And in the words of Sgt. Phil Esterhaus on Hill Street Blues, "Let's be careful out there".

FLOTILLA 43 CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

18-24 May	National Safe Boating Week
18 May	Armed Forces Day
27 May	Memorial Day
1 June	Regular Flotilla Meeting
7 June	Eustis First Friday Event – PA Booth
14 June	Flag Day
16 June	Father's Day (Don't forget your Dads!)
21 June	CG Station Ponce Inlet – Change of Watch
4 July	Tavares Independence Day Parade – PA Booth
5 July	Eustis First Friday Event – PA Booth
6 July	Regular Flotilla Meeting
August 2	Eustis First Friday Event – PA Booth
August 25-26	Mount Dora Seafood Fest

Please be aware that many of these activities take considerable planning, so volunteers are needed for their preparation as well as being manned, and the taking care of post-event chores. Flotilla operations will be communicated by the FSO-OP.

FLOTILLA STAFF OFFICERS

TITLE	FSO
FC Flotilla Commander	John Lockwood
VFC Vice Flotilla Commander	Dan McFadden
IPFC Immediate Past FC	Joe Goloversic
CM Communications (Radio)	Jamey McKinley
CS Communications (Internet)	Shane Goodwin
DV Diversity Training	Tony Kurth
FN Finances	Mel Borofsky
HR Human Resources	Joe Goloversic
IS Information Services	Bill Griswold
MA Materials	Mel Borofsky
MS Marine Safety	Robert Musco

TITLE	FSO
MT Member Training	Shane Goodwin
NS Navigation Systems	John Lockwood
OP Operations	John Bennett
PA Public Affairs	Martin Goodwin
PB Publications	Richard Stephenson
PE Public Education	Dan McFadden
PV Program (Marine) Visitor	Jose Villafana
SR Secretary of Record	Manuel Gonzalez
VE Vessel Examinations	Kevin Leary
Proctor	Joe Goloversic
Quartermaster	Tony Kurth

MEMORIES

by William Griswold FSO-IS

To recount a SAR case, I participated in at Miami Air Station in the 70's, we got a call from a lady in St. Petersburg asking about her husband, who was venturing to Nassau from Lauderdale, on a 16 foot Hobie-Cat. Really? We launched the helo, and headed to BIMINI; landing in a ball park, then proceeded to the marina in our flight suits. Low and behold, there was a 16 foot Hobie tied up. Say sailor, are you from St, Petersburg? Yeah, how did you get here? The response was, with a gallon jug of water and a handheld compass. Soon this bikini clad beauty showed up, we told the lothario to call his family in St. Petersburg so we could go home. Just another day in the CG!

PUBLISH OR PERISH

by "Steve" Stephenson FSO-PB

The Coast Guard Auxiliary has been on the job since 1939. The Coast Guard has been doing its duty since 1790, beginning as the Revenue Cutter Service. Then, the Lighthouse Service was added, followed by the Life Saving Service. Throughout American history, the Coast Guard continually has had various missions added to its primary mission of saving lives at sea.

Team Coast Guard stretches along the North Shore of America, the east coast, gulf coast, islands in the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico: And also, all along the west coast, around Alaska and numerous islands in the Pacific Ocean. In addition, the Western Rivers are covered as well. In

war, the Coast Guard becomes a part of the Navy, and all the time, the Coast Guard defends our waters against aliens and illegal contraband, as well as pollution and other hazardous materials. This is accomplished by the best personnel known anywhere at anytime.

It is difficult to understand the vastness and complexity of Team Coast Guard tasks on a day to day basis. Whether it be patrolling the Rio Grande River, the flood situation on the Western Rivers, or the keeping order at the ports and harbors of Boston, New York and Philadelphia; the job is done!

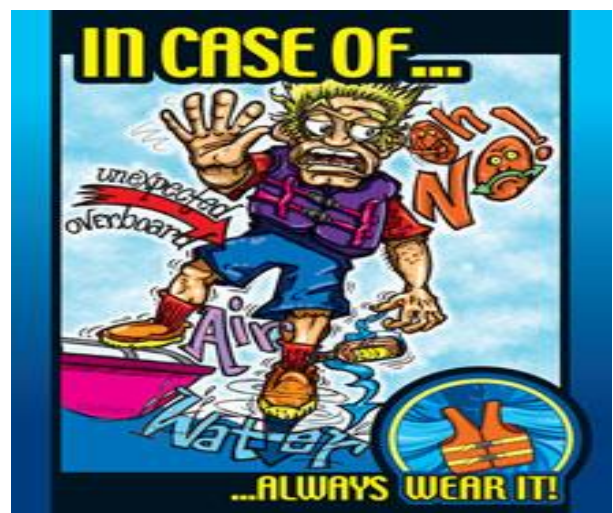
More and more, the Auxiliary is asked to do more; to become more qualified to do the necessary tasks assigned to Team Coast Guard. When I first joined the Auxiliary in 1973, it was a pretty simple process; but not any more. Nevertheless, we still get the job done in 'Bristol fashion'. Now, we are in the 'electronic age' – time for ancient mariners like me to move on!



Back in the 'old days' life saving through the surf on the Outer Banks was not easy, nor is it today! Source: Tim Dring at the USLSS Historical Society.

As an example of the best Coast Guard personnel known, please consider the contribution of Joshua James. From information received from our very own Kevin Leary, every year on 30 July in Hull, Massachusetts, a celebration is held honoring Captain James: For he ". . . is often called, the 'father' of the U.S. Life Saving Service." Also from the CG Auxiliary District 1NR newsletter, "He is known for an innovative, early development of crew training techniques which were so effective in making his early life savers so successful, and are now an integral part of the Coast Guard training philosophy" Also, it was noted that ". . . James never lost a single man under his command in all his years of service. On CAPT Jame's last day of duty, after stepping out of the life boat, he collapsed and died at the shore. His last words were, "The tide is ebbing.""

The Auxiliary is a part of this long blue line. We are a part of a great Coast Guard history and tradition. Team Coast Guard is alive and well, functioning 24/7! Is not our duty clear? Semper Paratus!



AWARDS GALORE!

from Martin Goodwin FSO-PA



Frederick Ortiz (L) and Mark Skena (C) were sworn in as new members of the flotilla by FC John Lockwood (R) at the May flotilla meeting.



Bill Griswold (L) receiving congratulations and the 35 year Auxiliary Membership Service Award from FC John Lockwood at the flotilla meeting in May.



Barbara Howell (L) receives the 2018 NSBW Meritorious Team Commendation from FC John Lockwood at the May flotilla meeting.



Jamey McKinley (L) receives the Auxiliary Sustained Service Award (2nd award) from FC John Lockwood at the May flotilla meeting.



PUBLIC EDUCATION UPDATE

by Dan McFadden FSO-PE, VFC

The Boating Skills and Seamanship course for 2019 is winding down. The course is presented every Wednesday evening from 1830 to 2130 hours. We started this year with six students, but lost one to a scheduling conflict. We will graduate five student who complete the course on 22 May 2019, after they complete the final examination. Cake and sodas will follow. Many thanks to all the instructors and instructor trainees who participated in making this course another Flotilla 43 success.

The About Boating Safely course will be held on Saturday, 18 May; 24 August; and 19 October, 2019. All classes begin promptly at 0830 hours (8:30am). This one day, eight hour course will be offered at Mid Florida Lakes Community Center, 200 Forest Drive, Leesburg, FL 34788.

The cost of the course is \$40.00 per person. The price for each additional family member is \$20.00. Graduates who successfully complete the course will receive a Florida Boating Safety ID Card. Topics include Boating Safety, Boating Law, Boating Equipment, Navigation, Trailering, and Boating Emergencies. Pass the word!



Kevin Leary (C) receives the Auxiliary VE-RBSVP Award from FC John Lockwood (R) as Jamey McKinley approves at the May flotilla meeting.



Dwight Gardstrom (C) receives the Auxiliary Membership Service Award for 35 years of volunteering from FC John Lockwood (R) as Jamey McKinley smiles at the May flotilla meeting.



THE KAYAKATHON

by

John Lockwood FC

Flotilla 43 participated in the Adventure Outdoor Paddle Craft Kayakathon on 13 April starting at Wooton Park in Tavares. The kayaks proceeded through the Dora Canal and to The Dead River and return.

The flotilla provided safety patrol escort coverage for this event by Martin Goodwin and John Bennett on their PWC - jet ski, also there for escorting was John Lockwood, with his pontoon boat. Vessel exams were also provided to many Kayaks prior to the start of the event by VE examiners from Flotilla 43 that came out for the event.



The Kayakathon begins with examining the kayaks.



Manning a kayak is usually fun, but not in a good breeze!



The Kayakathon was a great success. We were happy to assist.