



THE MARINERS



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 have now held our election for next years' elected officers, I would like to offer my congratulations to our new FC and VFC, Jamey McKinley and Robert Musco, respectively. I am fully confident that they are an excellent fit with all their qualifications and enthusiasm, and will continue to propel our Flotilla to new heights in the coming year. As such, this will be my last "From the Bridge" as your Flotilla Commander. I would like to say that this has been a challenging year for me, but at the same time a most valuable one in the way of experiences and learning. I could have never gained this without the opportunity and the confidence that you all have placed in me for this past year. I hope in some small way I have contributed to make our Flotilla a better one, and a unit of Fellowship.

With all of your help and support, we have expanded our membership, completed great numbers for Vessel Exams and Program Visits all exceeding our goals set for this year. We have also conducted many classes in ABS, BS&S with many exposures to the public through the media. Bravo Zulu to all, and thank you for a great year.

Now that we start to plan for all our holiday festivities I hope that all of you can participate as your schedules permit, as we bring the year to a close. I would

like to especially thank our Vice, Dan McFadden, for being my Right Hand Man, being by my side this whole year. I couldn't have done it without his support. Also, but to no lesser degree, our staff officers who did all the work: We couldn't have obtained these numbers without your involvement. And to our faithful members who have maintained your membership and contributed where you could.

I would now ask that for next year that you offer both Jamey and Robert the same support and dedication that you afforded me as I too will remain on the sidelines as IPFC and FSO-NS to help wherever I can. Thank you again for a most memorable year and all my time at the front table. Best Regards. Semper Paratus!

FROM THE VICE

by Dan McFadden, VFC

It has been my pleasure to serve as the Flotilla Vice Commander for the past year. I hope that as the Chief of Staff, I have brought a semblance of order to the Flotilla Staff Officers' various missions and the need to report on our successes. Our numbers have been up in almost all categories that we count, and I believe that we have met or surpassed many of our Division 04 goals. Congratulations and thank you to all FSO's for a great job this year.

I enjoyed supporting Commander Lockwood and his initiatives. Now a new bridge will take office in January, and we need to continue to manage our programs and create new initiatives where possible, in order to continue to increase our numbers.

FLOTILLA 43 CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

28 November	Thanksgiving Day
7 December	Remembrance Day – Pearl Harbor Day Flotilla meeting at Mid-Florida Lakes
12 December	Flotilla 43 Christmas Party at the Fish Camp Restaurant in Tavaresat 1800 hours
22 December	Hanukkah
25 December	Christmas Day
1 January	New Years Day
11 January	Flotilla 43 Change of Watch at Elks Lodge
29 January	BS&S course at Lake Tech begins
1 February	Flotilla 43 meeting at Mid-Florida Lakes

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



This is flotilla fellowship?



Some of last year's fellowship!

PUBLISH OR PERISH

by "Steve" Stephenson FSO-PB

Bob Hope often said, "Thanks for the memories". I think I'll say the same thing, "Thanks for the memories". It was 46 years ago this month that I joined the greatest volunteer organization known to humankind. It was comprehensive with member training, public education, operations and fellowship.

Member training is much more intensive today than in the 1970s. My vessel was operational, and on the waters in Pamlico Sound, assisting Station Hobuken, although our division covered all the sounds and offshore north of Cape Hatteras. There are many memories to remember.

Public Education was our flotilla's most significant contribution. We offered the BS&S course twice a year, and we covered all the 4th grades in the city with the Water and Kids course. Also significant was doing courtesy examinations.

But, the best memories are those related to fellow Auxiliarists. Many individuals are remembered with fond memories. There were so many, but a few like Jim Hecker, Ace Childers, Doctor Papineau, Bobby Swindell and Commander Peoples stick out ain my mind in the 5th District South. But, here, old 57, Griz, Scotty, Barbara and many others have been extra special in our flotilla for many years. You can't find a better group of people with which to be associated.

So, I'm hanging it up with staff duties, and I've held most of them in

the past forty some years. But, I'll be around enjoying the fellowship! Enjoy!



PUBLIC EDUCATION UPDATE

by Dan McFadden FSO-PE

Another Public Education year has come to an end. Throughout the year we had some ups and downs. We scheduled four About Boating Safety (ABS) classes for the year. We were forced to cancel two due to a lack of students. However, we were able to book an unscheduled class in August that was a great success. We held three ABS classes with a total of 24 students. The largest class was the one held at the Leesburg Boating Club with a total of 17 students. Of the 17 students, 12 were less than 17 years old. All of our ABS classes maintained a class average score in the mid 90's.

We also held our second annual Boating Skills and Seamanship (BS&S) course at Lake Technical College in Eustis. This 13-lesson course was conducted on Wednesday evenings from 1830-2130 hours from February to May. We started with six students and ended up graduating

five. All students scored well on the final exam.

Moving forward, we will host another BS&S class at the college during Spring 2020. This year, we committed to the college very early in the hopes that it would give them time to recruit more students. Also, we have launched a Mobile ABS Course where we take the course to various boating organizations, HOA's, social organizations, marinas and first responders, and others. We continue to face fierce competition from the FWC online course. It is difficult to recruit students to attend the 8-hour course at our meeting place. We will look at all possibilities of holding the ABS class in the coming year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our instructors for their hard work throughout the year in both courses. Also, we welcome our newest instructors, Frank Jackson and Bob Musco, to the team.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

by Bob Musco, FSO-PA

The flotilla's public affairs are alive and well. Our presence at Government Day in The Villages was outstanding with 1,150 visitors. This was the first event that our new video was used.

The flotilla is moving into the electronic age of the 21st century. There is now a fantastic partnership with WQBQ in Leesburg. The station is heard in seven counties during the day, and our PSAs will be played at least twice a day, seven days a week.

This includes Public Education PSAs, as well as Human Resources PSAs.

Also, a TV interview with Red Apples Media was accomplished by Martin Goodwin and myself. It will be appearing on Comcast, Spectrum and Century Link cable stations. We talked about Auxiliary history and safe boating. Kudos to Martin Goodwin for his assistance and Channel 6 News for taking some copy I wrote and allowing anchor woman Lisa Bell to do the video for the flotilla.



Our safe boating booth at The Villages with Robert Musco, Ken Tideman and Watlter Kempf on November 2, 2019.

Bravo Zulu to Frank Jackson, Fred Ortiz, Jeremy Sweeney and Mark Skena who took the UPV class with me. Also, Frank Jackson and myself who took the commercial fishing vessel exam class at Camp Blanding.

