



The Helm

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
7th District Division 6 Publication

Volume 3

Number 1



An old New Flotilla
Re-Birth of 6-10

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

Division 6

2009 Officers & Appointees

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2009

Division Six Meeting Schedule

May 28th

June 25th

July 23rd Actual to Goals

August 27th

September 24th

October 22nd – Elections; 3rd Q Actual to Goals

November 19th – Year end Summary Reports

Meetings will take place in the Galley at Station Miami unless otherwise notified



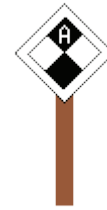
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The Helm Distribution

The Helm is available for downloading from the Division 6 Web Site:
<http://07006.uscgaux.info/>



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 Victor E. Garcia Barreras, SO-PB



Artist: la Grone, Roy *Title:* Pea Island Lifesaving Crew Makes *Field 04:* Premier Collection *Medium:* Oil
Year Range from: 1990 <http://www.uscg.mil/art/Art%20Program/exhibit3/e30005a.htm>



Message from The Command



The hallmark quality of successful individuals is their commitment to a mission, dedication and perseverance against challenges found along the way, and a desire to be part of a winning team. We continue to face challenges that sometimes seem insurmountable, but our “true grit” surfaces, we adjust, overcome and surface true winners every time. I am proud to be a member of such a dedicated and professional group of volunteers.

I could write extensively about the many accomplishments obtained by committed Division 6 members. Those who perform week after week are familiar with the dedication, sacrifices and perseverance required to contribute to the success in achieving the 2009 Division 6 - Strategic Plan and GOALS.

I could also write about the valuable work that elected and appointed officers constantly perform at Flotilla and Division levels, and how they plan multiple activities, resolve important and challenging issues to ensure the efficient performance of our Division.

I have instead chosen to send a short message to all Division 6, New and Long Time Serving Auxiliarists, active and non-participant members alike. I wish to remind every member of Division 6 the PLEDGE that we all took when we joined the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, to **“Support the Coast Guard Auxiliary and its purposes, to faithfully execute our duties, and to participate in its authorized programs to the best of our ability.”**

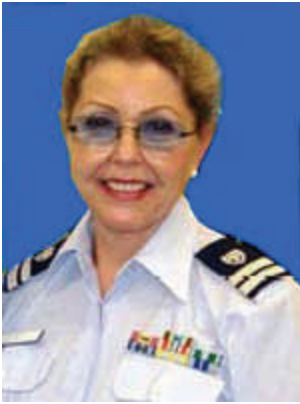
Always remember that we need all of you, even in the smallest of capacities and time dedicated. Please help us fulfill our commitments with the US Coast Guard and Miami-Dade boating community.

To all Active and Committed Shipmates, thank you so very much for facing difficult situations with resolve and overcoming constant challenges. Thank you for your commitment, dedication, patience, sacrifices, and hard work, but mostly, for your friendship and camaraderie. It makes everything worthwhile.

I salute and thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Eduardo L. Burbank, DCDR-6





requently in the Auxiliary and especially in our Division, we focus on how we can improve, how we can do more and what additional activities and missions we can provide. Today let's look at what you and your mates have already accomplished for Miami-Dade County, STA Miami Beach, Air STA Miami and Sector Miami during 2008.

- 59 **MSO patrols** in the Miami River
 - Operation Wrangler – the beginning of a **PWC program** and patrols
 - Multiple **Air Operations** each week by 5 AUXFACS.
 - 1,315 hours and 146 appearances in the **Public Affairs** category, including the top District award for National Safe Boating Week
 - 314 class sessions with 900+ hours for **Public Education**, including training of our community police, fire and marine patrol partners
 - 2,620 **Vessel Safety Checks** – a new Division record and a national award for number of VSCs by one member
 - 1, 270 visitations by **Program Visitors** – a new Division record and almost triple that of the 2008 goal.
 - 38 **surface** AUXFACS on the water every weekend for over 600 patrols, 4,500 hours underway, the saving of four lives, assisting 33 persons & saving/protecting over \$1,000,000 in property
 - 14 **emergency call outs** by STAMIA with out Auxiliary Quick Response Teams responding within one hour to assist the Coast Guard
 - 18 qualified **Radio Facilities** available for all emergencies.
 - 12 **Sensor Managers** provided over 3,000 watchstanding hours at HAWKEYE
 - More than 1,000 hours of **Member Training** were conducted resulting in new certifications in every area
- Recruiting** brought close to 100 new members to the Division
- More than 250 volunteers in M-D County helped clean South Beach on **International Coastal Cleanup Day** with 24,000 items removed from the beaches
 - Several **Articles** written and submitted with **pictures** were published in *Breeze* (District) and *Navigator*, and placed on district and national websites

The list goes on and on with Division Six Auxiliaries providing support to DIRAUX, Sector Miami Medical, the Auxiliary Interpreter Corps, TCT training for "Coasties", the Commandant's Diversity Advisory Council, radio watchstanding, community outreach, small weapons coaching, the Arrival Desk, Sea Partners, school career days, and working with the Florida DEP in the Clean Marina Program. I have not mentioned numerous worthwhile contributions, but you get the idea.

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU! THANK YOU!

Let's do it again, and even better in 2009!!!

Judith Hudson, DVCDR



Changes in the Director of the Auxiliary Office, Farewell to Chief Hanson



By Victor E Garcia Barreras

One of the toughest time for auxiliarists, specially the ones who work closely with the director's office, is when we have to see the active duty personnel of the office leave.

While for some of us adapting to changes can be easy for others is not. But is something that we all have to live or learn to live with. The time to answer the call of duty in another place has come for Chief Steve Hanson, CWO2.

For those of you who didn't have the opportunity to meet or work with Mr. Hanson, and his support to the auxiliary and dedication to duty, I will give a little bit of his bio and where his next billet will be.

After his prior service with the US Army, Chief Hanson joined the US Coast Guard in October 1989. In July 2005 his appointment as Assistant to the Director was his first Chief Warrant Officer job and the first time he work closely with the auxiliary.

His contacts with the auxiliary began in Cape May, N.J. as he brought an auxiliarist to the lighthouses, who was in charge to provide maintenance to the structures and the lenses. While on duty at the USCGC Willow, he had an auxiliarist that helped to inspect the survival equipment on board the cutter. He also remembered "Smithie", as he kindly called him, an auxiliarist that came to the boats to advise and encourage the new recruits - with excellent results.

His best times with the auxiliary have been here with Division 6, on board the auxiliary vessel *Ruby G*, as he recalled with a big smile. He served hand to hand with auxiliarists in support of the Columbus Day Regatta for the past 4 years, where he recognized that the auxiliary makes a huge impact on the entire Regatta operation, tripling the effectiveness of it. He stated that the auxiliary is definitely a true force multiplier for the US Coast Guard.

Chief Hanson left the office on 5 May 2009 for his next call of duty, which happens to be overseas. He will be on a 12 - to -15 month tour on board the USCGC Baranof in the Northern Arabian Gulf, which is in charge of protecting the oil terminal infrastructures as part of the Iraqi Freedom and Endurance Freedom support of operations.

Chief Warrant Officer Hanson serves with D7 (dpa) as Assistant to the Director, Operations Training Officer and Team Coordination Training facilitator. With a Military Career of 21 years, CWO Hanson has served as Executive Officer and Deck Watch Officer, USCGC SMILAX (WLIC 315); Assistant Dept Head and Deck Watch Officer, USCGC WILLOW (WLB 202); Executive Petty Officer, ANT Cape May; Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class, USCGC KEY LARGO (WPB 1324); Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class CG STA Ft Macon; Seaman, USCGC PRIMROSE (WLIC 316); Seaman, ANT Primrose; and a Specialist 4, Medic with the US Army.

CWO Hanson has attended numerous schools and courses during his career. He is a graduate of PCO/PXO school, Chief Petty Officer's Academy, OINC/ XPO school, Oil recovery School, ATON advanced and Minor, Motor Life Boat school (basic), Boarding officer school (1st district), Marine Institute Newport RI., Mass Maritime, MITAGS Baltimore Maryland, and Medical specialist at Ft Sam Houston (US Army).

CWO Hanson holds his permanent Cutterman pin and Coxswain pin. His military awards include US army commendation Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal with Gold Star, US Army Achievement Medal with oak leaf, Department of Transportation unit Award, Letter of Commendation Ribbon with bronze star, 911 ribbon, Battle "E" ribbon with Gold star, Good Conduct Medal with 3 bronze stars, Humanitarian Service Medal, CG Sea Service Ribbon, CG Basic Training Honor Graduate Ribbon, US Army Overseas Service Ribbon, Sharp shooter Rifle, and Expert Pistol.

CWO Hanson is a native of Berlin, NH and his wife Michelle is a native of St. Petersburg, FL. They have two children, Brittany, 14 yrs old and Logan who is 11 yr old.

I want to thank Chief Hanson for taking time from his busy schedule to sit down with me and kindly answer all of my questions. For those of us who worked with Chief Hanson, we will surely miss him.

Farewell, Sir, and much success in your future endeavors.





New Home Land Security Secretary

Janet Napolitano

Secretary For Home Land Security

Janet Napolitano was sworn in on January 21, 2009 as the third Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Prior to joining the Obama Administration, Napolitano was mid-way through her second term as governor of the state of Arizona. While governor, Napolitano became the first woman to chair the National Governors Association, where she was instrumental in creating the Public Safety Task Force and the Homeland Security Advisors Council. She also chaired the Western Governors Association. Napolitano previously served as the Attorney General of Arizona and the U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona.



Napolitano's homeland security background is extensive. As U.S. Attorney, she helped lead the domestic terrorism investigation into the Oklahoma City Bombing. As Arizona Attorney General, she helped write the law to break up human smuggling rings. As governor, she implemented one of the first state homeland security strategies in the nation, opened the first state counter-terrorism center and spearheaded efforts to transform immigration enforcement. She's also been a pioneer in coordinating federal, state, local and bi-national homeland security efforts, and presided over large scale disaster relief efforts and readiness exercises to ensure well-crafted and functional emergency plans.

Napolitano graduated from Santa Clara University in 1979, where she won a Truman Scholarship, and received her Juris Doctor (J.D.) in 1983 from the University of Virginia School of Law. After law school she served as a law clerk for Judge Mary M. Schroeder of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit before joining the law firm of Lewis and Roca.





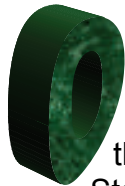
Around the Division



An Old/New Flotilla Re-Birth of 6-10



Cmdr. Allen Director of the Auxiliary, VFC Bruce Farkas and FC Eugene Khan.



In 7 December 1941, the United States became totally engaged in WW II and the all time war effort was begun. The civil functions of the Coast Guard were greatly overwhelmed by its military duties,

and civilian boating came to a standstill because of security regulations and gasoline shortages. A civilian organization called the Coast Guard Reserve had been established in 1939 by an act of Congress, its purpose to be the promotion of safety in the small boat field. By revision of the original act, Congress formed a new Coast Guard Reserve, fully military in character and rename the original reserved the Coast Guard Auxiliary to assist the Coast Guard in port security, beach and boat patrols, and supplementing crews. Today, the primary purpose of the auxiliary is in public education and boating safety.

Flotilla 10, one of the oldest auxiliary units in the United States, was organized in 1942. Sid Rosenstock was the first commander. Other members at that time were Frank Hagler, Gene Meyers, Oscar Nelson, Norman Neale, Irving Eisenstat and Reverend A. W. Taylor. During one of the many Miami to Nassau yacht races in which the auxiliary furnished crew members for the patrolling Coast Guard cutters, Rev. Taylor

realized a lack of worship facilities in New Providence, Nassau, and spearheaded a drive to acquire materials to build a chapel there. The dream was accomplished and the chapel still stands.

Flotilla 10 has many times led the field in courtesy motor boat examinations (vessel safety checks). In 1952 Flotilla 10 conducted 1102 examinations. This won them the coveted Mansfield Trophy. During the Korean war, Flotilla 10 sponsored several Blood Bank Drives. At one of these, 57 pints of blood were donated.

After several years and for different reasons, the Flotilla start loosing so many members that they were on the verge of been required to close. The Coast Guard and the office of the Director of the Auxiliary realized the historic importance of the Flotilla. With the leadership of Ed Burbank DCDR, and the help of a group of dedicated auxiliarists, they embarked on the hard task of rescuing the Flotilla.

After many efforts and time invested, finally the flotilla was reopened. They now have on board a dedicated and experienced group of auxiliarists, with FC Eugene Khan and VFC Bruce Farkas leading their efforts.

The flotilla now meets the Sunny Isles Community Center and is known as the North Bay Flotilla. The flotilla meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 1930.

Thanks to Thomas James FSO-PB, Flotilla 6-10, for the information provided in this article.



Australian Visit

By

Eugene Khan

A one day stopover in Miami on my return journey from a business trip to Suriname provided me with the opportunity to organize a visit to the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary in Miami. The excellent relationship our National Commodore Ray Campbell has with senior USCGA officers enabled him to arrange for me to visit the Miami operations in my official capacity of AVCGA National Training Commodore.



Joel Aberbach, CWO Hanson, Bob Mellor, James Shea and Ensign Lemmon at the meeting

The USCGA Director International Affairs Ev L Tucker Jr. appointed the Branch Chief Caribbean Communications Past Area Captain Eugene Khan as Liaison Officer for my visit.

A morning meeting with senior USCGA Training Officers James P Shea and Joel Aberbach; CWO Steve Hanson USCG and Liaison Officer Ensign Stacey Lemmon USCG was organised on the base by Capt Khan. This meeting may prove to be a major catalyst for the further development of training for members of the AVCGA and for the growth of the Coast Guard Academy.

The USCGA representatives were extremely keen to share curricula and training resources with the AVCGA. The amount of resources I came away with was staggering. I was also provided with addresses and access to an extensive list of USCG training websites.

During the meeting it was revealed that the USCG has developed a SAR program which automatically prepares SAR patterns from data such as Last Known Position, wind, tide, resources, etc. I made a comment on how valuable this program would be to the AVCGA. My comment was immediately followed by an undertaking to investigate whether we could be given access to the program or alternatively put in touch with the programs developer to enable us to negotiate purchase or access to the program.

Programs which we have been provided with include:

- Boat crew training material
 - Auxiliary Boat Crew Training Manual (the "Bible")
 - Auxiliary Coxswain Qualification Guide
 - SAR Policy
 - Coxswains SAR Guide
 - Facility Inspection Guides
 - Mentor Template for crews and coxswains
 - Team Coordination Training
 - Sea Partners Campaign (a environmental awareness program)

Capt Khan will also be forwarding additional material which will include a seamanship refresher program and programs for school children.

It will take some time to review all the material and assess its real value to the AVCGA. I hope to have completed review of the material by NATRAC and have prepared recommendations on its possible use by the AVCGA.

One program on which I will be spending some time is the Team Coordination Training (TCT) Program. This program is compulsory for all USCGA crews – with annual renewal. TCT is a program that focuses on reducing the probability for human error by increasing individual and team effectiveness. It contains a section on effective mission analysis using the GAR Risk Assessment Model. TCT has helped reduce boat incidents in the USCGA from 10/100000 hours to 1/100000 hours since its introduction. I will present a full review of TCT at NATRAC with a recommendation that we adopt a similar program.

A major outcome of the meeting with the USCGA Training Officers was the opening of a direct communications conduit with the USCGA not only for training issues but for all other issues. Our direct point of contact will be with the Branch Chief Australia & New Zealand Alfred J Verdi. It is important that we foster relations with the USCGA – their resources and experience are immense. This alone could save us many hard miles and provide us with much sought after improvements to our service to the boating public and safety on the water.

A highlight of my visit to DIV 7 was a familiarization run of Miami Harbour on one of the USCGA's new "Safety" boats. This purpose built SAR and Law Enforcement vessel would be the pride and joy of any of our Flotillas. The 41 ft long RIB is powered by three x 300HP Mercury outboards.

The top speed is 50knots. A special feature of the vessel is the low sound levels of the "stealth" motors – almost not detectable at idle speed and lower than most motor vehicles at top speed. The vessel is equipped with radar, GPS, Infra-red surveillance camera, facility to mount armament if required, air-conditioned cabin seating six. There is a large open work area up forward and a substantial work area aft. The motors are surprisingly economical.



Pre-run briefing by Lt Corbett

A feature of the familiarization run was the automatic conduct of the GAR Model by the Skipper LT Jim Corbett at dockside before casting off. The efficiency of the boat crew must also be commented on. They demonstrated top levels of communication between themselves, the coxswain and the passengers throughout the run. A very well drilled team.

The visit to USCGA Division 7 Miami proved to be most rewarding both for myself and more importantly for the future of training delivery and services for the AVCGA. It is vital that we do not let the contacts made during this meeting fade into insignificance and every effort will be made to keep these contacts active.



The Duty Boat following the Familiarization Run

My special thanks go to Ev Tucker and Ray Campbell for making this visit possible and to the USCGA volunteers who made me most welcome and lastly but not least to Eugene Khan for his hospitality and kindness during my stay in Miami.

Bob Mellor

National Training Commodore AVCGA



The Allgair's Awards

There are two special awards that division 6 may award each year, if there is a member that meets the requirements established. These special awards are the:

William "Bill" Allgair Operational Memorial Award

And

Miriam R "Mimi" Allgair Achievement Memorial Award.

The William "Bill" Allgair Operational Memorial Award was instituted on division six to honor his memory. Rear Commodore East William Allgair, was one of the initiators of the Miami Search and Rescue Team, which prior to the National Boat Crew Qualification Program, was the only operational training program available to group Miami and Division 6.

He exemplified the integrity, honesty, dedication, and extreme operational skills that make one feel proud to belong to a family like the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The requirements to receive this award are not easy. The Coxswain and /or crewmember while engaged in a search and rescue operation, under Coast Guard orders, or while on a pleasure outing, engages in a search and rescue operations, previous authorization from the Coast Guard Station Miami, has to demonstrate extreme operational skills and proficiency in the performance of the assist or rescue.

Miriam R "Mimi" Allgair was a combat nurse during World War II, she joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary where she became Flotilla Commander. She dedicated 35 years of her life to the auxiliary.

Mimi was known to every auxiliariest not only in division 6 but the entire 7th Coast Guard District. During her many years in the auxiliary, she displayed exceptional professional and leadership achievements. This include all phases of Coast Guard Auxiliary programs, including communica-tions, operations, member training, vessel examination and public education.

She exemplified the sustained leadership and professionalism that makes one feel proud to belong to a family like the Coast Guard Auxiliary. To honor her memory division 6 has instituted the award.

The requisites for this award are also tough. For recognition, members need to have maintained an outstanding level of performance, dedication, leadership, and /or achievement over a period of time to further authorized activities of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the candidate must have been a member in good standing and consistently complying with the above mentioned for a period of not less than 7 years.

The nominees of this awards are submitted each year in writing by the flotilla commanders to a committee composed of a designated member of each flotilla. The committee will meet after Octo-ber 15 of each year, dateline to submit the candidates, but not later than December 15. The commit-tee is tough and strict in their evaluation, and not every year candidate is selected. As a matter of fact it has been several years since one of this awards have been granted to a member of the auxil-iary.

However that was not the case during last year where two distinguish and dedicated auxiliariest re-ceived the awards. The William “Bill” Allgair Operational Memorial Award was granted to Gary Ellis of Flotilla 6-7 and the Miriam R “Mimi” Allgair Achievement Memorial Award was granted to Victoria Aponte of Flotilla 6-11. Congratulations to both, and we are proud of have you here in Division 6.

Our thanks to Victoria “Vickie” Aponte for the information provided for this article.



Victoria Aponte shows her Mimi Allgair award.



USCG AUXILIARY
SEVENTH DISTRICT
DIVISION 6

MEETING NOTICE

TIME: 1930 hours

PLACE: CG Station, Miami

DATE: Thursday, May, 28th

**U.S. Department
Of Homeland Security**

**United States
COAST GUARD**

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Official Business

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