



FLOT Lines

Flotilla 74, Brandon

District 7

USCG Auxiliary

Issue 4 2022

"Miss Daisy," Flotilla 74's Newest Facility Makes Maiden Voyage.

By Dorothy Riley



"Miss Daisy," Flotilla 74, Brandon's newest (and only) facility makes its maiden voyage Sept. 4 from the Gandy boat ramp. Pictured from left are Steve Williams, vessel owner; Dean Bell, coxswain; and August Miller, crew. USCG Auxiliary photo by George Papabeis (also crew)

When Flotilla 74 member Steve Williams volunteered his boat as an Auxiliary operational facility, George Papabeis, Flotilla Staff Officer-Operations, welcomed the idea. That was before he became aware of the many hours he would invest in getting the vessel prepared to pass the operational facility (OPFAC) inspection and submit all of the required forms. It took countless hours and many phone calls to gather and install the necessary equipment like sign boards, radios, various lines, and all the other requirements to pass an OPFAC inspection. After weeks of effort, "Miss Daisy" was approved by the Coast Guard as an OPFAC on July 18 and made its 'maiden voyage' as a facility on Sept. 4, 2022.

After successfully certifying "Miss Daisy" as an OP-

FAC, Papabeis did not stop there. He gathered that after the more than two-year stand-down, not just Flotilla 74, Brandon, but the entire division needed qualified crew and coxswains. Some crew and coxswains were in REYR* status while other members needed to attend the entire crew training course and the other required classes (like Team Coordination Training, etc.).

Papabeis has received some assistance and guidance from Tony Novellino, Division 7 Staff Officer-Operations, and Dean Bell, member of Flotilla 79, Tampa, but Papabeis is once again spending hours on the phone chasing down information, identifying mentors and instructors, lining up qualified crew and cox-

(Continued on page3)

FLOT Lines



Flotilla Staff Officers

August Miller
Navigation Systems
Materials

Richard Strehl, Jr.
Finance
Public Education

George Ppabeis
Public Affairs
Operations

Dottie Riley
Publications

William Sage
Human Resources

Hilario Benitez Rivera
Program Visits
Vessel Examinations

Clark Pittman
Secretary of Records
Member Training

Tanner Piliego
Information Systems
Communication Services

Newsletter Flotilla, 74 Brandon

William Sage, Flotilla Commander

Dorothy Riley, Flotilla Vice Commander

Meeting: Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

3006 South Kings Ave., Brandon, Florida

"Miss Daisy..." (continued from cover)	2
From the Helm: William Sage, FC	4
From the Helm: Dorothy Riley, VFC	5
U.S.C.G. Auxiliary: Diversity of Missions	6
Become an Instructor (IT)	8
New Fire Extinguisher Regulations	9
The U.S. Coast Guard Mobile App	9
2021 Recreational Boating Statistics	10
Play With Me! Word Search	11
D-Train- <i>It's Not too Late!</i>	12



To navigate this document click on the title in the content list above. To return to this page, click the 'Home' button at the bottom of each page.



We're on the web!

www.cgaux74.org

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Flotilla74/>



FLOT Lines is a publication of Flotilla 74, Brandon , District 7 United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, located at 3006 S. Kings Ave., Brandon. The cost of publication is provided by dues-paying members of the Auxiliary, an organization of unpaid, civilian volunteers whose mission is to assist the U.S. Coast Guard in promoting boating safety. Articles may be reprinted with the express consent of the author or photographer with proper credit given to same. For permissions or for more information, please contact the editor, Dorothy Joan Riley, SO-PB, Email address: dottieriley@gmail.com



Articles of Interest

(Continued from page 1)

swains, and identifying boat crew trainees. The crew class will begin in October with the qualifying examinations scheduled to take place in January 2023.

Papabeis's efforts are either heroic, or he is a glutton for punishment. Although the jury is still out on this assessment, we prefer to believe that his commitment is laudable. Bravo Zulu, George! Ω

**REYR: Recertification required for failure to meet yearly requirements*



Above right: Steve Williams, member of Flotilla 74, Brandon flushes the saltwater out of the vessel's twin-engines after the Auxiliary patrol on Sept. 4. No doubt this image and the one above left are displays of our pride. USCG Auxiliary photos by George Papabeis



From the Helm

William Sage Flotilla Commander



One benefit I receive from volunteering with the flotilla is the relationships I have developed with other members. In fact, that is why I joined: to meet new people and do something meaningful. I have really enjoyed working with everyone and getting things done. It has been a rather unusual past two years; however, I see positive things on the horizon.

To get things moving in a positive and energized direction, I feel we need to focus on all members communicating, becoming educated, and participating in our various functions. These three areas are key components of having a viable flotilla.

Every one of us needs to keep current on our basic courses, become qualified in some area of interest, and then remain current. We discuss this in our staff meetings every month. We want you to know that we are here to help you get this done. Once qualified, you can join in with others in that specialty and enjoy the fellowship of accomplishing your goals.

Now that we have a facility (a boat named "Miss Daisy") in the flotilla, George Papabeis is scheduling crew member classes, but you need to have your core courses

completed to attend. We can also do more to verify aids to navigation in our area of responsibility, conduct special missions, etc.

We now have several members qualified as vessel examiners and need more trained as program visitors, which is a fun and easy qualification to earn.

Remember, we can work together to get this done. Just ask us if you need help. Ω



Become a Vessel Examiner:

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=V-DEPT&category=vessel-examiner>

Become an RBS Program Visitor:

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=V-DEPT&category=partner-visitation>



From the Helm



Dorothy Riley Flotilla Vice Commander

After reviewing our financial statement, I was utterly appalled. The leak in our building wiped out our savings. Our funds are low, and yet we have more repairs and improvements to make. At the staff meeting, I remarked that we needed to find ways to raise funds. In retrospect, I think I was getting ahead of myself. Raising funds is important, but recruiting new members tops that in our list of immediate needs. Bill Sage recruited several new members who have become major assets to our flotilla and without whom we would likely not be able to function. We are grateful to Bill for his stellar leadership and thankful to the new and seasoned members who kept our flotilla afloat these past two years. George Papabeis and August Miller are the seasoned members forming our foundation. The contributions of Clark Pittman, Tanner Pilego, and Richard Strehl are immensely significant. We must also recognize Hilario Benitez Rivera and Brenda Nanius. While personal circumstances forced Brenda to step back for a time, her efforts were amazing! We look forward to Brenda returning to us someday.

Member Steve Williams offered his boat for use as an Auxiliary operational facility (OPFAC). George Papabeis stepped in to help get the vessel approved as an OPFAC and

to organize Boat Crew training to train new members and recertify the division boat crew arrears in their annual requirement (REYR).

Yes, we have some shining stars! All of us owe them a debt of gratitude! We must also recognize that we have many inactive members and that all the work falls on the few active members. Every flotilla staff officer holds more than one position. In other words, these eight members have become our pillars.

It is time to recruit! Without new members, we will not perform many Vessel Safety Checks, Recreational Boating Safety Partner Visits, or conduct Public Education classes. Without these, we are not adequately contributing to the public's boating safety education. (For our newer members- did you know that for many years, Flotilla 74 led the division in Public Education hours and number of graduates?)

There are many ways to recruit: social media, Recreational Boating Safety presentations at schools, private and public agencies, during Vessel Examinations, and Public Affairs events. Let's do it!

I thank you for your commitment to the Auxiliary. Ω



Articles of Interest

Already a member?

Great! Membership is the first step to qualifying for one of these exciting jobs!



The more jobs you are qualified and prepared for, the greater the difference you can make!

U.S.C.G. Auxiliary: Diversity of Missions

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Air Crew | 15. Leadership Role in the Auxiliary |
| 2. Boat Crew | 16. Marine Safety |
| 3. Building Support | 17. Musician |
| 4. Clergy Support | 18. Ombudsman |
| 5. Coast Guard Academy Partner | 19. Personal Watercraft Operator |
| 6. Color Guard | 20. Pilot |
| 7. Commercial Fishing Vessel Examiner | 21. Pipe Band |
| 8. Coxswain | 22. Program Visitor |
| 9. Dock Walker | 23. Public Affairs |
| 10. Food Services | 24. Recreational Boating Safety |
| 11. Health Services | 25. Watch Stander |
| 12. Incident Command System | 26. Vessel Examiner |
| 13. Instructor | 27. Operational Auxiliarist (AUXOP) |
| 14. Interpreter | 28. Qualification Examiner |

29. Designer/editor



Our service makes a difference!

We encourage you to gain competency in several positions as it will diversify and improve our mission capability and readiness. Ω



Articles of Interest

U.S.C.G. Auxiliary: Diversity of Missions

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary has many positions/jobs as well as missions and levels of leadership. From operations such as flying planes and piloting boats to teaching boating safety classes, there are many wonderful and worthwhile activities that we can engage in. Sometimes the path to what we would like to do is confusing and sometimes we didn't even realize that such a mission existed let alone that there existed a path to it.

This guide is designed to provide a brief overview of these positions and their primary duties as well as a link to find out more information regarding the topic.

We are also privileged to have the opportunity to augment the active duty/reserve in a myriad of capacities from working as a partner with the United States Coast Guard Academy to standing watch at a Station or crewing on active-duty assets and many other taskings in addition to our own activities and missions.

(Please note: when augmenting the active duty/reserve that requirements may be more stringent than listed within our descriptions as well as unit specific)

Our service makes a difference!

The more jobs you are qualified and prepared for, the greater the difference you can make!

We encourage you to gain competency in several positions as it will diversify and improve our mission capability and readiness.

All positions require that you be a member of the Auxiliary in good standing. Virtually all positions require the completion of Core Training and Risk Management 2.0.

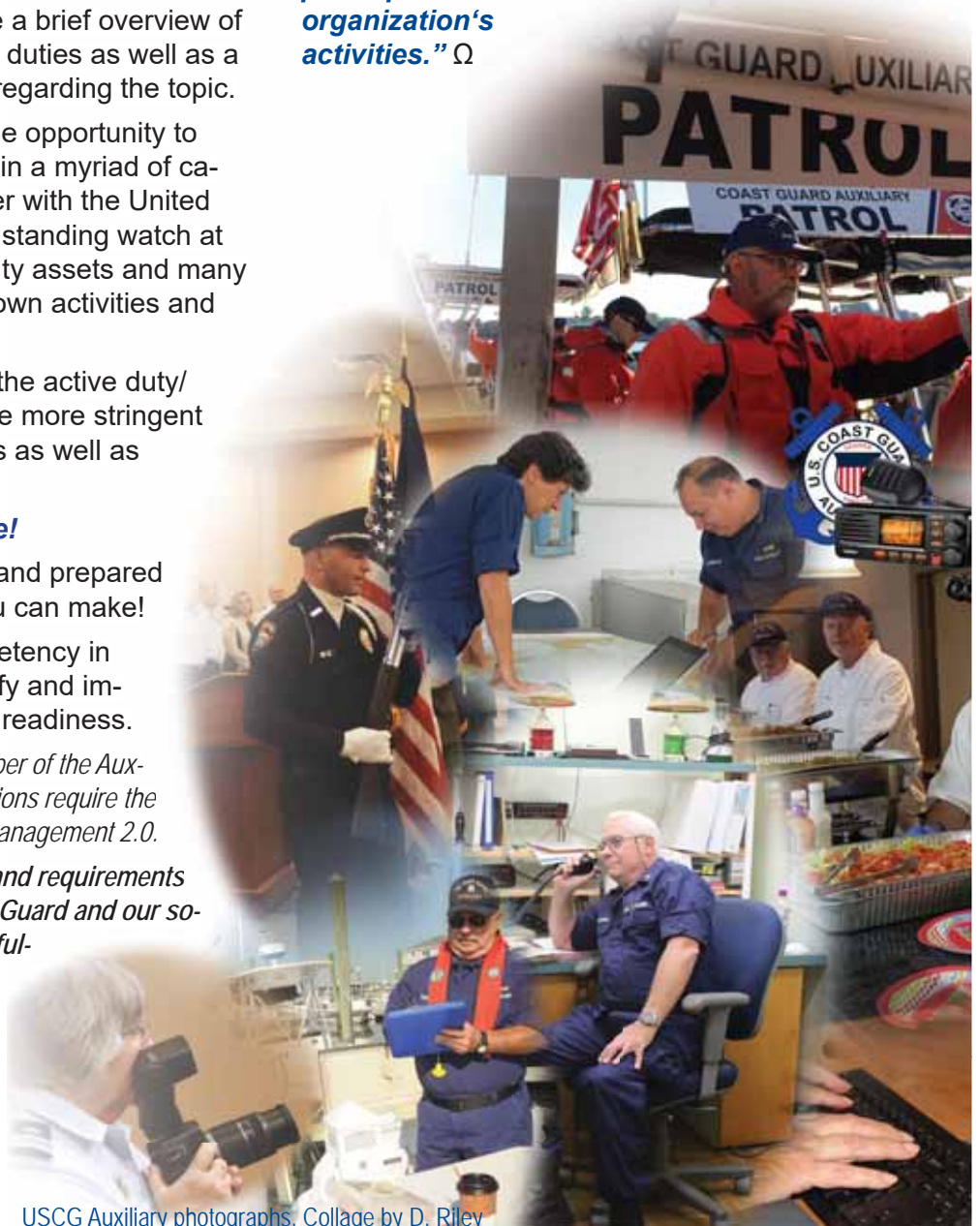
Disclaimer: None of these missions and requirements are static. They change as the Coast Guard and our society and organization change. Hopefully, we keep ahead of those changes. However, if you see something that is outdated or needs to be amended, please contact us and we will make the necessary corrections.

Discover the many opportunities in the Auxiliary. Start by visiting

<http://www.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=D-DEPT&category=mission-diversity>

We encourage you to train and qualify in as many areas as appeal to your interests. Do not hesitate to ask questions of your mentors or senior leaders. Reminder:

"The satisfaction you derive from your Auxiliary membership will be in proportion to your level of participation in the organization's activities." Ω



USCG Auxiliary photographs. Collage by D. Riley



Articles of Interest



USCG Auxiliary photo

BECOME AN INSTRUCTOR (IT) *We need you now!*

Becoming qualified as an Instructor (IT) allows a member to become involved with the Auxiliary's boating safety public education programs. An Instructor teaches courses relating to public education for boaters and/or member training for Auxiliarists, which advances the knowledge of safe boating practices, Auxiliary services and programs, and Coast Guard missions. Becoming an instructor entitles the member to wear the Instructor Program Ribbon.

In order for a member to become an Instructor, they must study the Instructor Development student study guide: (<http://eddept.cgaux.org/pdf/ID%202020%20Student%20Guide%202020-03-24%20v4.pdf>), the Instructor Development manual, Appendix A, and take a non-proctored and open book "IT" exam at the National Testing Center (<http://ntc.cgaux.org/TrainingCourses.php>).

After completing the training, a trainee must complete the Instructor Development Performance Qualification Standard: Appendix E (PQS) to become an Instructor. Currency requirements for Instructors are to teach 2 hours as an instructor or teach 4 hours as an assistant yearly.

Click the above links and follow the instructions to earn an Instructor qualification. No doubt, you may encounter questions. In that event, contact Clark Pittman or William Sage.

Feeling uncertain or uncomfortable when learning something new is to be expected! Stay with it. As you learn, that uncomfortable feeling will subside. Don't give up. Ask questions! Ω



Articles of Interest

Effective Nationwide May 20, 2022:

New Fire Extinguisher Regulations

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=v-dept>

1. Is Fire Extinguisher Readily Accessible?
2. Marine Type U.S.C.G.? Correct Classification? Not more than 12 years old?
3. Good & Serviceable?

Good and serviceable working condition means:

- If the extinguisher has a pressure gauge reading or indicator it must be in the operable range or position;
- The lock pin is firmly in place;
- The discharge nozzle is clean and free of obstruction; and
- The extinguisher does not show visible signs of significant corrosion or damage

Visit <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=v-dept> for more information. Ω



THE U.S. COAST GUARD MOBILE APP

<https://uscgboating.org/mobile/>



When conducting Vessel Safety Checks, be sure to introduce boaters to the U.S. Coast Guard mobile app.

The USCG Boating Safety App features include:

- Find the latest safety regulations
- Request a vessel safety check
- Check your safety equipment
- File a float plan
- Navigation Rules
- Find the nearest NOAA buoy
- Report a hazard
- Report pollution
- Report suspicious activity
- Request emergency assistance

The app also features an Emergency Assistance button which, with locations services enabled, will call the closest Coast Guard command center.Ω



Articles of Interest



2021 Recreational Boating Statistics

The U.S. Coast Guard has released its 2021 Recreational Boating Statistics Report, revealing that there were 658 boating fatalities nationwide in 2021, a 14.2 percent decrease from 2020.

Every year, the U.S. Coast Guard compiles statistics on reported recreational boating accidents. These statistics are derived from accident reports that are filed by the owners/operators of recreational vessels involved in accidents. The fifty states, five U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia submit accident report data to the Coast Guard for inclusion in the annual Boating Statistics publication.

The latest Boating Statistics publications are available here for you to download:

https://uscgboating.org/statistics/accident_statistics.php

At right are highlights from the report.

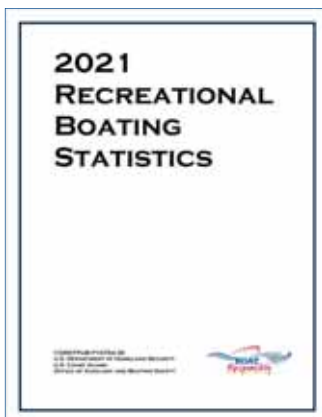


Table 1 • 2021 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY						
TOP FIVE PRIMARY ACCIDENT TYPES						
Accident Rank	Accident Type	Number of Accidents		Number of Deaths	Number of Injuries	
1	Collision with recreational vessel	1226		31	740	
2	Collision with fixed object	508		43	408	
3	Flooding/swamping	461		55	100	
4	Grounding	308		12	179	
5	Falls overboard	273		170	98	
VESSEL TYPES WITH THE TOP CASUALTY NUMBERS						
Casualty Rank	Type of Boat	Drownings	Other Deaths	Total Deaths	Total Injuries	Total Casualties
1	Open motorboat	203	84	287	1378	1665
2	Personal watercraft	29	26	55	670	725
3	Pontoon	55	9	64	181	245
4	Canoe/kayak	122	20	142	80	222
5	Cabin motorboat	17	18	35	182	217
LIFE JACKET WEAR BY TOP FIVE KNOWN CAUSES OF DEATH						
Known Cause of Death Rank	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths	Life Jacket			
			Worn	Not Worn	Unknown if worn	
1	Drowning	489	84	399	6	
2	Trauma	87	35	49	3	
3	Cardiac arrest	12	7	5	0	
4	Hypothermia	7	7	0	0	
5	Carbon monoxide poisoning	6	1	5	0	
TOP TEN KNOWN PRIMARY CONTRIBUTING FACTORS OF ACCIDENTS						
Accident Rank	Contributing Factor	Number of Accidents		Number of Deaths	Number of Injuries	
1	Operator inattention	677		41	398	
2	Operator inexperience	506		65	270	
3	Improper lookout	454		18	339	
4	Machinery failure	305		12	108	
5	Excessive speed	298		23	281	
6	Alcohol use	247		86	186	
7	Force of wave/wake	241		16	186	
8	Navigation rules violation	204		18	156	
9	Hazardous waters	200		68	85	
10	Weather	178		30	64	

Recreational Boating Statistics 2021



Articles of Interest

PLAY WITH ME!

Word Search

Can you find all of the words listed at right? The answers will appear in our next issue.



FLOATATION
THROWABLE
HORN
DISTRESS
ANCHOR
PROPULSION
TOOLBOX
TOOLS
EXTINGUISHER
RADIO
DRYBOX
LICENSE
BUCKET
FUEL
LIGHTS
COMPASS
KNOTS
CHARTS
FORE
AFT
STERN
STARBOARD
PORT
GALLEY



Background image royalty-free from Unsplash.com. Word search puzzle by Dorothy Riley.



D-TRAIN 2022

It is not too late to come for a day to attend classes!

D-TRAIN Agenda: <https://uscga-district-7.org/pdf/dtrain/DTRAIN%20Agenda%20updated%209-1-2022.pdf>

D-TRAIN Class descriptions: <https://uscga-district-7.org/pdf/dtrain/DTRAIN%20Class%20Descriptions%209-1-22.pdf>

US Coast Guard Auxiliary District 7 Board Meeting & Training

Sept. 13 - 18, 2022

**Florida Hotel and Conference Center
1500 Sand Lake Road
Orlando, Florida, 32809**

407-859-1500

(For reservation - mention CG Aux)

\$129.00 room rate per night

Any questions, please call or email:

James Nickles, Conference Coordinator

(407) 390-9611

jimnickles2@gmail.com

COVID-19 information - If either the member or guest is not fully vaccinated, the member must submit a written negative FDA-authorized COVID-19 test result 72 hours prior to arriving at DTRAIN. This applies to the member or their guest. Submit to John Holmes, District Chief of Staff at John.holmes@cgauxnet.us

FLOT is a military acronym meaning “forward line of own troops.” FLOT line or “forward edge of battle area” (FEBA) are technical terms used by all branches of the U.S. armed services to designate the forward most friendly maritime or land forces on the battlefield at a given point in time during an armed conflict.

We are not a military force engaged in armed conflict. We are, however, the frontline of the struggle to save the lives of recreational boaters, and we face this great endeavor armed with Vessel Safety Checks, Public Education classes and all the other Recreational Boating Safety programs in our arsenal. Our newsletter banner serves as a reminder of this mission.

The Privacy Act of 1974 protects the names, addresses, telephone/fax numbers and email addresses of Flotilla 74 members which may appear in this or other Auxiliary publications. As a matter of policy, information described above is not made available to the general public or outside groups without that members expressed and or written consent. When such information appears, its privacy shall be safeguarded, and the information will be clearly labeled. Publication of this information by the general public and/or outside groups is prohibited by the Privacy Act.

