



FLOT Lines

Flotilla 74, Brandon

District 7

USCG Auxiliary

Issue 4 2023



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- Matthew Stephen Earns Prestigious Operational Auxiliarist Device (page 7)



FLOT Lines

Newsletter Flotilla 74, Brandon

Dorothy Riley, Flotilla Commander

Meeting: Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

3006 South Kings Ave., Brandon, Florida

Flotilla Staff Officers

August Miller
Navigation Systems
Materials

Dorothy Riley
Publications
Public Affairs

William Sage
Human Resources

Steve Williams
Operations

Matt Stephen
RBS-Partner Visitation
Vessel Examinations

Tanner Piliego
Information Systems
Communication Services
Finance

Background photo: Tanner Piliego conducts Vessel Safety Checks on May 22 at Williams Park during National Safe Boating Week. USCG Auxiliary photo by Dorothy Riley

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We're on the web!

www.cgaux74.org



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

Background photo: Matt Stephen conducts Vessel Safety Checks and keeps a watchful eye on the Auxiliary Recreational Boating information booth at Williams Park boat ramp during National Safe Boating Week, May 2023. Behind him is Bill Sage. USCG Auxiliary photo by Dorothy Riley.

From the Helm

Dorothy Riley Flotilla Commander



I am proud to lead a flotilla of men and women who are motivated, enthusiastic, and adaptive. Several new members completed their CORE training and, in some cases, the Basic Qualification Courses II before they received their ID cards. That is motivated! They show up whenever we call for assistance, whether conducting Vessel Examinations or restoring our water-damaged building. Now, that is enthusiastic! They "go with the flow" as we move our flotilla meetings from our building to a restaurant and back again without missing a beat. That is adaptive! Our seasoned members who no longer participate on any level should consider taking a card from their playbook!

We lost electric service to our building because a rotting tree limb fell and knocked out our electric box. Since the property is owned by the county, we had to wait for them to process a repair order. It took two months for their contractors to complete this request, but the electric service is now restored.

Before the electricity was knocked out, we resumed replacing our floor and cleaning the building. That, too, was halted for two months. Now, we can get back to finishing the task. Other things were delayed- like getting a count of our supply of uniforms to forward to the division.

Now, on to some critical housekeeping matters. Our member dues are due. Please pay them as

soon as possible. Also, if you do not wish to renew your membership, please submit Form 7035 and return your Auxiliary ID card even if it has

expired. It is critical that this is done as soon as possible as delays cost us money! We must pursue members via registered mail. We appreciate every member. When writing that check to pay your dues, it may be a good time to remind yourself why you joined the Auxiliary, and if you have been inactive, commit to participating again. Remember the words to the prologue of your member oath: "The satisfaction you derive from your Auxiliary membership will be in proportion to your level of participation in the organization's activities." "If you feel that you can be an active and productive member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, please raise your right hand...".

I must mention a few member accomplishments: To start, we must congratulate Matt Stephen for earning the Operational Auxiliarist device. That is impressive, especially considering that he has been a member for less than nine months!

New member Christopher Hunt volunteered to steer our efforts to create a new not-for-profit LLC so that we can renew our lease with the county and attend to other administrative matters. This has been in the works for two years. Member Tanner Piliego has become a critical spoke in the wheel that is our flotilla, as have Augie Miller and Steve Williams.

Finally, we could not function without William Sage, who is clearly the hub of our wheel. As

"If you feel that you can be an ACTIVE and PRODUCTIVE member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, please raise your right hand..."



Flotilla Staff Officer-Human Resources, he has brought in more than half a dozen members this year. Without his prodding and guidance, I could not have done my job. Bill, by the way, is a courageous individual. How many men do you know who will volunteer to go shopping with two women? Bill took Kelly and me (Dorothy) to the Coast Guard Exchange in St. Petersburg.

There are others who always show up, and if I fail to mention you by name here, it is not because I do not value your contributions. I started out by saying that I am proud to lead the members of this flotilla. I repeat this as I end this message. Ω

Getting the building ready. Top right: Kelly McMahon cleans and organizes the galley. It never before looked so good. Now, if we could just get to the galley floor!

Below Right: Tanner Piliego and Steve Williams work on completing the floor.

August Miller and William Sage came to assist in reorganizing the storeroom. Trouble is, too much blocks the entryway. Fortunately, we like each other and have fun together. USCG Auxiliary photos by Dorothy Riley



Articles of Interest

How we carry on without electric service:

Flotilla 74, Brandon Holds Monthly Meeting at Local Restaurant.

By Dorothy Riley



Dottie Riley, Flotilla Commander, presents member Edgardo Diaz-Rodrigueza an Auxiliary Sustained Service Award at the Aug. 8 meeting of Flotilla 74, Brandon. USCG Auxiliary photo by Tanner Piliego



William Sage displays the certificate of election as Flotilla 74, Brandon Vice Commander presented at the Aug. 8 meeting of Flotilla 74, Brandon. USCG Auxiliary photo by Tanner Piliego

The members of our flotilla are admirable! When we arrived at the building to attend the meeting on July 10, we discovered that we had no electric power. The interior was hot and dark, so we moved our meeting to the patio. A tree limb had knocked out our meter, and we had to wait for the county to restore service. By Aug. 8, we still had no power, so we met at the Village Inn Restaurant at the corner of Causeway and Providence. We were one of two small groups at the restaurant and were welcomed by the staff. There

is much to be said for improvisation! We had a great meeting that night, and the members enjoyed the camaraderie.

The power is restored after two months of no service. We can now plan to finish that floor. What an ordeal this has been! The challenges resulting from the water damage and the loss of electricity did not discourage anyone. Our members took it all in stride. Ω



Articles of Interest



Matthew Stephen Earns Prestigious Operational Auxiliary Device

Had Matt Stephen known about the award he would receive at the Flotilla 74, Brandon business meeting on Aug. 8, maybe he would have rushed home from work earlier in time to don his uniform. No matter. We are so darn proud of his achievement that we were simply glad to see and congratulate him. Bravo Zulu, Matt! You do the flotilla proud! USCG Auxiliary photo by Tanner Piliego

About the Operational Auxiliary (AUXOP) Award.

The AUXOP, or "Operational Auxiliaryist" program, is an advanced training program available to members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary who wish to increase their practical relevance to Coast Guard missions and better assist the Coast Guard in fulfilling needed skill sets. Members who successfully complete their training are authorized to wear the prestigious AUXOP Device, shown here, and their membership level advances from Basic Qualified (BQ) to Operational Auxiliaryist (AX).

Completing the program is no simple feat, and members who attain AUXOP status should be justly proud of their accomplishment, increased utility to the Auxiliary and to the Coast Guard, and their ability to serve as role models for their shipmates.

Qualification Requirements

To qualify as an Operational Auxiliaryist, the member must successfully obtain a minimum of seven (7) credits from three categories of courses.

Core Courses: Auxiliary Weather Specialty Course (AUX-WEA), Auxiliary Seamanship Specialty Course (AUX-SEA), and Auxiliary Communications Specialty Course (AUXCOM).

Leadership Courses, i.e., Auxiliary Flotilla Leadership Course (AFLC), Auxiliary Leadership and Management School (AUXLAMS) – both A and B, Auxiliary Mid-Level Officer Course (AMLOC)-(DCDR/VCDR/DSO/FC with AUXLAMS), etc. (Sign in and follow the link below to see the full list of courses.)


Elective Courses

Auxiliarists will be required to complete their AUXOP credits by completing a combination of elective courses totaling three (3) or more credits, which include the Incident Command Structure (ICS) series and National Intelligence Model (NIM)-compliant courses.

Recognition

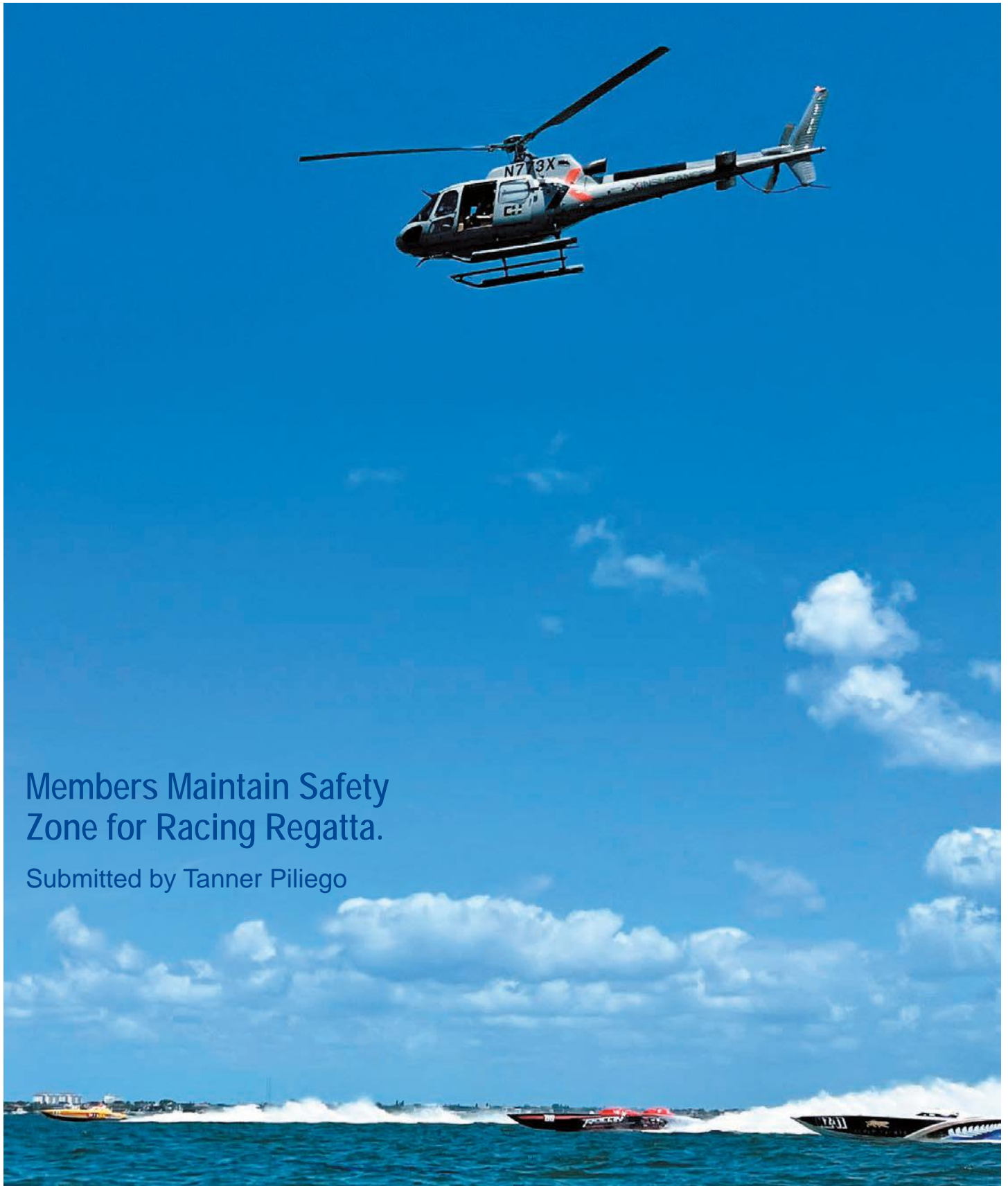
Specialty Training Ribbon

Members who successfully complete all AUXOP requirements are entitled to wear the AUXOP Device shown at left. Until that time, members who have completed one or more of the specialty courses are permitted to wear the Auxiliary Specialty Ribbon, above, with one or more 3/16" Bronze or Silver Stars indicating the successful completion of another course. When AUXOP qualification is attained, the ribbon is no longer worn.

Additional information about the Operational Auxiliaryist qualification and courses are found at <https://www.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=T-DEPT&category=aux-op-courses> 



Articles of Interest



Members Maintain Safety Zone for Racing Regatta.

Submitted by Tanner Piliego



Articles of Interest



The crew for the September 3 safety zone for the racing regatta consisted of Dean Bell (rear of the vessel), James Keene (front), Pat Stone (at the helm, and Ariel Rodriguez, port side.

Midpage: Trainee Ariel Rodriguez points to an object in the water.

Below: A helicopter tracks the racing regatta across the route.

USCG Auxiliary photos by Tanner Piliego



Member Tanner Piliego served as crew on the September 3 mission providing a safety zone for a racing regatta in Tampa Bay. Tanner crewed for coxswain Dean Bell, Flotilla 79, Tampa, aboard "Liquid Asset," owned by Pat Stone, Flotilla 75, Apollo Beach. Also aboard were trainees James Keene and Ariel Rodriguez, members of Flotilla 75, Apollo Beach.

While being on the water is usually enjoyable, we must point out that the temperature that day was 95 degrees, and with the sun reflecting off the water, it feels much hotter. Ω



Articles of Interest

Flotilla 74, Brandon: Our new members are enthusiastic and motivated!

By Dorothy Riley



Top left: Members hold the August 8 monthly meeting of Flotilla 74, Brandon at *The Village Inn Restaurant* on Causeway Blvd., in Brandon. Daniel McDermott (left), Bryan Ingersoll (right rear) and Chris Hunt (right front) take their Auxiliary membership oath. Chris volunteered to spearhead our stalled LLC and non-profit status so that we can renew our lease with Hillsborough County. Always good to bring

knowlegable members aboard!



Top right: Steve Williams takes the oath of office as he is sworn in as Flotilla Staff Officer-Operations, Flotilla 74, Brandon. With the electric restored, the Sept. 8 meeting was held at the building on Kings Avenue.

Below: Steve Williams looks on as Earl Abbott and Kelly McMahon take their membership oaths at the Sept. 11 meeting of Flotilla 74, Brandon. Kelly completed core training and other courses as soon as she received her member number. Now that is motivation! USCG Auxiliary photo by Tanner Piliego



Articles of Interest

New Auxiliary Manuals Released.

By Dorothy Riley

11 SEP 2023
FM: CHDIRAUX
TO: ALAUX
ALAUX 032/23

Subj: PROMULGATION OF THE AUXILIARY
OPERATIONS PROCESS GUIDES

- A. Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual, COMDTINST M16798.3E
- B. Auxiliary Operations Process Guide, Volume I – General/Surface, 16798.31A
- C. Auxiliary Operations Process Guide, Volume II – Air Operations, 16798.32A
- D. Auxiliary Operations Process Guide, Volume III – Telecommunications, 16798.33A
- E. Auxiliary Operations Process Guide, Volume IV – Marine Safety and Security, 16798.34A

1. This ALAUX announces the cancellation of reference (A), and the promulgation of REFs (B) through (E).

2. REFs (B) through (E) were signed by the Chief, Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety (CG-BSX) on 01 Aug 2023. For lists of major changes refer to the Letters of Promulgation within REFs (B) through (E).

3. No paper distribution will be made of these Process Guides. They are available on Share-Point at: (for USCG systems, copy and paste the following URL to browser) <https://uscg.sharepoint-mil.us/sites/cg-bsx/cgbsx1/SitePages/Home.aspx>, and the internet: <https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=BX-GROUP&category=guides-and-handbooks>.

4. Questions should be directed to the appropriate Chain of Leadership and Management (COLM).

Document #	DATE	SUBJECT	VERSION	TYPE
	5-Sep-2023	<u>USCG Auxiliary Public Affairs Specialist 1 (AUNPA1) - Senior Level</u>	1	Guide
	5-Sep-2023	<u>USCG Auxiliary Public Affairs Specialist 2 (AUNPA2) - Intermediate Level</u>	1	Guide
	5-Sep-2023	<u>USCG Auxiliary Public Affairs Specialist 3 (AUNPA3) - Entry Level</u>	1	Guide
16798.31A	1-Aug-2023	<u>Auxiliary Operations Process Guide-Volume I- General/Surface</u>	1	Guide
16798.32A	1-Aug-2023	<u>Auxiliary Operations Process Guide-Volume II-Air Operations</u>	1	Guide
16798.33A	1-Aug-2023	<u>Auxiliary Operations Process Guide-Volume III- Telecommunications</u>	1	Guide
16798.34A	1-Aug-2023	<u>Auxiliary Operations Process Guide-Volume IV-Marine Safety and Security</u>	1	Guide
16798.5A	1-Aug-2023	<u>Auxiliary Training Handbook-Aviation</u>	1	Handbook
	23-Mar-2023	<u>Auxiliary Flotilla Procedures Guide (FPG)</u>	1	Guide
	20-Mar-2023	<u>Auxiliary Claims Process Guide</u>	1	Guide
16794.11A	30-Jan-2023	<u>Auxiliary Paddlecraft (AUNPAD) Program</u>	1	Handbook
	20-Jan-2023	<u>Auxiliary COVID-19 Guidance</u>	5	Guide
16794.52B	13-Jan-2023	<u>Auxiliary Boat Crew Qualification Handbook - Boat Crewmember, Coxswain, & Personal Watercraft Operator</u>	2	Handbook
16794.51B	13-Jan-2023	<u>Auxiliary Training Handbook - Boat Crew</u>	2	Handbook

*All ALAUX's are posted on the Chief Director of Auxiliary web site located at: CHDIRAUX ALAUX (<https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=BX-GROUP&category=chdiraux-alauxs>)

Handbooks and guides can also be accessed at: <https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=BX-GROUP&category=guides-and-handbooks>



The Warming of Coastal Waters: NOAA Works to Save Endangered Marine Life.

By Dorothy J. Riley

Global warming is causing ocean temperatures to rise around the world. In July 2023, ocean temperatures around Florida reached record highs. The average sea surface temperature in the Gulf of Mexico has topped 100 degrees Fahrenheit, triggering a massive bleaching event of some coral reefs.

These high ocean temperatures are having a significant impact on the marine environment in Florida. Coral reefs are particularly vulnerable to rising temperatures and already show signs of stress. Coral bleaching, a condition in which the coral expels the algae that live in its tissues and give it its color, has been widespread in Florida in recent years. If ocean temperatures continue to rise, coral reefs in Florida could be severely damaged or even wiped out. Scientists are racing against time to save as many specimens as possible.

Other marine organisms are also being affected by the warming ocean temperatures. Fish are moving to cooler waters, and some species are becoming less abundant. Sea turtles are also being affected, as they are struggling to find enough food in the warmer waters.

The high ocean temperatures in Florida are a clear sign of the impacts of climate change. These impacts are already being felt by the marine environment, and they are likely to worsen in the future.

Climate change and pollution have spelled trouble for much of Florida's coral reef die-off. In fact, organizers with Tampa Bay Water say 85% of oyster habitat alone has been lost in the Tampa Bay area due to human activities.

Here is some additional information about the impact of global warming on the marine environment:

- Warming temperatures are causing sea ice to melt, which is disrupting marine food webs.
- Rising ocean levels are flooding coastal areas and destroying marine habitats.
- Ocean acidification is making it difficult for some marine organisms to survive.

It is important to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is doing a lot to preserve coral reefs and other impacted sea life in Florida. Some of these initiatives include:

Mission: Iconic Reefs is a long-term, multi-million-dollar effort to restore seven iconic coral reef sites in the Florida Keys. The project uses various methods to restore the reefs, including transplanting coral, seeding the reefs with coral larvae, and creating artificial reefs.

NOAA Fisheries is working to reduce the impact of fishing on coral reefs. They are developing new regulations to reduce bycatch and working with fishermen to develop more sustainable fishing practices.

NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program manages the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, which protects more than 3,800 square miles of coral reefs, seagrass beds, and mangrove forests. The sanctuary program is working to reduce pollution, protect sea turtles, and educate the public about the importance of coral reefs.

NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program is providing funding for research on coral reefs and for restoration projects. The program is also working to raise awareness about the threats facing coral

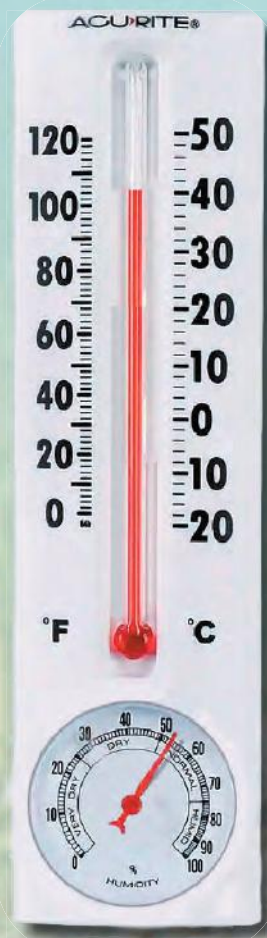
reefs and to promote sustainable management of coral reef ecosystems.

These are just a few of the many things that NOAA is doing to preserve coral reefs and other impacted sea life in Florida. NOAA is committed to protecting these vital ecosystems, and they are working hard to find solutions to the challenges they face.

In addition to these efforts, NOAA is also working to:

- Support research on coral reefs. NOAA funds research on coral reefs to better understand their threats and develop new ways to protect them.
- Promote sustainable management of coral reef

(Continued on page 13)



(Continued from page 12)

ecosystems. NOAA works with local governments, businesses, and other stakeholders to develop and implement sustainable management practices for coral reef ecosystems.

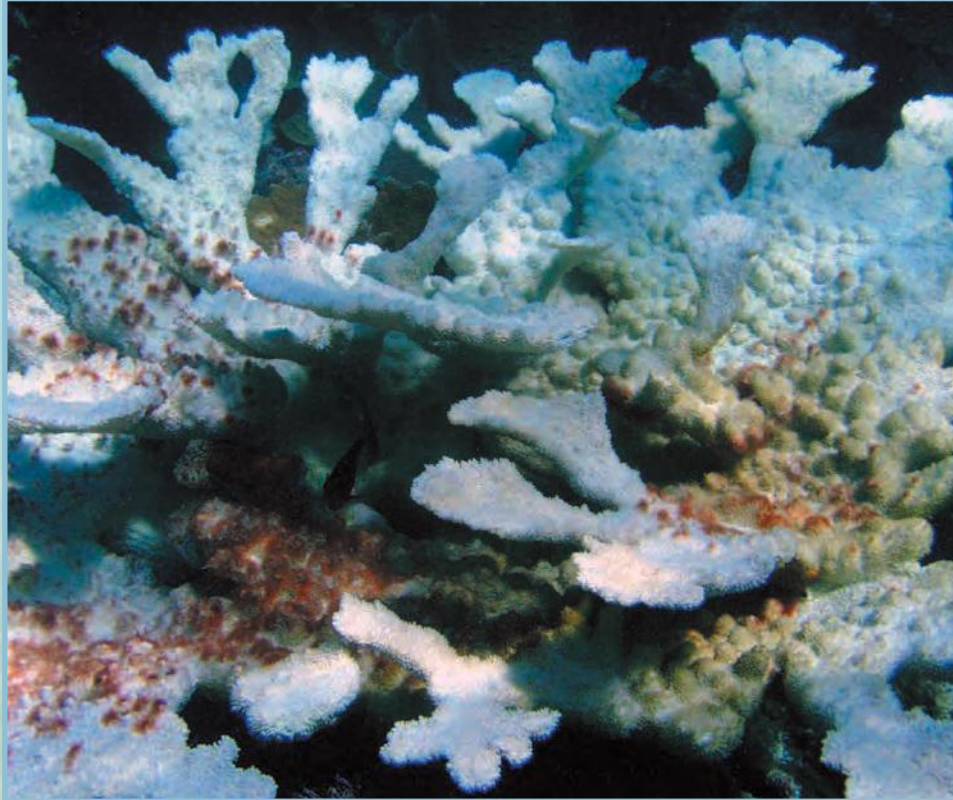
- Educate the public about the importance of coral reefs. NOAA provides educational materials and programs about coral reefs to schools, community groups, and the general public.

NOAA's efforts to preserve coral reefs and other impacted sea life in Florida are essential to the health of the marine environment and the economy of the state. Coral reefs provide food, jobs, and recreation for millions of people, and they are worth billions of dollars to the economy. By protecting coral reefs, NOAA is helping to ensure a healthy future for Florida and the world.

Rising water temperatures are also having a significant impact on other hard-bottom marine habitats. These include oyster reefs, and rocky shores, which are home to various marine life. Oysters are sensitive to changes in temperature, and rising water temperatures can lead to oyster mortality. This is a serious problem, as oysters play an important role in filtering the water and providing habitat for other marine organisms.

Historically, oysters have been distributed throughout Tampa Bay, but today, harvesting is only allowed in the lower part of the bay due to water quality concerns. Even if you are never lucky enough to eat an oyster from Tampa Bay, remember that one single bi-

valve can filter up to 10 gallons of seawater per hour, making the bay a better place for everything else that lives in it!



Bleached elkhorn coral. Photo by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Page background: Oyster beds and seagrass. Photo by Tampa Bay Estuary Program.

As water temperatures rise, the metabolic rate of marine organisms increases. This means that they need to consume more food and oxygen to survive. In some cases, this can lead to starvation or suffocation.

Rising water temperatures can also disrupt the delicate balance of the marine food web. For example, as the water temperature increases, some algae species may become more abundant while

others may decline. This can lead to changes in the availability of food for other marine organisms.

Rising ocean temperatures impact ocean acidity which is also a threat to hard-bottom marine habitats. Ocean acidification occurs when carbon dioxide dissolves in seawater. This process lowers the water's pH, making it more difficult for some marine organisms to build their shells and skeletons.

The combined effects of rising water temperatures and ocean acidification are already being felt in many hard-bottom marine habitats around the world, including Tampa Bay. These habitats are becoming less diverse and less productive. In some cases, they are even disappearing altogether.

If we do not take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, these habitats will continue to decline, with far-reaching consequences for marine life and for people all over the world. Ω



Let's Review ODU Uniforms Again...

By Dorothy Riley

Information about Auxiliary uniforms bears repeating, especially with our great number of new members. It also is not a waste of time for our seasoned members to review proper uniform wear. We begin with the operational dress uniform (ODU).

The tucked operational dress uniform is no longer authorized after Dec. 31, 2021. The current operational dress uniform is the untucked version, which also can be worn until they are phased out.

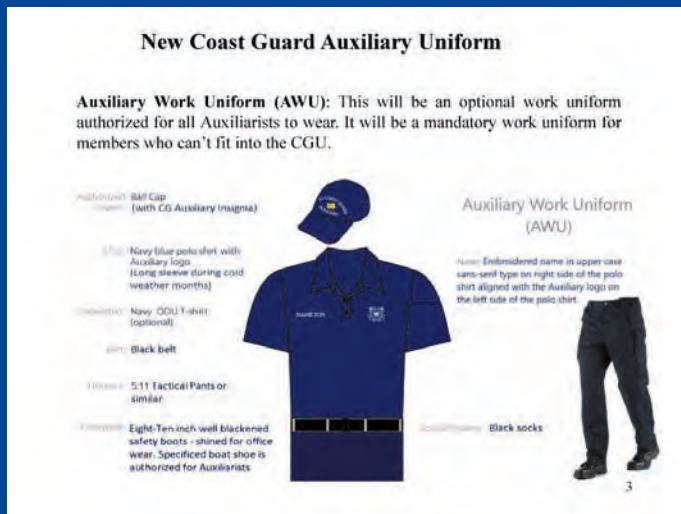


The Auxiliary Coast Guard Uniform (CGU) will replace the untucked operational dress uniform and will become available in fiscal year 2024. It is dark blue and has grey name tape with blue lettering. The Auxiliary patch is on the left shoulder, and the full-color U.S. flag is on the right shoulder. The shirt is authorized for Auxiliarists who fit into standard CGU uniform sizes and meet grooming standards. The uniform is authorized anywhere the ODU is currently authorized for wear.

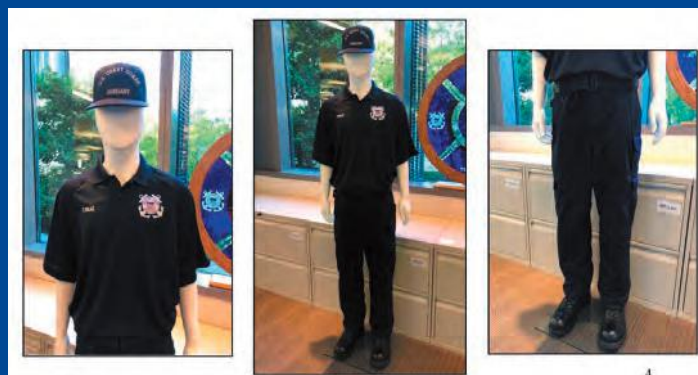
Auxiliary Work Uniform

The Auxiliary work uniform (AWU) will be an optional work uniform authorized for all Auxiliarists. It will be a mandatory work uniform for members who can't fit into the CGU. The Auxiliary Work Uniform consists of a dark navy blue polo shirt with the member's last name embroidered on the right chest (all caps) and the Auxiliary logo embroidered on the left chest. The shirt is worn with dark navy blue cargo tactical pants, belt, boots, and Auxiliary ball cap.

In addition, the Coast Guard has made a business decision that the CGU will not be available in sizes that are larger than the sizes worn by the active duty. This means that the CGU may not be available to



some of our members. The tailoring of two uniforms to make one to work around sizing issues will not be allowed when the CGU is rolled out. In conjunction with the sizing availability, grooming standards for Auxiliarists are being further defined for members who choose to wear the CGU. The Auxiliary work uniform allows those members who opt not to follow some of the grooming standards to remain active and valuable members of the USCG Auxiliary.



Auxiliary Work Uniform

Vessel Examiner Polo Shirts

Vessel Examiner (VE) polo shirts are white or blue polo shirts. The light blue VE shirt is no longer available for purchase but may be worn until it is no longer serviceable. The VE polo shirt is authorized for wear as an optional uniform shirt worn as part of the ODU and hot weather uniform. The shirt is not authorized for wear on patrol, and no insignia, name-tags or breast devices shall be worn with the shirt.



Headgear (when wearing the Polo shirt) shall not display office insignia. Only the member device shall be displayed on the hat.

AUXCEN carries the only authorized shirt.

While we are at it, let's look at a few Coast Guard videos about uniforms. These were prepared and distributed by TRACEN (The United States Coast Guard Training Center) to teach recruits. These and many others can be found on YouTube.. Ω

If uniform updates and repeats are useful, please let me know. I can publish articles about the Tropical blue and other uniforms, insignia and devices.



You may wear sunglasses when outdoors, but reflective lense sunglasses are specifically prohibited.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSI8tdiRqeE>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0GFTtSlah00>



: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GIAhZHbdkA0>



Remembering September 11: **We Will Never Forget.**

By Dorothy Riley



A fitting memorial to the many lives lost on Sept. 11, 2001, in New York City: Tampa Fire Rescue holds high the U.S. flag at the 9/11 memorial event on Bruce B. Downs in Tampa. USCG Auxiliary photo by Dorothy Riley

Flotilla 74, Brandon members Dorothy Riley, Matt Stephen, and Steve Williams participated in the 9/11 memorial event hosted by Mission Barbeque on Bruce B. Downs Boulevard in Tampa. Stephen parked his Humvee beside a 27-foot RBM from Coast Guard Station Sand Key, staffed by PO3 Crepps and CPO Johnston, representing the Coast Guard members who assisted in the response and recovery after the fatal attack. Both the Coast Guard and Auxiliary used the opportunity to welcome visitors and to help recruit new members.

About the September 11 attacks.

The September 11 attacks, also known as 9/11, were four coordinated terrorist attacks by the Islamic terrorist group al-Qaeda against the United States on the morning of September 11, 2001. The attacks resulted in 2,996 fatalities, over 25,000 injuries, and substantial long-term health consequences, in addition to at least \$10 billion in infrastructure and property damage. It is important to note that the attacks were not directed at any particular religion or ethnicity but rather at the United States as a whole.

The attacks began at 8:45 a.m. Eastern Time (ET) when American Airlines Flight 11, a Boeing 767, was hijacked by five al-Qaeda terrorists and flown into the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. Seventeen minutes later, United Airlines Flight 175, also a Boeing 767, was hijacked by five al-Qaeda terrorists and flown into the South Tower. Both towers collapsed within two hours, destroying nearby buildings and damaging others.

At 9:37 a.m. ET, American Airlines Flight 77, a Boeing 757, was hijacked by five al-Qaeda terrorists and flown into the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia. The Pentagon is the headquarters of the United States Department of Defense. The plane hit the west side of the Pentagon, causing a partial collapse of the building.

At 10:03 a.m. ET, United Airlines Flight 93, a Boeing 757, was hijacked by four al-Qaeda terrorists. The passengers and crew of Flight 93 fought back against the hijackers, and the plane crashed in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, in





A 27-foot RBM from Station Sand Key represented the Coast Guard at the 9/11 Memorial event held on Bruce B. Downs in Tampa. CPO Johnston sits at the helm. Forward from left are PO3 Crepps, Steve Williams, Mathew Stephens, Dorothy Riley and an unidentified person. USCG Auxiliary photo submitted by Matthew Stephen.

stead of its intended target, which is believed to have been either the White House or the United States Capitol.

The September 11 attacks were the deadliest terrorist attacks in human history. They had a profound impact on the United States and the world and led to the War on Terror. The attacks also led to increased security measures at airports and other public places.

The September 11 attacks are a reminder of the vulnerability of our world to terrorism. They also remind us of the importance of unity and resilience in the face of adversity. We must never forget the victims of 9/11 and their families, and we must continue to work together to prevent future attacks.

According to the National September 11 Memorial and Museum, 343 firefighters and 23 New York City Police Department (NYPD) officers died in the September 11 attacks. These first responders were among the first to arrive at the World Trade Center (WTC) after the planes hit, and they worked tirelessly to rescue people trapped in the buildings. Many of them died when the towers collapsed.

The FDNY lost more firefighters in the September 11 attacks than in any other single event in its history. The NYPD also lost its largest number of officers in a single event on September 11.

The firefighters and first responders who died on September 11 are considered heroes. They risked their lives to save others, and their sacrifice will never be forgotten.

In addition to the firefighters and police officers, many other first responders died in the September 11 attacks. These included members of the Port Authority Police Department, the New York State Police, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the American Red Cross.

The total number of first responders who died in the September 11 attacks is still being calculated. However, it is estimated that at least 400 first responders lost their lives. Ω

(More photos on next page.)



Remembering September 11: We Will Never Forget.



Top left: Hillsborough County Sherriff's Office talk about their jobs to children and pass out cups, pencils, and coloring books.

Top right: A group of teenagers explore the City of Tampa helicopter.

Mid-page left: A display of some of the first responders from Tampa, Temple Terrace and Hillsborough County Sherriff's Office participating in the 9/11 Memorial event.

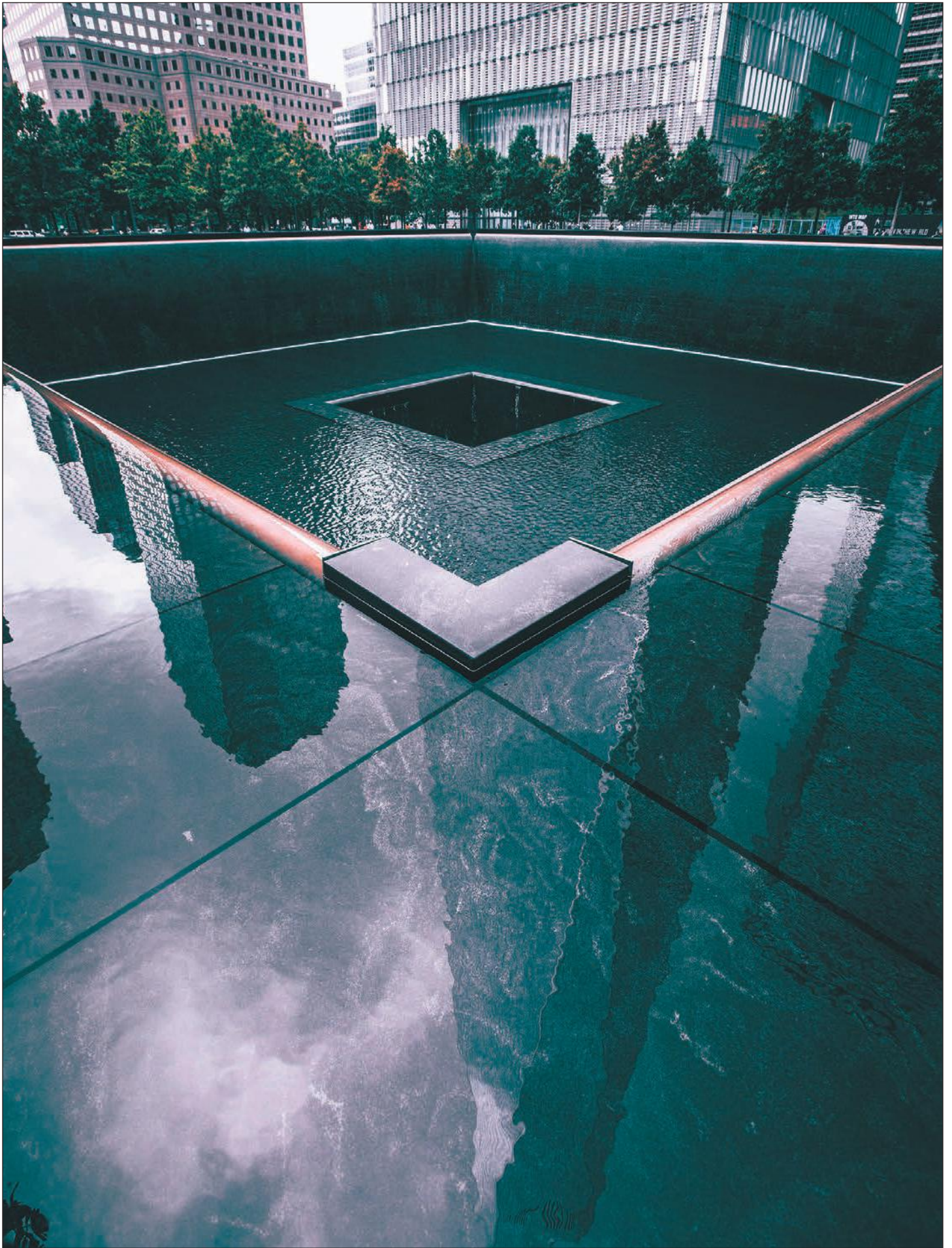
Matt Stephen checks out the Tampa Helicopter. It motivated him to complete his helo training.

Below left: Matt Stephen talks to emergency medical rescue (EMS) workers as they set up a display table.

All photos this page: USCG Auxiliary photos by Dorothy Riley

Following page: The reflection pool at 'ground zero' in New York City, the permanent memorial to the devastating attack on the twin towers and the great loss of life on September 11, 2001. Photo by Darshan Patel on Unsplash





WE WANT YOU TO BE A DEDICATED VOLUNTEER IN THE U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY



Find out how you can become
a member at:
<http://join.cgaux.org/index.php>

USCGA-P-

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 front-line 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.

FLOT Lines is a publication of Flotilla 74, Brandon, District 7 United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, located at 3006 S. Kings Ave., Brandon. The Auxiliary an organization of dues-paying 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 Riley, SO-PB, Email address: dottieriley@gmail.com

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Be sure to attend flotilla meetings

When: 2nd Tuesday, 7 p.m.

Where: Flotilla 74, Brandon

3006 S. Kings Ave., Brandon, FL

***Why: Membership is more rewarding
when you participate-
and bring a friend!***

