



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
FLOTILLA 7-16
Gulfport, Florida



Volume IX
2019 4th Quarter

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Next Issue April 1st

THE BEACON

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary establishes Sea Scouts as its official youth program

September 11, 2018 [Bryan Wendell](#) [Sea Scouting](#) 0 Comments



The BSA and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary announced a new agreement to make Sea Scouts the official youth program of the Auxiliary, the uniformed volunteer component of the U.S. Coast Guard.

The new agreement, which is an enhancement of the longtime friendship between these two organizations, will benefit both parties. [Sea Scouts](#) will get access to state-of-the-art Coast Guard training, Auxiliary vessels and a broader pool of adult leaders. [The Auxiliary](#) will extend its message about safe boating and maritime careers to more young people.

For Sea Scouts, the Coast Guard Auxiliary will lower its entry age from 17 to 14.

Meeting
19:00 hr.
Third Wednesday
Of each month.



“The BSA is proud to continue our partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary as we continually strive to improve leadership development, real-life skill-building and unique STEM training through the Sea Scout program,” said Mike Surbaugh, BSA Chief Scout Executive.

This new partnership will begin in Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, and portions of New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania before a nationwide rollout.

How Sea Scouts benefit

- Access to training at Auxiliary or Coast Guard facilities, including advanced training in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM
- Free safety checks on Sea Scouts vessels
- An invitation to Auxiliary unit meetings as guests of the Auxiliary
- Access to Auxiliary flotillas as chartered organizations
- A broader pool of adult leaders with seamanship skills and training
- Access to vessels for training

“Working with the Coast Guard Auxiliary will give Sea Scouts an opportunity to benefit from Coast Guard seamanship and vocational training, while giving Sea Scouts a unique introduction to the Coast Guard,” said Admiral Wurster, Sea Scout National Commodore.

How the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary benefits

- Introducing young people to the benefits of Auxiliary membership and the joys of recreational boating
- Potential Coast Guard Academy candidates
- Promotion of the Auxiliary’s message of safe boating and service to the nation to future leaders

“With this cooperative effort we will reach out to the emerging population of young adults who share the Auxiliary’s commitment to safe boating, service to the nation, and Coast Guard and maritime careers,” said Rick Washburn, Auxiliary National Commodore.

For more information

For more information about Sea Scouts, check out seascout.org. Questions about the Coast Guard Auxiliary’s support of Sea Scouting should be directed to Bruce Johnson at bruce.johnson@cgauxnet.us

Keep your contact information current at AUX DATA using Form 7028. Use link.

<http://forms.cgaux.org/forms1.php>

Visit: <https://seascout.org/regions/southern/> and see more amazing young people in the Southern Region Quarterdeck for 2018-2019



RONALD CAIN

Regional Boatswain
Southern Region

Ronald is from Ship 106 "Loggerheads" of Greater Tampa Area Bay Council. Ron previously served as the Area 4 boatswain and has helped charter multiple new ships in creative ways. For example, Ron helped charter four new ships in his home council and one in the North Florida

Council. Additionally, Ron completed Sea Scout Adult Leader Basic Training and Seabadge in 2018. He is heavily involved in the Order of the Arrow, serving as the Lodge Chief of Uh-To-Yeh-Hut-TEE lodge 89 from 2017 to 2019 and is a Vigil Honor member. He is an Eagle Scout and an Ordinary Sea Scout.

Gulfport Sea Scouts Host National Regatta



Every fall the Gulfport Sea Scouts team up with the Eckerd College Sea Scouts to host the Cats Point Regatta on Boca Ciega Bay. Teams from throughout Florida compete in races and land games to test their sailing knowledge.

Gulfport's own Ship 915 from Boca Ciega Yacht Club placed first in all but three events and took home the trophy for First Overall.



What are the Sea Scouts to us in the Coast Guard Auxiliary? and what experience can we share with these Scouts? and what insight can we gain from them?

ONE REASON.... WE DO WHAT WE DO!

Their Future!

Contact Us:

Telephone:
630-674-5352

Email:
auxgulfport@gulfport.com

Website:
<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=070-07-16>

**"The Beacon" or
Facebook**

Submissions:
MarcellaRuso@gmail.com



Bear Creek School reaching 355 Students, 22 teachers and the Principal.

Marty Richardson, Bill Ackerman, and Marcella Ruso went into two schools for The Great American Teach In.
All took a Water Pledge! All earned their Certificate!



Gulfport Elementary reaching 16 Students and 2 teachers.

We are working on targeting our presentations to pre k to 3rd grade, 3rd to 5th and middle school rather than a one size fits all. Come join us!



Contact Us:

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"The Beacon" or Facebook

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<https://www.facebook.com/uscgauxflotilla7.16/>

Facebook Posts



Here we are getting ready Marty, Bill and Howard



Howard, Ellie, Jody the Gecko Queen with her dog Spirit, and Bill

Marty Bill and Ellie



The US Coastguard Auxiliary Flotilla 7-16 located at 3120 Mariam St. S. proudly represented the Coast Guard's Safe Boating Program in a head-turning Ford pickup truck. Back: Howard Bush, Coast Guard Auxiliary, 6 months, Marcella Ruso, Coast Guard Auxiliary, 19 years, Bill Ackerman, Coast Guard Auxiliary, 18 months. Front: Ellie Zinner, Coastguard Auxiliary, 8 years, Marty Richardson, Active Duty Coast Guard- Ret 21 years, Coastguard Auxiliary, 4 years.

We made the Gabber!!

Meeting
19:00 hr.
Third Wednesday
Of each month.

Keep an eye out
for training meetings
held the
First Wednesday

&

Up coming
Activities and Events
(may also be found on
our calendar in the
Flotilla by the mailboxes)



ON GOING COURSES:

A \$40 About Boating Safety (ABS) class that includes textbook, 8 hours Saturday class and you get your certificate.

Special DISCOUNT rates are available for couples, families and groups of two or more! Call 727-322-3040 or auxgulfport@gulfport.com (Auxiliarist's come the 3rd Saturday of each month and coteach)

AVIALABLE COURSES ON LINE:

Welcome to the New National Testing Center

List of Training Courses, Exams, and Manuals... **and take a course.**

<http://ntc.cgaux.org/TrainingCourses.php>

Visit our Facebook page... post something or comment!

<https://www.facebook.com/uscgauxflotilla7.16/>

Upcomming Events:

VISIT VETRIANS AT BAY PINES:

Quarterly visit

2nd Tuesday, March

Meeting time: 6:00pm

Place: Main Entrance at Bay Pines



Flotilla Meeting Refesment Schedual for 2020!:

January – Howard

July – Bob

February – Ellie

August- Bill Z.

March – Marcella

September- Kimberly

April – Terry

October- Darren

May- Dave

November- Marty

June- Bob

December- Our Party!



Awards



Anderson 5 years' Service



Baffi 5 years' Service



Baffi Operational Excellence



Richardson Public Education



E. Zinner Sustained Auxiliary Service



Hershman Vessel Safety Checks



Ditto VE-RBSVP



B. Zinner 1028.4 hours



Rose Committed to FEMA



District we came home with: Vessel Examinations, RBS-Program Partner Visits and Rough Award



Our Two New Members!

Kimberly Mikaliunas who is interested in the Culinary aspect of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Darren Rose and he just may jump into Social Media.

WELCOME ABOARD!!!

Contact Us:

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Coffee with a Cop

We were invited to join! Howard Bush and Marcella Ruso were there from 7-16 and we made the Gabber again!! Great little place to eat! 4928 Gulfport Blvd S

Visit to C. W. Bill Young VA Medical Center on December 10th



Terry Hershman presented the Certificate of Appreciation

To
Janice Jones and
Gordon Fasting
Our VA Visit Hosts



VA visit T. Hershman, M. Ruso, B. Zinner, E. Zinner from 7-16 and J. Garrity from 11-3 joined us. We are visiting vets on the second Tuesday at 6pm in March, June, September and December.

We had a very successful visit with about 8 patients. Also, a good discussion with Jan about some other voluntary "contributions" of time in the coming year. We will assess the Flotilla including other local Flotillas who have expressed an interest. After the turn of the year we may better prepared to discuss this further. Regardless, we intend to continue our visits with an eye toward increasing the frequency if new Flotilla leadership is up to it. For now, I don't want to over-promise and under-deliver so we'll plan on the quarterly routing.

Jan has been a delight to work with this year. I hope her health issues can be resolved successfully. Thank you for your efforts on our behalf and your cooperation.

Bill Zinner



F.Y.I.

Howard Bush has installed a weather station to serve the radio room in our building. We can now report to the coxswains and others local weather conditions at Osgood Point. Chalk up one for the Flotilla and many thanks to Howard for moving so quickly to get this device in place.



Bill Ackerman located on line for us Office Depot's Coast Guard Store Purchase Card. The Discounts are substantial! Thanks Bill



Who we Are:



Our Mission

- To promote and improve Recreational Boating Safety
- To provide trained crews and facilities to augment the Coast Guard and enhance safety and security of our ports, waterways, and coastal regions
- To support Coast Guard operational, administrative, and logistical Requirements



Meeting
19:00 hr.
Third Wednesday
Of each month.

INTERCOM Submissions to:
Dorothy J. Riley, SO-PB
Kevin Buckley

Email address:
dottieriley@gmail.com
kbuckley8@tampabay.rr.com

NAVIGATOR EXPRESS
80th Edition

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

Submit photo for:
"Photo of the Month"

Emergency Drill..... Ready!



Scenario: A plane from Germany crashing into Tampa Bay



Coast Guard Boat in Rattle Snake Channel



"Victim" Auxiliarist Keene



Giant Thank You!!! to Auxiliarist Bill Ackerman for pictures.

Auxiliarist Browning and Novellino!



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Third Wednesday
Of each month.



We had our 7-16 Flotilla Holiday Party with Family and Friends



Thank you, Toni & friends!!!

FYI...

They play Thursday nights
at: 6:00pm at:
Mid-Peninsula Seafood
Market & Restaurant
400 49th St. S.

Next, we went outside where we had cookies, hot chocolate and music!
Jody Robinson Gulfport's Gecko Queen joined us!!!
And we had our Dogs in their PFD's





Above pictures By Wolf Gang Design ... Thank you!



BCYC 2019 Boat Parade!!



What we Collected:



Gulf Port Senior Center (300lbs) & Gulfport Police Operation Santa.

Thank you to everyone! Happy New Year!!



New Year
Resolution???

Happy New Year to
All!

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Of each month.

INTERCOM Submissions
to:

Dorothy J. Riley, SO-PB
Kevin Buckley

Email address:

dottieriley@gmail.com

kbuckley8@tampabay.rr.com

**NAVIGATOR
EXPRESS
80th Edition**

<http://www.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=a-dept>

Submit photo for:
"Photo of the Month"



Marty Richardson, Commander

Greetings from your Flotilla Commander;

As we close out 2019 I wanted to take a few words to say thanks to all of you flotilla members who participated in the operations, training, and events over the past year.

We experienced some really great things this year and I want to recap some of those that will help us going forward in the next decade. Some of the activities include the regular events that have taken place in recent years, such as;

- Scheduled Public Education classes;
 - About Boating Safety
 - Suddenly in Command
- Radio watches for the both the Coast Guard and Auxiliary assets led by Bill Zinner.
 - We improved our radio watch capabilities by adding height to our antennae.
 - Re organized the set up in the radio room and re-oriented the entrance door to improve the layout.
- Participated in the Gulfport Community activities/events.
 - Welcome to Gulfport.
 - Coffee with the Cops.
 - Gulfport Power Boat Races.
 - Fourth of July and Veterans/Heroes Parades and potluck for family and friends.
 - Donated to the Gulfport Senior Center Food Pantry.
 - Gulfport Police Departments "Operation Santa" toys for kids drive.
 - BYCY Fun Day.
 - Gulfport's Hurricane Preparedness Event at the Hickman Theater.
 - Our 2nd Annual Christmas Holiday Dinner and hosting boat parade activities with hot chocolate, cookies and Christmas music for the community along the boat channel.
- The quarterly visits to the veterans in the VA Hospital at Bay Pines.
- We added 6 new members this year... exciting start to grow the flotilla and integrating them into leadership roles.
- Marcella Ruso came on board as our Vice Flotilla Commander.

WELL... What about the next decade in Flotilla 7-16 you may ask? I have some thoughts to start us off. We are looking for more ways and suggestions. Expanding the reach at the VA by inviting other flotillas to join in the visits, more social/fun activities for members, family, friends and include other flotilla to join us. Update our PE, PA exposure to the communities around us. Change in PE course are coming.... we need more instructor certifies members to improve our outreach.

This just a few ideas to get us looking forward to 2020. It can be an exciting and fun year if we all participate in some way.... Let's not be of flotilla of 20% doers and 80% watches. Each one of you brings **special** gifts, skills and ideas to the table. I would love to have you be part of next year's flotilla!

Marty Richardson