



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



Volume X
2020 1st Quarter

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Jr. Commander

Next Issue April 1st

THE BEACON

Recruiting for the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

When you join the Coast Guard Auxiliary, you could find yourself on patrol saving lives and property, assisting in marine safety and environmental protection, radio watchstanding, educating the public in boating safety and much more. That's what our members do. We don't just train. We train and perform.

Since 1939 the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has safeguarded our Nation's maritime interests in the heartland, in the ports, at sea, and around the globe. Members from all walks of life bring their training and experience as a member of the uniformed volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard.

Our main goal is recreational boating safety and education, while acting as a force multiplier in support of Coast Guard authorized missions.

Today's U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, with nearly 26,000 men and women, is a unique force that carries out an array of responsibilities touching almost every facet of the U.S. maritime environment.

The Coast Guard's motto is *Semper Paratus*, meaning "Always Ready".

The overarching mission of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is to contribute to the safety and security of our citizens, ports, waterways and coastal regions. We will balance our missions of Recreational Boating Safety and Coast Guard Support with Maritime Homeland Security and other challenges that emerge as a result of our growing understanding of changes required in the post-9/11 era.

Please take the time to read about the history of the Auxiliary, benefits of joining, the missions we are involved in, awards and recognition, and the pride in wearing of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary uniform.

<https://join.cgaux.org/>

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



Thank You! Bill Ackerman for the photo. Rumor has it that Ellie loved the band, her and Marlene danced all night. Looks like we will be going back to Caddys for another good time by all!

You Go Gold Side!!



Crew members from Coast Guard Station St. Petersburg respond to a boat fire close to Gandy Bridge in Tampa, Florida January 25, 2020. The crew members were able to use the dewatering pumps to put out the fire.
(U.S. Coast Guard photo)



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

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

2020 Gasparilla Pirate Festival!



Avast Ye!!! Thank you, Bill Ackerman for the pictures!
Gasparilla started in 1904 and is named after the pirate Jose Gaspar
and now is a long-held Tampa Bay tradition!



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



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

National Salute to **Veteran Patients Week**



February 11, 2020 Ellie Zinner, Janice Jones, Peter, Bill Zinner and Marcella Ruso (taking picture) had the pleasure to visit the Veterans Hospital and thank the veterans for their service during Veterans Appreciation Week.



We also joined in on the trivia game... Good time had by all.

Training Exercise with 070-07-16 providing radio guard!

Contact Us:

Telephone:

727-322-3040

Email:

auxgulfport@gulfport.com

Website:

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

**"The Beacon" or
Facebook**

Submissions:

MarcellaRuso@gmail.com

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

Facebook Posts



Coxswain Dean Hoskin and boat crew.



Coxswain Tony Novellino and boat crew.

COURSES

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 ONLINE:

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:

Every other month

2nd Tuesday, April

Meeting time: 6:00pm

Place: Main Entrance at Bay Pines

Flotilla Meeting Refesment Schedual for 2020!:

September- Kimberly

April – Terry

October- Darren

May- Dave

November- Marty

June- Bob

December- Our Party!



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AWARDS



Howard Bush, Vessel Examiner



Howard Bush, Program Visits



Kimberly Milaliunas has met requirements



Darren Rose has met requirements



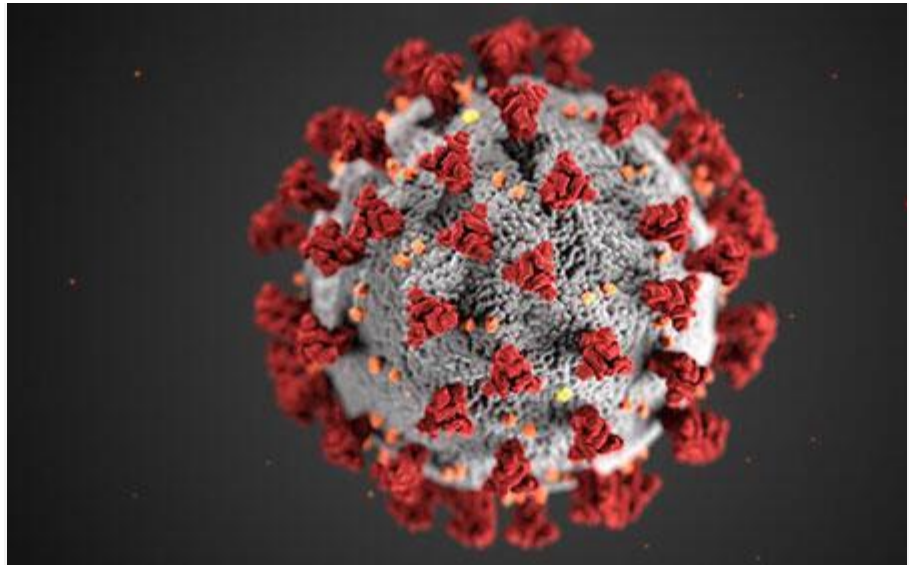
James McCormick III Vessel Exams



David Ditto 10 years service



Coronavirus (COVID-19)



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

<https://www.coronavirus.gov>

What the U.S. Government is Doing

<https://www.usa.gov/coronavirus>

DHS News & Updates

<https://www.dhs.gov/coronavirus-news-updates>

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) efforts in preparedness and readiness have facilitated a speedy, whole-of-government response in confronting COVID-19, keeping Americans safe, and helping detect and slow the spread of the virus.

As part of Department-wide, layered response, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the DHS Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office (CWMD), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and others are actively working to protect the nation.

**Keep your
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7028. Use link.**

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CBP and CWMD are providing direct support to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) efforts by conducting enhanced health screening at 11 major airports. At and between all air, land and sea Ports of Entry (POEs), CBP Officers (CBPOs) and Border Patrol Agents (BPAs) continue to identify and refer individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 or a travel history to China or Iran in the past 14 days to CDC or local public health officials for enhanced health screening. DHS CWMD houses the Department's Chief Medical Officer. The routing of all flights with passengers who have recently been in China and Iran through select airports with established resources, procedures and personnel is an important, prudent step DHS is taking actively to decrease the strain on public health officials screening incoming travelers and protect the American public.



Message from the Acting Secretary

Message from Chad F. Wolf, Acting Secretary, Department of Homeland Security

Rest assured, DHS will continue to closely monitor the virus and will adjust our proactive measures as necessary to keep health threats out of our country and keep Americans safe."

- Chad F. Wolf
Acting Secretary, Department of Homeland Security



Due to the Coronavirus March 2020 activities were cancelled and we will be going into April. Stay Safe!

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

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

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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"



The About Boating Class (ABS) is the This beginner boating class that will give you the knowledge needed to obtain a boat license or safety certification in many states. Many boat insurance companies will offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete About Boating Safely. It is our goal at Flotilla 070-07-16 Gulfport, FL to provide beginner boating knowledge and Marty Richardson makes it happen.



Thank you, Howard Bush, for painting our decoration buoys!!!



We Are Thankful



Bill and Patsy Uhrig members of the Indiana Lion's Club were very generous donating a new American Flag and the USCG ensign. A certificate of appreciation was sent from our Commander Marty Richardson and FSO Howard Bush also a Lion's Club member, in Gulfport, installed our new flags!

Stay Safe!!



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to:

Dorothy J. Riley, SO-PB
Kevin Buckley

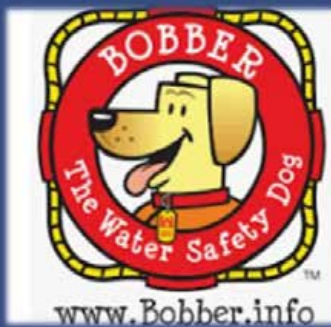
Email address:

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**NAVIGATOR
EXPRESS
80th Edition**

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

Submit photo for:
"Photo of the Month"



Marty Richardson, Commander

Greetings from your Flotilla Commander;

We are at this time in the middle of a national emergency that is stressing many of us with "Stay at Home", "Social Distancing" "Out of Work". "Can't Visit with Family" "I need groceries", etc. There is a lot of advice out there on You Tube, the news stations, and newspapers/magazines. We, the CG Auxiliary have suspending operations, meetings and gatherings. What are we to do? TV will only take you so far..... Well, we do live in Florida and the weather has been terrific. To keep me occupied, I have made a BIG list of "To Do's" around our house, inside and out. It can become like a job. But my wife and I have to have some "play time." Since we can't go to the beach.... In this beautiful weather, we will take walks, bicycle rides, go to the park, visit with neighbors (without having to "get somewhere") all with maintaining our social distancing. One of my get me out the house ideas is take a drive in my 1952 Ford Pickup and visit areas in my community that I haven't been to or want to see.

So.... What should we do to not go stir crazy or be bored and remain safe and healthy...?

Social distancing doesn't include "Relational Distancing" call family or friends you haven't talk to and check on them as well. Our world is different right now. Be creative. Wash your hands and sanitize your groceries and anything you bring in your home. That is what I am doing.

On another note, since we are not able to do the regular "Auxiliary Activities" Take some additional on-line courses to learn something new. Keeps the mind sharp. I hope we can get back to our routine in April or May. If not..... Just hang in there... we live in the most creative, industrious, resilient, great country and WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS.

Sincerely, Your USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 7-16 Commander,

Marty Richardson