



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



Volume X
2020 3rd Quarter

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Next Issue April 1st

THE BEACON

We have posted, inventory list of all areas of 7-16 for removing during a hurricane. Our radio station has now been made a quick disconnect and quite portable. And light. A separate plastic hood tool box is used to take battery and charger and inverter. All is removable in 15 minutes or less. The only thing we need to be up and ready at the worst-case scenario is an antenna. Six foot or longer. If anyone has one you can donate, we can have comms at any safe haven.



Thank you!! To: Bill Zimmerman, Howard Bush, Orrie Baffie, Marty Richardson and Dave Rockwell assisted with tech support.

SEMPER PARATUS
ALWAYS READY

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



Safe boating week presented changes this year due to Covid-19. We took to the water with Zora, Clam Bayou's wear your life jacket dog! We must say all the kids and some dogs had on their jackets but adults were another story. How do we get the message out to you?

We shared on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/uscgauxflotilla7.16/> along with Zora and the Coast Guards "Covid-19 adds to the safety concerns covered during National Safe Boating Week 2020".

Please visit our page!

Flotilla 7-16

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

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



No Matter the vessel Mate!

Wear your Life Jacket!



Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/uscgauxflotilla7.16/>
Stop by and visit our page any time. We welcome your input!

COVID-19 Blew-Up Social Media!
Working from Home!
& Zooming!



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

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

To Keep Everyone Informed:

THE BEACON 2020 Was submitted:

Public Affairs Directorate 2020 Public Affairs Awards

Publication (PB) Contest This contest recognizes Coast Guard Auxiliary units [district, division, and flotilla] that have successfully published three or more issues of a unit publication during the past year. Flotilla newsletters eligible for judging must be published at least quarterly during the year. Division newsletters eligible for judging must be published at least quarterly during the year. District newsletters eligible for judging must be published at least quarterly during the year. Each entry must be identified with the name of the editor and the district/division/flotilla. Consideration will be given to: announcements of coming flotilla, division, and district activities, recognition of flotilla member achievements or awards, member training items, and balance of content. Entries will be judged using the standards contained in the current USCG Auxiliary Publication Manual. Judging for this award shall be done by a committee consisting of at least 3 members appointed by the Director of Public Affairs. Judging and selection of the best district, division and flotilla newsletter will be scheduled in accordance with the current deadline for submitting winning entries. Public Affairs Contents 2020 2 Submissions shall be received no later than 15 June 2020. No exceptions to this deadline will be permitted. Entries will be evaluated on several categories including design, layout, writing quality, photojournalism, and use of the Associated Press Style. In contrast to last year’s contest, any member of the Auxiliary at the flotilla, division, or district level may submit newsletters. Submissions consisting of a copy of exactly three (3) separate issues of the unit publication must be electronically submitted to Sean Peoples, Division Chief of Publications, email: sean.m.peoples@cgauxnet.us. Each entry shall be identified with the name of the editor of the publication and the unit number. For full criteria and judging rubric; please see the Publication Rubric at the end of the document.

AWARDS: Judging reports are due to DIR-A/Ad not later than 30 June 2020. DIR-A/Ad must submit award winners to the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association not later than 10 July 2020. Each first-place winner will be announced and presented with a plaque at the 2020 Coast Guard Auxiliary National Meeting (NACON).

“The Beacon” reaches over 100 people and if you have a email address you would like added to “The Beacon” email list please send it to marcellaruso@gmail.com and put “The Beacon” in the subject.



Contact Us:

Telephone:

727-322-3040

Email:

auxgulfport@gulfport.com

Website:

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

"The Beacon" or Facebook

Submissions:

MarcellaRuso@gmail.com

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

Facebook Posts

The Essential Guide to Hurricane Preparedness

Each year hurricane season begins on June 1st and lasts 5 months, with storms typically peaking in August and September. As with every hurricane season regardless of forecast, knowing the essentials of how to prepare could truly be a life saver.

Hurricane Kits

It is important to create a kit of supplies that you could take with you if you are forced to evacuate. This kit will also be useful if you are able to stay in your home, but are still affected by the storm, such as through the loss of power. One common trend seen when hurricanes are approaching is a wide-spread panic. When this happens, people rush in large numbers to get all the supplies they think they need. However, if you prepare your kit ahead of time, you can alleviate a lot of the potential stress of a very chaotic situation. You should create your kit in a bag that you can easily take with you. Some recommended items to include are:

- Non-perishable food (enough to last at least 3 days)
- Water (enough to last at least 3 days)
- First-aid kit (include any prescription medication you may need)
- Personal hygiene items and sanitation items
- Flashlights (have extra batteries on hand)
- Battery operated radio (again, have extra batteries)
- Waterproof container with cash and important documents
- Manual can opener
- Lighter or matches
- Books, magazines, games for recreation
- Special needs items: pet supplies and baby supplies if applicable
- Cooler and ice packs
- A plan for evacuation and for if family members are separated

Securing Your Home

Know how to secure your home in the event of damaging winds, storm surge and flooding.

- Cover all of your windows, either with hurricane shutters or wood.
- Although tape can prevent glass from shattering everywhere, be warned that tape does not prevent the window from breaking.
- If possible, secure straps or clips to securely fasten your roof to the structure of your home.
- Make sure all trees and shrubs are trimmed and clear rain gutters.
- Reinforce your garage doors.
- Bring in all outdoor furniture, garbage cans, decorations, and anything else that is not tied down.
- If winds become strong, stay away from windows and doors and close, secure and brace internal doors.

For Full detail go to <https://www.stateofflorida.com/articles/hurricane-preparedness-guide/>

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)



COURSES

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)

**COVID -19 please call ahead may still be on hold or limited?
Hoping for July 11th with social distancing and bring a mask.**

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:

Quarterly visit

CXL- COVID-19 / Stay Tuned

Meeting time:

Place: Main Entrance at Bay Pines



Flotilla Meeting Refesment Schedules for 2020!:

September- Kimberly

October- Darren

November- Marty

December- Our Party!



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Submissions:

MarcellaRuso@gmail.com



Each and every morning Gee walks with Howard Bush around Clam Bayou. They make their rounds at 7-16 to ensure all is in order. They miss the upcoming classes and meeting... but know... We will get through this!

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

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

News Release

U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters
Contact: Headquarters Public Affairs
Office: (202) 372-4630
mediarelations@uscg.mil
[Headquarters online newsroom](#)

U.S. Coast Guard releases 2019 Recreational Boating Statistics Report

Alcohol was the leading factor in more than 100 deaths last year

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Coast Guard has released its 2019 Recreational Boating Statistics Report, revealing that there were 613 boating fatalities nationwide in 2019, a 3.2 percent decrease from 2018.

From 2018 to 2019, the total number of accidents increased 0.6 percent (4,145 to 4,168), and the number of non-fatal injured victims increased 1.9 percent (2,511 to 2,559).

Alcohol continued to be the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents

in 2019, accounting for over 100 deaths, or 23 percent of total fatalities.

The report also shows that in 2019:

- The fatality rate was 5.2 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels, Which tied as the second lowest rate in the program's history. This rate represents a 1.9 percent decrease from last year's fatality rate of 5.3 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.
- Property damage totaled about \$55 million.
- Operator inattention, improper lookout, operator inexperience, excessive speed, and alcohol use ranked as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents Where the cause of death was known, 79 percent of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 86 percent were not wearing a life jacket.

To view the 2019 Recreational Boating Statistics, visit http://uscgboating.org/statistics/accident_statistics.php.

For more information on boating responsibly, visit <http://www.uscgboating.org>.

The LogBook

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





81 Years!!!!The Auxiliary has a variety of missions, but among them, the word “safety” comes up again and again. One good way to celebrate the Coast Guard Auxiliary birthday is to participate in the Auxiliary’s mission to make boating, seafaring, and waterway use as safe as possible.

Read more: https://militarybenefits.info/coast-guard-auxiliary-birthday/?fbclid=IwARojiRgwi4X3z-hHJ5hCoxcfHSu3Q-8UooPjUdh6ixcz_7Y1TROWFvp6k64#ixzz6OpgxLwnp



Bill Ackerman is our New Flotilla Staff Officer!!!!

Thank you, Bill Zinner for all your hard work and dedication!!!

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"





Public Education Bulletin

APRIL 30, 2020
VOL 02

The mission of the Education Department of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary is two fold:

To provide exceptional boating safety education to the American public with the aim of reducing loss of life, personal injury and property damage to recreational boaters; and to deliver the highest possible quality training, resources and timely materials in support of our flotilla instructors and public education staff officers at every level who are furnishing such boating safety education.


Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Education eLibrary

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Education Electronic Library Resource Center (eLibrary) page contains vital information on Public Education courses, seminars, promotional flyers, links to videos, FAQ's and articles.

How do I access the eLibrary?

Navigate to the Education Department homepage:
<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=e-dept>

**Please note that the content within the ELIB Resource Center is secured.*



Please login to the Member Zone to access the content

MEMBER ZONE

Member ID:

Password:

Now is the perfect time to learn something you have been wanting to study!

Or just check out what the Public Education eLibrary has to offer!

Not only are there courses you will find flyers, video links and articles.

It is a great place to go during COVID-19 while staying home.

F.Y.I.

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

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

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

 **CDC Recommendation on Homemade PPE: Mask, Gloves, Eye Protection**



<https://www.uscg.mil/Portals/o/COVID-19/ProjectProtect.pdf?ver=2020-04-06-204630-140>

See the above link on putting on a mask, wearing a mask and how to take off the mask. So many of us have never been in this space before or not on the medical field and because of this we default to what we think we know. It is important to get the facts. We will get to the other side!

Cleaning instructions for reusable cloth masks



1. To wash, launder the mask often in your washing machine in HOT water (160°F) using soap or detergent that leaves no residue.
2. Rinse well with fresh water and hang to air-dry.



1. You may choose to disinfect masks by soaking for five minutes in a solution of two tablespoons of bleach per quart (liter) of water or 1/3 cup (80 ml) of bleach per gallon (3.84 liter) of water.
2. Rinse well with fresh water and hang to air-dry.



7-16 History

Semper Paratus (Always Ready)

The Official Coast Guard Marching Song

Why is "Semper Paratus" the Coast Guard's official motto?

No one seems to know exactly how *Semper Paratus* was chosen as the Coast Guard's motto. But there is no doubt as to who put the famous motto to words and music. Captain Francis Saltus Van Boskerck wrote the words in the cabin of the cutter *Yamacraw* in Savannah, Ga., in 1922. He wrote the music five years later on a "beat-up old piano" in Unalaska, Alaska. At that time it was probably the only piano in the whole long chain of Aleutian Islands. Van Boskerck received his commission in the Revenue Cutter Service May 20, 1891.

In 1917 he was Captain of the Port in Philadelphia and an aide for the fourth naval district at the American routing office in Philadelphia. He was also censor for the district, and was the first Coast Guard officer to report a German submarine on the Atlantic coast. After the war, Van Boskerck transferred to the Puget Sound Navy Yard to supervise repairs on the famous cutter *Bear*. He commanded *Bear* on the 1920 summer cruise to the Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean.

In 1922, as commander of *Yamacraw*, Van Boskerck was stationed at Savannah and chased rum-runners off the coast of the Carolinas and Florida. In 1923 he went to the Naval War College at Newport, R.I., and in 1924 became District Commander of the Great Lakes District. Van Boskerck was commissioned Captain in 1925.

"Captain Van," as he was known to his many friends, was next ordered to Seattle as Assistant Inspector of the Northwest District. In 1925 and 1926 he was Commander of the Bering Sea Forces, headquartered at the remote port of Unalaska. It was here that he found time to fit the words of his song to music with the help of two Public Health dentists, Alf E. Nannestad and Joseph O. Fournier. Mrs. Albert C. Clara Goss, the wife of a fur trader, let them use the beat-up piano on which the song was written. For probably as long as Captain Van Boskerck could remember, *Semper Paratus* had been a Revenue Cutter and Coast Guard watchword. The words themselves, "always ready" or "ever ready," date back to ancient times.

No official recognition was given to the Coast Guard motto until it appeared on the Captain-Commandant's official stationery* in 1910 on the ensign. Captain Van Boskerck hoped to give it as much recognition as "*Semper Fidelis*" of the Marines and "*Anchors Aweigh*" of the Navy.



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19:00 hr.

Third Wednesday
Of each month.

INTERCOM Submissions
to:

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Kevin Buckley

Email address:

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kbuckley8@tampabay.rr.com

**NAVIGATOR
EXPRESS
80th Edition**

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

Submit photo for:
"Photo of the Month"



Marty Richardson, Commander

Beacon News Letter FC article July 2020

Greetings to all you CGA Flotilla 7-16 Members,

I have missed you all and meeting together monthly. At the time of this article, we have endured almost 3 months of the "social distancing", "masks", and "staying at home" routines. The state of Florida by definition is opening up to some resemblance of "normal" I have been routinely checking for any rumblings/rumors etc. on when we can get to doing what the CG Auxiliary does, with little success. I keep hoping each month we will be able to get back to some normalcy, whatever that will look like in the future.

I personally have had many more requests for the About Boating Safely Course seats than I ever have previously by 3X. Also, I have heard some of you have had many requests for Vessel Safety Exams, and we are anxious about getting back to supporting Recreational Boating Safety programs. Well.... Hang in there,,,,, we will get there!

Another item that has developed, is the New AUXDATA II application release. It looks promising and significant changes in how and when we "**members**" will use it. Kudos to Bill Ackerman who is our new FSO-IS has a great handle on it and will provide us with several short learning sessions when we can get together.

Another currently development is recent days is the D7 is not accepting Help Desk ticket requests due to staffing shortages at DIRAUX. There are items that cannot be done without a Help Desk process. You can still submit 7029s for your time and can be entered into the CGA system by Bill Zinner & Bill Ackerman when you Submit them.

I have received an announcement regarding activities from U.S.C.G District 7 and am forwarding that to you. Please reach out to me if you need clarification.

Hope to see you in July **2020!**

In the meantime, Stay safe and healthy