



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



Volume IX
 2019 3rd Quarter

In this Issue:

1. Social Media
2. Safety Checks
3. Past Events
4. Past Events
5. Past Events
6. Courses &
Up Coming Events
Refreshment
Schedule
7. Master and
Commander
8. Beach Message
9. Terry Hershman
and
New Member:
Howard Bush
10. Marty Richardson
Jr. Commander

THE BEACON

Social Media.... Go to our Facebook page and post, share or just like something posted!!!

https://www.facebook.com/pg/uscgauxflotilla7.16/posts/?ref=page_internal

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

Advantages of Social Media for Society

Social media just keeps growing. Specially Facebook and Twitter have grown much faster and captured millions of users in just a few years. It has brought a lot of advantages for the society

- 1- Connectivity** – The first and main advantage of the social media is connectivity. People from anywhere can connect with anyone.
- 2- Education** – Social media has a lot of benefits for the students and teachers. Regardless of your location and education background you can educate yourself, without paying for it.
- 3- Help** – You can share you with the community.
- 4- Information and Updates** – The main advantage of the social media is that you update yourself from the latest happenings around the world or your community.
- 5- Promotion** – Whether you have an offline business or online, you can promote your business to the largest audience.
- 6- Noble Cause** – Social media can also be used for the noble causes.
- 7- Awareness** – Social media also create awareness and innovate the way people live.
- 8- Helps Govt and Agencies Fight Crime-** It is also one of the advantages of the social media that it helps Governments and Security Agencies to spy and catch criminals to fight crime.
- 9- Improves Business Reputation** – Just like it can ruin any business reputation, it can also improve business sales and reputation.
- 10- Helps in Building Communities** – Since our world has different religions and beliefs. Social media helps in building and participating in the community of own choices.

What's Social Media to you?

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

IN OUR BACK YARD on 5 July 2019 – Treasure Island.



<http://www.fox13news.com/news/local-news/smoke-billowing-from-burning-boat-in-john-s-pass>



A Vessel Safety Check (VSC) is performed at your boat – ranging in locations from boat to your driveway. A vessel safety check usually takes 15 to 30 minutes, depending upon the size of your boat

What's In it For Me?

Vessels passing safety checks are awarded a U.S. Coast Guard / Auxiliary Decal that informs:

- Coast Guard / Auxiliary
- Harbor Patrol
- Sheriff's & Police
- other boating law-enforcement & safety agency's

that your boat was in full compliance with all Federal and State boating laws during a safety check for that year. Best of all every Vessel Safety Check is 100% Free of charge!



What if I Don't Pass?

If your boat does not pass, no citation is issued at that time. Instead, you are provided a written report in how to correct any discrepancies.

Why Receive a Vessel Safety Check?

Safety! The peace of mind that your boat meets federal safety standards and that in an emergency you will have the necessary equipment to save lives and summon help.

In many cases boating insurance agencies offer discounts for vessels which undergo a Vessel Safety Check every year. All decals and safety checks are void December 31st of year they are inspected, they are also void should the operator /owner fail to maintain the vessels equipment or the vessel itself to the standard at the time of the safety check.

Find an Examiner

Are you ready to get started on your path to safer boating? Click the link below, then fill out the short request form and click the submit button. We will locate the closest volunteer vessel examiners within 30 miles of your location and request that they contact you and set up a Vessel Safety Check for your boat.



Our Past Events:

Keep [your contact information current](#) at AUX DATA using Form 7028. Use link.

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



Marty fills the "About Boating Safety" (ABS) class again! Thank you, Marty!



CCDR Sector May's meeting Captain Holly Najiran presenting retirement gifts from Flotilla's 7,8,9,11, and 15
Thank you, Terry Hershman

Awards were flying!!



E. Zinner Sustained Service, W. Zinner Sustained Service, M. Richardson Public Education



Bravo Zulu for sure Donald!!



Congratulations to All!!!



Our Newest Program Visitor

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



The June 30, 2019, mission with coxswain Gordon Hornby and crew Jim Keene, Tracy Adkins and Bill Ackerman. Towed a 28' sailboat with a severely damaged steering system taken in Tampa Bay around 3 miles east of Coquina key. It was an unusual tow because the steering problem caused the sailboat to track far to one side and we needed to get in through a narrow channel. We safely got the sailboat into an anchorage to await repairs. Bill Ackerman

It happened again, and we were there.



Then on the next mission on Monday July 15, we verified 91 ATONs and performed a tow of a vessel in distress that was dangerously close to the Pinellas Bayway structure E bridge to Tierra Verde. The vessel was taken into a short tow and safely moved to a nearby marina. Coxswain Dean Hoskins, crew Tracy Adkins, Tony Hooper and Bill Ackerman. We did not get a picture just the details from Bill Ackerman, Thank you Bill.



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



The threat of rain did not deter us. We suited up and went to the parade, then we had dinner together and the finally...Spectacular Fireworks!



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



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)

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

Tuesday, September 10

Meeting time: 6:00pm

Place: Main Entrance at Bay Pines



Flotilla Meeting Refreshment Schedule

September- Orrie Baffi

October- Marcella Ruso

November- Open

December- Holiday Celebration



Women in Leadership



Tracy E. Randall, the commanding officer of Coast Guard Station Sand Key by Clearwater, stood at 17 aboard a 23-foot cutter in the Bering Sea; she now works in warmer waters, helming this very 45-foot boat whenever she wants.

Master and commander

Sand Key commanding officer learned to lead on the pitching deck of a ship

Story by JOY GLEBA
Naples Bay Newspapers

CLEARWATER
B oth in (green and brown) Tracy Randall, the commanding officer of the Coast Guard Small Boat Station on Sand Key, was a young recruit when she shooed snow on the icy deck of a cutter in Alaska.
"I would stand with one hand on my hip and push the sled with my other hand and the captain would say, 'That's how a Coast Guard stewardess snow.' Randall laughed. "That's when I named my 'Tubby Troop.'"
Locals know Randall, 48, commands Sand Key Coast Guard station, complete with a 45-foot two-engine response boat, km.
See RANDALL, page 20

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)

RANDALL, from page 13

29-foot-long, fast response boats, and a 24-footer for shallower water.

The humorous woman is responsible for the training and safety of her own crew of more than 40 Coast Guardsmen (male and female) who perform marine law enforcement and search-and-rescue operations from Anclote Keys just north of Tarpon Springs and south to John's Pass.

"And we have responsibility up to 50 miles offshore," said Randall, as she pats "Buddy," the taciturn Rhodesian Ridgeback that serves as the Sand Key station mascot.

Randall's unit is a direct descendant of the small boat crews that would push a heavy wooden boat into pounding surf to save endangered crews offshore. Brandishing oars, the teams would row out in a gale to rescue crews of sink-

ing ships, then row them back to shore and safety.

That was before the age of power, of course, but the spirit is still there. When the marine radio indicates a vessel in trouble or Coast Guard Station St. Pete alerts Randall of a striking or other emergency, she orders her crew into action.

Whether it's unexpected weather or a captain's poor decision, boaters get into all kinds of trouble, and Randall's unit responds. In November, she sent a small boat unit up to Dunedin Marina to rescue ("assist") a sailboat owner and his dog; in July, Randall and her crew took out the 45-footer to aid a captain whose boat had begun to sink more than 20 miles offshore; then, in August, in tandem with St. Pete Coast Guard crews, Sand Key rescued two scuba divers within 48 hours, one of which had been missing for

more than 20 hours.

"Things happen every day, we are very active," Randall said. "Recently somebody forgot to put a drain plug in and they didn't realize it until they were 4 or 5 miles off Anclote. If you get a phone call that this boat is taking on water and it is carrying a husband, wife and two small children, you and every sheriff and city marine division will head that way to make sure they aren't going down."

How she got started

Randall came by her love of water honestly, having been born along the Pacific Coast at Long Beach, California. Tracey, who has three older brothers, spent weekends swimming, surfing, and socializing at the beach, until the family moved to the high desert, where there was no water. "I was like, 'I refuse to be in the desert, ever.'"

Her mother, Ada Randall, an electrical engineer for Lockheed Martin, raised her and her three older brothers alone. Ada may have been Tracey's first example of responsible leadership.

"When I was 17, my mother told me I had to make a decision: college or the military," Tracey said.

Not liking the look of Navy bellbottoms, she chose the Coast Guard. "Also, I wanted to drive boats," she said.

After finishing Coast Guard boot camp at Cape May, New Jersey, in 1988, the warm-weather seabird was sent to the Bering Sea.

"They then flew me to Cold Bay, Alaska, and I'm with my sea bags, my suitcase and it's dark at noon. The wind is ripping, it's February, and the snow and ice is hitting me so hard it was packing my pant leg. I was like, 'I want to go home.'"

But she is no wimp, so she embraced her assignment aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter

Storis, the 230-foot light icebreaker that participated in the rescue of the fishing vessel Alaskan Monarch off Saint Paul island in March 1990. Video of the incident appears on the television series "Deadliest Catch."

Randall remembered her captain fighting another storm on the Bering Sea.

"We had one of the worst storms ever," she said. "I was up in the bridge with the captain and it was like climbing a seven-story building and slumping back down. I was very young and didn't appreciate, like I do now, how awesome my captain was, how he was taking care of all of us."

"If you are a bosun, like I am, you are expected to be in charge," she said. "You either have it or you don't. You learn as you go and you make a lot of mistakes, and you apologize a lot as well."

She had great role models, too.

"One of the best leaders I had was Todd Stoughton, commanding officer of the Sector Key West Small Boat Station," Randall said. "He managed a unit that genuinely put people first. I learned so much from that. The morale was high and people would run through brick walls for him."

She uses the same leadership model for her younger charges on Sand Key in Clearwater.

"We're a family here, Todd taught me that," she said. "The genuineness of being a family, truly these are my brothers and sisters, he really brought that out in me. I'm a better person because of him and I saw him lead that way, and I knew I wanted to lead that way myself."

"You may be born with leadership traits, but you have to learn to follow first and then you lead," she said. "The key is learning to follow, listening to what others tell you to do and learning how to do it. Leadership is something that is brought out in you."

With that, Buddy, the mascot dog, stretches and yawns on the carpet in front of her desk. There's nothing like feeling safe.

Are you passionate about photography?

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

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



We are in need of action photographs of District 7 Auxiliarists doing great things. If you have photographs of members of your Flotilla and/or Divisions doing great things in Operations (surface and air), Communications, Food Service, Public Affairs, Public Education etc., please forward them. We will be compiling these photos for use on the web page and for slide programs such as NACON (National Auxiliary Conference) and D-Train (District Training Conference). Please check to ensure that members are in proper uniform and in compliance with uniform standards. Send pictures to the below email address. Proudly put your Flotilla and/or Divisions pictures in the spotlight for others to see the great things that are happening throughout the district.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Send photos to:

USCGAUX-GPB@HOTMAIL.COM

The Photo Corps, part of the Department of Public Affairs, consists of members who professional or advanced amateur photographers who take high resolution digital photographs for use within the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary. Membership is open to any Auxiliarist who has the photographic equipment and skills to produce high quality images suitable for publication. Click the following link to learn more and download a [two page PDF document on the Auxiliary Photo Corps](#).

The Coast Guard Auxiliary "Photo of the Week" (POTW) program is administered by the Photography Branch of the National Public Affairs "A" department. The purpose is to highlight photos of exceptional quality that accurately convey various missions and program areas, as well as significant special events. Click the following link to learn more about the POTW by [reading a one page PDF](#).

The [online AUX-26 Introduction to Digital Photography course](#) is available at the Coast Guard Auxiliary - Online Classroom. Appropriate use of photography is essential in public affairs. This course was developed to train Coast Guard Auxiliary public affairs people the basics of digital photography. This course was developed totally within the Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Affairs National Staff.



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>

[hp?unit=a-dept](http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=070-07)

Submit photo for:
"Photo of the Month"

FROM THE "INTERCOM"



From the Helm Terry Hershman, Division Commander

Having almost passed the first half of 2019, we made a lot of progress and should be proud of our record. We had a successful Gasparilla Parade, graduated the largest crew class, completed the "Operation Excellence" for three facilities and crew, worked in partnership with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Coast Guard on Boat Safe Tampa Bay, are supporting Air Station Clearwater with C-130 drops and continue to support Station St. Pete with 80 missions. Our members visited patients at the C.W. "Bill" Young Veteran's Hospital, produced a recruiting video for Division 7, we have members who are working on getting certified as Pollution Specialist and actively work with the aids to navigation team at Sector St. Pete. Oh yes, we continue to bring up our Partner Visits and Vessel Safety Checks. Three flotillas: 75 Apollo Beach, 78 St. Pete Beach/Pass-a-Grille and 7-16 Gulfport are working with the school systems to promote water safety and safe boating to students. We had a very successful National Safe Boating Week with numerous Public Affairs events throughout the Division.

I want to thank every member for the creativeness, effort, and volunteer hours that you have given so far this year. Keep up the good work.

Respectfully,
D. Terry Hershman

I want to thank every member for the creativeness, effort, and volunteer hours that you have given so far this year. Keep up the good work.

*D. Terry Hershman
Commander, Division 7
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary*

At the January 2019 regular business meeting, Flotilla 77 Apollo Beach presented Terry Hershman a quilt made by 'Quilts of Honor,' a Brandon group that makes quilts for veterans. Auxiliary photo by Stephen Browning.



Taken from the summer 2019 issue of "Intercom" editor, Dorothy Joan Riley, SO-PB, Email address: dottieriley@gmail.com.

Link to the "Intercom" <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=070-07>



New Member

May 3, 2019 Howard C. Bush was sworn in by Terry Hershman, Division Commander and Anthony Novellino, Vice Division Commander at our July 17, 2019 meeting.

**Welcome aboard
Howard!**

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



Marty Richardson, Commander

Well, here we are on the second half of 2019. Times seems to accelerate with each passing day. I am starting to get a grasp of the Flotilla Commander role, (which brings a really high level of appreciation for my predecessors).

A recap of the year so far includes our normal recreational boating safety classes, the wonderful Fourth of July Parade potluck and fireworks, the "Welcome to Gulfport" presentations, and the new program of reaching into the local schools to emphasis the importance of wearing life jackets and keeping our waterways pollution/trash free.

We have added a couple several new members and continue to recruit volunteers. Several are stepping up to get "Crew" certified, vessel examiners, and program visits. Kudos to them!

I would still like to have some additional social activities in the second half of the year. Keep an eye out for email announcements and in the newsletter for those activities.

I want to encourage those that have not completed the renewal of your core training courses and are in REYR status to go on line to complete them and send those completions to us so we can keep your records up to date. In particular, the new Introduction to Risk Management.

We will be sending out membership renewals notices in the next week, please respond quickly with your intentions for the next year.

Lastly, we will be holding Flotilla elections for Commander and Vice Command at our October 16, 2019 meeting. If you are interested in running, let me know so we can get the qualifying process completed.

Thanks for allowing me to command our Flotilla.

Marty Richardson

