



USCG Auxiliary, Division 7, District 7
Tampa Bay - St. Petersburg, Florida



Division 7 Elects New Leadership



At first glance, the photographs might not appear to match the headline, but members who attended the Division 7 meeting on October 15 at Flotilla 7-16 in Gulfport -where and when the annual elections took place, know that these images are fitting. Mike Shea, our current Division Vice Commander 7 was elected Division Commander for 2012 while Larry Neu was elected Division Vice Commander. Shea spends a lot of time on the water while Neu often appears to spend as much time working on his boat. Neu, in fact, missed the Division 7 meeting and was elected 'in absentia'. Where was he? Why, at home working on his boat! Neu, who confused the meeting date, will have to devote less time to his engine and more to his calendar in the coming year. Of course, this is gentle humor. Both men are hardworking and highly regarded by the members of Division 7. Read more about the Division 7 meeting and elections on page 4.

(Photos by Tim Manning)

Division Elected Officers

Div 7	Division Commander	DCDR	Amos Johnson
Div 7	Division Vice Commander	VCDR	J. Michael Shea
Div 7	Immediate Past Division Commander	IPDCD	Peter Lore
FL-72	Flotilla Commander	FC	Richard L. Short
	Flotilla Vice Commander	VFC	Gene Keller
FL-74	Flotilla Commander	FC	Gilbert Thomas
	Flotilla Vice Commander	VFC	Ken Morningstar
FL-75	Flotilla Commander	FC	Guy Mandigo
	Flotilla Vice Commander	VFC	Oscar Kramer
FL-78	Flotilla Commander	FC	Brad Marchant
	Flotilla Vice Commander	VFC	Jim Armstrong
FL-79	Flotilla Commander	FC	Tim Teahan
	Flotilla Vice Commander	VFC	Theresa (Bunny) Johnson
FL-7-16	Flotilla Commander	FC	James Newman
	Flotilla Vice Commander	VFC	Linda Harwitt



We're on the web!

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

You can contact any of our officers through the Division website.

Division Staff Officers

Communications	SO-CM	Terence E. Affeld
Communication Systems	SO-CS	Robin Conn
Finance	SO-FN	Oscar Kramer
Information Systems	SO-IS	Theresa Johnson
Materials	SO-MA	Ronald G. Matz
Marine Safety	SO-MS	Robert Starns
Member Training	SO-MT	Clifford J. Martin
Navigation Systems	SO-NS	Marvin Bayles
Operations	SO-OP	Clifford J. Martin
Public Affairs	SO-PA	Timothy Teahan
Publications	SO-PB	Dorothy J. Riley
Public Education	SO-PE	Steven B. Plass
Personnel Services	SO-PS	Heleyde Aponte
Program Visitor	SO-PV	Cinda Hitchcock
Secretary	SO-SR	Richard 'Tim' Manning
Vessel Examinations	SO-VE	Zachary Lessin

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Words from the Helm....

Amos Johnson Division Commander (DCDR)

The Last Word

Six years ago, when I was Division Seven Vice Captain, the Captain at that time told me he would not run for re-election and for me to run for that office. Later, he was convinced by higher powers to seek a second term which meant running against me. We had already decided who would be our Vice Captain; and so, I was the odd man out. It bothered me at the time, but one of those powers-to-be took me aside and told me that my time would come. Perhaps he saw something. Then, two years ago Bob Schuler from of Flotilla 78 called me to ask if I would run for Division Commander (same office, updated title). I guess my time was then.

I have had the support of some of the most dedicated Coast Guard Auxiliaries anyone could imagine, and they have done the most superior job you can imagine. I have always believed that this was a team effort; that I simply empowered others to do their jobs with my encouragement and advice when requested. We, over the past two years, have built an incredible machine called Division Seven and, as proof of our success, at the most recent District Seven Conference, in Jacksonville, I was called up to accept the Commodore's Cup Award as the best Division in District Seven. We are the best! And it is true because of all of the hard work you members put in.

Sadly, it is now time for me to go; however, the team that created the success is still here and active, and I plan to be the best Immediate Past Commander that there has ever been. I leave Division Seven in the very capable hands of Michael Shea and Larry Neu, who will continue to lead our Division on to greater heights.

Always remember: **There Is No I in TEAM**



Amos Johnson, DCDR



Amos Johnson, Division Commander 7 proudly displays the Commodore's Cup Award to members attending the Division 7 meeting on October 15, 2011, at Flotilla 7-16 Gulfport, Florida. The award was presented to Division 7 on Sept. 23, 2011 at the District 7 Conference in Jacksonville. Photo by D. Riley

News and Articles by Members...

Division 7 Elects New Leadership

By D. Riley



GULFPORT, Fla.—The serious expressions of the officers at the head table at the Division 7 meeting on October 15, 2011 in Gulfport clearly state this meeting is unlike others. At this meeting, the elected officers of Division 7 elected new Division leadership— Mike Shea, Division Commander (elect) and Larry Neu, Division Vice Commander (elect). Clockwise from left are Melvin Manning, District Captain-West D7, Amos Johnson, Division Commander 7, Mike Shea, Tim Manning Staff Officer-Secretary of Records 7, Tim Teahan, Flotilla Commander 79 and Rick Short, Flotilla Commander 72. Photo by D. Riley

Division 7 held its final business meeting on October 15 at Flotilla 7-16 in Gulfport. On the agenda was the election for Division Commander and Division Vice Commander for next year, Mel Manning, District Captain-West facilitated the election which resulted in Mike Shea elected Division Commander and Larry Neu as Division Vice Commander for the coming year. Neu, elected 'in absentia', missed the Division 7 meeting, and was at home working on his boat.

Both Amos Johnson, Division Commander, and Mel Manning, District Captain-West, took the opportunity to congratulate the members of Division 7 for earning many awards presented to units and individuals at the District 7 Conference held in September in Jacksonville. Some of these awards originated at national level while others were district level awards. Most no-

tably, Division 7 received first place in the Commodore's Cup Award for the best (most active) division within District 7 while Flotilla 72 earned second place in the Commodore's Cup Award at flotilla level.

Other awards included first place in the Public Affairs-Publications district and national competition in both division and flotilla categories for the Division 7 newsletter, *Intercom*, and Flotilla 79 newsletter, *Seven Niner*, both edited by Dottie Riley. Division 7 recipients of national Public Affairs photographic competition awards include George Papabeis from Flotilla 74 Brandon. Additionally, one of Zach Lessin's video was run on a continuous loop before the District 7 meeting and shown at tabletop demonstrations at the District 7 Conference.

(Continued on page 5)





News and Articles by Members...

Division 7 Election- and Awards



JACKSONVILLE, Fla.— Dottie Riley, Mike Shea, Division Vice Commander 7, Amos Johnson, Division Commander 7 and Robin Conn display the awards earned by Division 7 units and members on Sept. 23 at the District Conference in Jacksonville. Photo by Vickie Aponte, FL 6-11

(Continued from page 4)

Amos Johnson, Division Commander 7, expressed his pride for all of the hard work performed by Division 7 members these past two years. He announced that he and Bunny Johnson, Flotilla Vice Commander 79 will be moving out of the area, but added that he was “only a phone call away”, and promised to be the best Immediate Past Division Commander ever. ❁

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.— Flotilla 79 members Dottie Riley and Zach Lessin are dressed to attend the Commodore's Banquet on Sept. 23 at the District 7 Conference. Photo by Bunny Johnson



Thank You!



Amos and Theresa "Bunny" Johnson have been members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary since April 1996. Bunny currently serves as Flotilla Vice Commander Flotilla 79 but is best known for being the local AUXINFO and AUXDATA 'guru'. She has trained nearly every Flotilla Staff Officer-Information Services within our division. Amos Johnson, Division Commander 7, formerly served as Division Vice Commander 7 and Flotilla Commander Flotilla 79 in addition to a myriad of staff office positions. Amos is best known for the countless of hours he devotes to the United States Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary as Team Coordination Training Instructor and as a District 7 Boat Crew Training Qualifying Examiner. In addition to all of this, Amos and Bunny Johnson are some of the kindest and most likeable people within our division. "Thank you" hardly conveys how much we appreciate them – or how much they will be missed. Amos and Bunny Johnson represent the best that the Auxiliary has to offer. No matter where they go, Division 7 is proud to call them our own!





News and Articles by Members...

Member Training: The Key to Success in the Auxiliary

By Roger Sneden, FSO-MT Flotilla 74



TAMPA BAY, Fla.-- A quiet moment is captured as the crew of the Auxiliary facility "Catalina" prepare for a night patrol. Members are encouraged to become boat crew qualified. Photo by George Papabeis, FL 74

As I have often stated at Flotilla meetings, one of the reasons I joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary family was to learn new skills and concepts. I wanted to learn quite a bit: increase my boat-handling skills, learn more seamanship skills, learn navigation rules, regulations, lifesaving, etc.

After I joined the Auxiliary, I realized that there was much more to learn- like helping/educating the boating public, learning about marine life, learning about hazardous materials, and learning about disaster reaction, control and rehabilitation.

That Is a Lot To Learn... Where to Start?

New Members

Start out slowly and build momentum. Start with the required subjects – Incident Command System 100/700, Prevention of Sexual Harassment, Ethics, Influenza Training, Suicide Prevention, Sexual Assault Prevention, and Security Education and Training Awareness. All of these courses are available on the internet and the exams are open book.

Next, get involved in hands-on evolutions. Participate in Vessel Safety Checks, meetings with the public, re-

view boating safety concerns, learn about boats and equipment, and before you know it, you can take the test and become certified as a Vessel Examiner.

The next logical step is to start the path to becoming crew qualified. Go out on patrols, learn hands-on seamanship skills and take one of the boating skills classes (required to become Basically Qualified - BQ).

Following the course requirements from Vessel Examination to Boating Skills and Seamanship to Crew Qualification, puts you firmly on the path to quickly learn everything mentioned in my introductory paragraph. With this firm foundation, you can soon become a high-quality Auxiliary Instructor, Program Visitor, Coxswain, Telecommunications Specialist, Operational Auxiliarist (AUXOP),

Auxiliary coxswain or crew, TRIDENT qualified, and Flotilla Staff Officer or Flotilla Commander. Most of the certifications are inter-related, so attaining multiple qualifications becomes easier and easier as you progress.

To learn more, contact your Flotilla Staff Officer-Member Training. Indicate your interest and they can reply with a PDF copy of the Auxiliary Member Training Qualifications Guide and/or the 2011 Training Program Summary of Changes.

All Members

As members of the Auxiliary we all must stay proficient in our skills. If you have not already done so, take the time now to map out your own personal schedule to obtain and maintain your annual training qualifications and currency. This allows you to keep your skills sharp so you can provide effective, interesting training.

Remember, training is the key that opens many doors and saves lives!

The author, Roger Sneden, serves as Flotilla Staff Officer-Member Training Flotilla 74. This article is adapted from his Member Training report as it appeared in the October/November 2011 issue of Flot-Lines, newsletter of Flotilla 74.



*Flotilla News***Flotilla 72 St. Petersburg, Fla.**

**Rick Short, Flotilla
Commander 72**

Our Coxswain Training Program, based on a committee model is well underway. We anticipate requesting a qualifying examination for two coxswain trainees in early December.

Flotilla 72 is prepared to sponsor a Division 7 Boat Crew Training for coxswains early next year which will be open to all qualified Division 7 members. We will consult and coordinate with our Division Operations

Officer and Division Commander.

The Flotilla 72 First Aid/CPR class was held on the afternoon of October 15. The flotilla's Coxswain Training Committee determined that completion of CPR class will be a requirement for a Flotilla 72 qualifying examination recommendation for coxswain.

Two Flotilla 72 Facilities participated in the Red Bull Flugtag Event. One inebriated spectator was rescued and delivered to Tampa General Hospital. He devel-

oped severe fatigue with risk of drowning after multiple failed attempts to climb out of the water on a 25-foot seawall ladder at Jackson's Bistro.

Flotilla 72 Bayboro Radio One has been able to take Radio Guard for all on-the-water training missions. We found that our radio range extends into Hillsborough Bay; west to include the Intercoastal waterway, Treasure Island, and Boca Ciega Bay; and southwest as far as Bunces Pass and the Skyway Bridge. We made repairs on our second VHF antenna and now have two fully functional VHF radios

Four new Auxiliary Telecommunications Operator candidates have finished Personal Qualification Standards and are now performing required supervised watch standing, one member is in the Personal Qualification Standard process, and three members already qualified in Auxiliary Communications are upgrading to Auxiliary Telecommunications Operator. When completed, we should have ten Auxiliary Telecommunications Operators in Flotilla 72 available for watchstanding on Bayboro Radio One. This should allow for an efficient rotation.

All aids to navigation (ATON) in our area of responsibility have been inspected and reports submitted. We have assisted in the reporting of ATONs in other areas of responsibility where facilities have been unavailable. Though not required, it is our policy to re-inspect a second time after the storm season has passed. This mission will be scheduled for late November/early December. ☼



David Bonacci, member of Flotilla 72 gets handcuffed for being a "bad boy" during at a training session for the active duty Guardsmen at Station St. Pete. Flotilla 72 provided vessels as targets of interest and "bad boys." Photo provided by Marla Short, FL 72





Flotilla News

Flotilla 74 Brandon, Fla.

Recreational Boating Safety Initiatives:

Flotilla 74 presented *Suddenly in Command* at the Brandon Regional Library on August 23, 2011.

On Sept. 17, Flotilla 74 presented *About Boating Safely* in Brandon, Fla. Other Public Education events scheduled include *About Boating Safely* Class on Oct. 15 in Brandon and Oct. 22 at Indian Lake Estates.

Our members were present at the Tampa Boat Show September 8-10, 2011, at the Tampa Convention Center.

Flotilla 74 Vessel Examiners conducted Vessel Safety Examinations on Sept. 3 and Sept. 17 at Williams Park, and on Sept. 10 at Lake Shipp in Winter Haven, Florida. A total of 41 inspection were made and 18 vessels were issued decals. Additional Vessel Examination events include Oct. 1 and 15 at Williams Park and Oct. 8, when the Polk County Detachment conducted Vessel Safety Checks at Lake Shipp. Future Vessel Examinations are scheduled at both locations.

Operations:

Flotilla 72 coxswains completed seven missions during the month, five of which were security patrols. Two were training missions. Currently, Flotilla 74 has qualified 14 qualified crew persons, three coxswains and four facilities.

Communications:

We perform monthly radio checks on the Flotilla 74 land mobile facility. The unit functions normally.



Gil Thomas, Flotilla Commander 74



Members of Flotilla 74 conduct a currency maintenance/training mission on Jul. 25, 2011. The vessels and crew are the *Mary Kay* with Roger Sneden as coxswain and Dan McMahan and George Papabeis as crew. The second vessel is the *Kamstar* with Ken Morningstar, coxswain and members John Lowe, John Robbins, August Miller, and Linda Brandt as crew. Photo by George Papabeis, FL 74

*Flotilla News***Flotilla 75 Ruskin, Fla.**

The major activity for Flotilla 75 during the past two weeks was a prospective member open house held Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011, at the Sun City Center Lawn Bowling Club building, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. We presented displays showing equipment used in operations and a PowerPoint presentation describing the USCG Auxiliary's activities to sixteen individuals and ten prospective new members filled out interest questionnaires. Judy M. Clapp, Flotilla Staff Officer-Human Resources and Vince W. Yedynak, Assistant Flotilla Staff Officer-Human Resources are meeting or making appointments to meet all ten people to begin the enrollment process.

To say the open house was a huge success is the understatement of the year! Moreover, the event would not have been successful without the efforts of the Flotilla 75 members named at right.

One individual, not a flotilla member, but without whom the event would not have been successful, is Heleyde Aponte, Staff Officer-Human Resources, who provided her expertise, advice and assistance throughout the day.

On a much sadder note, we lost shipmate Paul Moen, our Flotilla Staff Officer-Operations and Member Training. He will be sorely missed! ❀



We thank the members of Flotilla 75 who assisted in the Flotilla 75 Open House

R. W. Bettinger, Flotilla Staff Officer-Communications
 J. M. Clapp, Flotilla Staff Officer-Human Resources, Assistant Flotilla Staff Officer-Secretary of Records
 T. Cohen Flotilla Staff Officer-Marine Safety/Program Visitor
 M. D. Engel, Flotilla Staff Officer-Information Services
 M. F. Cook, Proctor
 R. J. Stewart, Flotilla Staff Officer-Public Affairs
 O. M. Kramer, Flotilla Vice Commander, Flotilla Staff Officer-Finance
 W. F. Wagner, Flotilla Staff Officer-Vessel Examination
 F. W. Kramer
 M. F. Yedynak
 V. W. Yedynak

Amos Johnson, Division Commander 7 swears in Guy Mandigo as Flotilla Commander and Oscar Kramer as Flotilla Vice Commander 75 on Jun. 8, 2011, at Flotilla 75 Ruskin. The special mid-year election was necessitated by the resignation of Alma Parrish. Photo by D. Riley FL 79





Flotilla News

Flotilla 78 Pass-a-Grille, Fla.

We are beginning to ramp up for our busy season. Our Boating Skills and Seamanship classes have started again. There has been an increase in boating injuries and damage in our area the last couple of weeks with some capsized boats just outside of the Pass-a-grille channel and major lightning strike damage to sailboats on the Bayside. The storms seem to develop quickly and blow hard and fast through the island. I don't remember a rainier late summer that did not include near miss hurricanes.

We look forward to the return of our seasonal gang, Valerie Fernandes, Bob Schuler, Sam Fallenbaum and Penny Levin. All reports from Bob Schuler and Val Fernandes indicate minimal damage to their property

from the hurricane that blew through Virginia.

We are planning for our parade season and our annual party scheduled for Friday, Dec. 2, 2011 at 6 p.m. at the Hangar Restaurant at Albert Whitted Airport in St Petersburg. (Near the new Dali Museum.)



Brad Marchant, Flotilla 78 Commander 78

We are preparing to get started on patrols again. We are very proud of Amanda Davis and Keith Anderson for becoming crew qualified. Member, Karen Cohen finished the Boating Skills and Seamanship course and the Auxiliary Chef program.

The flotilla received considerable free advertising in the free beach papers during recent months thanks to the efforts of Ron Bradach.

See page 24 of this issue of the Intercom for an article written by Flotilla 78 member, Val Fernandes. Val publishes our monthly newsletter even when she is 950 miles away. ☼



Eric Davis (foreground) and Brad Marchant of Flotilla 78 teach the 4th graders at Campbell Park Elementary School about safe boating on May 17th, 2011. Mike Berkowitz and Karen Cohen are off camera. Photo provided by Valerie Fernandes, FL 78

*Flotilla News***Flotilla 79 Tampa, Fla.**

**Tim Teahan, Flotilla
Commander 79**

Flotilla 79 presented its unique Paddlesport Seminar to canoe/kayak anglers and 'waterborne backpackers' on Saturday, September 24, 2011. The course featured equipment and technique presentations by popular Tampa Bay kayak fishing guide Neil Taylor of Strike Three Kayak Fishing and internationally recognized kayaker Russell Farrow of Sweetwater Kayaks in addition to presentations by Seven-Niners Craig Starns, Steve Plass, Brian Garry and Tim Teahan.

Threat Briefing was conducted Thursday, September 15, 7:30pm – 8:30pm at Flotilla 79. The brief was immediately followed by the annual Division "Operations Workshop." Attendance at the Operations Workshop is required for coxswains, crewmem-

bers, radio watchstanders and ATON verifiers. Non-operational members were also invited to attend.

Division 7 conducted its annual Deep Draft Harbor Patrol Training and Port of Tampa Tour on Thursday, Sept. 29 (classroom) and Saturday, Oct. 1 (port tour).

The following Recreational Boating Safety activities are based on September reports:

Public Education - 23 people completed the Boating Skills and Seamanship course. Enrollment is strong.

Program Visitor -28 Program Visits were completed and one event was conducted at Tampa's Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI). Kathy Curry completed qualification as a Program Visitor.

Vessel Examinations— approximately 20-25 Vessel Examination were completed. Another seven were completed by a member presently in New York to be included in our flotilla's totals. Zach Lessin, Flotilla Staff Officer-Vessel Examinations, recently filmed several videos including one instructing boaters how to affix their vessel's registration numbers. ☼

Russell Farrow of Sweetwater Kayaks makes a point about kayak equipment to Paddlesport Seminar attendees on Sept. 24, 2011, at Flotilla 79 in Tampa. Photo by Tim Teahan





Flotilla News

Flotilla 7-16 Gulfport, Fla.

Donald Rimel, Flotilla Staff Officer-Public Affairs 7-16, has completed the program requirements and is designated Auxiliary Chef (AUXCHEF). He said he enjoyed working with the Coast Guard Food Service at the Air Station Clearwater for his initial training and Sand Key gallery for getting his Performance Qualifications (PQS) signed off. Don went on to say that the Food Service personnel were very professional.

To become an AUXCHEF, two doses of hepatitis A vaccine is required. These doses are given at least six months apart for lasting protection. The shots are free at the Air Station Clearwater medical building.

A new AUXCHEF class starts this February 18-20, 2012 at the Air Station Clearwater. If interested in becoming an AUXCHEF, Contact Paulette Parent, Assistant District Staff Officer-Human Resources/AUXCHEF. She is in Division 8.

Donald Rimel reached a career milestone Sept. 21, 2011 by completing 2,000 Program Visitor (Program Visitor). Donald has been a Program Visitor since June 2007. Bravo Zulu Donald!

Christa Berger Flotilla Staff Officer -Secretary of Records, 7-16, received her Boating Skills and Seamanship certificate in September adding a much-needed instructor for the flotilla's bi monthly Recreational Boat-

ing Safety classes held every first and third Thursday at the Gulfport flotilla.

Donald "Terry" Hershman received his Program Visitors certification in September as well. Donald Rimel has been mentoring Terry in earning his 120 points this year for the Recreational Boaters Safety Device and Terry has exceeded the required points for the year.



Jim Newman, Flotilla Commander 7-16

Based on a point system, Auxiliarists are credited with the hours spent in teaching boating safety courses, delivering public affairs lectures and presentations, participating in legislative programs, meeting with State boating safety officials, and receive a point for each Vessel Examination they conduct. A member earning 240 points or more over a period of two consecutive years is awarded the Recreational Boating Safety Device. ⚓

Boat crewmember Casey Mc Cormick (left) of Flotilla 7-16 and boat crew trainee Josh Dargoltz of Flotilla 79 in front of the Skyway Bridge during a May 31, 2011 patrol. Photo provided by David Main, FL 7-16



Staff Reports and Program Updates...

Logistics

Ronald Matz- Logistics Section Chief



Dottie Riley accepts one of several first place publication awards from COMO Walter Jaskiewicz and CDR José Quinones, Director of Auxiliary D7. The awards were presented during the General Assembly at the District 7 Conference held Sept. 22-25 in Jacksonville, Fla. Photo by Vickie Aponte

Robin Conn, Staff Officer - Communication Services

A new version of the Division 7 website was launched using the latest in WOW (websites without webmasters) templates from the National Auxiliary Information Technology department. Conn has worked closely with them on this project, so much in fact, that our site is used as a demo and an advanced example of what is possible. Our site also appears in the national WOW user's manual. At a future Division Meeting, Conn hopes to do a presentation on the new features. We are getting roughly 100 hits a week on this site.

Conn is working with Flotillas 72, 74 and 7-16 on converting their old coded sites to the new WOW template and has advised the Flotillas of their need to update the new national Public Boating Courses database to list their classes. So far, 79 and 7-16 have done so.

Through Conn's work with National IT department,

they have offered him a job as Branch Assistant. His job will be to teach others how to convert to WOW and to evaluate current sites for national approval.

Dorothy Riley, Staff Officer-Publications

Riley presented a four-hour workshop at the District 7 Conference (DCON) in conjunction with Tom Loughlin, District Staff Officer-Public Affairs 7.

Flotilla 72 earned 2nd place in D7 "Commodore's Cup Award" While Division 7 earned first place in the Commodore's Cup Award at division level.

Flotilla 79 newsletter "Seven Niner" earned first place at both district and national level Public Affairs – Publications competitions. The awards were presented at the District 7 Conference in Jacksonville.

Division 7 newsletter "Intercom" earned first place at both district and national level Public Affairs –

Publications competitions. The awards were presented at DCON.

Flotillas 74, 78, 79 and 7-16 published newsletters since last report.

Zach Lessin, Flotilla 79 was appointed Assistant District Staff Officer-Publications-Video Productions. Zach's videos were previewed at DCON before the General Assembly, at table-top presentations and before several classes

Bunny Johnson, Staff Officer-Information Services

Auxiliarists who report out of pocket expenses on the 7029 form should report either mileage or gas- not both. When reporting mileage, the Coast Guard calculates the cost of mileage using the current mileage rate in effect on the date of the report. Items purchased specifically for Coast Guard Auxiliary use such as uniforms, personal flotation devices, paper, ink, teaching

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Staff Reports and Program Updates...

Logistics

(Continued from page 14)

aids, etc., may be claimed as expenses (non-reimbursed). Report all NON RE-IMBURSED expenses. This is helpful for the Coast Guard to understand in dollar figures what the Auxiliary is actually doing for them. Also, keep a copy of your 7029s for your own tax information.

We have two new Information Services inputters in Division 7, one in Flotilla 74 and one in Flotilla 79. Please encourage all staff officers to have an assistant. An Information Services workshop was held on July 21 at Flotilla 79. Five trainees attended.

Timothy Teahan-Staff Officer-Public Affairs

Division 7 was present at the Tampa boat show held at the Tampa Convention Center in September.

Teahan is working with Bruce Wright (USCG) and Florida Wildlife Commission Boating Department personnel to set up media event in Tampa during 2012 National Safe Boating Week.

Teahan presented a "Keep Your Boat Afloat" program at Ruskin Library on Oct. 8, 2011. The program is designed to promote attendance at Boating Skills and Seamanship classes in Hillsborough County flotillas (Flotillas 74, 75, 79), and is participating in the Division plans for Coast Guard Innovation Expo in late October.

Additional events and activities include:

- Organizing Division 7 involvement in MacDill AFB Air Fest November 5-6
- Organizing Division 7 involvement in St. Petersburg Power and Sail Show December 2-5
- Planning digital selective calling/ global positioning system (DSC- GPS) one-day seminar in January for the public for which he is soliciting support from local marine equipment outlets.



Flotilla 79 members at the Tampa Boat Show on Sept. 11, 2011 include Dottie Riley, Robin Conn, Cinda Hitchcock, Brian Giacobbe, Linda Churchill and Paul Cooke. The boat show was held at the Tampa Convention Center Sept. 8-10, 2011. Photo provided by D. Riley (Bystander took group shot)

- Planning involvement in National Teach-In Day on November 17
- Sent out a news release describing Flotilla 75 and 79's *Keep Your Boat Afloat Class* in October.
- Drafting news release describing Flotilla 79 donation of 40 folding chairs to Metropolitan Ministries

Ron Matz- Staff Officer-Materials

The Staff Officer-Materials passed down all information received from District Staff Officer-Materials. He advises that the State of Florida Boating Regulations handbook has now been available for a few weeks, and that the new Auxiliary Manual has been released and is available to all members on the National Web site. ☼

Staff Reports and Program Updates...

Response

Cliff Martin-Response Section Chief

Marvin Bayles, Staff Officer-Navigation Systems

Terrence Affeld, Staff Officer-Communication Services

Clifford Martin-Staff Officer-Member Training and Operations

ICS-210

Division 7 conducted an Incident Command System - 210 course at Flotilla 79 on Saturday, June 25, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This course is required for those who wish to become coxswain-qualified.

HARPAT

The division conducted Harbor Patrol (HARPAT) training Thursday, Sept. 29 with the familiarization tour of the Port of Tampa on Oct. 1, 2011. The last segment of this training is scheduled for Thursday night, Nov. 10, and it will be given by CF Industries on anhydrous ammonia and by a representative of C3 on liquefied petroleum gas. This period of instruction will deal with what you should be looking for in their facility areas while on patrol and precautions to take in the event of an incident. Certificates of Completion will be issued.

Training Records

All Flotilla Staff Officers-Member Training should start reviewing the division training records by Dec. 1, 2011, as a part of our ongoing efforts to stay on top of division training requirements. Flotilla Staff Officers-Member Training need to make sure that all records are current and up-dated. The training year ends December 31.

Operational Members need to complete all training requirement before December 15 and information entered on individual training records by that date.

Flotilla Staff Officers-Operations and Member Training need to make sure members requiring re-certification (third year) are ready and that a qualifying examination is requested. The Staff Officer-Member Training needs at least three weeks to set up



Larry Bagby, Operations Supervisor for the Tampa Port Authority narrated the HARPAT tour on Oct. 1, on the *Bay Spirit*, a touring vessel owned and operated by the Tampa Aquarium. Photo by D. Riley

a pre-qualifying examination and a qualifying examination date.

Response Section Division-wide Training

There will be a training session held for all response officers. This includes all Flotilla Staff Officer-Operations, Member Training, Communications and Navigation Systems prior to the end of the year or right after the 1st of the new year. All units will be notified of the date and time.





Staff Reports and Program Updates...

Response

Training conducted on a division level is normally conducted on Thursday nights and Saturdays.

AUXOP and Other Up-coming Training



The Division intends for all flotillas get involved in conducting Auxiliary Operations (AUXOP) as well as standard flotilla training. Flotillas are requested to prepare and conduct training in core courses, AUXOP credit courses and elected courses. Courses will

not be assigned by the division without the agreement of Flotilla Commanders and Training Officers.

If Flotillas have plans for conducting training in any of the AUXOP or flotilla level courses, please make sure to notify the Staff Officer-Member Training. He will need to know the name of the course, date and times you plan to present.

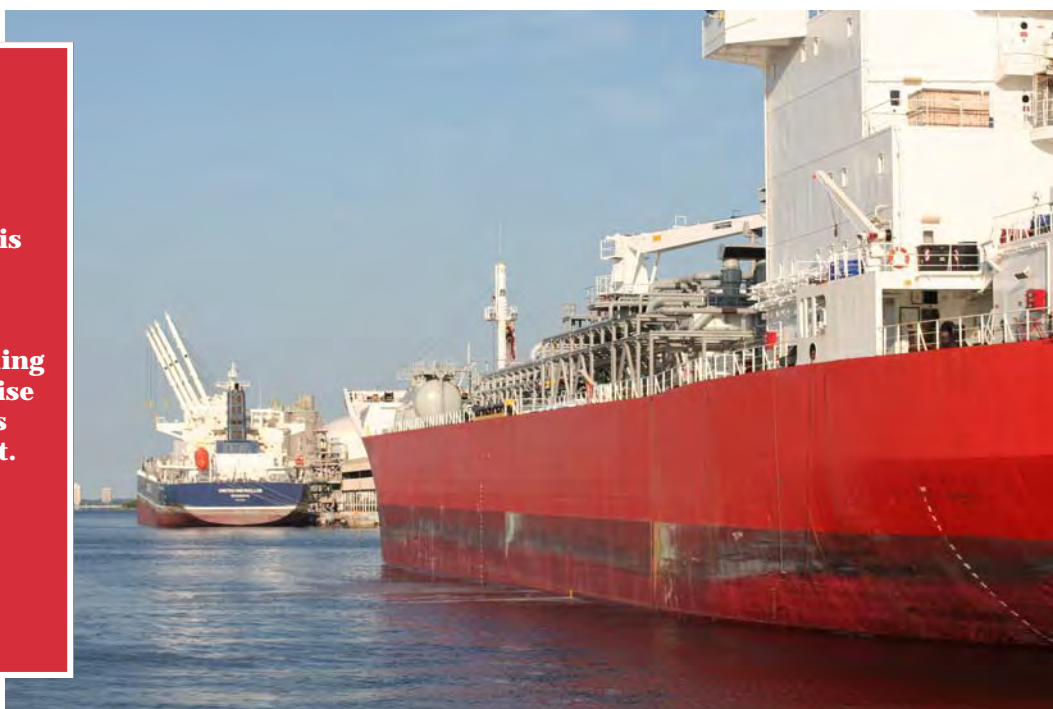
Jim Fogle and Marvin Bayles are designated as members of the Division 7 Training team. They will be assisting in divisions training effort this coming year.

Based on the division's ratio of crewmembers (69) to vessels (25), we plan to conduct a division level crew class starting in early February. Coxswain Training will be scheduled in September of the coming year (2012). Flotillas are encouraged to continue training program using designated mentors

The first couple of months of the new year are administratively demanding. All flotilla and divisions records should be checked and up-dated. Flotilla and division goals should be set. Emergency Contingency Plans need to be reviewed and brought up to date.

Flotilla Staff Officer-Operations, Vessel Examination and Communications need to review facility records. Re-inspection of vessels and communication fixed facilities should be reviewed and kept current. ☼

The Port of Tampa is home to anhydrous ammonia, oil and phosphate storage facilities, ship building and repair, and cruise ships. It is Florida's largest tonnage port.
Photo by D. Riley



Staff Reports and Program Updates...

Snapshots of Recent Division 7 Operations



Clear skies were not in the forecast for this patrol on Jun 30, 2011, for Larry Neu, coxswain, and Cliff Martin. Photo by Tim Teahan FL 79



Zach Lessin, Flotilla 79 flies on a HC-133 Ocean Sentry aircraft from Clearwater Air Station on August 13, 2011, for the filming of a video. Photo provided by Zach Lessin, FL 79



Division 7 participates in "Media Day" on May 20, 2011. Besides the photographer (front) on board are Rick Short (coxswain) and Marla Short from Flotilla 72 and Tim Teahan, Flotilla 79. Photo provided by Marla Short, FL 72



Joe Lamb and Zach Lessin from Flotilla 79 review chart reading and navigation with members of MacDill AFB Joint Communication Support Element on Jun. 11, 2011. Photo by George Papabeis, FL 74





Staff Reports and Program Updates...

Prevention



ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.— Brad Marchant, Flotilla Commander 78 is one of several members of Flotilla 78 bringing the boating safety message to Pinellas County schools. He is seen here at Campbell Park Elementary School in St Petersburg, on May 17th. Also present but not shown are Eric Davis, Mike Berkowitz and Karen Cohen . Photo provided by Valerie Fernandes , FL 78

Steven Plass— Prevention Section Chief

Steve Plass, Staff Officer -Public Education

Flotillas report that *Boating Skills and Seamanship* enrollment has dropped slightly for this cycle. Flotillas 72, 79 and 7-16 are presenting their continuous Boating Skills and Seamanship classes; Flotilla 75 has presented a couple of *About Boating Safely* courses with small attendance.

Flotilla 79 presented a *Paddlesports America* program in September to 17 students. Excellent guest speakers added a lot to the program that received strong positive reviews from the students.

Cinda Hitchcock-Staff Officer Program Visitor

Division program is strong with all Flotillas reporting

visits. A booth was set up at the Tampa Boat Show in September and a booth will be set up at the MacDill Air Show in November with three vessels, an Auxiliary boat facility, JoBe, a personal watercraft (PWC) and Jim Frijouf's classic 1957 Lyman. Division 7 records a little over 1100 Program Visitor visits so far this year.

Zach Lessin-Staff Officer Vessel Examination

Vessel Safety Checks are being conducted in several Flotillas throughout the Division although volume is dropping as the yearend approaches. ☼



News and Articles by Members...

Division 7 Picnic Photo Journal

The Division 7 picnic scheduled for October 9, 2011 at Picnic Island Park, was rained out and moved to indoors to Flotilla 79 in Tampa. Despite the foul weather and the last minute change in location, we had a great turn out and lots of fun. There is a good reason why Fellowship remains one of the four cornerstones of the Auxiliary. It is the glue that binds us.

Many thanks to Cinda Hitchcock and Heleyde Aponte from Flotilla 79 who planned the event. The food, catered by Carrabba's Italian Grill, was scrumptious as were the desserts provided by the members!☼

Flotilla 75 members (clockwise from front left) Vince Yedynak, Mary Yedynak, Judy Clapp, Dottie Engel, Oscar Kramer, Flotilla Vice Commander 75 and his wife, Judy. The Division 'picnic' on October 9, 2011, was moved indoors due to inclement weather.



Division 7 members (from left) Marla Short, Rick Short, Flotilla Commander 72, Gene Keller, Flotilla Vice Commander 72, Tim Teahan, Flotilla Commander 79, Larry Ivey, FL 79, and Monica Cook, FL 72 (seated) and Zach Lessin, FL 79, watch one of Zach's recent videos.



Note: All photos on pages 16-17 by D. Riley, FL 79



News and Articles by Members...

Division 7 Picnic Photo Journal



Members and guests play a friendly game of "Corn Hole" at the Division 7 picnic . Clockwise from left are Amanda Davis, FL 78, Zach Lessin, FL 79, Marla Short, FL 72 and Jessica (Zach Lessin's fiancé).



Cliff Martin is engaged in conversation with Paul Cooke and his wife, Tina, in front of the sign-in table. Both men are members of Flotilla 79



The judges for the dessert contest sample each of the competition entries. From left, Rick Short, Flotilla Commander 72, Judy Clapp FL 75 , with Keith Anderson, FL 78 in the rear.

News and Articles by Members...

Picnic Island Park– Once Tampa Port City

By Dottie Riley



Picnic Island Park boasts beautiful beaches for swimming, playgrounds, sheltered picnic tables, nature walks, a fishing pier and boat docks. Photos by Cinda Hitchcock, FL 79



Lovely, scenic Picnic Island Park was once home to a busy seaport and railway station complete with piers, numerous railroad tracks, a railroad car repair shop, and several hotels drawing upon a thriving tourist trade.

That may be difficult to believe based upon modern topography. The hotels are gone and presumably, the hurricanes that hit Tampa in 1921 and 1925 wiped out the piers. Port Tampa, also known as Passage Point or Black Point, was established between 1885 and 1887 as the end of the Henry Plant Railroad line.

Henry B. Plant, responsible for much of the earliest development of Tampa, owned the railroad lines and rail yards at the end of which he built two hotels. The shallow draft of Tampa Bay made Tampa's main port inaccessible for the larger ships of the day, so Plant built a new port several miles away. To help bring visitors and residents to this new development, Plant built the St. Elmo Hotel and Port Tampa Hotel at the end of his rail line. The Port Tampa Hotel, the larger of the two, was constructed on stilts directly over the bay. Plant wanted more control over his passengers for his steamboat line. The train would pull right out on the dock and guests would step off the steamships right on to the pier and go to either the hotels or the train.

Plant's vision paid off handsomely. Established in 1885, Port Tampa City soon emerged. Homes and businesses sprang up and Port Tampa City boasted a vigorous economy. Port Tampa City was a nine mile trolley ride down the Interbay peninsula from Tampa where by 1891, 205 ships brought 136,000 tons of goods in to port. It boasted cigar factories and stores as well as the homes for port workers, railroad employees, and hotel staff. Most homes are still there today.

In June 1898, Port Tampa and the city of Tampa hosted more than 33,000 visitors including military officers, enlisted men, nurses, civilian

(Continued on page 23)





News and Articles by Members...

Picnic Island Park

(Continued)

clerks, teamsters, packers, stevedores, war correspondents, tourists, and a host of foreign military observers. Wartime notables who passed through Port Tampa included Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders, the Buffalo Soldiers, Clara Barton of the American Red Cross, Richard Harding Davis, Stephen Crane, and Frederic Remington.

Port Tampa became less important when several dredging projects made the Port of Tampa accessible to all shipping. By 1910, the port was no longer a prime location since most were traveling by boat directly to Tampa. The port is still in use, however, and is the main entry point for fuel both to Tampa International Airport and MacDill Air Force Base.

In 1961, the city of Tampa annexed Port Tampa City. By that time, most of the stores and businesses were gone. One of the buildings to escape demolition is a large, neoclassical style building formerly used as a bank and converted to a public library in 1998. What remains of old Port Tampa is largely industrial now.

Gone are the days when the port was famed for being the point from which Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders debarked for the Spanish-American War in Cuba. Gone are the soldiers who were quartered in the adjacent park, and the prestige of Teddy Roosevelt and his staff staying in area homes. Remnants of the old port and shipyards were converted into what we know today as Picnic Island Park, a lovely place to spend a day with friends and family. ❀



A turn of the century postcard depicting Port Tampa



Above: Tampa Port City circa 1903. Note the hotels on the right, the Tampa Port Hotel and St. Elmo's Hotel. (City of Tampa photo archives)

Below: The Port Tampa City Library, once a bank, was spared from demolition and restored. It is home to Tampa's only Maritime Reading Room. Photo by Ron Williams



News and Articles by Members...

The Great Loop

By Valerie Fernandes

After reading an article in the recent Boat US magazine, Valerie Fernandes wondered if possibly she was the only person who never heard of the Great Loop. It peaked her interest, so Valerie 'googled' "great loop", and found a wealth of information on the subject.

From Wikipedia, the definition of the Great Loop:

"The circumnavigation of Eastern North America by water is known as The Great Loop. Also improperly referred to as the Great Circle Route, the trip varies from 5,000 miles to 7,500 miles depending on the options used. The boats used range from personal watercraft (jet-skis) to 60-foot yachts. Both sailboats and powerboats are used but the most common boats are 34 – 45 trawlers. The main factors that govern the size of the boat is the limited draft (5 feet) in some locations on the loop and the height of one bridge (19 feet) in Chicago. People traveling The Great Loop are known as "loopers"."

There is an organization of "Great Loopers" as they are called, the America's Great Loop Cruisers Association. The association sells a white burgee for their members to display. When members complete the loop, they can fly the gold burgee. There is also a platinum burgee for those who have completed the loop multiple times!



The preferred method of travel is to do the loop counterclockwise, enabling boaters to take advantage of the downstream river currents. It is also recommended to do the northern part of the loop in summer, preferably during July and August, the down-river



portion in the fall and winter months, and the eastern seaboard during the spring.

The article in Boat US magazine highlights a man who completed the loop in eight weeks on a pontoon boat. Many loopers are retirees, so they are able to take their time completing the loop. Some folks savor the trip and even take years to complete the loop. There are many side trips on the great loop, like visiting Washington, DC via the Potomac River, which adds time and distance to the loop. Boaters can choose different routes to complete the

loop, like choosing to go through Lake Okeechobee, or circumnavigating the southern tip of Florida. Another choice for boaters is between the Mississippi River and the Tombigbee River on the lower western portion of the loop.

While Valerie was searching the internet for information about the Great Loop, an excellent map of the Great Loop route kept popping up in everyone's article or web site. The map was published by Raven Cove Publishing, so Valerie contacted Raven Cove Publishing to ask permission to use their map in conjunction with an article for Flotilla 78's newsletter, *Scuttlebutt*. Ron Stob of Raven Cove Publishing granted permission to use his map, but by that time, the *Scuttlebutt* had already gone to press. That gave her the idea to write a follow up article with the map and maybe even a quote or two from Ron Stob.

Ron and Eva Stob are founders of America's Great Loop Cruisers Association. They have an informative web site at www.greatloop.com and wrote a book about their adventures. Valerie asked Mr. Stob two questions: What was the best experience you had while doing the loop? What was your most harrowing experience? Here is his interesting snapshot of his and Eva's travels around the Great Loop.

(Continued on page 25)





News and Articles by Members...

The Great Loop (continued)

By Valerie Fernandes

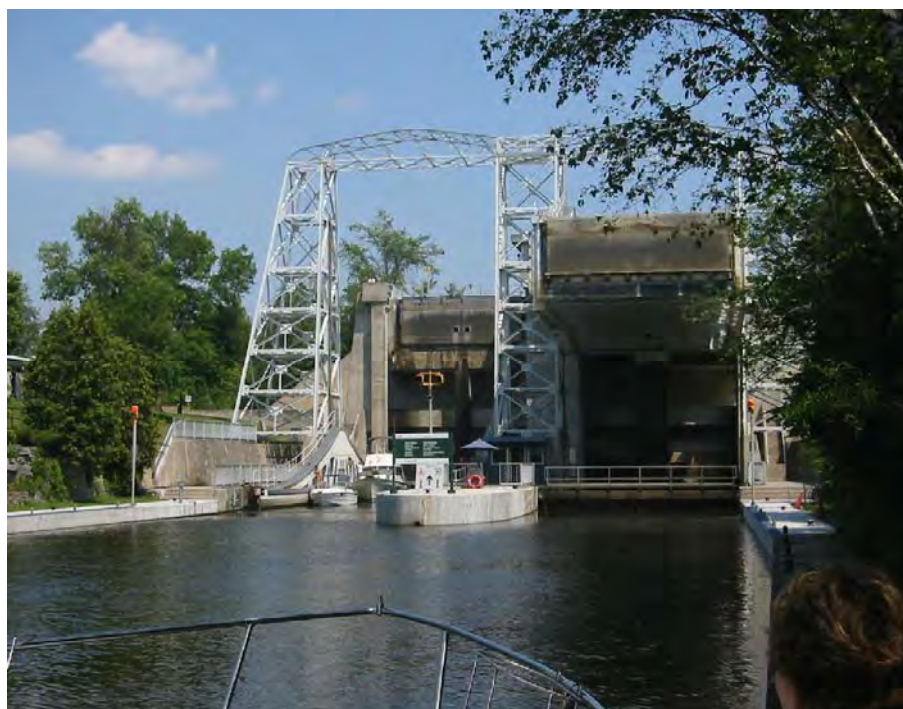
(Continued from page 24)

"The Best Experience we had while doing the Loop was traversing the locks on the Heritage Canals of Canada. Moving from the old port city at Montreal, we progressed on the Ottawa River westward to the capital city of Ottawa and faced a phenomenal set of staircase flight locks leading to the city. It was a one-way trip, all traffic going up in one interval, then down bound traffic following.

"From Ottawa we experienced 47 locks in 125 miles as we moved south toward Kingston. After a short cruise on Lake Ontario, we entered the Trent-Severn Waterway, a squiggly course across Ontario shortcutting the distance from Lake Ontario to Lake Huron, missing entirely the Welland Canal (also a Canadian lock) and Lake Erie. This time it was 230 miles and 43 locks with a few entertaining/challenging/wonderful exciting locks thrown in as we transited the Peterborough and Kirkfield Lift Locks. Entombed in a watery tub, we descended on the Peterborough Lock 65 feet as a counter balance tub, slightly heavier and holding 3,400,000 pounds of water went up.

"To top off the fun, the lock engineers fashioned the Big Chute Marine Railway near the end of the waterway. We slid into a railed gantry, slings wrapped us from girth to gunwale, and then we rode up and over the hill, high and dry with our rudders exposed and our props dripping and back into the water again. Who says engineers don't have a sense of humor?

"The Most Harrowing Experience on our (nearly) year-long odyssey was experiencing open ocean and big sounds. When we left Cape May, N.J., for a three-day run to New York City, the seas were a bit rough, but this was, after all, the ocean with a fetch from the East Coast to the shores of Normandy. The weather settled in and only the swells from continuing southerly



Kirkfield Lift Lock. Photograph by TheWaterway.ca and publicly available on Google Earth.

winds built formidable waves, or swells, which were not swell at all, and which grew bigger by the hour. As we neared the Manasquan Inlet, we were a bobber in the sea, at times out of sight of land as we rode up waves, then teetered on the top and slid down faster moving waves until we were literally wallowing in aimless wonder and puking uncertainty. I fought the boat to keep it straight, lest we broach and become a statistic. Never before had safe harbor meant so much and I recalled biblical stories of men being storm-tossed and afraid.

"Large bodies of water – Eastern Sounds, Georgian Bay, and Lake Michigan all provided uncomfortable situations, but even with minimal boating experience before this trip, we arrived back at our starting point in Fort Lauderdale with nary a scratch, bent prop or ruined disposition. Boating after all is adventure, rich and unforgettable."

Are any of you loopers? Do we have any in Division 7? ♣

News and Articles by Members...

One is not like the other...

By Dottie Riley

Division 7 conducted its annual Harbor Patrol Training on September 29 at Flotilla 79 followed by a tour of the Port of Tampa on Saturday, October 1, 2011.

With a focus on proper uniform wear, we took the group photo taken at the end of the tour, and with help of a photo editing program, turned it into a popular game. How many differences can you find in the two

photos below? (You may need to increase the page size to see clearly.) The first is the unedited photograph while the second is altered.

Our intention is to encourage members to take pride in their uniform. We represent not only our flotillas and the Auxiliary, but the Coast Guard as well!☼



Note: Auxiliary policy forbids altering photographs. In this instance, we have purposefully altered the photograph and identified it as a manipulated image. Do not reproduce or publish the bottom photograph!





News and Articles by Members...

Uniform Wear

By Dottie Riley and Linda Barnard

The most common error found in Auxiliary newsletters within District 7 is photographs of Auxiliarists not wearing the uniform correctly. Improper uniform wear is more common than errors in punctuation, grammar, spelling and incorrect unit and office designations!

Most of the text for this article is taken directly from Chapter 10 of the new Auxiliary Manual. We encourage every member to review the entire chapter and not just the items highlighted here.

C.1. Setting an Example

Elected and appointed leaders are expected to wear the uniform properly to set an example. They must help other Auxiliarists develop proper habits of per-

sonal appearance, hygiene, and grooming when wearing the uniform.

Uniforms shall be pressed, clean, fit properly, and be in good repair. The nature of Auxiliary uniform policies occasionally warrant the authorized wear of specific items until they are no longer in serviceable condition. A uniform item shall be considered no longer serviceable when any aspect of it is irreparably damaged, soiled, stained, frayed, worn, discolored, faded, or altered. All Auxiliarists, particularly those in leadership positions, have the responsibility to render judgments and take appropriate action regarding adherence to the Coast Guard's high standards of appearance relative to the serviceability of uniform items as worn by themselves and their fellow Auxiliarists. ⚓

D.3.b. Auxiliary Ball Cap

The Auxiliary ball cap is the cap most commonly worn by Auxiliarists when a ball cap is authorized with certain uniforms. It shall be well-formed and in good condition with no soiling, fading, or tears. Its full front panel shall display in embroidered lettering, U.S. COAST GUARD arched and centered over, AUXILIARY. Letters are silver colored, ½ inch high. Beneath this lettering, Auxiliarists may have inscribed, in the same type lettering, the number of their flotilla, division, and/or district/region. An example would be, FLOT 11-4. Ball caps for Division Commanders and above that



have silver embroidered visor ornamentation similar to that on the combination cap visor (i.e., scrambled eggs) will no longer be authorized for wear as of 31 December 2012. Caps that have mesh backs will no longer be authorized for wear as of 31 December 2012.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary garrison cap device is not displayed on this ball cap. Auxiliarists must wear either the metal office collar insignia or the member collar insignia (embroidered/sew-on versions will no longer be authorized for wear as of 31 December 2012). Such insignia shall be worn centered between the U.S. COAST GUARD and AUXILIARY. ⚓

Operational Dress Uniform (ODU)

The Operational Dress Uniform (ODU) is the principal general purpose, every day Coast Guard uniform. It may be worn year-round primarily as a field utility and watchstanding uniform. It is intended for wear in any situation that does not require a dress uniform, including patrols, vessel safety checks, and Coast Guard unit office wear at Commanding Officer's discretion. It shall not be worn as a substitute for coveralls.

Auxiliarists shall pay particular attention to appear-

ance while wearing the ODU. It shall be serviceable, well-maintained, clean, and not faded or discolored. In addition to the following general provisions, proper wear and maintenance shall be as prescribed in the Uniform Regulations, COMDTINST M1020.6 (series), or other relevant, interim Coast Guard policy. The untucked version of the ODU has black Coast Guard emblems embossed on them in several locations. Untucked ODUs are not produced without the emblems. Therefore, Auxiliarists are authorized to wear the untucked ODU version with the embossed Coast Guard

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News and Articles by Members...

Uniform Wear

(Continued)

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emblems. Moreover, although the untucked ODU is the prescribed version, Auxiliarists are authorized to wear the tucked ODU version until no longer serviceable.

H.4.a. Trousers

Trousers may be tucked into the boots or bloused. When bloused, place blousing bands between the second and third boot eyelet. If tucked into boots, the trouser legs should be shaped to present a bloused appearance. Trousers shall be worn straight with boat shoes. Cargo pockets may be used, but items stowed shall not take away from a smart appearance.

H.4.b. Belt

The buckle and belt tip of the standard 1¼-inch black ODU belt must not be chipped or discolored. The bitter end shall extend 2 to 4 inches past the belt buckle (subdued version) on the wearer's left. The basic riggers belt is an authorized optional belt for ODU wear. This belt is a 1¾-inch black nylon belt. When worn, the bitter end shall stop behind, but not past, the first belt loop on the wearer's left. This will require the belt be passed through the belt loops from the right, the opposite of other men's belts. This belt also comes in one size, and it must be properly cut to size.

C.3.m. Miscellaneous Articles

Many articles should not be worn or carried exposed on the uniform. These articles include pencils, pens, watch chains or fobs, pins, handkerchiefs, combs, cigarettes, cigars, pipes and similar items. ☼



Cliff Martin, Division 7 Staff Officer-Member Training and Operations facilitated the Harbor Patrol Training. Martin serves as an ex-

C.3.p. Eyewear

Frame and lens styles will be conservative and in good taste. Mirrored lenses are prohibited while in



A.4. Instructors (IT) and Assistants

All instructors (IT) and assistant ITs in Public Education classes shall be in a uniform appropriate to the setting and climate. Authorized uniforms include the Undress Blue (Alpha), Tropical Blue, Winter Dress Blue, or Service Dress Blue uniforms. The Auxiliary Blue Blazer outfit may also be worn. The uniform worn should be consistent with the one worn by the senior IT, if practical. ☼





News and Articles by Members...

Write your Flotilla Number Correctly

Per the Auxiliary Manual (COMDTINST M16790.1G), Chapter 4, A.4. Designation:

Auxiliary flotillas are designated by Arabic numerals. The first numeral indicates the division, followed by the flotilla number. The name of the city or town in which the flotilla is located completes the designation. For example, Flotilla 32, St. Louis, is Division 3, Flotilla 2, located at St. Louis, Missouri. Different flotillas in the same area must, for record purposes, have different names. New flotillas should use the name of the community, body of water, or other name identified with the locale. When either the number of divisions or the number of flotillas exceeds nine, use a hyphen between the flotilla and division number. For example, 11-4 or 6-10.

Flotilla 7-9 ✗
 070-07-02 ✗
 Flotilla 7-16 ✓
 Flotilla 74 ✓

Do not use leading zeros or write dashes unless either number exceeds nine!

Note: The number 070-07-08 is strictly for data input in AUXINFO and AUXDATA.

New Auxiliary Manual Is Available for Download

The Chief Director's office has announced the availability of the official copy of the new Auxiliary Manual COMDTINST M16790.1G for download.

The 710-page, 9.76 megabyte document may be accessed at the following temporary URL:

http://documents.cgaux.org/temp/Auxiliary-Manual-CIM16790_1.pdf



Division 7 and Flotilla 7-16 Welcome New AUXCHEF Graduate.



Donald Rimel, FSO-PA, 7-16 (right) receives his AUXCHEF certificate from Jim Newman, Flotilla Commander 7-16 on Sept. 21, 2011. Donald said rumors that he burned the salad are completely unfounded. (Reprinted with permission from the September issue of *Beacon*, newsletter of FL 7-16.

News and Articles by Members...

Mentorship

Mentoring is a tool that organizations use to nurture and grow their people. Mentees observe, question, and explore. Mentors demonstrate, explain, and model. Fortune 500 companies take advantage of mentoring programs to both decrease attrition and to increase their employees' level of job satisfaction.

As a volunteer organization, the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary can learn from these companies' successes and mistakes when developing mentoring programs. This is of critical importance within the Auxiliary where both lengths of membership and member activity levels depend upon the volunteer's personal satisfaction with our organization.

The following assumptions form the foundation for a solid mentoring program.

Deliberate learning is the cornerstone. The mentor's job is to promote intentional learning, which includes capacity building through methods such as instructing, coaching, providing experiences, modeling and advising.

Both failure and success are powerful teachers. Mentors, as leaders of a learning experience, certainly need to share their "how to do it so it comes out right" stories. They also need to share their experiences of failure, i.e., "how I did it wrong". Both types of stories are powerful lessons that provide valuable opportunities for analyzing individual and organizational realities.

Leaders need to tell their stories. Personal scenarios including anecdotes and case examples should be shared because they offer valuable, often unforgettable insight. Mentors who can talk about themselves and their experiences establish a rapport that makes them "learning leaders".

Development of the mentor-mentee relationship matures over time. Mentoring -- when it works -- taps into continuous learning that is not an event or even a string of discrete events. Rather, it is the synthesis of ongoing events, experiences, observation, and thoughtful analyses.

Regular communication is important in order to maintain the mentor-mentee relationship effectively.

Mentoring is a joint venture. Successful mentoring means sharing responsibility for learning. Regardless of the facilities, the subject matter, the timing, and all other variables, successful mentoring begins with setting a contract for learning agreed upon by the mentor and the mentee.

An important element of the mentoring relationship is setting and facilitating clearly defined learning objectives. The process may begin with a first meeting where both parties discuss their expectations. Objectives that are more detailed can be defined and adopted as the relationship evolves. The closer the communication, the more likely the program will be successful.

Phases of a Mentoring Relationship

The mentoring relationship typically has four distinct phases:

1. Orientation - Building the Base

During the first three to six months, both the mentor and mentee get to know each other and build trust and develop expectations of each other. This stage lays the foundation for a strong and beneficial relationship.

2. The Middle Period

The middle phase is typically the most rewarding time for both mentor and mentee. The mutual trust developed between the two can give the mentee the confidence to challenge the ideas of the mentor, just as the mentee's ideas are challenged by the mentor.

3. Dissolving the Relationship

Typically, the relationship begins to draw apart after a year or two. It is important at this stage that the mentor steps back from the formal relationship.

4. Redefining the Relationship

The mentor-mentee relationship enters a new phase where both can regard one another as equals. They continue to interact, although it is now on a more casual basis.

Mentoring relationships do not always succeed. Some

(Continued on page 31)





News and Articles by Members...

Mentorship (continued)

(Continued from page 30)

of the most frequent problems with mentoring relationships include:

1. 'Mismatch' Between Mentor and Mentee

A mismatch between the mentor and the mentee can be a cause of failure in the relationship. One or both members may feel uneasy with the other, or they may not be able to achieve the level of friendship necessary for rich communication. Under such circumstances, it may be necessary to assign the new volunteer to a different mentor. If the problem is identified during the first few months of the relationship, the change can usually be made in an amicable way with no hard feelings on either side.

2. Unrealistic Expectations

Problems in the relationship can also occur if the mentee expects or demands too much from the mentor. It is important, therefore, that expectations are clearly defined from the beginning. The new member should not expect the relationship to meet every need, nor for it to continue indefinitely.

3. Breaches of Confidentiality

In order to develop the type of relationship in which the mentor can be effective, he or she must first be perceived as trustworthy and able to keep confidences.

Codes of conduct regarding the confidential nature of the relationship as well as those of the Auxiliary should be clearly defined and understood by both parties at the beginning of every mentoring relationship.

Adapted from <http://www.sonic.net/~mfreeman/mentor.htm> (A free information site on the web)



Benefits of a Mentoring Program

Benefits for Mentees

- A nonthreatening learning opportunity
- Improved self-confidence
- Developing expertise and technical knowledge
- Challenge
- Support and reassurance
- Networking/partnership opportunities
- Coaching
- Listening and reassurance

Benefits for the Mentor

- Increased motivation
- Challenge
- New insights and perspectives
- An opportunity for self-development
- Increased self-esteem and satisfaction
- The opportunity to positively influence the next generation of members
- Increased peer recognition

Benefits for the Auxiliary

- Fewer dis-enrollments of members
- More qualified members to fulfill United States Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary missions



SO-PB 7
1630 Wakefield Drive
Brandon, FL 33511-2325
E-mail: SO-PB@cgauxdiv7-7.org



Submission Guidelines:

The Intercom is always looking for articles about Auxiliarists, stories of interest, and photographs. Your articles need not be long; just make sure you include all of the basics: **Who** are you writing about? **What** is the topic or event? **Where** does the story take place (location)? **When** did, or **when will** this event take place, and finally, **Why** is this of interest, or **How** was this accomplished? Provide as much information as possible, and always include your email address or phone number. When typing, please **do not** use all caps.

Photographs should always be high resolution images. Use a digital camera that shoots images at 3 mega-pixels or better. Do not reduce the image or crop the photo unless you are an experienced user of one of the high-end photo-editing programs, i.e., *Photoshop CS®*. The final print resolution should be 300 dpi. If this sounds confusing, just send the image straight from your camera and add a description that includes who and what is depicted in the photograph, and the name of the person who took the photograph.

Take a camera with you everywhere! Vessel examinations, member training, patrols, Public Education programs and fellowship events are all great photo opportunities. Be proud of everything that you do, and brag a little bit about each other! It is a wonderful way to express appreciation for a member's efforts.