



- **D-Train: *What's it all about?* -page 8**
- **Hurricane Ian in Tampa Bay -page 11**



CONTENTS

- 4 From the Helm:
Daniel Helou, DCDR
- 5 From the Helm:
Dean Hoskin, VCDR
- 6 **Division 7 Begins New Boat
Crew Training Class**
- 8 **D-Train: What is it, and why I
should attend in 2023?**
- 11 **Hurricane Ian Ravages Florida
Tampa Bay Largely Spared.**
- 12 **Hurricane Ian Photos**
- 16 **Auxiliary Election Results 2022**
- 17 **New Uniforms Coming Soon.**
- 18 **Division 7 Holds Change-of-
Watch Ceremony at Sector St.
Petersburg.**
- 19 **Annual Historical Flotilla
Awards**
- 20 **Bits 'n Pieces**
- 22 **Division 7 Members Assist
Coast Guard With Training.**
- 24 **Fire!**
- 26 **FWC responds to red tide in
Southwest Florida.**
- 27 **Water Quality Program: Is Your
Water Clean?**
- 28 **Strengthening our Flotillas by
Developing our Members**
- 29 **November is Manatee Aware-
ness Month**
- 30 **USCGC Douglas Munro Com-
memoration Ceremony**
- 32 **History of the USCGC Douglas
Munro.**
- 33 **Auxiliarist of the Year
Lifetime Achievement Award**

INTERCOM

Newsletter for Division 7 Tampa Bay, District 7, USCG Auxiliary
Winter 2022

Division 7 Elected Officers 2022

Div 7	Division Commander	Daniel Helou, CMDR
Div 7	Division Vice Commander	Dean Hoskin, VCDR
Div 7	Immed. Past Division Commander	Anthony Novellino, IPDCDR
FL-72	Flotilla Commander	Jack Lee, FC
	Flotilla Vice Commander	George Hornby III, VFC
FL-74	Flotilla Commander	William Sage, FC
	Flotilla Vice Commander	Dorothy Riley, VFC
FL-75	Flotilla Commander	Gary Mull Jr., FC
	Flotilla Vice Commander	Eliezer Seda, VFC
FL-77	Flotilla Commander	John Laurent, FC
	Flotilla Vice Commander	Gilbert Thomas, VFC
FL-78	Flotilla Commander	Rollin Shouse, Jr., FC
	Flotilla Vice Commander	Anne-Marie Woolsey, VFC
FL-79	Flotilla Commander	J. Michael Shea, FC
	Flotilla Vice Commander	George Bartuska, VFC
FL-7-16	Flotilla Commander	William Zinner, FC
	Flotilla Vice Commander	Howard Bush, VFC



We're on the web!

<http://A07007.wow.uscgaux.info>

*You can contact any of our officers
on the Division 7 web page!*

Division 7 Appointed Staff 2022

Communications	Howard Bush, SO-CM
Communication Services	Robert Witty, SO-CS
Diversity	John Kline, SO-DV
Finance	Catherine Campbell-Heroux, SO-FN
Auxiliary Food Service	Patrick McAlvey, SO-FS
Information Services	John Robbins, SO-IS
Human Resources	Rick Hockinson, SO-HR
Materials	Anthony Hooper, SO-MA
Marine Safety	John Laurent, SO-MS
Member Training	Rollin Shouse III, SO-MT
Navigation Systems	Anthony Hooper, SO-NS
Operations	Anthony Novellino, SO-OP
Public Affairs	Daniel Helou, SO-PA
Publications	Dorothy J. Riley, SO-PB
Public Education	James Fogle, SO-PE
Partner Visits	D. Terry Hershman, SO-PV
Secretary	Anne-Marie Woolsey, SO-SR
Vessel Examinations	Raymond Langley, SO-VE
Auxiliary Scouting Program	Stephen Browning, SO-AS

Intercom is a publication of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Division Seven, District Seven. The cost of publication is provided by dues-paying members of the Auxiliary, an organization of unpaid, civilian volunteers whose mission is to assist the U.S. Coast Guard in promoting boating safety. Articles may be reprinted only with the express consent of the author or photographer, with proper credit given to same. For permissions or for more information, please contact the editor, Dorothy Joan Riley, SO-PB, email address:

dottieriley@gmail.com

COVER: ORLANDO, Fla.— Second floor corridor at D-Train, Sept. 16, 2022. Frame: Photos by members, Valerie Fernandes and R. Michael Stringer in overlays. Illustration and central photo by Dorothy Riley.

To navigate the pages, click on the article's title at left. To return to the 'Contents' page, click on the 'Home' button at the bottom of each page.



FROM THE HELM

"You cannot lead where you do not go. You cannot teach what you do not know."



Daniel Helou
Division Commander
District Captain-West (elect)



Commemorative trophy presented to Daniel Helou to express appreciation at the Division 7 Change of Watch by division leadership.

Recent studies estimate that about a hundred million people volunteer annually, with an annual value of \$150 billion. These figures inspire me to realize that we have a vast pool of potential members; we must be more proactive, invite them into service, and continue to make it worth their investment of time and treasure.

As I prepare for my role as District Captain West, I'm so encouraged that the energy, initiative, and commitment is truly present in the leaders I've met while attending and certifying flotilla and division elections. I am privileged to have been guided by my predecessor Toni Borman, DCAPT-W, and my predecessor as, Division Commander, Tony Novellino, DDC-L. Of course, in proper succession, I am pleased to announce my successor as Division 7 Commander, my former vice: Dean Hoskin. Dean will be joined on the Bridge by the brilliant Tony Hooper, newly elected Division 7 Vice Commander. My initial agenda for 2023 will be doubling the number of members serving with us in District 7. I hope to share foundational strategies for recruiting and retaining new members through the application of a few guiding principles: "Fun, Friendship, Mission, and Mastery." Of course, I will be visiting all the stations in my area of responsibility in person, as we all appreciate the privilege of meeting face to face once again. "You cannot lead where you do not go; You cannot teach what you do not know."

Trust your division and flotilla commanders and vice-commanders. They have taken on the mantle of leadership and the responsibility for encouraging you, teaching you, praising your efforts, supporting your goals, and recognizing your accomplishments.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of your flotilla. Therefore, strong programs are rooted in good leadership. Note that leadership is about more than just supervising volunteers. Successful programs plan for all stages of member involvement:

- Recruitment – Learning the language of acronyms
- Personal security investigation screening
- Discovering interests: boating safety, outreach, administration, and public affairs. (Listen to your people.)
- Member orientation and training
- Engaged supervision: "Inspect what you expect."
- Engagement and retention: "People will support what they help to create."
- Member recognition and appreciation- REMEMBER THEIR NAMES. When you use someone's name, it shows you see that person as an individual. When you remember it, it shows your interest in and respect for that individual. In business, knowing someone's name can make a difference in how that person feels about you and your brand.
- Fun is the secret ingredient to

(Continued on bottom of page 5)



FROM THE HELM

It is a great honor to have been chosen this year as the Division 7 Commander. I am also honored to have Tony Hopper serving as our newly elected Division 7 Vice Commander. Our Immediate Past Division 7 Commander, Daniel Helou, has moved up to his new position as District 7 Captain West. Division 7, as well as District 7, has a tremendous fullness in its history of accomplishments throughout the years.

The last two years have been rough for the Auxiliary and yet we have prevailed in so many ways. Even during those rough two years, we have seen an increase in our activity hours. Additionally, operational activities with on-water training for new crew members have once again started.

Recently we were asked to assist the Coast Guard with qualifying some of their crew and coxswains. One of our surface facilities, along with the Auxiliary crew assisted the Coast Guard with towing evolution, de-watering operations, and the transport of an Auxiliary crew member simulating a cardiac arrest. We are bringing more surface facilities into use to

aid with our new crew classes.

Our Radio Communications will expand again this year by reactivating some of our previous radio facilities and our mobile radio units. Public Education and Boating Safety Classes are going strong, and I look forward to seeing those classes grow in the next year. Public activities will be coming back, with boat and air shows planned.

I am very excited about the possibilities of what we will be able to accomplish this coming year. New members will be joining us and providing opportunities for all our members to re-engage in the many avenues the Auxiliary has to offer.

Dean William Hoskin

Division 7 Vice Commander,
Division Commander (elect)

"Happy holidays and Happy New Year! May 2023 be a stellar year!"



Dean Hoskin
Division Vice Commander
Division Commander (elect)

Daniel Helou, (continued)

new member engagement. Sure, it's important to draft job descriptions and familiarize your volunteers with the internal communication system. Still, creating an environment where your members will have fun and enjoy their work is equally as essential.

- One of the ways to achieve this is to encourage an environment where members can quickly develop personal, emotional, and professional connections. Working as a team (boat crew, radio, public affairs events, photography, set-up,

culinary assistant.) Serving together will really solidify those crucial connections and relationships.

As we close the door on 2022, I am grateful for Commodore McMenamin's leadership; and encouraged to have COMO John Holmes and Martin Goodwin, District Chief of Staff, leading us all into the future supporting the Coast Guard missions and the boating public.

Daniel Helou, Commander Division 7





Division 7 Begins New Boat Crew Training Class

Contributors: George Papabeis, Howard Bush, Dorothy Riley



Participants of the 2022 Boat Crew Training class include instructors, trainees, mentors, and members required to recertify to avoid 'Required Yearly, Not Met' (REYR) status. Back row: Tony Novellino, Staff Officer-Operations, Miguel Marquez-Reines and Dean Bell from Flotilla 79, Tampa; Clark Pittman and Steve Williams from Flotilla 74, Brandon; Jeff Agrall, Flotilla 78, St. Pete Beach; August Miller, Flotilla 74, Brandon; Charles Lambeth, Flotilla 78, St. Pete Beach. Front Row: Dean Hoskin, Division 7 Vice Commander; Bill Ackerman, Flotilla 7-16, Gulfport; Joseph Silva, Flotilla 75, Apollo Beach; Tanner Piliago, Flotilla 74 Brandon, Jamy Agrall, Flotilla 78, St. Pete Beach; Joe Primosh, Flotilla 76 St. Pete Beach. USCG Auxiliary photo by George Papabeis, Flotilla 74, Brandon.

The 2022 Division 7 Boat Crew Training program started Thursday, Oct 6, at 7 p.m. at Flotilla 79, Tampa. George Papabeis, Flotilla 74, Brandon, initiated the class and enlisted Dean Bell, Flotilla 79, Tampa, and Tony Novellino, Division 7 Staff Officer-Operations. Papabeis made the calls that secured a commitment from trainees and recruited instructors, mentors, coxswains, and qualified crew. Once in motion, several members stepped in to offer assistance and resources. Seamanship Fundamentals, Boat Operations, and Rescue and Survival are taught Thursday evenings at Flotilla 79, with surface training offered on Saturdays.

Bravo Zulu to everyone who assisted or participated in this endeavor! Contact Dean Bell if you can offer a vessel for use, a coxswain, or crew for the training. Ω

Captions, facing page: Top left: Bill Ackerman teaches Tanner Piliago and August Miller how to plot. Auxiliary photo by George Papabeis

Top right: Boat crew class on its first on-the-water training mission Oct. 29. Dean Bell, coxswain, facing Steve Williams. Behind them are Miguel Marquez-Reines, August Miller and Clark Pittman. USCG Auxiliary photo by George Papabeis

Center: The crew of Auxiliary facility "Duty Calls" are thrilled to be on the water for crew training. Dean Hoskin, coxswain is at the helm with Charles Lambeth beside him and Division 7 Crew Class trainees.

Lower right: Flags waving on the stern of a vessel. USCG Auxiliary photo by Valerie Fernandes.

Lower left: Nautical lines. Unsplash free to use.



D-Train: What is it, and why I should attend in 2023?

By Dorothy Riley, Staff Officer-Publications, Division 7



"I smiled so much that my cheeks hurt!"

That was how one member at "Fun Night" described the joy of seeing old friends and colleagues again at D-Train.

After a two-year hiatus due to COVID, District 7 held D-TRAIN 2022, District 7 Board Meeting and Training, Sept. 13 - 18, 2022, at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando.

Friday afternoon's District 7 Board Meeting comprised addresses by Auxiliary leaders and Coast Guard guests, elections for district officers, and the presentation of numerous awards to units and members. The ceremony for sending off members who died the previous year was especially touching. The Coast Guard Pipe Band members played "Amazing Grace" as they exited the room, allowing the sounds to fade into the distance.

Coast Guard guests included Capt. Troy P. Glendye, Chief Director of the Auxiliary and Coast Guard Office Boating Safety; Capt. Tina J. Pena, Commander, Air Station Borinquen; Cmdr. Navin L. Griffin, Director of Auxiliary District 7; and BOSN4 Hailie Browne, Operations Training Officer District 7. Capt. Glendye pointed out that during the pandemic, we lost approximately 2,000 members. Opportunities to serve our Coast Guard partners have expanded, making recruiting a vital mission.

Capt. Glendye authenticated the District 7 elections. John Holmes, District Chief of Staff (DCOS), was elected District Commodore 7. Martin Goodwin, DCAPT-North, will serve as DCOS beginning in 2023. The new District Captains (DCAPTs) are Daniel Helou, DCAPT-West; Doug Armstrong, DCAPT-East; and James Parker, DCAPT-North. Information tables lined the main



D-Train: What is it, and why I should attend in 2023?

(continued from previous page)

corridor. Auxiliary specialists scheduled workshops all day Saturday and Sunday morning. Topics encompassed the Auxiliary Information System and Auxiliary Data, Communications, issues relevant to Recreational Boating Safety Partner Visits and Vessel Safety Checks, leadership topics, aviation and operational matters, Public Affairs, and Publications, to name just a few. In addition, the district materials store was open to the members. The best part, however, was seeing old friends and familiar faces.

Rear Admiral Brendan McPherson, Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District, delivered the keynote address at Friday night's Commodore's Banquet. The frocking of the new district officers was the evening's highlight. The dinner included more award presentations. Saturday night's "Fun Night" featured a wonderful dinner, dancing to a live band, and lots of laughter.

Division 7 members spotted at D-Train included Daniel Helou, Division 7 Commander; David Rockwell, Auxiliary Sector Coordinator St. Petersburg; Anthony Hooper, Flotilla 72, St. Petersburg; Gilbert Thomas, Flotilla Commander Flotilla 74, Polk County; Jose Diaz-Lizardo and Miguel Dumas, also from Flotilla 77; Brenda Burger, Flotilla 78, St. Pete Beach, and Dorothy Riley, Flotilla 74 Brandon. Daniel Helou, Division Commander 7 is presently the District Captain-West (elect). We are very proud of him!

Division 7 "Intercom" earned first place in the District 7 Publications newsletter competition in the division category.

Attendance was down from pre-pandemic events. Many members were reluctant about attending group events. With Florida having the sixth highest COVID infection rate in the nation, district leaders took plenty of precautions, including requiring members to be vaccinat-

ed against the virus or presenting a negative COVID test. Face masks were made available to all members at registration. Members who did attend had a wonderful time and look forward to D-Train in 2023. Ω



District 7 D-Train, Sept. 13 - 18, 2022, Orlando, Fla.- Facing page/top: Brenda Burger from Flotilla 78, St. Pete Beach.

Facing page/mid-page: Anthony Hooper from Flotilla 72, St. Petersburg and Joe Erdman, Flotilla 44, Daytona Beach. No, they are not just playing with Tonka toys. They are hosting an aids to navigation display that includes bridge lights.

Facing page/bottom: Toni Borman, current DCAPT-West congratulates Dan Heou, DCAPT-West (e).

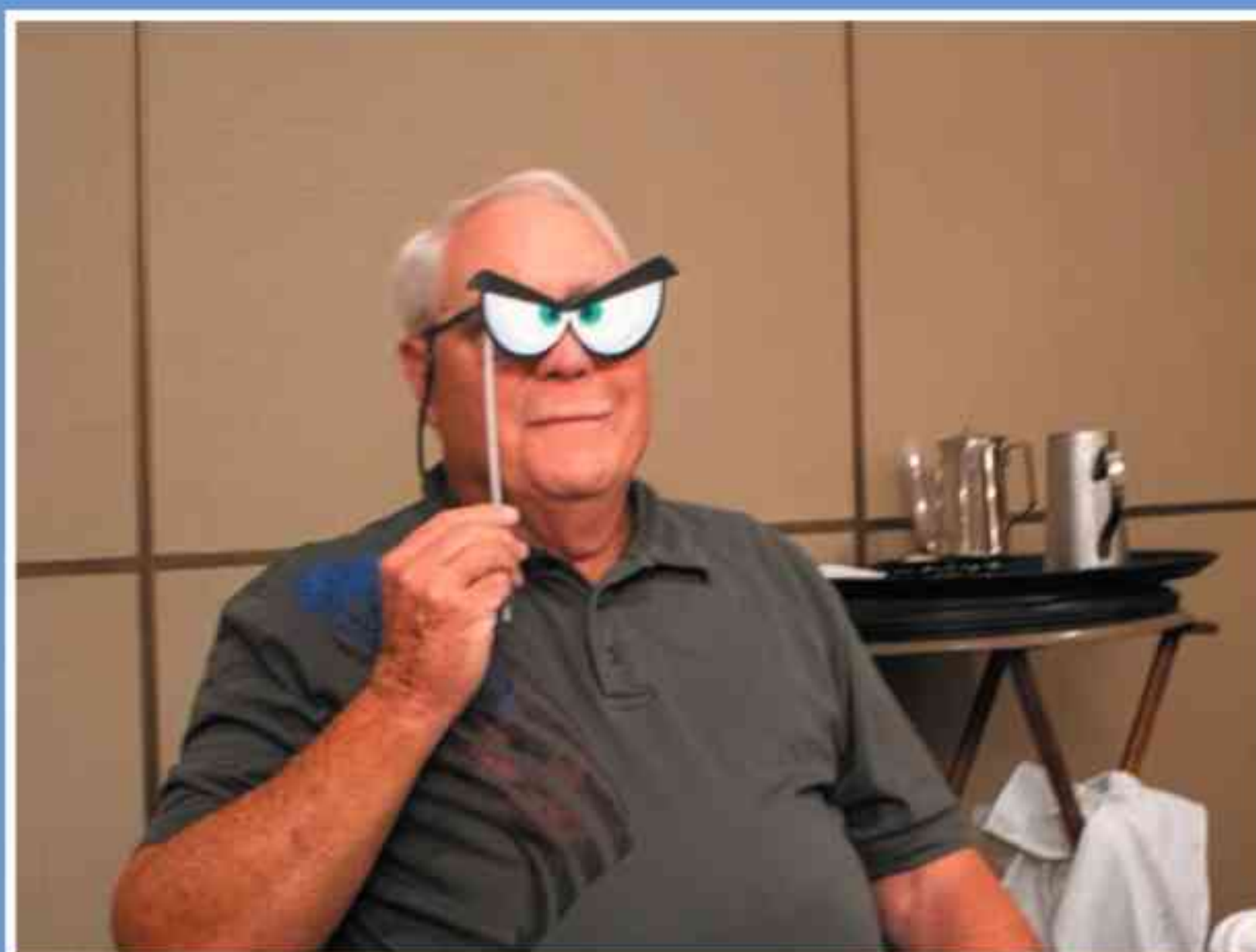
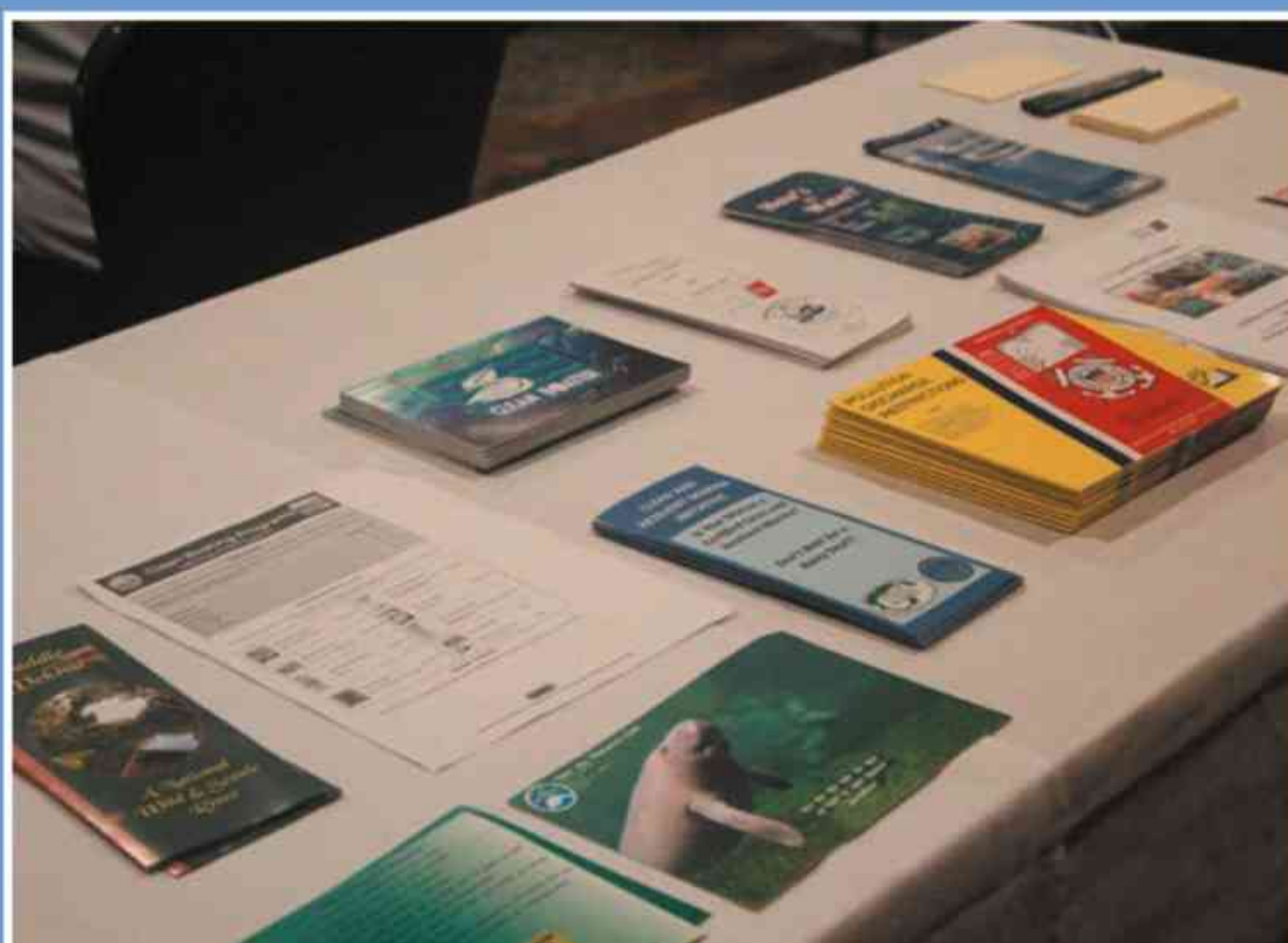
Will the Real Three Amigos Please Stand up?

This page/top: Gilbert Thomas, Miguel Dumas and Jose Diaz-Lizardo from Flotilla 77 Polk County take a coffee break.

This page/bottom: Daniel Helou, David Rockwell and Tony Hooper before the Commodore's Banquet. USCG Auxiliary photos By Dorothy Riley and R. Michael Stringer



A Look at D-Train



Lower left: David Rockwell poses the question, "Are we having fun yet?"

Top right: A Marine Safety Information table set up in the high-traffic second floor corridor.

Mid-page right: Dorothy Riley accepts the Best Division Newsletter award from COMO Pat McMenamin, Cmdr. Navin L. Griffin, Director of Auxiliary District 7 (left) and Capt. Troy P. Glendye, Chief Director of the Auxiliary and Coast Guard Office Boating Safety. John Holmes, DCOS is behind them on the podium.

Right: Karen Miller, Division 11 Staff Officer-Publications assists in presenting a workshop on publishing newsletters. USCG Auxiliary photographs by R. Michael Stringer and Dorothy Riley



Hurricane Ian Ravages Florida

Tampa Bay Largely Spared.

By Dorothy Riley



Hurricane Ian made landfall in south Florida on Sept. 28 as a category-four hurricane. It was the ninth named storm, fourth hurricane, and second major hurricane of the 2022 Atlantic hurricane season. Ian caused catastrophic damage in our state with losses currently estimated at \$64 billion and over 150 lives lost. South Florida was devastated. What the 150 mph winds did not flatten, the storm surge demolished.

Aside from fallen trees and debris, some light structural damage, and loss of power in more than 900,000 homes, the Tampa Bay region was spared from Hurricane Ian's harshest winds and surge. Several of our members remained without power until Oct. 5. Strong winds from the storm – even though its eye was about 200 miles away from Tampa Bay, pushed water out of the bays and bayous, including Hillsborough Bay along Bayshore Boulevard and the Intracoastal areas in Pinellas County. This resulted in damage to countless boats and docks.

Many Tampa Bay homes sustained wind damage. Hurricane Ian uprooted trees and strewn branches and shingles over yards and roadways. While we

sympathize with our neighbors who were in the path of Hurricane Ian and the storm's surge, we dare be grateful that we were largely spared its worst effects. Ω



Evacuation route? Air and Marine Operations aircrews respond to affected areas along Florida's coast after Hurricane Ian made landfall. Crews are ready with hoist-capable aircraft to assist anyone in need of emergency extraction. Photo by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Ozzy Trevino.



Hurricane Ian in South Florida



Damaged boats are seen downtown after Hurricane Ian caused widespread destruction in Fort Myers, Florida, U.S., September 29, 2022. REUTERS/Marco Bello

Below: Sanibel Island. Submitted by Daniel Helou



Hurricane Ian in Tampa Bay



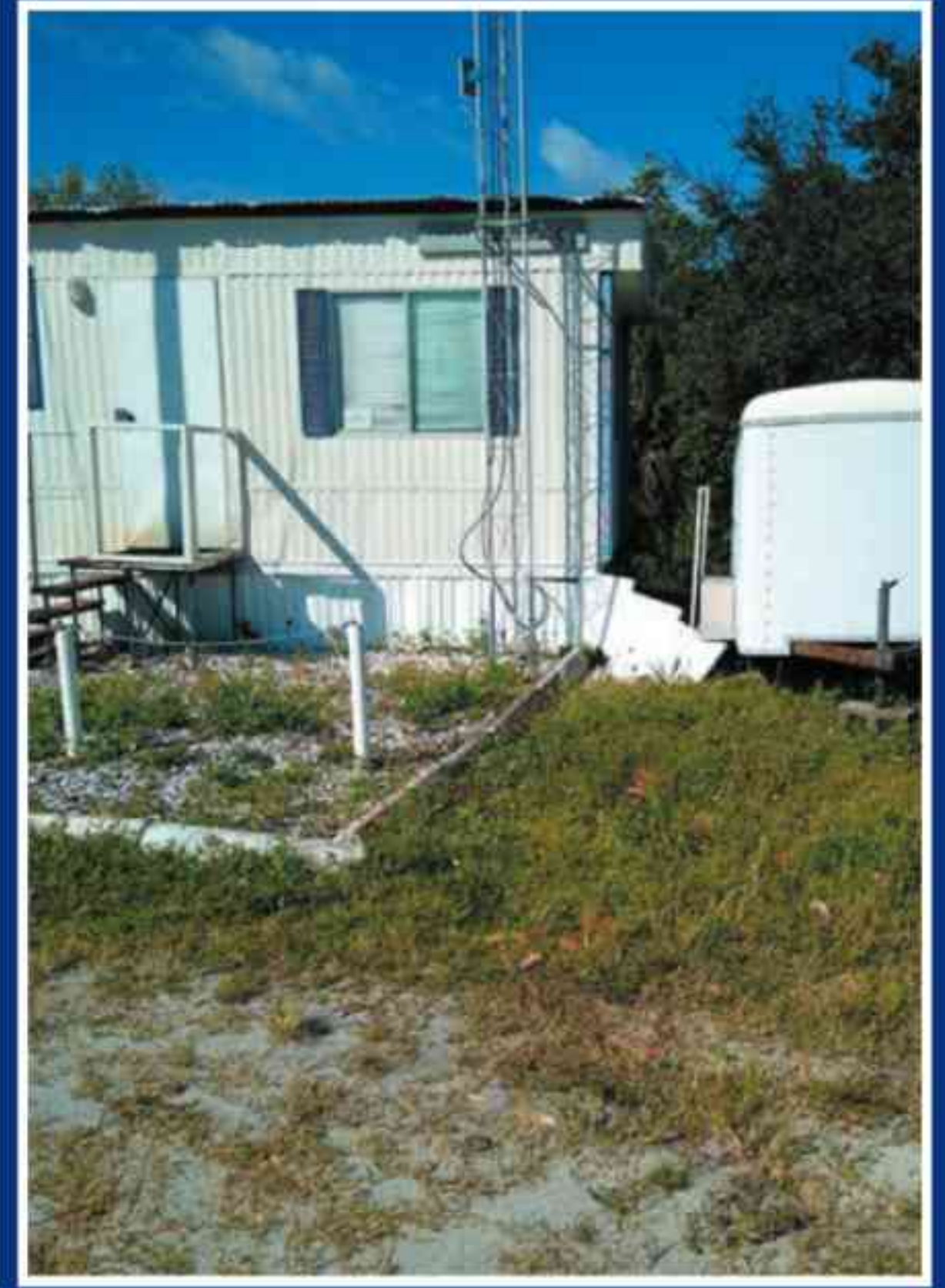
"I lost several tree branches in my front and back yards, and it took me five days to clean up after the storm. My dog, Rosie, could not have been happier. She loves to play with twigs and branches and treated the debris in the back yard like a playground full of toys."

"I suffered two brief brown-outs on Sept 28 but no long-term loss of power. Many of my neighbors were not so lucky. While my development had power, I could hear the generators going on the street behind me for several days. My "Nextdoor/MyNeighborhood" app was sending notifications non-stop as people in nearby developments sought information about power restoration. More than a week after Ian, the last few messages were words of gratitude to the United Cajun Navy for restoring power in our area."

Dorothy Riley, Flotilla 74 Brandon



Flotilla 75, Apollo Beach: Ruskin Radio



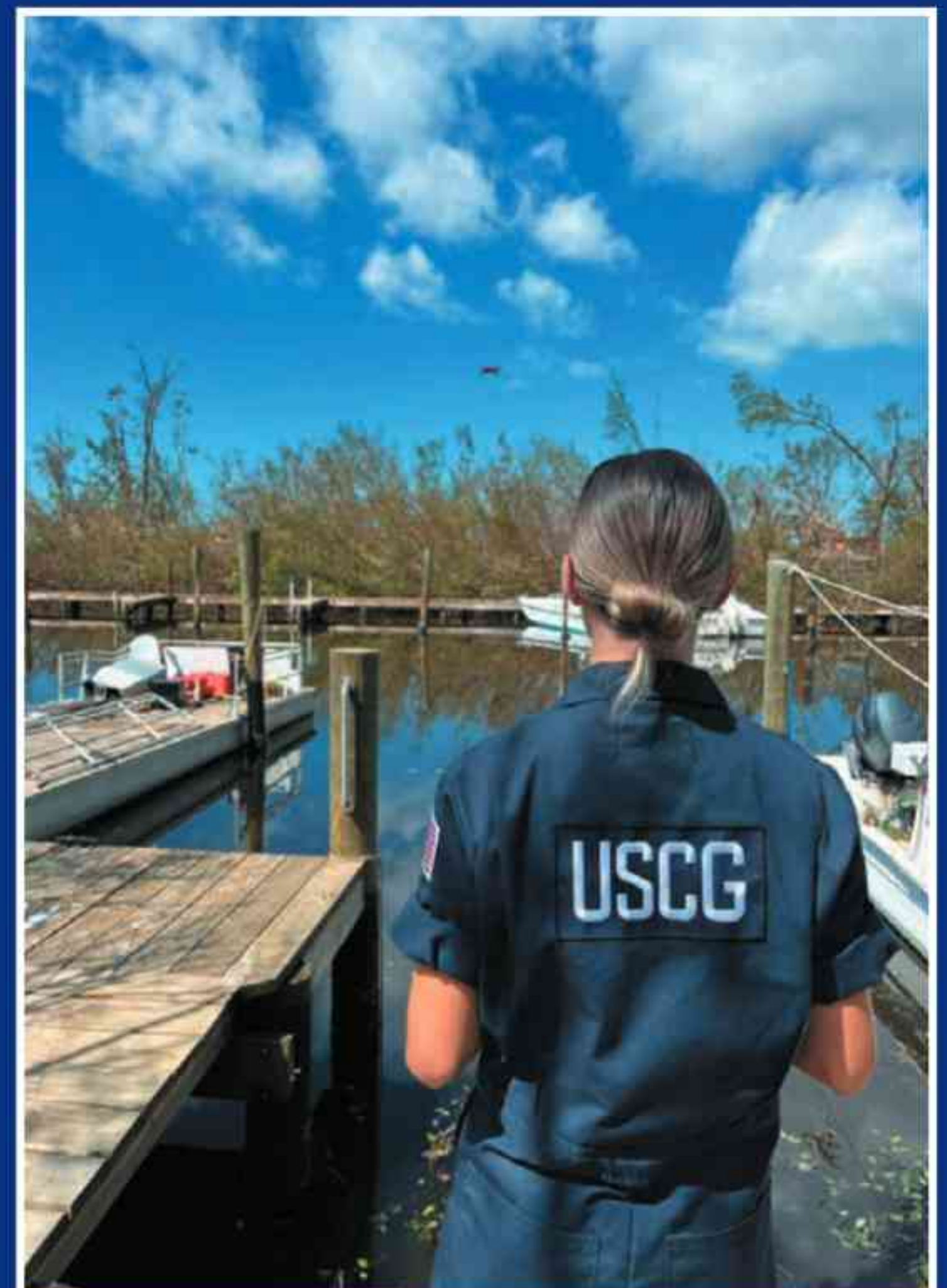
Flotilla 75, Apollo Beach Communications Center in E.G. Simmons Regional Park, Hillsborough County made it through the storm, but winds from Hurricane Ian pulled over the tree at the entrance. The trailer houses the flotilla's radio station (Ruskin Radio) and materials and equipment. The tree will probably have to be cut down by park management and the flotilla will repair the skirting all along the bottom. Don Hebert, Flotilla Staff Officer-Communications took these photos on Oct. 6 when returning the radio and equipment that had been removed for safekeeping during the storm. Auxiliary photograph submitted by E. Elliot Seda

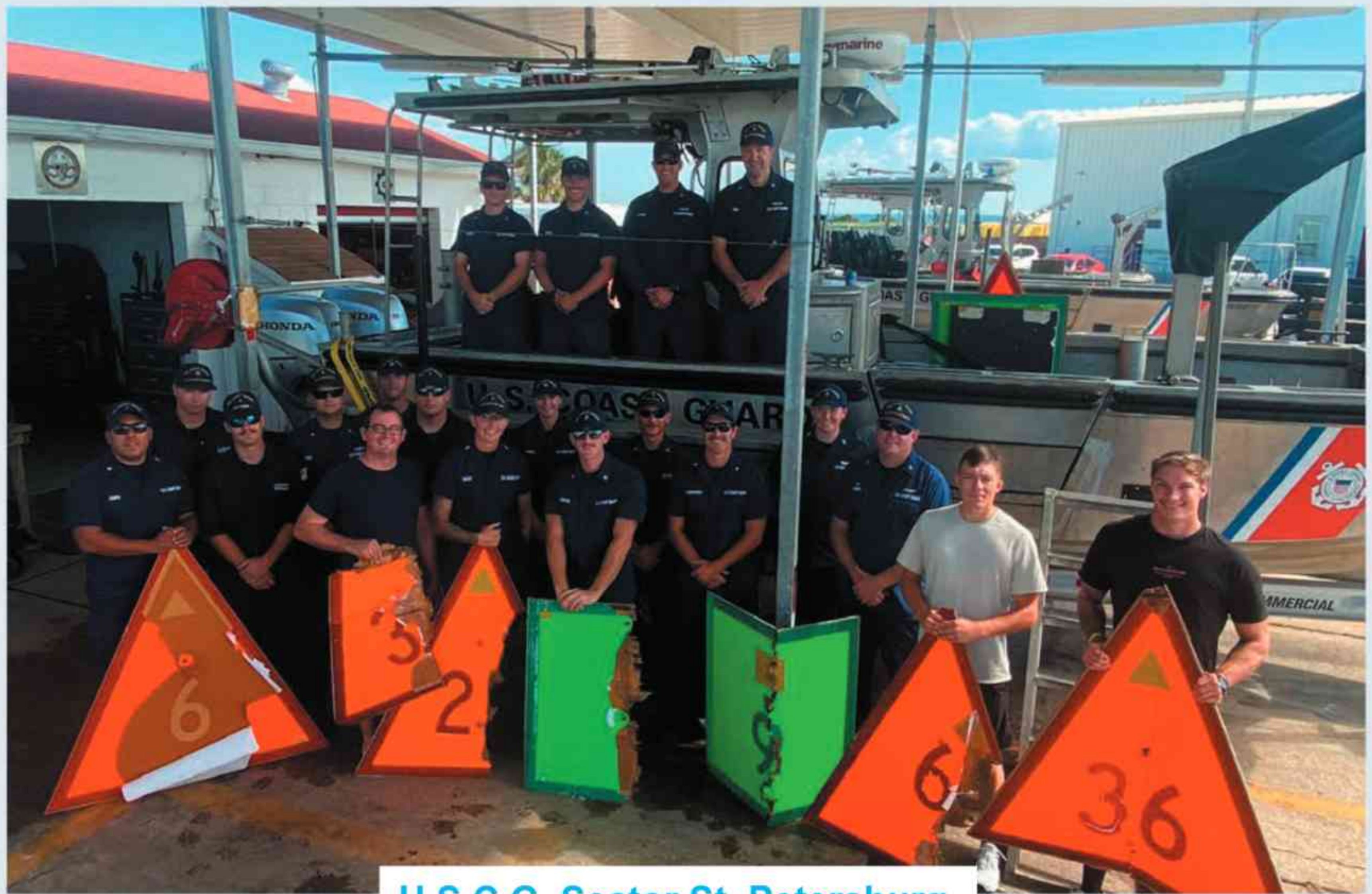
Amber Porter Assists Sector St. Petersburg with Post-Ian Damage Assessment.



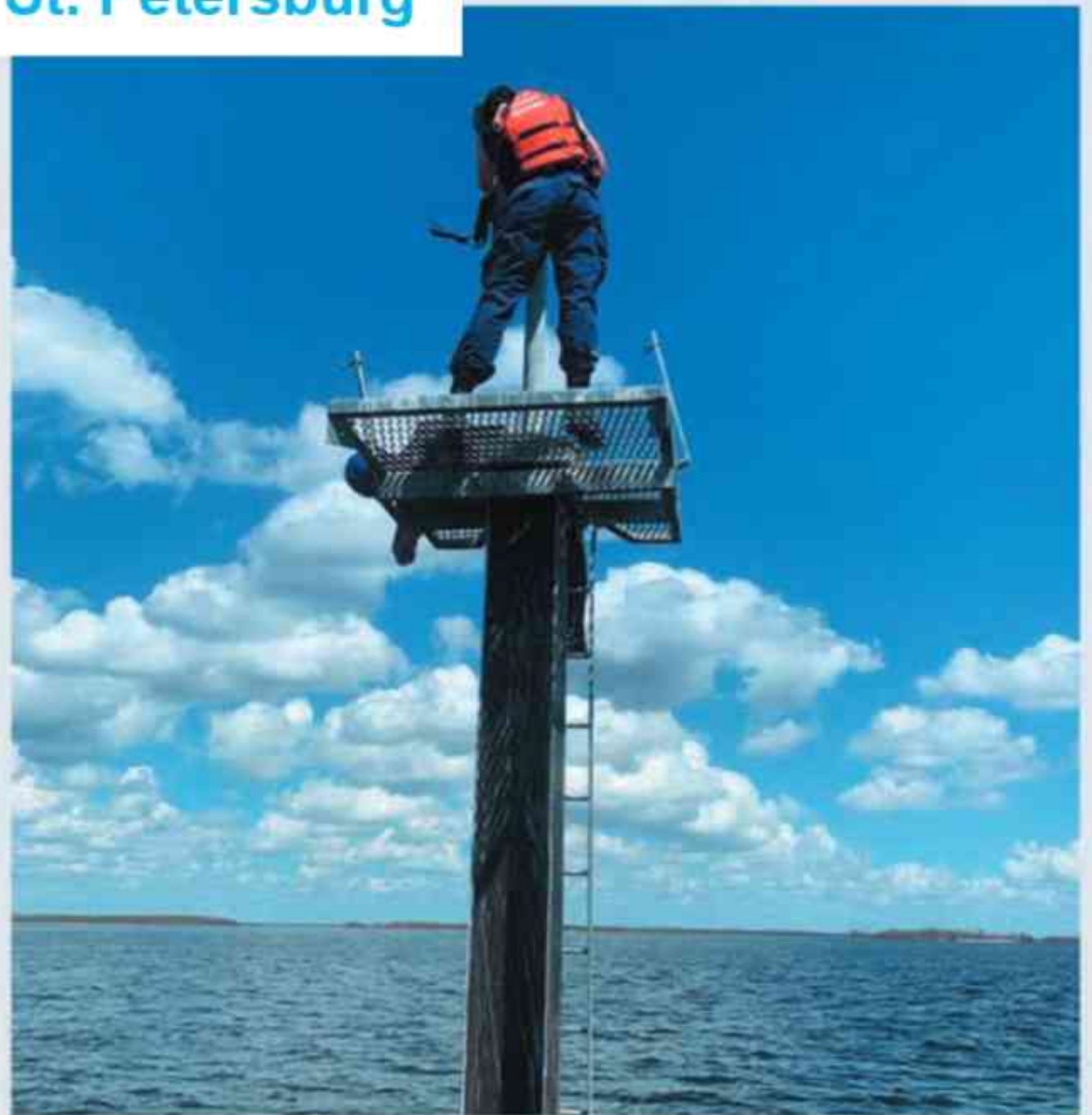
Amber Porter, a member of Flotilla 72 St. Petersburg and of the Auxiliary University Program, sends out a drone to assess damage to boats and boat ramps after Hurricane Ian passed out of the West coast area. USCG Auxiliary photo submitted by David Rockwell

Note: seeing these photographs, we realize how lucky we were!





U.S.C.G. Sector St. Petersburg



Multiple Aids to Navigation teams responded to more than 250 navigational aids that were damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Ian. Their efforts were critical to ensuring the safety of thousands of mariners and directly contributed to the swift reopening of our ports, minimizing the economic impact on the maritime transportation system! Please give a big Thank you and BRAVO ZULU for the team consisting of crewmembers from Aids to Navigation Team (ANT) St. Pete, ANT Houston-Galveston, ANT New Orleans, ANT Sabine, ANT Dulac, ANT Morgan City, and ANT Mobile. We truly appreciate the support! Bravo Zulu! Credit: Sector St. Petersburg social media.





Even with the eye of Hurricane Ian making landfall nearly 200 miles away, Ian took down trees and blocked roads. Photos from Steve Browning, Flotilla 75 Apollo Beach on social media.



On Sept. 30, members of Division 7 conducted an observation mission to look for damaged aids to navigation (ATONS) in the Tampa Bay shipping channels post-Hurricane Ian. When Dean Bell, coxswain, a member of Flotilla 79, Tampa, called George Papabeis, Flotilla 74, Brandon, Papabeis had no electricity at his house, so he had a cold shower before the mission. Fortunately, Papabeis had the foresight to wash and press his uniform before the Hurricane struck. Other crew members were Patricia Stone, Flotilla 74, Apollo Beach; Steve Williams, Flotilla 74, Brandon, and Miguel Marquez, Flotilla 79, Tampa. The patrol located one range marker light out and one missing day board. United States Coast Guard photo by George Papabeis.

Left: George Papabeis found this warning buoy in Apollo Beach Nature Preserve on Oct. 15 and reported it to Sector St. Petersburg.





Auxiliary Election Results 2022



National Elections

The National Leadership team for the 2022-2024 term was elected by the Auxiliary National Bridge on August 19 at the Auxiliary National Convention in Orlando, Florida. Terms of office begin November 1, 2022.

- National Commodore (NACO) - COMO Gus Formato
- Vice National Commodore (VNACO) - COMO Mary Kirkwood
- Deputy National Commodore - Atlantic Area East, Marine Safety (DNACO-MS) - COMO Allen Fredd
- Deputy National Commodore - Atlantic Area West, Response & Prevention (DNACO-RP) - COMO Patrick Feighery
- Deputy National Commodore - Pacific Area, Recreational Boating Safety (DNACO-RBS) - COMO Tiney Singler
- Deputy National Commodore - Information Technology & Planning (DNACO-ITP) - COMO Linda Merryman

District 7 Elections

District 7 held elections on Sept. 16 during the District Training Conference (D-Train) in Orlando. Offices begin January 1.

- District Commodore 7 - John Holmes (current District Chief of Staff)
- District Chief of Staff - Martin Goodwin (Current DCAPT-North)
- District Captain-West - Daniel Helou (Current Division Commander Division 7)
- District Captain-East - Doug Armstrong
- District Captain-North - James Parker

Division 7 Elections

Division 7 held elections on October 1 for terms beginning January 1, 2023.

- Division Commander - Dean Hoskin
- Division Vice Commander - Tony Hooper (Elected on Nov. 9 after Anthony Novellino was promoted to District 7 Directorate Chief - Logistics (DDC-L).

Division 7 Flotilla Elections

All terms begin January 1, 2023.

- Flotilla 72, St. Petersburg
Flotilla Commander - Gordon Hornby
Flotilla Vice Commander - Cathy Campbell-Heroux
- Flotilla 74, Brandon
Flotilla Commander - Dorothy Riley
Flotilla Vice Commander - William Sage
- Flotilla 75, Apollo Beach
Flotilla Commander - Elliott Seda
Flotilla Vice Commander - Santiago Castrodad
- Flotilla 77, Polk County
Flotilla Commander - Gilbert Thomas
Flotilla Vice Commander - Ron Ramos
- Flotilla 78, St. Pete Beach
Flotilla Commander - Rollin Shouse
Flotilla Vice Commander - Anne-Marie Woolsey
- Flotilla 79, Tampa
Flotilla Commander - Richard Hockinson
Flotilla Vice Commander - George Bartuska
- Flotilla 7-16, Gulfport
Flotilla Commander - William Zinner
Flotilla Vice Commander - Howard Bush



New Uniforms Coming Soon.

By Hayes Davis, Coast Guard Military Uniforms, Source: MyCG

We've all heard the rumors, and some of us have seen the pictures. New operational uniforms – the Coast Guard working uniform (CGWU) – is coming soon! How soon, you ask? The rollout is tracking for the end of fiscal year 2023.

About the transition

Officially, the new CGWU will be available to the entire workforce in the latter part of the fiscal year 2023 and is expected to completely replace the operational dress uniform (ODU) in fiscal year 2025. Once available, you can expect to see the new CGWU in Coast Guard Exchanges – or by placing an order at ShopCGX. Bottom line, if you have just purchased new ODUs – don't stress. Both sets of uniforms have a service life of about three years. By the time you are ready for an updated uniform, the new CGWUs should be available for your uniform transition.

To what are we switching?

For more than ten years, our members who have been assigned to some Maritime Law Enforcement (MLE) positions, Port Security Units (PSU), and joint overseas operations have worn the Navy's Expeditionary Working Uniform (NWU Type III).

Using these uniforms in these particular environments has demonstrated that this type of uniform is perfect for all Coast Guard missions. We've received positive feedback from those who have tested the Navy Type III uniform, and it makes sense for the Coast Guard to adopt that uniform overall as our new operational uniform.

A little bit about the uniform

There are a number of exciting benefits to the new Type III uniform you can expect:

- The Mandarin collar – allows for quick assimilation to General Quarters/Battle conditions;
- Rank tab – allows for easy replacement of rank upon promotion/advancement without requiring uniform replacement or tailoring;
- Additional pocket;
- Self-blousing trousers;
- Organizational patches for quick service identification.

We believe there are a lot of benefits to switching to this particular uniform. Specifically, when we can use a uniform pattern that our sister service is already using, our production costs are reduced, passing those savings down to you – the member and consumer.

Sizing

The new CGWU is a non-gender-specific uniform, unlike the odd/even sizing convention for the operational dress uniform (ODU) blouse, which historically has been confusing to our service population. Blouses are sized by chest measurement,

and shirt length and trousers are sized by waist and inseam measurements. In order to know what your size is, take a moment to measure yourself or ask a friend to assist. Ω

This article is abridged from the original. Read the complete text and learn more about the new uniform at: <https://www.mycg.uscg.mil/News/Article/2839899/new-uniforms-coming-soon/>

