

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 7 DSO-PA Quarterly Report

Position: District Staff Officer---Public Affairs

Report Date: July 9, 2013

Report Period: April 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013

1. Meetings, Conferences, seminars, workshops, etc. attended or conducted during report period.

DSO-PA Irvin offered PA support for ADSO and SO PA Officers with protocol and with clearance for articles and photos pertaining to "Black Swan Operation". This event required extensive phone contact and email cautions about release of information. During May, DSO PA assisted various Flotillas and Divisions with their entries into the National PA Contest. DSO also set up media involvement with Flotilla 96's NSBW (Bonita Springs Fire Rescue Demonstration) which resulted in two TV interviews (NBC-2, WINK TV) with Commodore Tyson and *Naples Daily News* coverage. DSO accepted the resignation of ADSO PA East in June and after research and vetting, Hank Cushard was chosen to fill that position. DSO attended the 40th Anniversary of Flotilla 96 and the Change of Command in Sector St. Pete along with the ADSO PA West. DSO is mentoring the new ADSO PA East and an FSO PA (Flotilla 9-10). DSO took photos and wrote articles of some of the above events which appeared in D7 Connection. DSO also assisted with PA Oral Board.

2. Activities, operations, projects, etc. during report period.

ADSO PA North:---Roy Crittenden (2, 10, 12)

April: Division 2 (21, 22 and 25) participated in safety booths and VEs on Lake Allatoona, Dobbins AFB and at Newcomers Club and at Lake Lanier. (25) also had a booth at the Lake Lanier Boat Show. (21) had a TV crew on an AUXFAC to record patrols on Lake Thurmond. (29) ADSO Crittenden had his monthly article published in *Lakeside on Lanier* newspaper. Division 10 (10-10) had PSAs in local newspapers and on local radio for BS&S classes.

May: Division 2 (21) FSO-PA McMenamin helped local law enforcement promote Georgia's new boating laws. (21, 22, 25 and 29) had safety booths at Pro Wakeboard Tournament at Lake Acworth, (NSBW) West Marine in Anderson, S. C., and Aqualand Marina. (29) also performed VSCs for NSBW at Lake Lanier and Lake Lanier Islands. FSO PA Rudy, FSO PA McMenamin and ADSO PA Crittenden all had articles published during the month. In addition, McMenamin had two TV interviews about GA's new boating laws. Division 10 (10-2) had a Safety Booth at the Harbor Fest at Priest Landing on Skidaway Island. (10-10) manned a Safety Booth at the Blessing of the Fleet in Darier, GA. Division 12 (4, 10) had a Safety Booth and "Coastie" at the Blessing of the Inlet at Murrell's Inlet which attracted 4,000 attendees. (12-10) members attended Boat Shed's Opening in Georgetown, S.C.

June: **Division 2 (21)** assisted STA Tybee ATON Officer with a buoy project for the Savannah River, Augusta, GA. **(21, 22 and 29)** had Safety Booths at Lake Allatoona, with the Georgia DNR at a Safety Media Day and at the Gainesville Marina's National Marina Day and at the Bass Pro Shop in Lawrenceville, GA. **(22)** had Luis Criberiro featured in a newspaper article for being awarded a Recreational Safety Award. **(23)** FSO PA Crothers had numerous boating safety articles appear in local media. **(25)** FSO PA Rudy had major input into feature article in the *Seneca Journal*. **(29)** PA Officer Crittenden published his monthly article in the *Lakeside on Lanier*. **Division 12 (12-1, 12-2, 12-8)** manned Safety Booths at a Boy Scout Expo in Columbia, GA, Scarborough's Marina, Harbortown Marina, Lowe's CERT and Home Depot's Emergency Management event. **(12-6)** FSO-PA Heisler served as regional NSBW chairperson for Sector Charleston. **(12-8)** had press releases in four Charleston media outlets.

ADSO PA Northeast:---Bill Giers (4, 14, 17)

April: **Division 4** members supported CG with "Operation Black Swan". **(44, 48)** conducted VEs and BS&S classes in Halifax Harbor and at Bouchelle Island, New Smyrna. ADSO PA Giers wrote articles/with photos for division and flotilla newspapers. **Division 14 (14-1)** conducted VEs and a pyrotechnical demonstration for the Marine Trawlers Assoc. **(14-2)** worked the South East Boat Show in Jacksonville and at the Captain's Club Marine Flea Market. **(14-5)** conducted radio watch of Clay County St. John's River Clean-up and manned a Safety Booth. **(14-7)** held five safety events in and around St. Augustine. Division 14 Auxiliarist, Sam Boyd was named Florida Boating Educator of the Year. **Division 17** had Safety Booths at Harbortown Maritime Flea Market and Satellite Beach and was involved with the Dragon Boat Races at USAF Patrick AFB. They are also offering AUXCHEF training.

May: **Division 4 (43, 44)** held safety events in Leesburg, Buzzard's Ramp and Halifax Marina in Daytona Beach. **(43)** two members were interviewed on radio WVLG. **(44)** member was interviewed on Goliath radio about NSBW. The also had releases in local news media about NSBW and the Crystal Award presented to Wyotech. **Division 14 (14-5)** participated in the Putnam County's St. Johns River Cleanup. The Division manned a Safety Booth at the Jacksonville Zoo in partnership with the YMCA. FSO DV Schultz gave a presentation of the Maritime Environmental Program to over 280 attendees. **(14-7)** FSO-PA and SO-PA worked with local media to present on line PSAs and interviews about NSBW.

June: **Division 14 (14-2, 14-4, 14-7)** did weekly radio watch for STA Mayport and continued AUXCHEF missions at the station. **(14-4)** SO PA and **(14-5)** had articles and photos submitted to local media. **(14-7)** held Navigation and Suddenly in Command classes at River State College. FSO-DV participated in live radio interview about rip currents on WJCT-FM and pollution prevention on WYRE-FM. **Division 17** ADSO PA Giers continues with weekly PA support and MSD missions at STA Cape Canaveral.

ADSO-PA South Lourdes Oliveras: (1, 13, 16)

April: **Division 13 (13-1)** had a cook-out for STA Marathon and assisted them with towing exercises. They also had a Safety Booth at the Key West Ocean-Fest. **(13-2)** **(13-3)** assisted with a sunken boat call out and two members worked in the Station's galley. They also helped with several road cleanup projects and had photos published in local media for the 40th Anniversary of the Upper Keys Sailing Club. **(13-4)** investigated an oil spill in North Key and conducted two Helo ops and boat training. Radio watch was also performed at STA Marathon. **(13-8)** conducted boating classes at a local high school. SO-PA Redding organized and AUXCHEF class for Key West Members. **Division 16 (16-1)** members served over 200 breakfasts the Seventh Annual Pancake Breakfast at Cheeseburgers. The affair drew local media coverage. Articles on AUXCHEF were printed on AUX Live and AUX PA. AUXAIR flew 32 missions for Air Station BQN. They also assisted RIO St. Croix Port State Control. Members relayed SAR calls for the CG to Sector San Juan.

May: **Division 16 (16-1)** continues with AUXAIR patrols for Air Station BQN and with support to RIO St. Croix Port State Control. SO-PA Fabich completed AUXCHEF training at Clearwater and will bring the program to Sector San Juan. Additionally, they worked with active duty in a roadside cleanup and with local organizations to promote NSBW. "Inky the Whale" was presented to 4th and 5th grade students at Sion Christian Academy. ADSO PA Oliveras assisted with two PA Oral Boards.

June: **Division 1 (1-10)** had an information booth at San Patricio Mall. ADSO PA assisted them. **Division 13 (13-1)** Auxiliarist Beneze provided Interpretation and Translation to USCG RADM Chuck Michel in Martinique, French West Indies. AUXAIR conducted ten air patrols for Sector Key West and assisted a disabled vessel near Cudjoe key by vectoring a tow boat to the stranded vessel. They also taught Clean Water and Boating Safety to 150 personnel at the Key West Naval Air Station and conducted a Sea Partners program with Officer Snook to over 300 school children who watched an Inky the Whale video. **Division 16 (16-1)** conducted 60 AUXAIR missions for Air Station BQN, assisted RIO St. Croix Port State Control and provided a safety zone for the Ironman Triathlon. They manned a Safety Booth in Christiansted and provided 27 hours to the Waterway Watch program.

ADSO-PA East Marie Duda: (3, 5, 6)

April: **Division 3 (34)** hosted the CG Academy Cadet Chorale. **(36)** manned a Safety Booth for Sea Turtle Day and assisted STA Fort Lauderdale at the Boca Boating and Beach Bash. Over 5,000 people attended the event. **(37)** conducted both day and night Helo ops with STA Fort Lauderdale and assisted with the Hillsboro Lighthouse Tour. **Division 5 (51)** members stood radio watch at STA Lake Worth Inlet. AUX PA assisted the station while another member worked in the galley. They also conducted Safe Boating courses at Palm Beach Shores. They also submitted an article and photos to the Navigator Express. **(52)** made fishing line disposal units for Jupiter Inlet use. **(54)** conducted VE blitzes which garnered 85 vessel inspections.

(56) manned Safety Booths at Pelican Island Festival and the Vero Beach Boat Show. (58) had a VE blitz in Fort Pierce and submitted three articles to *Scripps Treasure Coast*. (59) held an Open House at their building in Stuart. An article about the Open House appeared in the *Stuart News*. The ADSO PV and FSO PA visited five marinas to try to set up VE Blitzes at those sites.

May: Division 5 (51) Three members stood radio watch at STA Fort Worth, one member served as PA officer and one member worked as AUXCHEF serving meals. They conducted a safety course at Palm Beach Shores. An article on their AUXCHEF program appeared on the CG Auxiliary Live site, along with an article on Black Swan. (52) members participated in the Jupiter Dive Center's "Clean the Reef" event. (59) promoted lifejacket wear at the Marine Assoc. of the Treasure Coast in Fort Pierce for NSBW and National Marina Day. (54, 58, 59) promoted Safety Courses in local newspapers.

June: Division 5 (51, 52, 54) assisted with an Open House at STA Lake Worth Inlet. (51) had members do radio watch, another member served as PA and another worked in Auxiliary Food Services at STA Lake Worth Inlet. They also conducted a safe boating course at Palm Beach Shores. (52) Helped 3 community groups set up displays at the Open house at STA Lake Worth Inlet. (59) Had an Auxiliary FS member assist with food prep at STA Fort Pierce and also stand radio watch. (51, 54, 58, and 59) published various articles on boating safety and life jacket wear. Approximately 19 members of Division 5 participated in the Black Swan Exercise

ADSO PA West Toni Borman (7, 8, 9, 11, 15)

April: Division 8 (81) members stood radio watch at STA Cortez. (83, 84, 9-10) members were involved in Operation Black Swan. (85) members held training classes for CG personnel at STA Cortez. (83, 84, 85) worked together on the Desoto Seafood Festival. (86) had their communication trailer at the Venice Sharks Tooth Festival. Frank and Bidwick had articles in the Division newsletter. (87) Nielsen continues to maintain a spreadsheet of Div. 8 and 9's activities and submit safety articles to *Waterline* magazine. **Division 9 (91, 99)** members do radio watch at STA Fort Myers Beach. (93) is teaching navigation to the Gulfcoast Sailing Club. They had an article on Port City Day published in the *Naples Daily News* and other articles published in the *Sun Times*. (94) Members participated in a Water Safety event in the Lehigh Acres Community Pool. (95) Held fund raising events for Veteran's Memorial in Marco. (99, 9-10) AUXCHEF members continue to prepare meals at STA Fort Myers Beach. **Division 11 (11-3)** is installing memorial bricks for the veteran's memorial. They are teaching ABS classes. (11-6) participated in a local boat parade. (11-10) FSO PA Montembeault is promoting Touch A Truck for Sector St. Pete Open House. (11-1, 11-3, 11-7, 11-9, 11-10) have published numerous boating classes in various media outlets. **Division 15 (15-3)** conducted recruiting, VE and RBS contacts at the Parade of Seniors. Their involvement with Bassmaster Elite Series Tournament resulted in 44 VSC stickers being awarded and Chuck Truthan's contact with the event's promoter has led to Auxiliary PSA recordings for National distribution.

(15-7) had a safety booth at the Horseshoe Beach Parade. They participated in the National Night Out in Chiefland and the Suwannee fishing Tournament. (15-8) Manned a booth at the eight day Hernando County Fair.

May: **Division 7 (75)** promoted BS&S at the Nautical Flea Market in Ruskin.

Division 8 (81) Petrucci gave a safety briefing at the annual Workshop at Clearwater Air Station. The Division continues radio watch for STA Cortez. (83, 85) performed towing drills with STA Cortez while (86) provided meals. (83) Parent represented CG at a mobile Kitchen Rally and Sanitation Program. (84) Borman participated in the Booker Elementary Career School Days. (83, 85) supported the CG at the Regatta Beach Nautical Expo. (86) Bidwick presented boating safety to the Sertoma Club. (87) Nielsen continues to publish safety articles in *Waterline*.

Division 9 (91, 99) continue radio watch at STA Fort Myers Beach. (99, 9-10) continue AUXCHEF at the Station. (93) checked all ATONS from Clam Pass to Capri Pass. (93, 95) worked the Capri's Kayak Festival. (94) Had a safety booth at the Earth Day/Fun Day in LaBelle. (98) FSO Schlitt presented boating safety to Punta Gorda Isles Newcomers. (93) Adubato continues with monthly safety articles for the *Naples Daily News*. (95) Had four articles published in the *Marco Sun Times*.

Division 11 (11-1) conducted two Outreach efforts, while (11-3) gained two members through Outreach. (11-6) was involved in 3 PA events. (11-9, 11-10) had a Touch a Truck event in Dunedin, along with Coastie and Officer Snook Trash game. The Division Flotillas have had numerous safety articles published in local papers.

Division 15 (15-3) FSO-PA Truthan completed PA Specialist 1. (15-1, 15-3, 15-8) have sent articles to local media and Navigator.

June: **Division 8 (81)** provided radio watch for STA Cortez. They also provide ATON verification. (82) Provided TSA support at SRQ. (83) Aux FS member serve meals at STA Cortez. Borman and Parent taught AUX FS at Yankeetown. (83, 85) had a VE/PA event at Rivera Dunes Marina. (84) Members spoke about boating safety at Booker Elementary and Lakeview Schools. (86) Members gave a Hurricane Preparedness program and also did a documentary for Channel 7. (87) Nielsen continues his monthly articles in *Waterline*. **Division 9 (91, 99)** stood radio watch at STA Fort Myers Beach. (99, 9-10) AUX FS provide meals at the Station. (93, 95) did VSCs on Kayaks at the Everglades National Park. (95) Gave a Powerpoint on Cruise Safety to the Marco Island Newcomers. (96) celebrated their 40th Anniversary. (93) Adubato continues with boating articles for the *Naples Daily News*. **Division 11** Flotillas have submitted upcoming PE courses in various media outlets. **Division 15** had six safe boating articles published in the *Chronicle*. (15-7) had a safety booth at the Levy County EXPO. (15-8) members attended the Douglas Munroe Memorial Service in Crystal River. They had a safety booth at the Hernando Safety Expo and at the Weeki Wachee Spring State Park. They also celebrated their 40th Anniversary.

3. Training conducted for ADSO/Division Staff

See item number 1.

4. Contacts made with or memos distributed to ADSO/SOs or others:

Numerous contacts made via phone and email regarding various PA issues including Operation Black Swan and PA event uniforms. Contacts made with Flotilla PA officers and SO officers about submitting work to National PA Contest. Talked to various ADSOs about NSBW activities and encouraging submission of activities and photos to Diane Riggan and Judy Darby at the *Navigator*. Made contact with National PA for displays at Orlando International Airport, PSAs for Bass Master and graphics for COMO Tyson and National PA.

5. Newsworthy events during this period.

See items 1, 2.

6. Action recommended for the Division Commander and VCDR with respect to perceived unit problems.

It is evident that some Flotilla Commanders do not recognize the importance of placing a person in the PA position who wants to do the job. I am aware that the FSO PA slots change constantly. The position is demanding, but many FCs do not encourage the PA person to further their knowledge by attending AUX-12 School. There are still a couple of SO PAs who do not fulfill their oath to do the best in their appointed position. The ADSOs are doing a good job of trying to change that and in many cases, have been very successful.

7. Name of submitter:

Constance O. Irvin