

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

Position: District Staff Officer---Public Affairs

Report Date: December 30, 2012

Report Period: October 1, 2012 through December 30, 2012

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

DSO PA Irvin had local coverage (October) for STA Fort Myers Beach mascot "Bandit" (deceased) in *News Press*. DSO PA Irvin attended the Division 9 meeting in Fort Myers in October and the Division 9 Change of Watch in December. Irvin attended the Change of Watch for Flotilla 93 (Naples) in November and the 90th Birthday party for Dorothy Kurtz (Flotilla 92) who was a WWII CG SPAR. Irvin attended the Change of Watch for COMO Tyson in Miami in December. Various photos were taken and sent to media outlets for these events (Breeze and D7 Connection). During this quarter, ADSOs have been contacted regarding new members, Giers in Northeast and Duda in East. Reporting information has been sent to ADSOs along with requests for input regarding PA concerns for 2013.

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

ADSO PA North--- Roy Crittenden reports:

October---Division 2 (22) is working with Boy Scouts to conduct VSCs on their vessels. **(21)** had a VE blitz at Scarborough's Landing. FSO PA Rudy **(25)** had his monthly articles published in local newspapers and magazines and promoted PE courses at 3 radio stations. **Division 12 (12-4 and 12-10)** worked jointly at the Georgetown Wooden Boat Show. **(12-10)** displayed their new "Coastie" at the Wooden Boat Show. **Division 17 (17-11)** members coordinated a toy drive for needy children in Orange and Osceola Counties. **(17-2)** is working with TV 13 to get on air Aux events broadcast. SO PA Crittenden (ADSO PA) is coordinating Aux involvement for the 2013 Atlanta Boat Show.

November---Division 2 (22) participated in parades during the month and also set up Safety Booths throughout their area. **(25)** FSO PA Rudy published a recruitment article in to local print outlets. **(29)** ADSO PA Crittenden published an article on Paddlesports in a Lanier newspaper. He was also featured in a two page article for *Lakeside on Lanier* which told of his involvement in the CG AUX. **Division 12 (12-6)** had extensive public service announcements published over several months with a total readership in the millions. *Moultrie News* featured the FSO PA (12-6) for his volunteer work in the Auxiliary.

December---Division 17 SO-PA gave support to CGSTA Canaveral and MSD. **Division 2** SO-PA Crittenden is getting Div. 2 members ready to work

the Atlanta Boat Show and (25) members are preparing a safety exhibit for the Greenville, SC Boat Show. Both **Divisions 2 and 17** participated in the “Wreaths Across America” ceremonies. **Division 2—(25)** PA had a boating safety article published in local newspapers. (29) Crittenden had his monthly article concerning the Atlanta Boat Show published in the *Lakeside on Lanier newspaper*. **Division 12 (12-2)** was involved in the Murrell’s Inlet Christmas Parade. **Div. 17 (17-11)** held their 2nd “Fill the Boat” toy drive and collected over 900 items for children of homeless vets in Orlando and Osceola Counties.

ADSO-PA South--- Lourdes Oliveras reports:

October---Division 13 member continue radio watch at Stations Marathon, Islamorada and Key West on a regular basis. (13-2, 13-3) continue with road clean-up in the Keys. (13-2) is involved in a lobster funnel recycle program. (13-8) assisted CG Helo operations with their weekly water training. Two members of (13-2) attended Boat Handling Instructor’s Course in St. Pete at the request of the Station Marathon Commanding Officer. **Division 16 (16-1)** flew 26 air missions for Air Station Borinquen, some which included training for Active Duty. Dominican Republic CGAUX is being trained to work with Sector San Juan CGAUX. Div. 16 had an article in the *Breeze* highlighting the USCG RIO Commander getting a VSC. D7 Connection featured members Melucci and Bundy assisting Gold Side divers in checking ATONS.

November—Division 13 members do weekly watch stand at Stations Marathon, Islamorada and Key West. Members also conducted Hawk-eye watches at Sector Key West. AUX AIR observers have been recently qualified and the AIR members are using photography to identify vessels and unknown objects in their AOR. (13-8) members held a Ham Radio demonstration at Station Islamorada. (13-1, 13-2, 13-3 and 13-8) members provided crew and vessels for the Key West Boat Races. **Division 16** participated in the visit of Commandant Admiral Papp to Borinquen Air Station. ADM Papp gave Auxiliarist Charles Fischer a Shipmate Coin in recognition of his volunteer membership. Div. 16 also assisted broadcast media and print media with information about the USCG Cutter Bernard Webber’s Open House.

December---Division 13 (13-3) helped with crowd control for the National Power Boat Races in Key West by conducting ten patrols for Marine Safety and eight AUXAIR support missions. SO-PA Redding has applied for a \$10,000 Boat US grant to purchase a “Coastie”. **Division 16 (16-1)** flew 21 missions for Air Station BQN. AUXAIR in RIO St. Croix transported Sector personnel in an island interagency exercise for emergency preparedness.

ADSO PA--- East Diane Riggan reports:

Riggan indicates that *Coast Guard Florida* filming concluded and active and Auxiliary personnel were used in the production. The series began airing in October. Riggan also coordinated PA coverage for the Veterans airshow with

Air Station Miami. Riggan submitted an article on Stuart Air Show to *Treasure Coast* newspaper.

October---Division 3 (37) supported the Hillsborough Lighthouse tour. **5 (59)** participated in safety days with a display at Home Depot. Arthur Slepian (**FSO PA 51**) attained PA 1 status.

November---Division 3 (31) assisted CG at Miami CEU and Marine Safety Department two days a week. The also participated in the Cardboard Boat Race at the Hollywood Marina as well as manning a Safety Booth and doing VEs. **(34)** members had a safety display at the opening of Pompano Beach West Marine. **(37)** provided Helo support for CG Fort Lauderdale and Air Station Miami. **Division 5 (52)** participated in the 2nd Annual Kids Fest in Jupiter, FL which drew over 3,000 attendees. **(56, 58 and 59)** supported a canned food drive to benefit the Fort Pierce AOR. FSO PA Cushard attended a coffee with the Ft. Pierce Mayor and gave a presentation to the St. Lucie Sailing Club. He also interviewed BOSN Randal Ryan, CO of STA Fort Pierce and his article was published in *Scripps Treasure Coast* newspapers.

December—Division 3 members supported STA Fort Lauderdale during their blood drive. *Waterfront Times* featured the flotilla's ABS course with interviews and photos demonstrating docking techniques. **Division 5** is working with local businesses in Stuart to celebrate the 100th birthday of Stuart. They also donated \$2,500 to Coast Guardsmen in need in the Fort Lauderdale area. **(56, 58, and 59)** provided funds for the STA Fort Pierce children's Christmas party.

ADSO PA West---Toni Borman reports:

October---Division 8 (81) Petrucci briefed four CG Air Station COs on D7 AUXAIR and Aviation Safety Programs. Dick Morello gave a three hour air safety presentation at the District Conference. Flotilla members also held a combination VE/PA event on Anna Marina Island. **(83)** members watch stand at STA Cortez and **(85)** members teach navigation, cook and also do watch standing for STA Cortez. **(82, 83, 85 and 86)** members train at the STA each week. **(85)** gave its first Paddlesports classes. **(86)** Judi Bidwick published an article in *Pieces of Eight*. **(87)** Neilsen continues to write safety articles for the *Waterline*. **Division 9 (91)** stands radio watch during the week at STA Fort Myers Beach. **(92)** Dorothy Kurtz (WWII SPAR) spoke to cadets at CG Academy in New London. The flotilla also assisted in canoe and kayak events in North Port. **(93)** members participated in National Museum Day in Naples. SO PA Adubato published ATON article in *Naples Daily News*. **(98)** recorded 6 PSAs at Clear Channel radio. **Division 11 (11-1) (11-6)** had safety booths at USCG Sand Key facility and Lutz Small Business Expo. **(11-3)** did an interview with ABC Action News. **(11-9)** participated in 2 SAR cases.

Division 15 (15-1) FC and FSO VE attended Commissioning Ceremony of U.S. Naval Sea Cadets at STA Yankeetown. **(15-2, 15-3)** are actively trying to recruit new members. **(15-1 and 15-8)** had articles and announcements in the *Chronicle*.

November---Division 7 is planning for division wide involvement in the St. Pete Power and Sail show. **Division 8--(83)** AUXCHEF members cook at Station Cortez, while members Touchton and Howington instruct CG personnel in charting, operations and communication. **(84)** participated in Veteran's Week by doing a presentation at the Poly/Tech Sarasota High School. **(85)** is seeking a grant for clean water presentations. **(86)** was at the Sertoma Sun Fiesta Parade, while **(87)** manned a safety booth in Englewood. **Division 9 (91)** stood radio watch at STA Fort Myers Beach. **(93)** had safety booths in Naples West Marine and Golden Gate K-Mart. **93** also celebrated its 60th flotilla anniversary. **(96)** members are credited with saving a boater's life. **(9-10)** spent four days at the Fort Myers Boat Show. AUXCHEF members from **(99, 9-10)** prepared a Thanksgiving dinner for STA Fort Myers Beach personnel and their families. **Division 15 (15-1)** staffed a booth at Kings Bay Boat Show.

December—Division 7 is currently preparing for the January Gasparilla Pirate Invasion which brings thousands of boaters to the area. They are also working on upcoming events with McDill Air Show. **Division 8** members Fesko and Jones worked 88 hours watchstanding at STA Cortez. The division also continues to support TSA and AUXCHEF as well as training and maintenance at STA Cortez. **(86)** members Al and Judi Bidwick had photos on Auxiliary Live and their award winning photos were published in the *Navigator*. **(87)** Neilsen and **(93)** Adubato continue to publish their monthly articles on boating safety in local paper. **Division 9 (91)** continues radio watch at STA Fort Myers Beach. Eaton (91) chaired the Fort Myers Beach Christmas Parade. **(9-10)** members were involved in the Gulf "Wreath's Across America" event. Other crew members **(9-10)** towed a pregnant deceased manatee to a local dock for FWS biologist's necropsy. Both events were in the local newspaper *Beach Observer*. 9-10 members also held a Christmas party for STAFMB children which was supported by funds from division 9 members. **Division 11** is co-sponsoring the Coast Guard Band's visit to the Tampa area. They also continue their support of STA Sand Key and Air Station Clearwater. **(11-10)** continues support of CG C-130 air drops. **Division 15 (15-1)** held a Christmas luncheon for STA Yankeetown. **(15-8)** participated in a Christmas party at the station and they also were involved in a Brooksville holiday parade.. **(15-1)** is involved with the Veteran's Expo at Crystal River, as well as participating in a local Christmas parade. **(15-2)** Held their change of watch. **(15-3)** had their COW and will be involved in two parades at Leeward Air Ranch on Lake Wier.

3. **Training conducted for ADSO/Division Staff**
Maintained phone and email contact with staff
4. **Divisions visited and assistance furnished to ADSOs/SOs or others:**
Visited Division 9 meetings during this quarter and assisted SO-PA in getting his PA1 certification. Assisted in getting press coverage for 'Wreaths Across America' and manatee towing event.
5. **Contacts made with or memos distributed to ADSO/SOs or others:**
Dozens of emails and phone calls made to boost PA involvement.

6. **Newsworthy events during the period.**

See paragraph 1, 2 and 4. Submitted Award of Merit Nomination for Flotilla 95's **Waterwise** Program in November to the National Water Safety Congress and 95 was chosen to receive the Division 3 Award in San Antonio, TX during the Water Safety Summit.

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

Areas on the East Coast have not been very responsive in reporting activities. It is hoped that the establishment of a Northeast ADSO PA, who is very active, will promote a more responsive unit in that area.

8. **Names of individuals to be recognized for exemplary performance:**

SO-PA Bob Adubato will finally get his much deserved ACLOC for PA work.

9. **Name of submitter:**

Constance O. Irvin