

District Staff Officer-Public Affairs Monthly Report

Report for: **August 2012**

Submitted By: DSO-PA D7

Submitted by: Constance O. Irvin

cirv@earthlink.net

All divisions reported some activity for the month, but many flotillas report that activity is down due to many Auxiliarists being up North for the summer months.

U.S Coast Guard Support:

ADSO-PA North: Roy Crittenden reports that **Division 17** SO-PA Giers is developing a website for Cape Canaveral and will attend AUX 04 for Website and Power Point development. **17-11** participated in Coast Guard Day raffle donations and gathered over \$3,000 in raffle prizes. **17-2, 17-6 17-9 and 17-11** members participated in the event.

1. **Community Support-North: Division 2, (21)** had a safety booth at Ft. Gordon during their annual Safety Day. **(25)** FSO-PA Jim Rudy had a safety booth at the Duke Energy Visitor's Center near Seneca for the 5th Annual Hunting and Fishing Day. **Division 12, (12-2)** had a Safety Booth and one of their AUXFAC's on site during the dedication of the Helicopter Pad and Medivac Service at the McLeod Seacoast Hospital. **Division 17, (17-11)** gave a recruiting presentation to owner of Boggy Creek Airboat Rides in the hopes of getting employees to join the Auxiliary. 17-11 personnel also helped the Osceola Military Museum write a PSA for a kids boating course to be held on Coast Guard Day. **Special Involvement: Division 2 (21)** FSO-PA McMenamin did a TV interview on the danger of falling water depths at Clark Hill Lake. The TV crew went out on an AUXFAC after the interview for other video footage. **(29)** ADSO-PA Crittenden had an article "Coast Guard and Its Auxiliary Have Important Relationship", published in the *Lanier* newspaper. **(23)** Matt Losch has completed requirements for PA 1 and has been appointed FSO- PA. Members participated in an interagency water rescue exercise in late July. **(25)** FSO-PA Rudy continues to volunteer as a PIO in the Oconee County Emergency Operations Center. In August, he participated in a simulated drill of a nuclear power plant equipment failure. **Division 12, (12-6)** had over 290 PSA announcements run on an ABC affiliate in Charleston during this year which involved a combination of 15 and 30 second spots. **(12-10)** introduced their new "Coastie" to flotilla members and the *Georgetown Times* took photos and wrote an article about the robotic addition to the flotilla. **Divisions 2 and 17** had PSA announcements in numerous local

newspapers. (17-2) FSO-PA continues on line PA training and completed AUX 20.

ADSO-PA South: Lourdes Oliveras reports that **Division 13** radio watch standers continue to serve at Station Marathon, Sector Key West and Station Islamorada. Hawk-eye watch standers performed several watches at Key West. Air patrols and subsequent photos from those air patrols have helped identify vessels and unknown objects. (13-2 and 13-3) worked with Station Marathon by providing 30 hours of underway time to help deter illegal activity. (13-2) personnel provided on the water stand-by assistance for a boat taking on water. (13-8) provided SAR stand-by boats for Station Islamorada. USCG Master Chief Lindsey thanked the flotillas for their service during the lobster season. (13-3) responded to three pollution call-outs by Sector Key West. **Division 16** RIO St. Croix spent 39 hours training new Active Duty for dispatching. AUX donated a sail boat to Active Duty for use under the Morale, Welfare and Recreation program.

1. **Community Support South:** All three divisions are actively working on PE courses, either teaching them or advertising them. **Division 13 (13-2)** manned a booth at the Bahia Honda State Park mini-lobster and also conducted VSCs. Safe boating information was written in both English and Spanish. Those bi-lingual brochures were also placed at a West Marine in Marathon. **Division 16** uses tickets from Wendy's that promote wearing life jackets. A youngster caught "Doing the Right Thing" gets a coupon for a free mini-frostie. Those coupons are used by 16-2 and 16-3. (16) members are also promoting "Boat Smart From the Start" for youths over age 14. **Special Involvement:** **Division 13:** over 75 people attended a HAZWOPER class held in Key Largo. The flotillas also held two beach and one road clean-up days. Local publications carried articles on the importance of VSCs. Also, they had regular radio appearances in the Middle Keys which promoted boating safety. **Division 16 (16-1)** is trying to secure PSA announcements on local TV for USCG core messages. (16-2) had a radio spot with local radio host Sam Topp which promoted their CG booth at the Chili-Cook-off. 16-3 submitted a story and photos to the Navigator about members Jackson and Pickering who attended C-School in Yorktown, VA.

ADSO-PA East: Diane Riggan reports that **Division 3** members attended the Change of Command Ceremony at USCG Station Fort Lauderdale. The ceremony was captured on video by (38) member, Joe Underwood. Members from Div. 3 also supported the CGSTA Fort Lauderdale's blood drive and attended the commissioning of the CGC Etheridge. **Division 5 (59)** members cooked meals for the Spiny Lobster Mini-Season, provided radio coverage and patrolled the southern part of the AOR for Station Ft. Pierce. Members from various flotillas in the Division serve as EOCs for Martin County and St. Lucie County as liaisons for the Coast Guard.

1. **Community Support East:** **Division 3, (31)** assisted Marine Safety and Miami CEU, passed out boating safety literature and performed numerous VSCs. (32) members provided support for the "Revive Your Dive" event that was sponsored by the Swimming

Hall of Fame in Ft. Lauderdale. **Division 5 (59)** member Cushard spoke at Stuart West Marine about boating safety. The flotilla also had their Season event. They are in the process of obtaining magnetic signs for vehicles which will advertise PE classes. **Special Involvement: (54)** member Irwin Fried had four articles published in local newspapers and was interviewed on local television about boating safety. Hank Cushard, FSO-PA (59) recently attained PA 1 status.

ADSO-PA West: Toni Borman reports that **Division 8 (81)** continues to assist TSA at Sarasota Bradenton Airport. 81 member Petrucci updated aerial charts for the CG C-130s and the MH-60s and all publication/charts in the Operations Flight Planning Room for CG Station Clearwater. Parent and Munhall participated as AUXCHEFs at Sector St. Pete and Cutter *Alligator* COWs. AUXCHEF Owens cooked on the Joshua Appleby Buoy Tender and at Station Cortez. Ron and Jane Touchton continues supporting Station Cortez with navigation classes and station maintenance. **Division 9 (91)** members continue to do watch standing at Station Fort Myers. Bob Dupuy retired after 20 years of service. **(92)** member, Kurtz (WWII SPAR) was presented with a plaque from engineers of the USCGC Stratton. **Division 11 (11-1)** members attended CG Day at Air Station Clearwater and a COW at Station Sand Key. They also provided training support to STA Sand Key and C-130 air drop support to Air STA Clearwater. **(11-3)** members attended COW at STA Sand Key. **(11-9 and 11-10)** had multiple boat sorties in support of C-130 air drop training for STA Sand Key. **Division 15 (15-3 and 15-8)** members provided food at the CG Day picnic held at Station Yankeetown.

1. **Community Support:** **Division 7** is working on plans for the Tampa Boat Show in Sept. **Division 8** flotillas are involved in PE classes and doing VSCs. **(84)** members participated in Sarasota County event for under privileged children which had a crowd of over 500 adults and children. Members Bill Gerst and Toni Borman interacted with children involved in the Sarasota County Summer Camp Program. Borman also continues to assist Mote Marine and broke a record with involvement of 658 children in CG and Aux programs for them. **Division 9 (95)** members taught 45 youngsters about Hurricane Preparedness and boating safety equipment at Marco Island's Camp Mackle. **(98)** members manned a booth at Laishley Park and Fisherman's Village Pirate Fest. **(9-10's)** Coastie was present for the event. **Division 15 (15-3)** conducted VSCs at Lake Weir. **Special Involvement:** **Division 8** has numerous PSA announcements in local newspapers and on ads along local highways. **(87)** Dave Neilsen had his bi-weekly boating safety article in *Waterline* Magazine. He also provides a spreadsheet of PE classes in the *Sun* newspaper. **Division 9 (91)** received extensive coverage in local newspapers about boating safety and Bob Depuy's retirement. **(93)** SO-PA Aduato had an article published in Naples Daily News about the flotilla's 60th anniversary. **(98)** had extensive coverage of Pirate Fest in the *Charlotte Sun*. **Division 11 (11-1, 11-3, 11-9 and 11-10) and Division 15** report multiple RBS, PE and ABS classes being conducted and advertised.

Unique Support your department has provided to the USCG missions: DSO-PA Irvin got television coverage for the sinking of the WWII CGC **Mohawk** which got both local and national coverage. Irvin also secured monetary funds from Division 9 and the District PA Department to

print a 32 page photo booklet honoring the historical significance of the Mohawk. The booklet was given to each member of CGSTA Fort Myers Beach for Coast Guard Day 2012.

Indicate any assistance your department needs to function that is lacking: We continue to receive excellent support from elected officials.

Some areas in D7 report difficulty in securing PA officers. Hopefully this issue can be remedied shortly.