

District Staff Officer-Public Affairs Monthly Report

Report for: **July 2013**
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Although many Divisions in D7 have had members go back north for the summer months, there still has been a lot of activity in trying to promote RBS. Many of the flotillas are gearing up for PE classes which will begin in August and September. Hank Cushard has stepped into the ADSO PA East position. Divisions 4, 6 and 7 are not reporting PA activities.

U.S. Coast Guard Support:

ADSO PA North: (Divisions 2, 10, 12) Roy Crittenden reports that **Division 2 (21, 22, 29)** represented the CG at four patriotic services in Atlanta, Marietta, Dunwoody and Roswell, GA. Aux member Bridges sang the National Anthem in McDonough, GA. **(29)** flotilla member Loudermilk, who headed up the USCG Pipe Band, performed at four events across the nation. **Division 12** members ran two boat drills with STA Charleston. **(12-1)** members represented the CG in Sumter Baptist Temple.

1. **Community Support: Division 2 (23)** FSO-PA Crothers published a PSA for a "Hands-on First Aid Course" which attracted 29 people who completed the course. **Division 12 (12-10)** members had a safety booth at the Tara Hall Home for Boys Paddlefest and Family Day. They also had PSAs announcing their ABS course in three separate newspapers in Georgetown and Myrtle Beach. **(12-8)** members manned safety booths at Lowes and Home Depot. **Special Involvement: Division 2 (21)** member Grey assisted the S.C. DNR in presenting a television story (interview) about the dangers that flooding of the Savannah River has caused for boaters. FSO- PA McMenamin did two TV interviews on new boating safety laws. **(22)** Presented Park Marina a Certificate of Appreciation for VSC support. **(29)** Member Lindsey did a live television interview about RBS for the Weather Channel on Lake Lanier Islands. FSO-PA Crittenden had his monthly boating safety article in the *Lakeside on Lanier* newspaper.

ADSO PA Northeast: Divisions 4, 14, 17 Bill Giers reports that **Division 14 (14-2, 14-4, 14-7)** continue watch standing at STA Mayport. A **(14-4)** stands watch at Sector Jacksonville Prevention Dept. and at the ATON center. ADSO-PA Giers continues PA support and MSD support at STA Port Canaveral.

1. **Community Support: Division 14 (14-2)** FC Henricks will attend the CG Festival in Grand Haven, MI and will assist with ship tours and will work on a Canadian CG vessel. The flotilla is also actively involved with the public in PV, VE and PE. **(14-4)** completed teaching a BS&S course. They had Safety Fair Day at Sea Star Shipping and gave a safety presentation to students at Finegan School in Mayport. Members were also involved in the Jacksonville

Kingfish Tournament. **(14-7)** presented a Recruiting and Maritime Awareness Exhibit to the St. Augustine Yacht Club. They presented their Boating Safety and Public Information Exhibit at their Division meeting. They also had a safety booth at the West Marine in St. Augustine and a VSC at the Vilano Ramp and at a West Marine in St. Augustine. **Division 17** had a safety booth at the US Motorsports Island Hop Poker Run and supported Treasure Coast Marina with boating safety information. **Special Involvement: Division 14 (14-5)** member David Hensel will be presented the CG Achievement Medal for saving a life. Articles and photos sent for publication in *The Binnacle*. **(14-7)** PSAs sent to local media. **(14-8)** Ralph Little wrote an article for *Mandarin Newsline*.

ADSO PA South: (Divisions 1, 13, 16) Lourdes Oliveras reports that **Division 13 (13-8)** had a watch stander one day a week at STA Key West. They also participated in boating training with the 45' RBM and provided support for Helo missions. **Division 16 (16-1)** AUXAIR gave transportation support to RADM Baumgartner and staff for BQN COC. They also supported RIO St. Croix Port State Control with 26 mission hours. AUXFS provided meal services for STA BQN and AUXFACs provided a safety zone for the Annual Kayak Races. USCG LT. Roger Bogert, RIO St. Croix swore in three new AUX members.

1. **Community Support: Division 13** STA Islamorada and Auxiliary members participated in the 24th Annual Dolphin Tournament. Seventy anglers participated. After the event, AUX members fileted, cooked and served the fish. During the mini lobster season, AUX members performed VEs. **Division 16 (16-1)** covered and produced news releases for the COC For Captain Phillips at BQN Air Station and RADM Baumgartner's dinner on St. Croix. **Special Involvement: Division 16** TV 2 News covered drug confiscation by USCG in St. Croix. PA also had a news release on WOW about 1st US Territory AUXLAMS course held in the Virgin Islands. AUX members Byington and SO PA Fabich were presented the AUX Operations badge. **(16-2)** recruited two new members.

ADSO PA East: (Divisions 3, 5, 6) Hank Cushard reports that **Division 3 (36)** members attended Helo Ops training. **(37)** Members supported the Hillsboro Lighthouse Tour and also participated in Helo Ops (day and night). **Division 5 (51)** members stood radio watch as STA Lake Worth Inlet, one member assisted with PA work and another served as AUXFS. **(59)** Member worked as AUXFS and as a watch stander at STA Fort Pierce. Members also assisted the STA with training missions.

1. **Community Support: Division 3 (36)** conducted VEs and four different locations. The Sea Partners team is preparing programs for summer camp. **Division 5 (51)** conducted RBS course at Palm Beach Shores. **(52)** Members placed monofilament tubes in three locations in Jupiter. **(59)** Members conducted VEs at two local marinas and held two PE courses. **(58, 59)** had numerous PSAs in the *St. Lucie News Tribune* promoting PE classes.

ADSO PA West: Divisions 7, 8, 9, 11, 15 Tony Borman reports that **Division 8 (81)** Kamberis and Jones provided a combined 24 hours training and AUXFAC support for STA Cortez. **(83)** Munhall works as AUXFS at Sector St. Pete, while **(86)** Bidwick and Frank provide AUXFS at STA Cortez. Parent and Borman taught AUXFS at STA Yankeetown. **(85)** Howington and the Touchtons continue to do training classes and provide support to STA Cortez. **Division 9 (91, 99)** Members provide radio watch for STA Fort Myers Beach. **(99, 9-10)** AUXFS members provide meals several times a week for STA Fort Myers Beach and occasionally for the CGC Marlin. **Division 11 (11-1, 11-9, 11-10)** members support STA Sand Key, Sector St. Pete and the Air Station with Pollution Control and Commercial Inspections. Davis is active in the RFO program. **Division 15 (15-1)** has three radio watch standers helping STA Yankeetown.

1. **Community Support: Division 8 (84)** members took two Facilities to participate in the Suncoast by the Bay Festival Parade which drew about 2,000 spectators. **(83, 84, 85)** held a major PA event at the Festival which had about 25,000 visitors. Division 8 members also worked the Suncoast Festival boat races. **(86)** Bidwick and Gzyl participated in Lowe's Disaster Preparedness Day. **Division 9 (93)** Did VEs at the Naples Yacht Club. **(95)** Presented Hurricane Awareness to the Marco Island Fishing Club. **(98)** had an RBS booth at Fisherman's Village and Marina and **(9-10)** had an information booth at Lowe's in Cape Coral. **Division 11 (11-3)** conducted ABS classes and has almost all of the bricks in place at the Military Memorial Wall on their flotilla building. **(11-9)** McCabe reports the flotilla continues to monitor the hazard to navigation wreck (Skye Marie) in the Anclote River. **Division 15 (15-3)** held a VE Blitz at Lake Weir and **(15-7)** manned a Safety Booth at Horseshoe Beach. **Special Involvement: Division 8 (87)** Neilsen continues to write articles for the *Waterline Magazine* and he secured additional print space in the *Englewood Sun Newspaper* that resulted in a regular entry which promotes volunteerism and membership in the Auxiliary. **Division 9 (93)** published a safety article in *Set Anchor* and **(95)** published one in the *Sun Times*. **Division 11 (11-1, 11-3, 11-10)** have all been active in promoting boating safety in local media releases and PSAs. **(11-10)** reports packed ABS courses and increased recruitment. **Division 15 (15-1, 15-4)** have had articles in the *Chronicle* and several articles and photos in the *Citrus Chronicle*.

Unique Support your department has provided to USCG Missions: The Auxiliary across the District continues to offer support to all of the CG STATIONS with watch standing, AUXFS, AUXAIR, training, both surface and air support, pollution, commercial vessel exams and ATON verification. In many of the Divisions, PA has garnered media coverage for COCs and various missions. DSO PA Irvin provided PA support for the incoming CO of STA Fort Myers Beach. Front page coverage of the COC was carried in the Beach Observer.

Concerns: There are Flotillas that are without PA officers and this is keeping those flotillas from getting the message of Safe Boating and of promoting boating classes out to the public. SO-PAs need to make every effort to support their FSOs and to encourage Flotilla Commanders to assign members who are interested in PA to those positions and to utilize assistants. They should also encourage attendance at the PA Aux 12 School.

Suggestions: One member has suggested that closer relationships should be developed with marinas and with marine parts and equipment retailers so that more accurate information about the “needs” of the boating public can be ascertained. This would result in supplying the right information to the marinas to meet those needs. We have tons of pamphlets, but we need to get the right ones out there.

One member suggests that there should be ONLINE reporting for all positions so that anyone can see those reports. The thought is that this will keep members from having to submit multiple reports.