

## **District Staff Officer-Public Affairs Monthly Report**

Report for: **October-November 2013**  
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**Down time during the monthly shutdown (October) and mandatory “stand down” of Auxiliary operations hindered our efforts in some ways, but it did give some Flotillas and Divisions time to regroup and make plans. Some of this activity will reflect the last few weeks of September. We are still having resistance from Divisions 1, 4, 6, 7, 17 in doing the monthly reports. This is detrimental to the efforts of staff in those Divisions who devote time in promoting the Auxiliary and our missions. Every effort has been made by ADSO PA staff to correct the lack of reporting but it would appear the Division elected side needs to do some prodding.**

### **U. S. Coast Guard Support:**

**ADSO PA North: (Divisions 2, 10, 12)** Roy Crittenden reports that **Division 12 (12-3)** had an AUXFAC in the Veterans’ Day Parade in Columbia, S. C. with Coast Guard STA Charleston members accompanying them.

1. **Community Support: Division 2 (21)** members handled a regatta patrol at a rowing event on the Savannah River. **(22 and 29)** participated in a Veterans’ Day Parade in Marietta, GA. **(29)** also attended a Veterans event in Fairburn, GA. **(25)** manned a Safety Booth at West Marine in Anderson, S.C. and had the assistance of a Marine Science Technician 2<sup>nd</sup> Class from the Savannah Coast Guard Reserves with them. They were also involved in the International Clean-up Day at Lake Jocassee in Salem, S.C. and had a safety booth at Duke Energy in Seneca, S.C. **Division 12 (12-10)** had a Safety Booth at the Georgetown Wooden Boat Show. Division Flotillas also published numbers PSAs for upcoming PE events. Plans are also in the works for involvement in the Folly Beach Christmas Parade. **Special Involvement: Division 2 (22 and 23)** published articles regarding CGAUX services and a Flotilla meeting. FSO-PA Crittenden published his monthly 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 and 14-7)** continue with watch standing at STA Mayport while a **(14-5)** member augments boat crew for the Station. One member from **(14-5)** assists the Sector Jacksonville Response Team and a member from **(14-4)** assists the Sector Jacksonville Prevention Dept. Other Division 14 members assist with ATON coverage and TCT at the Mayport Detachment. The Division had a Color Guard for Veterans’ Day at the Military Officers Assoc. in St. Augustine.

1. **Community Support: Division 14 (14-1)** conducted an ABS course in early November. They also had an informal social at a local restaurant in Fernandina Beach. **(14-4)** has a BS&S course scheduled for next year and will

be involved in three lighted boat parades during Nov. and a fireworks security zone for New Year's. **(14-7)** members conducted a boating safety information activity at the Maritime Heritage Foundation Festival and also during the Maritime Conservation Awareness Exhibit. **Special Involvement:** All Flotillas in the Division have put out PSAs for upcoming events for PE and VE efforts.

**ADSO PA South:** **(Divisions 1, 13, 16)** Lourdes Oliveras reports that **Division 13 (13-8)** Supported Helo-Ops and did radio watch standing. **Division 16 (16-1)** members and members of active Coast Guard had a Memorial Service for Auxiliary members from **(16-1)** William Dunn and Jayne Davis.

1. **Community Support:** **Division 13 (13-8)** participated in a Veterans' Day parade and is assisting with the Navy League in planning the commissioning of new cutters for Sector Key West. **Division 16 (16-1)** participated in the American Waterway Watch program. **Special Involvement:** **Division 16 (16-1)** had articles published in the D7 Connection, the Breeze and the AUXFS newsletter.

**ADSO PA East:** **(Divisions 3, 5, 6)** Hank Cushard reports that **Division 3** STA Fort Lauderdale BM2 Torres and **(32)** members participated in the International Coastal Cleanup. **(34)** Members also participated in the Coastal Clean-up effort. **(34)** Members are working with STA Miami in preparing for a Gala for the South Florida Coast Guard Assoc. **(36)** Members had 41 Sea Cadets assist them with Coastal Clean-up while **(38)** Members utilized Boy Scouts for Coastal Clean-up. **Division 5 (51)** had three members serve as watch standers at STA Lake Worth Inlet and one member handled Public Affairs for them. **(59)** Had a member serve as watch stander at Fort Pierce and also provided support as AUXFS. **(52)** Members attended a retirement ceremony for CWO4 Troy Ivy.

1. **Community Support:** **Division 3 (34)** conducted two courses for the public, ABS and Coastal Navigation. **(36)** is gearing up for VE's and held an ABS class. **Division 5 (51)** conducted an ABS course at Palm Beach Shores. **(58)** Published ABS notices in the *St. Lucie News Tribune*. **(59)** Held an ABS course at a local marina. **Special Involvement:** **Division 3 (34)** advertised their ABS courses in the *Pompano Pelican Weekly*. **Division 5 (51)** used **Twitter** to post a news item. **(58 and 59)** posted their ABS courses in local media releases. **(59)** is involved in planning for the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Stuart Boat Show which is predicted to have over 30,000 visitors. **ADSO PA** Cushard is visiting with his Divisions in trying to assist with PA goals.

**ADSO PA West: (Divisions 7, 8, 9, 11, 15)** Toni Borman reports that **Division 8** continues its support of STA Cortez with radio watch and other activities. The Monday evening training at Mote Marine has resumed. **Division 9 (91)** continues to support STA Fort Myers Beach with radio watch. **(9-10)** supports STAFMB with Marine Safety and AUXFS. **Division 11** has several flotillas assisting CG with C-130 drops. **(11-1)** is heavily involved with RFO at Station Sand Key. **Division 15 (15-3)** continues with AUXAIR support for Clearwater Air Station: Flight Examiner, Instructor, and Facility Inspection. **(15-8)** had 3 members provide AUXFS support for STA Yankeetown.

1. **Community Support:** **Division 8** has resumed VEs and PE programs. Dave Neilson was a guest speaker at the Gulf Cove Fishing Club and was assisted by members of **(92)**. **Division 9 (93)** participated in a DARE program at Edison State College. **(93, 95, 96)** will support and monitor a Collier County Life Jacket Loaner program at local beaches. **(93)** Completed a BS&S course along with a GPS and Local Knowledge programs. **(98)** Participated in an Open house in Port Charlotte. **(9-10)** participated in Coastal Clean-up and a Veterans' Day event at Shell Point. **Division 11** members participated in a Save Your Space parking lot event in Clearwater. They used the space to promote Auxiliary missions. **Division 15 (15-8)** held BS&S and GPS classes and will conduct two classes with students of the Gulf Coast Academy.

**Special Involvement:** **Division 8** is actively involved with media releases for PE events. Dave Neilsen continues to publish safe boating articles in the *Waterline*. **Division 9 (93)** Aduato published a Safe Boating article in the *Naples Daily News, Set Anchor*. **(98)** FSO PA gave remarks on the Clear Channel Radio concerning Auxiliary missions. **Division 11** has all flotillas involved in advertising their upcoming PE programs. **Division 15** has submitted two articles to the *Citrus County Chronicle*.

**Problems and Suggested Solutions:** It has been noted by several Divisions those Public Affairs missions of promoting PE programs and promoting the Auxiliary goals is not being adequately utilized by Flotilla/and/or Division leadership. In many cases, the PA slot, which is considered one of the key Flotilla positions, is not filled or if filled, the person's efforts are not fully understood. This lack of PA involvement may be the reason that membership is down, VE's are down and PE involvement is down...advertising is dire and the understanding of the PA involvement with PB, PE and VE is critical. A suggestion is that elected leadership needs to emphasize the missions of the RBS Team.