

USCG AUXILIARY
FLOTILLA 7-4, 8THCR

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- May-Safe Boating Week/Month
- Training
- CG Birthday

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Sailing on Canyon Lake



VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2

01 JULY 2018

Meet the Command



(L-R): FC JeanneMarie McNamara and VFC Ahia Shabaaz. (Photo by RuthAnn Taylor and Mike Westwood—BSTW).

FC JeanneMarie McNamara, MS, MT (BB-ASCP) is a former clinical laboratory officer in the U.S. Army. Her career included both active and reserve duty, it spanned 23 years and included periods as a Personnel and Training Officer, Clinical Laboratory Officer and Blood Bank Supervisor, detachment and company command time, instructor at the Academy of Health Sciences Laboratory School at Fort Sam Houston and the Joint Medical Planners Course in Washington, DC. She served in Desert Storm as the Chief of the Crisis Action Center for the Armed Services Blood Program and retired as its Deputy Director. FC McNamara has also taught at both the high school and college levels for more than 20 years where she taught both laboratory and forensic science.

Upon retirement from the military, she became an admissions counselor for both the U.S. Military Academy (West Point, NY) and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy (New London, CT). In 2015, she joined the CG Auxiliary serving in both NJ and TX. She has served as a VFC, FSO-HR and FC. She was recently appointed to the National Staff of the Auxiliary as Branch Chief of the Academy Admissions Partners Program. FC McNamara is married to Kevin McNamara who taught for 47 years and is an active member of the Knights of Columbus. They have 3 children and 3 granddaughters. They love traveling, spending time with family and seeking out new adventures. They moved to Texas in 2016 for "retirement."

VFC Ahia Shabaaz (Ph.D.) worked as a health administrator, nurse practitioner and associate professor. Her career, over the past 30 plus years, included the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, U.S. Public Health Service, Africare, University of Texas Medical Branch, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, University of Tennessee, Lamar University and Texas Women's University. She has worked as a volunteer for more than 45 years, with multiple organizations (American Red Cross, Disaster Management Assistance Team, USCGAux, Alamo Area Medical Reserve Corps, etc.), providing healthcare, management and teaching, in the U.S.A., Haiti, Central and South America. She was also elected to the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature, as a representative for District 1, Bexar County.

VFC Shabaaz has served in several capacities in the USCGAux over the past sixteen years. In her current position with Flotilla 7-4, she oversees staff programs, mentors new staff officers, is the editor of the newsletter and specializes in medically related training. VFC Shabaaz was recently appointed as the State Liaison Officer – Texas and District Legislative Liaison Officer. VFC Shabaaz is married to Dr. Warren Moore (FSO-PE/PV). They have a blended family of 6 children, 15 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. They enjoy art, dance, music, reading and travel, as retirees at Blue Skies of Texas.

Training with the Gold Side

For several months Aux. Roberto Ortiz-Diaz and Aux. Alex Shapovalov have been going to MSD Victoria on Tuesdays for training with the active duty for their Marine Safety Device. Their trainer was CPO Petterson who was recently promoted and will leave the station. Training will continue with the new MSD - PO for several more months. Aux. Robert Puharic is recertifying his Watchstander qual in Port Aransas.



(L-R): R. Ortiz-Diaz, CPO C. Peterson and A. Shapovalov. (Photo by MSDVictoria PA)

Community
Training
Opportunities
It's all about :
Emergency
Preparedness



Incident Command Training took place at the San Antonio Emergency Operations Center with local CERT team members. Flotilla 7-4 has 7 members who have completed Emergency Response training with CERT. Ahia Shabaaz also trains with the Alamo Area Medical Reserve Corps for disaster response training. **Warren Moore, Robert Puharic and Ahia trained with the ARC at the "Stop the Blood" emergency training class.** CBERNE - FEMA course was attended by Warren & Ahia. We are in civilian dress for these training opportunities because we are still working on gaining CG - MOUs with these various community agencies that all work in the Emergency Response arena. (Photo by: Top, L-R, Scott Paul, Ahia Shabaaz, Boy Scout PA, Evelyn Garza). A Water Safety class was conducted for a local boy scout troop by Alex Shapovalov under supervision of Instructor Jeanne McNamara. Alex is in the process of earning his Auxiliary Instructor qualification.

Diversity

The U.S. Coast Guard developed a policy to support and educate its membership on the essentials of diversity, in the performance of its mission. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary follows the established policy and practices of its parent body, by implementing the diversity policy, in its workforce composition and program delivery.

Within the broader context of American life, diversity refers to the complex, multi-ethnic, and racial groups. There are subsets within each defined group. When applied to membership or workforce,

diversity is broadly defined as inclusiveness, without regard to physical limits or arbitrary designed limits.

Each flotilla of the Auxiliary is charged under the general policy of the U.S. Coast Guard to prohibit and defeat attempts to exclude persons from its membership, and full participation in its mission, based on group biases and group perceptions. The limits to perform each function in the Auxiliary must be based on **an individual's success or failure** to grasp the elements of a specific assignment. Each flotilla fails or succeeds, as a

measure of its ability to utilize its available personnel and resources.

A diversity course (under civil rights) is mandated as a prerequisite to membership in the Auxiliary and must be repeated every five years. Flotilla 7-4 will hold periodic classes on diversity throughout the year. We welcome the participation of other flotillas in our diversity training offerings.



Flotilla 7-4 Diversity Training Team: (L-R) FSO-DV, F. Mendez-Rodriguez, VFC/PB, A. Shabaaz and FSO-PE/PV, W. Moore. Photo by Jeanne McNamara

Safe Boating Week - May 2018

Safe Boating week is the third week of May each year. The Coast Guard Auxiliary focuses its efforts on reaching out to the community and encouraging safe boating practices each year. As part of the event, we conducted program visits to local stores that sell boats and personal water crafts and vessel exams at Canyon Lake. In addition, we had our flotilla meeting there and shared in a wonderful day of fellowship and BBQ.



Summer Safety Day at JBSA - Lackland. Representing the flotilla at the event were A. Shapovalov and R. Ortiz -Diaz.



Warrior Weekend-Port O'Connor

This is a joint venture sponsored by numerous civil and military organizations, amongst them, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, to give wounded veterans and their families a weekend of fun and sun on the water. Held annually in Port O'Connor, auxiliaries assisted these heroes with boating and fishing activities. Flotilla 7-4 was represented by J. Kardos and L. Manganiello. Bessie and Geoff Souris from 7-10 were some of the others present. J. Vass coordinated the Boat Crew effort. The mayor of Port O'Connor was also present at the event.



One of the many sand sculptures created for the day. This one towered over 10 feet. Auxiliaries pictured (L-R): Geoff Souris, Jim Vass, Lou Manganiello and Jason Kardos.



Awards & Recognition

During this quarter, several of our members received numerous awards and earned qualifications. Those recognized were A. Shapovalov - Interpreter, J. Kardos - Boat Crew, R. Dittman - Sustained Service/MTC - USCGA, W. Moore - Sustained Service, B. Rosario - Sustained Service, J. McNamara - Sustained Service/ National Staff/MTC - USCGA.

Our Ranks Are Swelling!



(L-R) FC McNamara swears in 3 of our newest members, Russell Poppen, Daniel Zucker and Ronald Payne.

During our last quarter, we saw an increase in membership by 5. Our new members have completed their New Member exams, Safe Boating Classes and FEMA - ICS courses 100 and 700 and are currently working on their other Mandated Training Courses. Russell is a former National Park Ranger and works at Sea World with the animals in the Park and Daniel holds a Merchant Mariners License and has a son in the Navy. Ronald is retired soldier, speaks 7 languages and is running for the State legislature. Soon to be sworn in are Matt McClennan and Eric Stelzel.



Lights, Camera, Action!



During the third week of May, auxiliaries from the Public Affairs Directorate of the National Staff came to Sector Corpus Christi to film a new recruiting video for the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Several members from Division 7 were asked to participate. Our flotilla was represented by R. Ortiz-Diaz and A. Shapovalov.



FLOTILLA MEETINGS

07 JUL 2018
Blue Skies of Texas
5100 John Ryan Blvd.
San Antonio 78245
1000-1200 hrs.

04 AUG 2018
Blue Skies of Texas
5100 John Ryan Blvd.
San Antonio 78245
1000-1200 hrs.

***08 SEP 2018**
Blue Skies of Texas
5100 John Ryan Blvd.
San Antonio 78245
1000-1200 hrs.

*2nd Saturday due
To Labor Day holiday.

Photos in this newsletter were taken by Ahia Shabaaz, Alex Shapolavov, Roberto Ortiz-Diaz and Jeanne McNamara unless otherwise noted.

UPCOMING EVENTS

07 JUL 2018
Our New Website
1300-1400 hrs.

12 JUL 2018
SkyWarn/Weather Trng-Basic
1830-2100 hrs.
SA Fire Training Academy

28 July 2018
Division Meeting, Sector-HQ
Corpus Christi, TX



04 AUG 2018
CG Birthday/Zika Virus Trng
1200-1400 hrs.
Family members are welcome

21 AUG 2018
SkyWarn/Weather Trng-Advncd
1830-2100 hrs.
SA Fire Training Academy



Flotilla 7-4, Website

USCG Auxiliary
Flotilla 7-4, 8thCR

5100 John D. Ryan Blvd
San Antonio, TX 78245

Meeting the First Saturday of the Month
1000 - 1200 hrs.

Prospective articles and photos are to be sent via email to:
universalawareness@yahoo.com OR
mcnamara.uscgaux@gmail.com

Guardians of the Inland Waters



<http://www.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=081-07-04>

