

USCG AUXILIARY
FLOTILLA 7-4, 8THCR

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Upcoming Training
- A Pictorial Year in Review
- Community Outreach

INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

- Introduction 1
- Highlights of 2017 1
- Highlights of 2017 2
- Hurricane Harvey 2
- Change of Watch 3
- San Antonio Boat Show 4
- Meetings and Events 4



Sailing on Canyon Lake

The Alamo City Guardian

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1

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The Alamo City Guardian is the official newsletter of Flotilla 7-4, of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCG). The newsletter will be published quarterly. Its mission is to present a review of events that show the service of the Auxiliary to the boating public.

In this initial publication, highlights of 2017, will show the Auxiliary's major commitment to service and safety. As a support to the USCG, this Flotilla, as others in Texas, respond to daily and occasional crises. Its response to the call for assistance from the USCG, during "Hurricane Harvey" is an example of the Flotilla's preparedness.



District Meeting, D - Train, was held in Corpus Christi, March 2017. (L-R) CDR Gilmore, DirAUX, DCO McCandless and DCOS Maricle



SABRE Graduation Night, Port Aransas, TX with Nathan, Robert, Jaime and Jeanne, April 2017.



USO Reception at La Villita, in April 2017. (L-R) Jeanne, Parade Grand Marshall, Loretta Swit from the TV series M*A*S*H, and FC Robert



Armed Forces Day Parade on the Riverwalk in April 2017. (L-R) Robert, Jeanne, Warren and Ahia.



A Retirement Ceremony for Johnny Herring, 15 years of service to the CG Auxiliary and Flotilla 7-4, was held in May 2017.



FSO-VE Jason reviewing how to do a PWC Vessel Safety Check to then trainee, Alex, July 2017, at Canyon Lake.



Roberto, Lynda and Edwin at a Stinson Airport Meeting in August 2017, where we celebrated the 227th birthday of the CG.



*Posted by the
USCG on the Web
just after the
initial response to
Hurricane Harvey*

Hurricane Harvey

The fall of 2017 was one of the worst hurricane seasons in the US history. Lives were lost and property damage estimates were approximately \$180 billion.

There were eight members of Flotilla 7-4 that were deployed. The team effort supported three missions under mobilization orders for Hurricane Harvey (HH), which included a convoy to get 5 new vehicles into the area from San Antonio

to Houston. Convoy Drivers included Alex Shapolavov, Bob Puharic, Lynda Ramos, and Mike & Maya Skibitcky. They were deployed for 24 hours.

Our second team mobilized to Ellington Field in support of air rescue operations. Roberto Ortiz-Diaz and Jeanne McNamara worked between several locations at the air field assisting in the reception of rescue calls, assigning priorities to the air missions, evacu-

ation routes, assigning the pilots and facilities to each of the missions. During this period over 400 missions were completed. The final deployment from Flotilla 7-4 was Robert Dittman and his service dog Jackson who were deployed for 9 days, to assist the JAG office in Houston. To all the members of 7-4 who deployed and those who supported them in San Antonio: "BZ" - "Bravo, Zulu" for a job well done!



Convoy Drivers: (L-R) Alex, Maya, Lynda, Stephanie Long (Flotilla 7-5), Bob and Mike.



Jeanne assigning air assets during air operations.



Roberto listening for radio updates during air operations.



JAG Support was provided by Robert and service dog, Jackson.



Veteran's Day Ceremony, November 2017, at Blue Skies of Texas-West. This was the first year for CG participation.



Veteran's Day Ceremony, November 2017, at VFW Post 76 with (L-R) Dr. Shabaaz, N. LaHood, Esq. and Dr. Moore.

Change of Watch

The Change of Watch (COW) is an annual event that is characterized by the installation of the Flotilla Commander and Vice Commander. A second part of the COW is the swearing-in of newly appointed officers, by the Flotilla Commander. The COW took place in December 2017.



Ret. USCG CAPT Pat Benigno (Deacon) gave the convocation at the COW. The Master of Ceremony was Dr. Warren Moore.



BG Marc McClelland swears in the new FC McNamara and VFC Shabaaz assisted by Dr. Warren Moore/PE & PV.



New Staff Officers in photo: (L-R) Ben Rosario/FN, Debra Gawron-Rosario/IS, Bob Puharic/CM, Felix Mendez-Rodriguez/DV, Alex Shapovalov/MS, Robert Dittman/IPFC & LP, and Lou Manganiello/OP New Staff Officers not in photo: Warren Moore/PE & PV, and Ahia Shabaaz/PB
New Staff Officers not present: Nathan Culpepper/SR, Jason Kardos/NS & VE, Morgan Montalvo/CS & PA, Roberto Ortiz-Diaz/MA, Lynda Ramos/MT



Outgoing FC Dittman was recognized for his leadership and dedication while Outgoing VFC Manganiello looks on.

2018 San Antonio Boat Show

Flotilla 7-4 members were exhibitors, conducted short classes on emergency radio communications and proper fit of life vests, distributed information about auxiliary classes, boating safety, vessel examinations, state and federal boating regulations, opportunities in the Auxiliary and the Coast Guard Academy. It was held January 4-8, 2018 at the Convention Center.



(L-R) Roberto, Ahia, Nathan, Jeanne, Alex on opening day



Back (L-R) Bob, Debra, Ben, Jason, Felix, Dustin/Front (L-R) Roberto, Lou

FLOTILLA MEETINGS

07 APR 2018
St. Phillips College
SW Campus-800 Quintana Rd
1200-1300 hrs.

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

07 APR 2018
FEMA/ICS Courses 200 & 800
St. Phillips College
1300-1700 hrs.

05 MAY 2018
TCO Class
Blue Skies of Texas
1230-1500 hrs.

Division Meeting
June/July 2018
TBA

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 are to be sent via email to:
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Guardians of the Inland Waters



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

