



MIDWEST MARINER



DIVISION 3, SWR

Issue 2 May 2015

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

Auxiliarist Bugler at Arlington Cemetery



DIVISION BOARD AND STAFF

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Gary Smith VCDR	Brian Harris SO-MS
Barbara Rhoades IPDCDR	Marilyn Aten SO-MT
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Doug LeClair Air Liaison	

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CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE-PRIVACY ACT OF 1974

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The MIDWEST MARINER welcomes all articles on Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary customs, traditions, heritage, history and current events. The right to decline any submission will be based on content. Articles and photos may be sent via email to the editor, Barbara Rhoades at: bcrhoades@centurytel.net.

COVER INFORMATION: Auxiliarist Bugler at Arlington Cemetery by Chris Demarest (ID# 200803)

The Coast Guard Auxiliary, the service's corps of dedicated volunteers, assists in many ways including giving courses in boating safety and aiding in search and rescue. One volunteer from the Auxiliary's 28,000 members even serves as a bugler with the Coast Guard Honor Guard. The Auxiliary was established in 1939. Today, its members volunteer millions of hours of service annually.



DIVISION COMMANDER - 3

Diana Arisman

From The Commander's Corner ...

At the 2015 District Training in Branson, Missouri, Division 3 members received a number of awards and recognitions. A big CONGRATULATIONS goes out to Flotilla 3-13 who was presented with the 2014 Commodore's Award for having the highest weighted points in Division 3. A beautiful plaque commemorates this achievement. Mark Zoellner is Flotilla 3-13's Commander and Keeler Steensgard, is the Vice Flotilla Commander. Again, congratulations.



Members from each of Division 3's Flotillas received awards for their work during 2014.

In Flotilla 3-4, Charles Aten, Marilyn Aten, Alberto Friedman, Barbara Rhoades, and Craig Tompkins were presented with the Apple Award for having between 15 to 99 hours as a head instructor. Dan Rhoades was given the 500 Club Award for conducting between 50-99 Vessel Examinations. Barbara Rhoades received the 2500 Club Award for having between 250 – 499 weighted points.

In Flotilla 3-7, Lee Jones was presented with the 500 Club Award for conducting between 50-99 Vessel Examinations; Gary Smith was presented with the 2500 Club Award.

Three members in Flotilla 3-8 – Stella Francis, James Goulding, and Karen Goulding - received the Publicist Award for 25 or more hours of Public Affairs. Karen Goulding also received the Travelers Award for performing 20 or more Program Visits.

Three members of Flotilla 3-10 were presented with awards. Doug Keller received the 5000 Club Award for 500 or more weighted points. Brian Harris received the Publicist Award and the 1000 Club Award for conducting 100 – 199 Vessel Examinations. Bob Arisman was given the Travelers Award and the Apple Award.

In Flotilla 3-13, Betty Zoellner received the 5000 Club Award for 500 or more weighted points. She also was presented with the Travelers Award and the Ruler Award for 30 – 99 hours as PE/MT Instructor Aide. Mark Zoellner received the 2500 Club Award for 250 – 499 weighted points. In addition, Mark earned the Apple Award, Publicist Award, Ruler Award, and the Travelers Award. John Gibson received the Publicist Award.

In Flotilla 3-15, Bill Coby received a Publicist Award and Doug Laclair was presented with the Compass Rose Award for Coast Guard Operational Support and he also received the 2500 Club Award.

Marylou Minnis, Flotilla 3-16, was presented with the Compass Rose Award for Coast Guard Operational Support and he also received the 2500 Club Award.

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Congratulations and thanks to all members who volunteered to do the activities which were recognized by these awards.

With our boating season just around the corner and an exciting list of events planned for 2015, there will be plenty of opportunity to step up and participate in a variety of USCG Auxiliary activities.

Semper Paratus



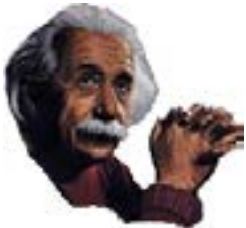
STAFF OFFICER REPORTS



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - DV

Katey Bernstein

Kaleidoscope



"Somebody who only reads newspapers and at best books by contemporary authors look to me like an extremely near-sighted person who scorns eyeglasses. He is completely dependent on the prejudices and fashions of his times, since he never gets to see or hear anything else."

Quote from Albert Einstein

Diversity equals road to Understanding



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - HR

Gloria Tobin

RETENTION

I spoke earlier this year at the Instructor's Training Session held at the Missouri Baptist Hospital on how to recruit for new members. I now feel it is time to develop a Solution to Retention Training Session which is the involvement of these newly recruited members. There are eleven important points I wish to emphasize. They are:

1. A strong and dedicated Flotilla Commander must make membership retention a top priority.

2. The FC should ask each new member to support some function in the flotilla.
3. The flotilla should arrange for some type of "welcome aboard" ceremony.
4. Encourage them to sign up for courses that will improve their personal skills.
5. Arrange for them to be guests on patrols.
6. Keep flotilla meetings interesting and not boring.
7. Eliminate from meetings:
 - a. Flotilla politics
 - b. Acronyms
 - c. Meaningless reports that are read word for word
 - d. Wrangling
8. Recognize achievement.
9. Reinforcement as to the value of their efforts.
10. Include their families in various functions and programs.

Lastly

11. DO NOT ALLOW THEM TO GO AT A BURN-OUT PACE.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - IS

Barbara Rhoades

We all know about the mandatory training. It is those eight classes that can be done online at AUXLMS. BUT you are having trouble logging in. It tells you your user name/ password is wrong. But you have never used any other email.

If that is you, try this

Log in as normal. It will tell you it failed

Under that is a message that says "I forgot my password". Click on it. You will be asked to enter your email. Do so. A message that an email has been sent with a new password will come up.

When the email arrives, use the new password to login and use whatever email you have in AUXDATA.

It will then ask you to create a new password of 14 characters.

Now you say: "I can't remember 14 characters". Well neither can I so this is one solution:

Use whatever password you can remember and just repeat it until you reach 14 characters.

It worked for me.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - MT

Marilyn Aten

Time to Get Ready For Summer



Some of us have been trying so hard to get all of our members through mandatory training that we've almost forgotten about getting everyone up to speed for the summer's activities.

Now is the time to train a few new vessel examiners and get others out of REYR. It's also the time for a quick refresher for seasoned examiners. Just making sure everyone has their paperwork, decals, manuals and other reference materials ready. That way you're not scrambling at the last minute to get organized for a day of examining boats.



I hear reports at division meetings that program visitors are making visits to boat dealers and marinas. This program is a great follow-on for vessel examiners. This is also a good time of the year to add a few more program visitors into your flotilla. When making visits, be sure you are up-to-date on any new rules for the states of Illinois and Missouri that you can pass along when doing visits.

SO-OP Bob Arisman will be conducting training for all members involved in surface operations. If you are a coxswain or crew, you will be contacted directly as to the time and place for OPS training and the required TCT workshop. Those members interested in becoming qualified crew should let their FSO-OP know so you can get started with a mentor and get training.



Don't forget to use your qualified instructors when doing member training. This keeps them active and qualified to teach your flotilla public education classes. It is also a way to get new members involved in becoming a qualified instructor.

National has just started a new newsletter called RBS – Job #1. It combines PE, RBS, VE and PV. Use this link for 16 pages of up-to-date information in these program areas. <http://bdept.cgaux.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2015>

Auxiliary members need to be constantly trained so we can educate boaters, conduct safety patrols and vessel exams for recreational boaters. They are many things we can do but to be proficient we need training. The training begins with the member in the flotilla.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - PA

Betty Zoellner



**HAVE YOU MADE YOUR PLANS
FOR
NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK?
MAY 16-22, 2015**

If not, it is never too late to contact marinas to have a Vessel Safety Examination and a Public Affairs Exhibit. We need to get out there and provide the public with boating and water safety information. This is our time to shine.

The link to the National Safe Boating Council is <http://www.safeboatingcampaign.com/>. The link provides additional links that are very helpful in planning your event.

MY SOAP BOX!

I know I had this in the last issue of the Midwest Mariner, however, I feel it is important enough to have the SO-PB print the information again:

Members need to check out to the National Public Affairs website and, at the very least, read thru the Public Affairs courses. It is important that we are all **well versed** on what we say when speaking about the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Coast Guard, our district, division and flotilla.

We must represent ourselves appropriately and correctly.

The new AUXPAO manual has been posted on the National Public Affairs Website. There are three changes that we all must adhere to:

The descriptive words for Public Affairs events are:

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- EXHIBIT not BOOTH
- We STAFF (not man) an exhibit

Uniforms:

- Everyone is to be in the SAME uniform (NO EXCEPTIONS) for any Public Affairs event.
- It is always a good idea to review the Auxiliary Manual on uniform and accessory wear before meeting the public.

We must be the best with verbal presentations and look sharp in our uniforms.

Always keep in mind that we are **MARKETING** the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Coast Guard, our district, division and flotilla!



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - PB

Barbara Rhoades

We have approximately 164 members in Division 3. We only have approximately 25 members attend a division meeting. Therefore, approximately 85% of our division is not receiving Coast Guard Auxiliary information first-hand.

I know the FCs pass on the information given in division meetings. But it would be nice to have a place to go to reference it again when that particular piece of information is needed. Thus the reason to write articles. The newsletters get posted on our web site. All members have access to the site.

Do you have a PA question or maybe a VE or MT one? If that SO had written an article, the answer would most likely would be in one of the Midwest Mariner issues.



I know I probably sound like a broken record when I keep asking for articles. But I don't have all the answers for the activities we do and depend on the SOs to provide those answers when a question comes up. If articles are written, even if you think you have said it many times, there will be someone who needs that information.

I keep hoping that one issue will have an article from each of our SOs. This hasn't happened yet but I'm still hopeful.

So start a file on all the information that comes across your desk on your particular AOR. Then when it is time to write an article for the August issue, you will have a page you can go to and see exactly what has occurred during the past three months. I'm betting you will be surprised exactly how much information you have to use.



FLOTILLA COMMANDER REPORTS



FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER - 34

Marilyn Aten

Flotilla 34 Report

Recently we had three members, Barbara Rhoades, Charles and Marilyn Aten, participate in the 8th Western Rivers D-Train in Branson, MO. There were 150 Auxiliarists in attendance.

The host, Division 5, did a great job in welcoming everyone for the weekend. Besides good food and fellowship with friends you hadn't seen for awhile, there were a wide variety of training classes including Social Media, Diversity, ATON Verifier, E-Books, MT Compendium, Incident Management and many more.



The OTO Eric Kvistad put on a two hour operations workshop that is always well attended by just about everyone at D-Train.



Completing mandatory training has become a priority lately and Flotilla 34 has completed all but one class. It is nice to finally be at the end.

As we plan ahead for the next few months, we are in the process of selecting dates for several Vessel Examination Stations on Lake Carlyle and on the Kaskaskia River in New Athens, Illinois. Besides doing Vessel Exams the flotilla has a public affairs exhibit and participated in the American Waterways Watch program.

For those of us over 55. Do you remember when....?





FLOTILLA COMMANDER - 3-13

Mark Zoellner

Happy Spring to all now that it has sprung without too much of the usual spring flooding that comes our way. Hooray!

Spring is a time for organizing and training. It is a time for Public Affairs events as well as Safe Boating classes and National Safe Boating Week. WOW, we are busy; as we should be.

Spring had brought 3-13 to Public Affairs events such as our Annual Spring two day event at Cabelas in Hazelwood March 28 and 29. The crowds were not as large as last year but, all in all, we had, according to Cabelas, about 5000 to 6000 people pass by our exhibit at the front of the store.

In March, we also had members (Betty and Mark Zoellner) in attendance at the 60th Anniversary St Louis Gateway Boat Club, Commodore's Ball. This was an unbelievable event that was given for its members, many of whom were attendees for our Safe Boating Class that we presented to their Club in November of last year and thought the class of 32 was well attended. But this ball, similar to our change of watch and awards recognition banquet, had 375 people in attendance. Waiters with appetizers and a great meal followed by live music for dancing, made this event a great time. Best part of the evening, we now have seven potential new members in the paperwork process!



Member training has been another highlight of the spring. Mandatory classes are almost finished with a tracking of close to 80% and the balance of the needed classes to be finished up with a marathon session 2 May.

We have two more people with one class of AUXOP; we are moving along.

D-train in Branson has just concluded and 3-13 was not without its honors as well. Publicist of the Year Award for 2014 went to Betty Zoellner. Also, keeping with tradition it seems, the Commodore's Award for Flotilla of the year, Division 3 went to 3-13.

From left to right: Auxiliarist Mark Zoellner and Betty Zoellner, St Louis Gateway Boat Club members Jeanette Dixon and Leon Dixon. Photographer unknown.

This award represents all the awesome members of 3-13 as without their help this would not have been possible.

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Our spring ABS class will have concluded by now and it is again a success. All of our efforts now turn to our massive turnout effort at Grafton Harbor for National Safe Boating week. We will assault the docks May 16 and May 22 with many members onboard and doing Vessel Safety Checks and plenty of safe boating and spring commissioning literature for the boaters.

The boaters and Grafton Marina look for us those two weekends to get their boats checked and learn what is new and going on. The interaction between the examiners, members and the boater is OUTSTANDING. We intend to keep it that way for a long time.

So, in conclusion, that kind of sums up but does not include all that has happened for 3-13 this spring. However, "we do what we do because of our passion for what we do, and we do it together."

Be safe this summer, Black Cat" Flotilla



PRAYER SHAWLS

Do you knit or crochet? Want to make a shawl but then don't know who to give it to?

Then you need to check out this link:

http://www.militaryfamiliesministry.com/Knit_or_crochet.html

Maybe you don't have time for a whole shawl. Then knit or crochet a prayer patch.

Guidelines for making prayer patches:

1. Patches should be knitted or crocheted with camoflauge yarn (green, black, brown, blue or pink camo - we have female service members) or red, white, and blue yarn.
2. Patches can be any shape and size, not to exceed of 4" x 10" inches
3. Any stitch or pattern is acceptable
4. Any quantities are acceptable
5. Patterns: crocheted or knitted patch, knitted with cross, crocheted with "V" stitch.

Guidelines for making prayer shawls:

1. Shawls can be knitted or crocheted with any color yarn
2. Shawls can be be any shape and size.
3. Any stitch or pattern is acceptable
4. Any quantities are acceptable
5. Pattern for shawl and shawlette

If you do not knit or crochet and wish to help with this project, you can donate yarn for our knitting groups.

Every service is a part of this project.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

BLESSING OF THE FLEET

By Marilyn Aten

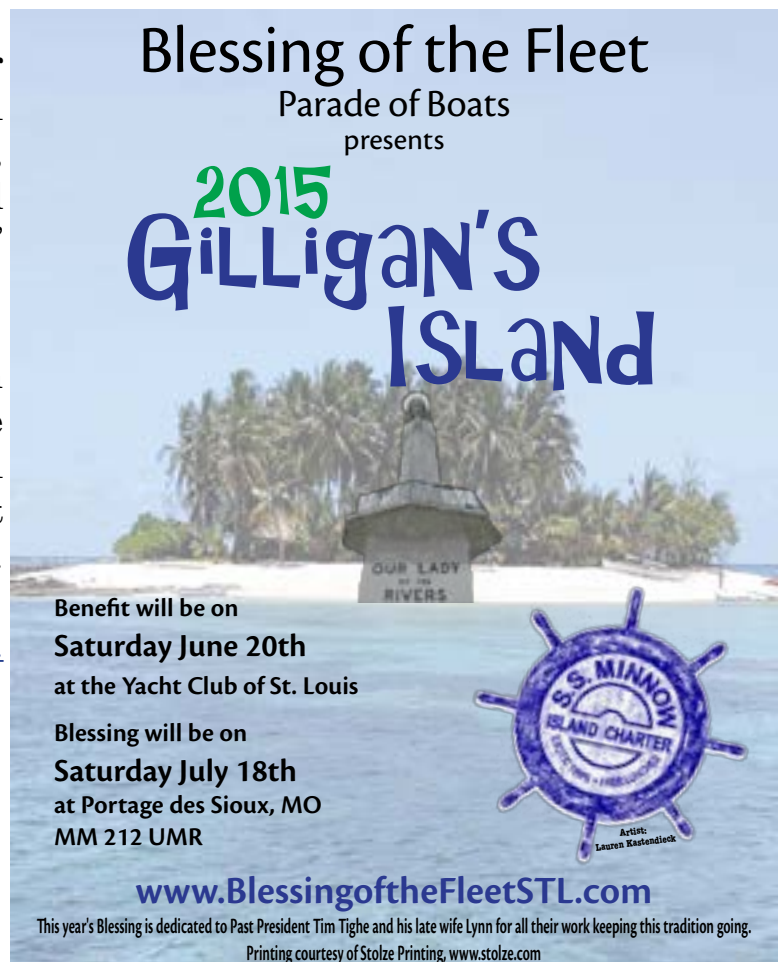
The 58th Annual Blessing of the Fleet is scheduled for Saturday, July 18 at Portage des Sioux, MO. The theme this year is “Gilligan’s Island”.

There will be two “Follow Me” boats to lead the parade. The first boat will start at Yacht Club of St. Louis at 1pm and proceed down river by way of Grafton Marina. The other boat will start at Alton Marina at 1pm and proceed upstream in the main channel of the Mississippi River. The parade will go up stream at The Shrine of Our Lady of the Rivers in Portage des Sioux at 2:15pm. Boats can join the parade anywhere along the route.

Plaques are traditionally given for the Best Decorated Boats in several categories including Runabout, Sailboat, Cruiser, Houseboat and Pontoon. There are three Judges’ Choice Awards as well.

Judges will view the boat parade from the deck at Palisades Yacht Club. The Awards for Best Decorated Boats will be presented at the LaRosa Cabana at My River Home Marina after the event.

For more information visit www.blessingofthefleetstl.com.



The poster features a tropical island scene with palm trees and a stone monument in the water. The monument is inscribed with "OUR LADY OF THE RIVERS". A blue ship's wheel logo is overlaid on the right side, containing the text "S.S. MINNOW ISLAND CHARTER".

Blessing of the Fleet
Parade of Boats
presents
2015
GILLIGAN'S ISLAND

Benefit will be on
Saturday June 20th
at the Yacht Club of St. Louis

Blessing will be on
Saturday July 18th
at Portage des Sioux, MO
MM 212 UMR

www.BlessingoftheFleetSTL.com

This year's Blessing is dedicated to Past President Tim Tighe and his late wife Lynn for all their work keeping this tradition going.
Printing courtesy of Stolze Printing, www.stolze.com

Artist:
Lauren Kastendieck