

# Shorelines

TWIN CITIES METRO  
DIVISION 11  
8<sup>TH</sup> WESTERN RIVERS  
DISTRICT

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AND  
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The Twin Cities of Minneapolis/St. Paul  
Jon Knutson  
Division Commander

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## Hello Shipmates:

As I write this column, the sky is clear and the air is warm. The trees are a kaleidoscope of reds, oranges, and golds. But, I am sad. It's over, again—summer, that is. The crops are maturing, the pumpkins yellowing, and corn is drying out in the warm fall sunshine. We have officially entered into the fall of 2020. And so far, what a year it has been. We've seen COVID, trouble in the cities, fires in the hills, and hurricanes in the Atlantic and Gulf.

With the coming national elections and a long and unpredictable winter, the idea of being home-bound/semi-quarantined, with a continuing battle against COVID, can be an unsettling and daunting thought.

But fortunately, for those of us in the Auxiliary, we still have a chance to use our time well and positively. Not only will we continue to meet (albeit on Zoom mostly) together but we are also able, with some appropriate modifications and good PPE, to do many of the things that we would normally do as Auxiliarists. All is far from lost!

We can still do on-the-water patrols, (at least for another six weeks or so), ATON verifications, vessel examinations, program visiting, publications, posting on social media, and most importantly, seeking new qualifications. With just a few minor changes (i.e., masks and social distancing proper hygiene and sanitizing), we can still do most of what we've done before. We've already done MOM patrols, vessel examinations, and program visits to marinas and sports outlets. We have even done a few (COVID appropriate) public affairs events. With a little adaptation and innovation, we can still do almost all of our activities. And, with a new, easier data collection system (AUX Data II) we can continue to grow and achieve our goals –both corporately and personally.

We have just elected new District Officers and soon will elect Division and Flotilla leadership. Let's renew our commitment to **Honor, Devotion to Duty and Respect**. Let's keep saving lives and supporting our Coast Guard. As 9/11 showed and as our current tribulations remind us, one never knows when one will be needed. Be a leader (albeit as a servant)!

**Let's be Semper Paratus!**

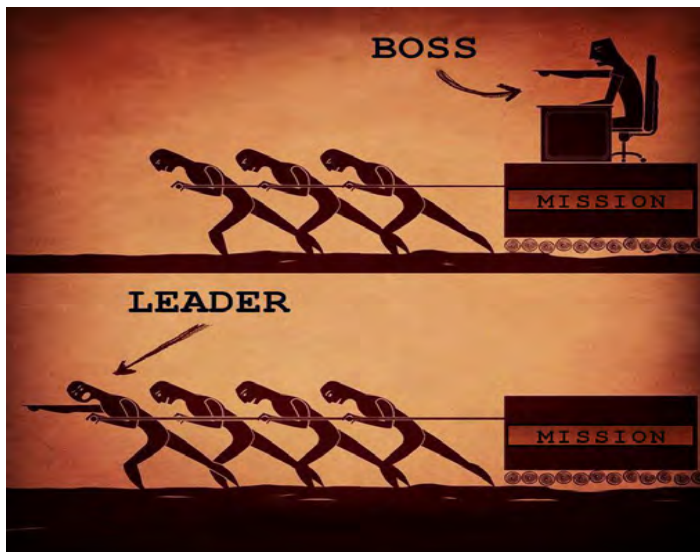
## RECENT EVENTS

### DISTRICT FALL MEETING & ELECTIONS

The annual fall District Business meeting took place virtually on September 10-13. In addition to the annual District elections, participants were able to attend many classes (also virtually). A highlight of the opening business meeting was the participation of Rear-Admiral Naudeau, and District Commander Suzanne Hemman, and the OTO for our area, Mr. Rogers.

Rear-Admiral Nadeau noted three areas for Auxiliarists to remember, as follows: 1) Servant Leadership, 2) Cultivate Expertise, and 3) Invest in Partnerships.

The Admiral particularly encouraged us to remember that regardless of our rank, job or status, either as an Auxiliarist and/or as a citizen, to remember that we have the opportunity and recognition that we do it as one who is a servant.



We (especially in the Auxiliary) have to remember that while we may hold an office of responsibility, that this is given as a trust. We do not “rule”. Rather, we serve. Let us keep that in the back of our mind as we engage in any activity, regardless of its perceived prestige or lack of it.

The Admiral also encouraged us to stay focused on learning and qualifications. While many activities have changed as a result of COVID, we still can do many things and we can still engage in learning. The Auxiliary has a wealth of learning wherein individuals can engage in some of the best coursework in the country. We have the opportunity to obtain quality qualifications and learning not available to the general public. It’s a gift.

Finally, the Admiral stressed the importance of investing in partnerships with other organizations. He stressed the need to work with many different groups including agencies, other volunteer groups, and community agencies. He stressed how the District had recently been awarded numerous National Diversity awards indicating a positive outreach to underrepresented groups. He encouraged us to link positively with such groups wherever possible.

Each of the respective officers provided an update and acknowledgment of how the Auxiliary was working with their respective groups. All noted (with appreciation) the willingness of the Auxiliary to participate and assist the broad range of activities assigned to it. They also expressed a hope that this would continue despite of the recent challenges.

A Bravo Zulu and thanks to all who made presentations and took time to provide members with training and information at this fall’s event.

### ELECTIONS

The office of District Commodore was among several offices wherein new elections were required. Chief of Staff (COS), Mr. Jeffrey Geddes was the only candidate and was unanimously elected. Congratulations Mr. Geddes!

At the same time, folks gave a round of applause and hearty thanks to Commodore Tracy Delaughter who guided the District successfully through several major hurricanes and not to mention, the on-set of COVID. Bravo Zulu Sir!

Elections were held for District Captains and Mr. Steve Gresss was elected again for the north area. Congratulations Mr. Gress!

The newly elected Chief of Staff is Mr. Brock Stephens. Congratulations Brock!

### DIVISION ACTIVITIES

While COVID has definitely affected the activities of Division 11, it has not stopped them. Now, with the new PPE rules and safe social distancing requirements, many of our activities have been continuing. And our District was one of the first to initiate procedures and processes that have allowed us to carry on almost all of our regular Auxiliary duties, including, vessel exams, program visitors, some public education classes and various qualifications for members. Members have been able to attain TCO training, Boat Crew and coxswain training, and Marine Safety operations.



Jon Knutson, Abe Kasemedeha, Jeff Anderson and Jerry Stockham ready for patrol. Jeff Carlson participated on patrol and is photographer.

August, 2020, Mississippi River: R-L: Jon Knutson, Division 11 Commander, Abe Kasemedeha, F-02, Jeff Anderson, VFC F-08, and Jerry Stockham, FC, F-08. Jeff Carlson, F-08, State Liaison, Jeff Carlson took photo and participated on the patrol. Photo courtesy of Jeff Carlson USCG Aux.

Members have been able to use virtual platforms to gather information, attend on-line meetings and, as before, attend on-line classes. Only a few activities like large public affairs events at fairs, park events, and other larger, crowded venues have been canceled. Some of our social events have also been adversely affected. But even in this case, there are virtual platforms to assist us.

Shipmates, some things have changed but most have continued with some careful attention being paid to just a few basic public health measures that everyone should be following in any event. Contact your Flotilla Commanders for information about what's happening in your area.

### REQUIRED ACTIONS

And be sure that you have taken the **REQUIRED Blood Borne Pathogens** on-line. And, if you wish to engage in any other activities note, there is a the **REQUIRED request process** for both **operational and non-operational activities**.

### EVERBRIDGE TEST.

Just before, and during Hurricane Laura, the Coast Guard wanted to test the effectiveness of the Everbridge Communication system.



Everbridge is a mass communication system to alert large numbers of individuals of specific events and critical incidents. In an effort to ascertain the health and well-being of everyone in the District, Admiral Nadeau ordered every Coast Guard and every Auxiliary member to respond to the Everbridge announcement. Where there was no response, Division leaders and Flotilla Commanders were required to contact every member on our rosters.

The event revealed that many Auxiliarists are not involved closely with their flotillas and not actively

actively maintaining their records. Many addresses, emails and phone numbers had been changed with no updates to our Auxiliary units. We are asking that every member honor their commitment to the Auxiliary by updating their contact information. If you don't know how, we ask that you contact your Flotilla Commander with the information and seek his/her assistance to update your basic information.

It is fair to say that 2020 has been an unusual year. And, it has also brought forth the fact that many people are in need of assistance. As, Auxiliarists, we are committed to assisting our country on a volunteer basis. **But, we are still needed and it's important that we try to honor that commitment.** Let's connect with our Flotillas and Shipmates.

### AUX DATA II-REPORTS

Shipmates, AUX DATA II is still relatively new (if not completely new) for many of us. I urge you to explore this new platform and to gain some familiarity with it. There are plenty of easy to understand hints and explanations.



Also, please ask your FSO-IS if you need specific help. And remember! Keep your time reports coming in. Our time is valuable and is calculated as part of the overall budget for the U.S. Coast Guard. What we do counts, so let's count up our time.

### LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES--ACHIEVEMENTS

During this era of COVID let's take advantage of the many online and virtual learning experiences available to us. Take some time to peruse the Auxiliary training opportunities and those open to both us and the regular Coast Guard. Seek those

qualifications that have eluded you when you were too busy in the field. Again, ask your Member Training FSO to recommend course work for you and help you prepare for those that may require extensive PQS work. In any case, our knowledge, skills, and abilities will not only benefit us but also the Coast Guard.

### DIVERSITY

With the many challenges our society faces today, it is important that we embody the values of "Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty" as outlined as our Coast Guard values. As never before, the issues of honor and respect have special importance in today's America and in the world in general. We are proud to note that for the third consecutive year our Division and the actions of Flotilla 2 have been awarded the National Diversity award by the National Commodores. Under the leadership of Mr. Robert Burke, our Division and Flotilla 02 have done the above and beyond work in terms of trying to diversify our Auxiliary. Bravo Zulu to Mr. Burke and those of Flotilla 02 who have provided the support necessary to achieve this.



But, it must be noted, that we have "miles to go before we sleep" with regard to diversity. Individuals, groups, and community organizations can assist in this capacity and we should be seeking to extend our hand and our efforts to engaging organizations that reflect our need for diversity, while at the same time, not compromising our missions and activities. We believe that this is not only possible, but is happening. Ultimately "E Pluribus Unum" ("from many we are one") shouldn't just be a phrase on our coins but should be part of our thinking and actions.

## Happy Birthday U.S. Coast Guard

<https://www.military.com/coast-guard-birthday>



Coast Guard ship "Eagle" surrounded by Coast Guard patrol boats and helicopters. Photo: U.S. Coast Guard.

Each August 4 the U.S. Coast Guard celebrates its birthday. This year is the 230th year.

The Coast Guard is one of America's five armed forces and traces its founding to Aug. 4, 1790, when the first Congress authorized the construction of 10 vessels to enforce tariff and trade laws, prevent smuggling, and protect the collection of federal revenue. Responsibilities added over the years included humanitarian duties such as aiding mariners in distress.

The service received its present name in 1915 when the Revenue Cutter Service merged with the U.S. Life-Saving Service to form a single maritime service dedicated to the safety of life at sea and enforcing the nation's maritime laws.

The Coast Guard is a multi-mission, maritime, military service and the smallest of the five Armed Services. Its mission is to protect the public, the environment, and U.S. economic interests in the nation's waterways, along the coast, on international waters, or in any maritime region as required to support national security.

## What Are You Doing?

On Saturday, September, 19, Rear Admiral Nadeau noted in his presentation to District leadership the issue of being a "Servant-Leader". Noting that leaders are, before all else, (regardless of where they are) servants. A "servant leader", pulls from the front and doesn't ride in the chariot with a whip.

As Auxiliarists, we are helped in this effort by must recalling what our mission and purpose are. Essentially, in our case, it is two-fold, i.e.,

- 1) to save lives and property through boating safety education and,
- 2) to support the Coast Guard through development of our skills etc.

These two goals and the idea of "servant-leadership" are the driving and aligning forces for all of our activities. These must be known to each of us such a way as to be almost unconscious. They should drive our every day-to-day activity within the Auxiliary. When you're distributing literature, enrolling a new member, standing in a booth at a fair or show, inspecting boats at a Marina, checking bridge lights, writing a newsletter, instructing a boating class, attending a flotilla meeting, or a staff officer meeting or any of the myriad of things we do in the Auxiliary, we must remember why we're doing it.

## Boating Safety & Supporting The Coast Guard



U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Patrol Boat on the Water; Photo: U.S.C.G. Aux

## A note from Former Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Paul Zukunft,

Monday, July 4, 2016  
 Posted on Facebook: Commandant's Page: July 4, 2016

<https://allhands.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2016/07/04/from-the-commandant-our-oath/>

Editor's Note: The following article is reflective of what it means to be a Coast Guard Auxiliarist and what servant leadership looks like.

'This past May, I presided over a citizenship ceremony at Faneuil Hall, Boston's historic meeting place where our founders debated issues, argued the merits of public spending, and carried out free elections of leaders – beholden to the people – at a time when that was anything but normal. To this day, Faneuil Hall stands as the "Cradle of Liberty."

As I spoke to one hundred soon-to-be citizens, I reflected on the oath they were about to take. As members of the U.S. armed forces, we stand among the few that have taken an oath and positively affirmed allegiance to the United States, which includes defending our to Constitution and protecting it from all enemies - foreign and domestic. When our Founding Fathers signed the Constitution, they created a government based upon liberty and domestic tranquility, established a common defense, and ultimately gave rise to a free society. They knew then that this new society and way of life was worth defending. For more than two centuries, men and women have given their lives to protect those fundamental rights and to defeat those who would challenge our right to be free.

Coast Guard members join a long group of patriots who swear an oath to defend our Constitution and our way of life. Each of us has a story of how we came to take the oath, but whatever the circumstances, whatever the triumphs and toils, the oath we take ties us to early Americans – those who would go on to defeat a foreign power and secure our liberty.

On this Independence Day, we remember our oath. Regardless of which component we serve – active

duty, reserve, civilian or auxiliary – we evoke the commitment laid bare by generations before us and recommit our vow to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.

I am proud of our service and of you. God bless America and Semper Paratus."

## Never Forget September 9/11

<https://online.fliphtml5.com/bekkg/mbow/#p=12>  
 The following article is taken from April 2019, Navigator Express, a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Publication

*U. S Coast Guard Station New York  
 Search And Rescue Chronological Log*

TIME	UNIT	ENTRY
0645	ATINY	CG ACTING REPORTS OF A POSSIBLE PLANE CRASH INTO THE TWIN TOWERS
0651	STANT	CG 41497 ULD 03 JOB AIR BATTERY PARK (TWIN TOWERS)
0651	STANT	CG 210525 ULD EIR BATTERY PARK TO ASSIST THE CG 41497
0653		CG 220524 ULD EIR BATTERY PARK TWIN TOWERS
0655		CONFIRMED REPORT OF BLUE AND SILVER PLANE CRASHED INTO A TWIN TOWER (HOLDING)
0707		NYPD ADVISES ALL NON ESSENTIAL ON TO WITHDRAW TO STATE OF LIBERTY
0730		CG UNITS TO PROVIDE SECURITY ZONE CG 41497 1/2 MI OF THE GOVERNORS ISLAND
		CG 210525 OF THE GOVERNORS ISLAND CG 220527 ALONG SIDE OF THE CG 414
0750		JUST INFORMED PENTAGON HAS ALSO BEEN HIT AND THE WASHINGTON MAIL
0807		REPORTS ONE TOWER HAS COLLAPSED DEMONSTRATED LAUNCHING ANOTHER V
0803		CG 210525 REPORTS LARGE SMOKE IN THE HUDSON INCREASING STATION
0805		TO BEING DOWN MARKS DO TO SMOKE ACT UP REQUEST CONFIRMATION ON T
0807		TWIN TOWERS
0807		CG 210525 EIR STANT TO PICK UP RESPIRATORS 210533 IS ON STANDE
0810		NYPD REPORTS NORTH TOWER IS READY TO COLLAPSE AS WELL ALL MARIN
		TRAFFIC ARE ADVISED TO EVACUATE THE WATERS BY NYPD
0815		NYPD ASKED STANT TO KNOW OF THE ASSETS OF STANT ARE OUT ON SCEN
0815		STANT INFORMED ALL ASSETS TO BE ADVISED THAT THE NORTH TOWER IS GOING TO COLLAPSE IN THE WATE
0818		CG 210525 HUSTALO

Above: 9/11/01 Log book of Coast Guard Patrol Unit for New York Harbor: Photo Courtesy of U.S. Coast Guard.

The 9/11 attacks on the United States in 2001 are events that changed life in the U.S. in many ways. For the first time since World War II, Coast Guard Auxiliary lent major operational support to Coast Guard in protecting U.S. cities, coastlines, ports and citizens against foreign attacks.

It was, according to P.J. Capoletti in *Rogue Wave: The U.S. Coast Guard on and after 9/11*, "something of a coming out party: for the Coast Guard Auxiliary as civilian, volunteer auxiliary

conducted both surface and air patrols and assumed search and rescue standby postures at many small boat stations. This allowed the active duty small boat force the latitude to redirect Coast Guard small boats toward port security and homeland defense.

At ground zero on 9/11 Auxiliaries distributed face-masks and gloves, along with food and water to rescue personnel. On the water Coast Guard Auxiliary boats from Westchester County ran



Below: New York, 9/11 Memorial: Photo By Ben Hider, Memorial.org

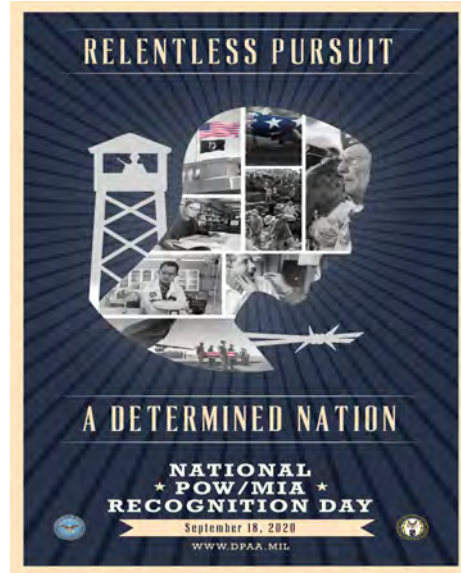
security patrols and the George Washington Bridge and those from Sandy Hook ran security patrols around the Verrazano Narrows Bridge. Auxiliary boat crews backfilled for Coast Guard search and rescue crews at Stations New York, Sand Hook and New London, taking over as communications watch standers in New London. At Tarrytown, New York, legally blind Auxiliary radio operator Mike Coffey worked continuously to monitor patrols. For his work Coffey later was presented the Award of Operational Merit. Another Auxiliarist and licensed psychologist, Dr. Janice Jackson, served as backup to the Critical Incident Stress Management Team throughout the day on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

In the six months after the attacks, the Auxiliary contributed nearly a quarter of a million hours to the Coast Guards post 9/11 surge. Auxiliary surface and air patrols alone amounted to 10139 people conducting 7454 sorties over 53,910 hours.

The total number of Auxiliary volunteers after 9/11 exceeded 27,500, or over eighty per cent of the total Auxiliary force.

## And Again Let Us Never Forget POW/MIA Recognition Day September 18, 2020

<https://www.dpaa.mil/Families/Posters.aspx>



National POW/MIA Recognition Day was established in 1979 through a proclamation signed by President Jimmy Carter. Since then, each subsequent president has issued an annual proclamation commemorating the third Friday in September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

A national-level ceremony is held on every National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Traditionally held at the Pentagon, it features members from each branch of military service and participation from high-ranking officials.

In addition to the national-level ceremony, observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities.

No matter where they are held, these National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies share the common purpose of honoring those who were held captive and returned, as well as those who remain missing.

## Be-There! It-Takes-A-Community

<https://allhands.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2017/09/11/>

Hey Coastie, you are trained to be a lifesaver. In fact, you will, on any given day, put yourself in harm's way to ensure the safety of others. But what about the Coastie next to you who may be depressed to the point of contemplating or even attempting suicide? Do you know the telltale signs? Will you be there for your shipmate?

It has been said that it takes a community to raise a child. The same can be said for ferreting out and preventing suicide in our sea service community. Be there so that others may continue to simply be.

As crowded and busy as life is these days, it is still easy to feel alone. Generally, feelings and irrational thoughts cause us to slide into the valley of funk. Whether one calls it being sad, depressed, having the blues or simply out of sorts, the fact is everyone will experience it at some point in life. Many times it is purely the body's normal ups and downs of mood.

At other times, the downward ebb may be situational, such as experiencing a significant loss of loved one, pet, job, or anything one perceives as having personal value. When we feel there is no end to the darkness and pain, we may choose a permanent solution to a temporary problem. Every problem or situation has an end and a new beginning. Suicide has only an end.

Know the warning signs that might indicate a person may be in acute danger and may urgently need help:

- Talking about wanting to die or to kill oneself;
- Looking for a way to kill oneself;
- Talking about feeling hopeless or having no purpose;
- Talking about feeling trapped or being in unbearable pain;
- Talking about being a burden to others;
- Increasing the use of alcohol or drugs;
- Acting anxious, agitated, or reckless;
- Sleeping too little or too much;
- Withdrawing or feeling isolated;

- Showing rage or talking about seeking revenge; and
- Displaying extreme mood swings.

If you, a loved one, friend or colleague is exhibiting the above signs, please do not ignore them. An easy first step is to recommend they contact CG SUPRT by either phone or website. If you think there is imminent risk then call 911 or the local police to ensure the safety of the member. Remember that all services through CG SUPRT are free and confidential. Simply call CG SUPRT 24/7 at 855-CG-SUPRT (247-8778) or visit [www.cgsuprt.com](http://www.cgsuprt.com). You can also contact your Employee Assistance Program Coordinator in your [Work-Life Office](#) for more information on CG SUPRT and other services through our offices.



**Suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem**