

Waypoints

DIVISION 15, 8TH WESTERN RIVERS REGION
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Flotila 15-8 Works with National Guard in Medevac Training

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FSO-PA

What do you do if you want to practice air medevac hoists from the water but don't have any boats? You call your local Coast Guard Auxiliary.

That is what the Arkansas Army National Guard's, G Co 1-168th Medevac did on June 12th. They wanted to practice hoists using their rescue basket and a practice dummy from islands and remote waters. So, they contacted the Central Arkansas Flotilla 15-8.



An Auxiliary boater crew transports National Guard personnel during the exercise. Photo by Sgt. Pierro Lopez, Arkansas National Guard

The flotilla provided 2 vessels and transported National Guard team members and their gear to a small island in the Arkansas River where they rendezvous with the helicopter. The Auxiliary then provided a perimeter patrol to keep any curious recreational boaters at a safe distance.



A UH-60 hovers over an Auxiliary facility. Photo by Sgt. Pierro Lopez, Arkansas National Guard

The UH-60 Black Hawk came in from over the horizon right on schedule and circled the area several times as it assessed the situation. On the ground, members scouted the area,

recommended a pick-up site, and prepared the dummy and basket. As expected, the rotor wash directly under the helicopter was significant, but it quickly dispersed just a few dozen yards from the center. Communications can be a challenge with the noise, so hand signals are important.

Unfortunately, the day's planned activities had to be cut short when the weather turned bad but it was a great learning experience for both groups.

Auxiliary Assists with Sector Lower Mississippi River Flood Exercise

U.S. Coast Guard News Release

The Coast Guard, state and local agencies completed a simulated flooding exercise in Wolfe River Chute near Memphis, Tennessee, Wednesday, June 6th.

Coast Guard Sector Lower Mississippi River members and partner agencies had



Commodore Richard Lawrence (right) works in the Joint Information Center preparing a press release. Photo by Aux PA1 Todd Wilkinson

approximately 50 individuals involved in the exercise and deployed five shallow draft rescue vessels to safely recover 21 simulated victims. The victims were assigned different injuries to which first responders then provided simulated medical aid.

Commodore Richard Lawrence and Mike Bell from Flotilla 15-8 along with several members from Division 5 attended and observed the exercise as part of preparations for other operational exercises later this summer.

Commodore Lawrence also participated in flood exercises run by Sector Upper Mississippi River in March and at District 8 in New Orleans in May.

“A burger well done”

Flotilla 15-3s FC, Kevin McDonald, organized 13 members to help him with the preparation to feed as well as meet and greet 30 Reservists at Sector Lower Mississippi River in May. Kevin



Michael Armour grilling burgers. Photo by Patricia Lewis.

did much of the heavy hauling to make it a great day. His initiative will help with the integration of working together with

the USCG Reserve as well as continue working closely with the SLMR crew.

District 8 Western Rivers, District Commodore Robert Tippett and Chief of Staff Tracy DeLaughter were on hand to address the Reservists regarding integrating efforts in serving the Sector.

Division Operations Exercise Planned for October

We have a special Operations activity planned for the October 13, 2018 Division meeting in North Little Rock. Instead of just a practice OPEX, we will have a real event to participate in and support. That Saturday, the Arkansas Boathouse Club will be holding its annual 6 Bridges Regatta. This will be the event’s 5th year. Hundreds of rowers from across America will compete by racing down the Arkansas River right by the Flotilla’s station. The Auxiliary has assisted with the Regatta since its inception. Part of the river will be closed and the Auxiliary will provide a perimeter safety area.

We will need boats, crews, radio operators, and photographers and additional shore side assistance. This is one of the biggest events for our flotilla each year and we hope others will plan to join us. The regatta generally starts at 0800 and ends about 1500 so it will overlap with the Division meeting. We can provide secure overnight storage for anyone bringing their boat to North Little Rock the night before. Hope to see you there.

April Division Meeting Minutes (draft) Doris Ayers SO-SR

DCDR Dan Turner reported that he received State Flags from the District for display. The Mississippi and Louisiana State Flags were presented. Division did not receive the Arkansas State Flag. Commander Turner reported on the District Meeting that he attended.

Commander reports given: 03 FC McDonald; 05 FC Haralson; 06 VFC Harris; 07 by VCDR Rardin; 08 FC Wilson

Staff Officer Reports:

SO-CM: Discussed Flotilla's involvement in HAM radio (FCC Licensure). Reported new Ham Radio ID for Flotilla and participation in Coast Guard Net.

SO-CS: Sasse – Facebook advertisement – dozen applications, 3 showed at meeting.

SO-DV: Attended Webinars by District Captain. Flotillas are reaching out.

SO-FN: The account beginning balance of \$6,565.34, ending balance of \$7,156.13. Need to follow through with setting up the awards committee. New members have been reported however, dues have not been received.

SO-HR: Recruiting needed. Reported on transfers within the Division. FSO HR's to create a more formal Mentor program, share ideas for recruiting new or different locations, (posters at marinas, newspaper articles etc.), contact members who have moved & not sent a transfer request.

SO-MS: DSO-MS Julie Carey reports Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism advertising their "On T.R.A.C.K.S" publication. This resource provides educators with information and activities to assist children in developing an understanding and awareness of their natural environment. "Litterati." (www.litterati.org). This national app tracks and maps trash that people report having picked up. To find the Citizen Science and other issues, you can go to KDWP's website at <http://ksoutdoors.com/Services/Education/Wildlife-Education-Service-WES/Wildlife-Education-Materials/On-T.R.A.C.K.S>.

- Flotilla 15-03 FC W. Kevin McDonald is attending the Marine Safety meetings at Memphis. Plan to distribute MS brochures at boat shows and other events.

- Flotilla 15-07 - Currently working on our "Reel in and Recycle" program and plan to meet with marina managers on Lake Ouachita this week to get site locations. On April 26th at the Coronado Center in Hot Springs Village, we will be setting up a booth and giving a presentation on Boating Safety and the impact of pollution on our lakes. This is part of the Lake Symposium hosted by Hot Springs Village Property Owners Association.
- Flotilla 15-08 - Set up a booth with brochures and other information at a Boat Show in Jan. but had to close the first day due to government shutdown.

SO-NS: Offered to help get members qualified. Can do this remotely.

SO-OP: Reported no patrols in 1st Quarter. Handouts of Key Phone numbers for emergency. On October 13, 2018 (same time of the Division Meeting) Hot Springs, Flotilla 15-07 and Little Rock Flotilla, 15-08 will hold a "real world" practice exercise. Will need radio and facilities.

SO-PB: Requested that members send in information for Division Newsletter. Discussion about induction pictures of new members not in uniform.

SO-SR: Pavehouse 15-05 read Minutes for Jan 27, 2018. Motion to accept, McDonald, 2nd Haralson, vote unanimous to accept minutes as written. Motion passed.

SO-VE: Remind members to please send me your VE information, not just the number, include if you have a VE day when/where was the event held. Also anything worthy of note (i.e. an unusual vessel) and give some brief description. Remember to hand out recruiting brochures and environmental type brochures after the VE is complete. Please report all recruiting as a result of a VE.

Awards:

Operational Auxiliarist of the Year - William A. Van-Cleve

Aids To Navigation Verifier of the year - Christine P. Cooke

Flotilla Navigator's Cup (Navigation Services/member) Flotilla 15-08

Compass Rose Certificate

- William A. Van Cleve
- Frank Wilson
- Gregory Dean

Apple Award

- Richard Lawrence
- John Stidham

Publicist Award

- Michael Strobe

Service Awards

- 25 years - Raymond Port
- 20 years - Richard Kelley
- 20 years - Janet Kelley
- 10 years - Jodie Haralson

Sustained Service Awards

- Richard Lawrence (Twelfth award over 25,000 hours)
- Frank Wilson (sixth award for over 4,500 hours)
- Robert Evens (sixth award for over 4,500 hours)
- Jack Thorp (fifth award for over 3,750 hours)
- David Keyser (forth for over 3,000 hours)
- Gregory Deen (forth for over 3,000 hours)
- Christine Cooke (third for over 2,250 hours)

- Wanda Thorp (second for over 1,500 hours)

Old Business:

- Division 15 is hosting D-Train for 2019 in Little Rock

New Business:

- If interested in running for Division Commander or Vice Division Commander, please send a letter of intent.
- Election Committee has 2 members

Flotilla 15-3 Report

AUXAIR Aircraft Commander, Congressman Ralph "Doc" Abraham met with ADM Karl Schultz while working in Washington this week. Doc reports that, "Our new Commandant is VERY appreciative of the Auxiliary and wants to grow it. He expressed his unwavering support and commitment."



Commandant Karl Schultz and Ralph Abraham. Photo courtesy Ralph Abraham.

Mike Armour and David Delich presented Fleet Sweep to Flotilla 15-03 Memphis. Assisted P.O. Phillips and LT Reese of SLMR in freeing storage by moving AUX to National College.



Steve Chow and Dave Hennesco at the Memphis Agri-Center Boat Show in February. Photo by Michael Armour.

Meeting with CDR Marlin, BOSN Hoffman, FC Kevin McDonald and Sheri Gains for a tour of facility, and cutters and compared notes to potential Aux Team supporting the SLMR Team. In discussion with Bass Pro Shop to continue boater safety training for 2018.

Communications aided timely relay of situations for March for Babies May 5th and participated in the communications activities for the Armed Forces Mars station cross band day.

On the seventy fifth anniversary of the famous Boeing B-17F Flying Fortress completing 25 combat missions in May 1943, the Memphis Belle exhibit was opened at the National Museum of the United States Air Force. Thousands attended but Irv Friedman and his brother were on the exclusive list to see the main celebration. Irv is in the process of becoming an air observer.



Irv Friedman (lower right in white) admires the Memphis Belle. Photo by Diane Friedman.

Flotilla 15-5 Report

15-05 has three members working on Crew qualification. Four members attended the April Division meeting held in Conway. The flotilla will visit local boat ramps, using our “Put it on” stencil, and spray paint this on the ramps reminding boaters to wear their life jackets. The flotilla is working on getting Fab Five, our facility, back on the water.

Flotilla 15-6 Report

Two members working on their initial Boat Crew qualifications. Jayson Simmons completed his VE qualifications and attended NATOPS18 in Galveston, TX thru the USCG University

Program and completed an internship in the USCG University Program in Washington, DC. The flotilla assisted in a two-week Boaters Education Course taught at Russellville High School for the ROTC Program and assisted in two evening Boating Education Classes at Lake Dardanelle State Park on April 2 and 3.

Flotilla 15-7 Report

The April 21 boating education class was a success with all 25 students passing the course. Members participated in a Lake Symposium at Hot Springs Village. Long-time Auxiliary member Dick Kelley passed away. We are replacing roofing at the Lake Hamilton Station and plan to have boat up and running in May. We continue to work on our “Reel in and Recycle” program and have met with a good response from boat ramps on Lake Ouachita and Lake Hamilton.

Flotilla 15-8 Report

Michael Strobel presented to the Pulaski Co. Emergency Planning Committee which resulted in the loan of an AWIN network radio to the flotilla. The proclamation from the Governor was secured for National Safe Boating Week. A video on how to conduct a VSC on paddle craft was developed.



Michael Strobel meets Governor Asa Hutchinson. Photo courtesy of Michael Strobel.

2018 Division Meeting Dates

- July 14 Beat the heat, WEBEX meeting.
9:30-11:30.
<https://join.me/AUXAIRD8WR>
- October 13 Little Rock/Hot Springs
Operational Exercise
- November 3 Division Change of Watch

2018 Officers and Staff

DCDR	Dan Turner
VCDR	Kevin Rardin
IPDCR	Pat Lewis
SO-CM	William Flanigan
SO-CS	Blake Sasse
SO-DV	Kevin McDonald
SO-FN	Clara Myer
SO-HR	Pat Lewis
SO-IS	Willem Loupatty
SO-MA	Joe Zehler
SO-MS	Pat Lewis
SO-NS	Frank Wilson
SO-OP	Michael Strobel
SO-PB	Blake Sasse
SO-SR	Doris Ayers

Waypoints is the official quarterly newsletter of Division 15, 8th Western Rivers Region of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Photos and articles may be submitted by January 15th, April 15th, July 15th, and October 15th.

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