

Waypoints

DIVISION 15, 8TH WESTERN RIVERS REGION
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Trash Bash in Hot Springs



Pat Lewis showing some of the environmental literature available at the Auxiliary display. Photo by Julie Carey.

Members of the Hot Springs Flotilla supported the annual Trash Bash event in Hot Springs, AR on September 22-23rd. Flotilla members helped educate the public on environmental issues and provided information on safe boating.



Doris Ayers and Pat Lewis at the Auxiliary booth. Photo by Julie Carey.

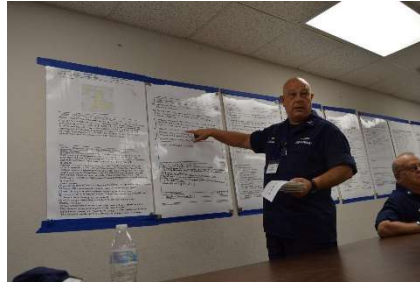
Saline County Preparedness Expo



Auxiliary Display. Photo by Michael Strobel. Center on September 18th.

Michael Strobel of the Central Arkansas Flotilla manned an Auxiliary display at the Saline County Preparedness Expo at the Benton Convention

8th Western Gathers at Fort Chaffee for Major Exercise



Incident Commander Brock Stephens conducts a briefing. Photo by Todd Wilkinson.

On August 18th almost 50 Auxiliarists from 10 states assembled at Fort Chaffee, near Fort Smith, for a major operational exercise. The purpose of the event was to

provide experience in the use of the Incident Command System in responding to a natural disaster.

Members conducted drills simulating the response to a flooding event on the Arkansas River.



Operations personnel discuss a go/no-go decision concerning underway operations. Photo by Todd Wilkinson.

As Deputy Incident Commander Jeffrey Geddes told KNWA news, "It's important for us to be prepared because in an actual incident the coast guard begins to allocate resources to that incident and you are taking people away from their primary duty stations and areas of responsibility and putting them towards the effort to respond to a national or regional incident."



Deputy Incident Commander Jeffrey Geddes gives a television interview. Photo by Todd Wilkinson

Hot Springs Flotilla Featured in Local Magazine

Members of the Hot Springs Flotilla were featured in the July/August issue of HER magazine Hot Springs. Pictured (from left to right) are Sandra Henderson, Wanda Thorp, Doris Ayers and Jan Kelly.



8WR Aviation Report

Dan Turner

Heather Metzler, the manager of the FAA's FASST (Federal Aviation Administration Safety Team) program team, has joined forces with the USCG Auxiliary Aviation Team in participating in our training exercises. The FASST team was developed to focus on all elements of pilot and aircraft proficiency and safety.

The FAA developed the WINGS awards program which give the pilots and instructors a system to provide a curriculum and track the training progress.

Ralph Abraham and Carl Potter, our FAA certified instructors and the AUXAIR examiners are often heard saying that "We fly as professionals as we must be pilots first and safety is our main objective".

The FAA training augments an already highly regarded training program provided by the USCG and the USCG Auxiliary response team.

The AUXAIR team in District 8 Western Rivers will also be reaching out to our surface resource to organize joint training exercises. In addition to the annual District exercises, we are looking to further develop our team coordination to always be prepared to work jointly when the situations call for a full team response.

D8WR has one aircraft dropping out due to being sold and one new aircraft coming into program. Both in Tulsa. 33% of our aircraft are going into their annual maintenance cycle.

D8WR Aviation developed a 5-year going forward operational plan in January 2017. We are in our second year of the plan. The 2018 update has been signed off early September after our August aviation and safety board meeting establishing policies, standards and best practices as well as reviewing assigned responsibilities for the examiners and board members. We will be refining our mission focus through aligning expectations with Sector Upper Mississippi River and Sector Lower Mississippi River.

Lawrence Receives Hourglass Award

Commodore Richard Lawrence has been awarded the Hourglass Award. The highly regarded Hourglass award represents his volunteering over 25,000 hours to the Auxiliary and is the organization's highest award for sustained service.



Commodore Lawrence has been a member of the Central Arkansas Flotilla for over 20 years and has served as the Chief Council for the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.



Jayson Simmons, of the Lake Dardanelle Flotilla, served as an intern for Senator Tom Cotton this summer and had an opportunity to meet incoming Commandant Karl Shultz. Photo provided by Jayson Simmons.

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

DCDR welcomed all and opened meeting. Pledge; Invocation: VCDR Rardin.

Remarks: D. Turner, DCDR, discussed the Chain of Leadership, how we operate within the Organization. He reported on policies, Chain of Command, Mission Support, completing the 7030 form, Assignment to Duties and emphasized the need to follow protocol to assure that Auxiliarists are covered while engaged in their mission. He emphasized the requirement of monthly and weekly reporting by flotillas to division. This information was reinforced by B. Stevens, DCAP-S.

Commander reports given for 2018 Mission Plans: 15-03 (Memphis) FC McDonald; 15-05 (Fort Smith) FC Haralson; 15-06 (Lake

Dardanelle) by VFC Harris; 15-07 (Hot Springs) by VFC Ayers; 15-08 (Central Arkansas) FC Wilson.

Staff Officer Reports: Logistics

SO-SR, Ayers--Minutes for April 14, 2018, Motion to accept by Haralson, 2nd by McDonald, vote by unanimous to accept minutes as written. Motion passed.

SO-HR, Lewis--No activity reported at this time.

SO-FN, Meyer--Account beginning balance of \$7156.13, (total income \$201.00 total disbursements \$588.00) with ending balance of \$6769.13.

SO-IS, Loupatty--No activity reported at this time. Requesting to vacate position. Looking for new appointment for SO-IS. Jayson Simmons expressed an interest and will be attending C-School for IS.

SO-MA: No activity reported at this time.

SO-PB: Discussed newsletter released in July.

SO-CS: Helped 15-07(Hot Springs) to deactivate old website. New website is now working.

SO-DV: Town Hall meetings (conference calls) are great source for information on diversity.

Staff Officer Reports: Prevention

SO-VE: No activity reported at this time.

SO-MS: No activity reported at this time.

SO-NS: In the month of April, there were 26 aid verifications performed; reported 11 aid discrepancies and reported one bridge discrepancy. Chris Cooke, 15-08 (Central Arkansas) FSO-NS will be leading study sessions on Wednesday evenings starting July 25 for people who want to become certified as aid verifiers by completing the Aid Verifier PQS. All are welcome. Frank Wilson also offered to help anyone interested in becoming certified as aid

verifiers. Most all the tasks can be completed via video link.

Staff Officer Reports: Response

SO-CM: Discussed activity by local HAM Operators.

SO-OP: Discussed difficulty getting AOM request approved by Sector. Request should be made as early as possible, one week minimum, two weeks in advance preferable. If AOM request are not approved by late Thursday afternoon, contact Mike Strobel. On October 13, 2018 there will be a joint operation exercise held at Little Rock Station 15-08 (Central Arkansas). Will need to provide primate control for regatta.

Old Business

Division meetings for the remainder of the year were discussed.

Division 15 (Arkansas Area) will be hosting D-Train in 2019 and ideas for the conference were discussed.

2019 elections and staffing were discussed.

Weekly reporting request by DC8WR DCO for weekly calls with the Admiral and monthly report request by SLMR discussed.

Remarks from senior officers

DCAP-S B. Stevens re-emphasized the need for timely weekly and monthly reports.

Motion to adjourn by J. Haralson, 2nd by D. Harris, vote unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 11:15.

2018 Division Meeting Dates

November 3: Division Change of Watch.

Memphis Flotilla Report

The flotilla is now meeting on the 13th floor at the Regional Exam Center at 200 Jefferson. The

flotilla is in discussion with Millington Air Field regarding an aviation training location and possible storage area for assets and materials. FC McDonald remains active with the monthly Area Maritime Security Meetings and representing the Auxiliary with the Memphis Fire and Police at the unveiling of the Memphis fire boat. Members responded to AUXAIR mission request from SLMR. We are working with 10 potential new members and have matriculated the paper work on the first. The flotilla plans to attend and participate in the National Weather Service, Memphis winter weather workshop.

Fort Smith Flotilla Report

The flotilla has four members working on the Boat Crew qualification and on August 11th worked with the Russellville flotilla to requalify Blaine Selby, Carl Harris and Jodie Haralson. An application was submitted in August for new member Arthur Siddons. The flotilla will visit local boat ramps and using our "Put it on" stencil will spray paint this on the ramps reminding boaters to wear their life jackets. The flotilla has made some progress on our Station's roof and is pursuing a grant to complete repairs.

Lake Dardanelle Flotilla Report

Jayson Simmons was accepted to "C" School for IS in St. Louis, MO in September. Two members attended the TCT class.

Hot Springs Flotilla Report

Applications have been submitted for two new members. The flotilla manned a booth at the Forrest L. Wood Cup bass tournament in August.

Central Arkansas Flotilla Report

There are some ongoing issues with the radio antenna at the station in North Little Rock that are being addressed. Michael Strobel represented the Coast Guard Academy program at the Central Arkansas Independent Schools College Fair on September 24th. Discussions are underway concerning flotilla participation in the North Little Rock Christmas Parade in December and the

Arkansas boat show in January. Blake Sasse completed his boat crew certification QE in September. Robert Brown and Zach Taylor completed the Emergency Medical Responder training class taught by flotilla member, Jeremy Kurck.

2018 Officers and Staff

DCCR	Dan Turner
VCCR	Kevin Rardin
IPCCR	Pat Lewis
SO-CS	Blake Sasse
SO-CM	William Flanigan
SO-DV	Kevin McDonald
SO-FN	Clara Meyer
SO-HR	Pat Lewis
SO-IS	William 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.

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