



In this issue:

- Welcome
- Did you know?
- Division Change of Watch
- You Make A Difference
- Veterans Day message from DCO and DCOS
- 2024 Boat School
- Bravo - Zulu to Air Station TC
- Boating Safety Message
- Flotilla Highlights
- Congratulations BM1 Dalton Smith
- Together We Can . . .
- Diversity Thought
- How to wear the AWU
- Ice Safety
- Key Dates
- Water N' Kids
- Culinary Assistance Program
- Who are We?
- Aux. Leadership Development
- Happy Thanksgiving

Welcome to our In Vision 26, November 2023 newsletter.

We look forward to sharing this Season of Change with all of you.

As we highlight our events and accomplishments of the summer, we hope you find this edition to be enlightening, encouraging and motivating.

I invite all of you to support our newsletter with articles and photos showing what is happening throughout our Division.

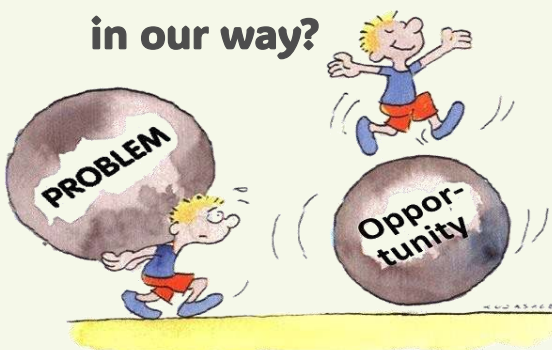
Lynda Stolt, Editor, In Vision 26

Did you know?

- Sector SAULT STE MARIE is now **SECTOR NORTHERN GREAT LAKES**.
- We have a new U.S. Coast Guard Ethos (Dec 12, 2022)

In Service to our Nation
With Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty
We protect
We defend
We save
We are Semper Paratus
We are the United States Coast Guard

How do we deal with the obstacles in our way?



November 04, 2023 Division Change of Watch Audies Restaurant, Mackinac City, MI



Honored Guests:

LT Joe Snyder
Ensign Noah Adolff
BOSN Charles Palmer
(Chief Warrant Officer).



2024 Division Commander - James Munger
2024 Vice Division Commander - TBD

2024 9CR Division Staff Officers

John Knapp, SO-AS (SeaScouts)	Randolph Lawton, SO-MS (Marine Safety)
Lynda A. Stolt, SO-CA (Culinary Assistance)	Glen P. Stolt, SO-OP (Operations)
David Montgomery, SO-CM (Communications)	James Munger, SO-PA (Public Affairs)
James G. Munger, SO-CS (Computer Services)	Lynda A. Stolt, SO-PB (Publications)
Cynthia S. Shutt, SO-FN (Finance)	SO-PE (Public Education)
Judith Horning, SO-HR (Human Resources)	Richard Lavanture, SO-PV (Program Visitor)
Dora F. Mueller, SO-IS (Information Services)	Karen Munger, SO-SR (Secretary Records)
Karen Munger, SO-DV (Diversity)	Stanley A. Sionkowski, SO-VE (Vessel Examinations)
Jon Petit, SO-MA (Materials)	
Dennis Dufford, SO-MT (Member Training)	
James Frick, SO-NS (Navigation System)	

2024 FLOTILA COMMANDERS AND VICE COMMANDERS

Thomas J. Griseto FC; John S. Maynard, VFC 26-01 Upper Great Lakes
Glen P. Stolt, FC; Antanas Janavicius, VFC 26-02 Charlevoix
Stanley A. Sionkowski, FC; Karen Munger VFC 26-03 Roscommon
Matthew Mousseau, FC; John Knapp, VFC 26-04 Alpena
Richard A Lavanture, FC; James C. Frick, VFC 26-10 Traverse City
George P. Kelly, FC; Michael T. Marsden 26-11 Marquette



Mike Harbin, DCDR addresses the Change of Watch Attendees:

From the beginning of the year, and as the year progresses, it's very easy to get focused on the negative because that seems to be what's in our face and each flotilla has its fair share of challenges. Unfortunately, the challenges compound from one year to the next so it seems increasingly difficult to keep our noses above water. Fortunately, we have

(Continued on page 3)

at the core a very dedicated group of individuals. Things have changed and will continue to change, but we persevere due to our members, hard work and dedication.

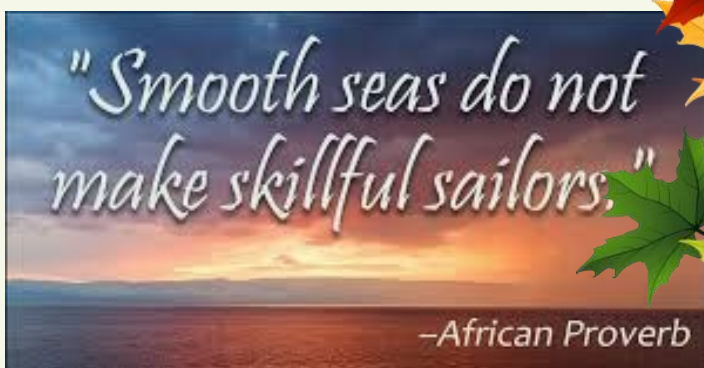
I am going to miss a lot of detail here, and I'm not going to mention specific names because many things require a team effort and I don't want to accidentally leave anyone out.

We often focus on Surface Operations since that is the most visible. It was, of course, a very busy season for surface operations. It began very early season with an Active Shooter event on Beaver Island. Aux Boats played important roles and the only people left at the station were auxiliaries doing watch standing. We had a successful boat school and continued with coverage for many events with the air show, operation dry water, fireworks, boat races, and regular patrols, not to mention regular training. We added a dedicated facility that could get water time this season and another facility that just came online after we could no longer get orders.

But even before the real boating season, there are boating safety courses, vessel exams, and program visits. Over the season we had a proctor administer the Nav Rules test for coxswains in Manistique and Marquette. We provided qualified 3 members in Marquette for TCO so that they could begin their watch stander training.

We had 3 members from Alpena work as assistants at the Rogers City Oil Drill. We now have quite a few persons on the callout list for pollution response. We have 2 new cooks at the air station and more members working on that qualification. There were several large events that we participated in for public affairs, and that included getting Coastie back to our division with several new operators. We successfully verified most of the ATONs in our area. We have one flotilla working with Sea Scouts. We now have a newsletter that has received widespread attention because it is so well done.

Administratively, our website has been maintained, finance reports have been monitored, meeting minutes are completed and we are moving to the new format for minutes, office supplies have been acquired as needed, and a diversity newsletter has been forwarded monthly. Our members complete the required training to make our division a major contributor to why our district is consistently the best in the nation for the percentage of completions.



Both Directions

Mike Harbin, DCDR

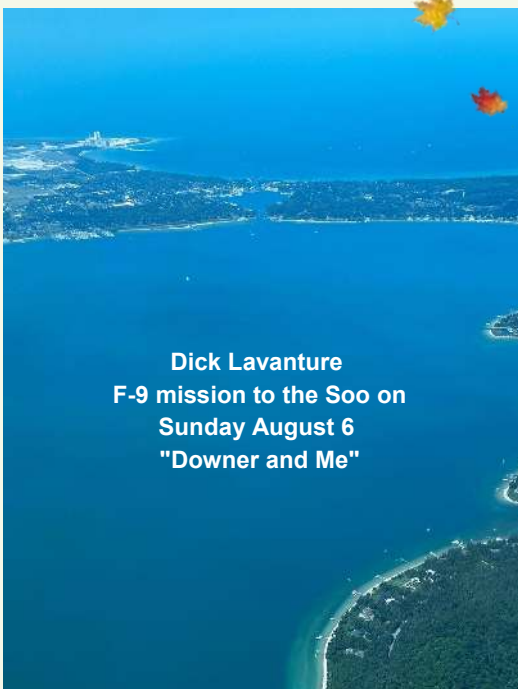
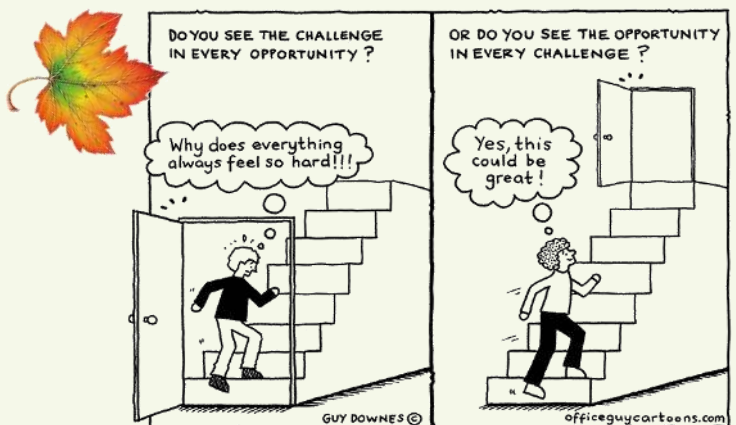
As we approach the end of this year, I'd like to share a few last comments as DCDR. First, I want to thank everyone for all their effort. It's hard to see all the accomplishments throughout the year when we're dealing with the challenges, but as we look back over the year we have a lot to be proud of thanks to each of you. I want to recognize and thank those that have stepped into leadership roles. It is these positions that allow the flotillas and division to function and support the efforts of our members.

As we look forward, I want to highlight that we have been provided a golden opportunity to better serve the Active-Duty. As you know, they are currently operating with a significant manpower shortage. They have needs that we can help with, and it's not just cooks and watch standers.

This is a time where we can rise to the occasion and serve a valuable service to the Active-Duty. This has the potential of increasing morale within our membership and this newfound momentum could lead to drawing in new members. Ask the question that I presented earlier in the year, How Can I Help?

We are in very capable hands with Jim Munger assuming the position of Division Commander and he has my full support as we go forward. As you may know, we do not currently have an individual identified as his Vice Commander. This person must have served as a Flotilla Commander in the past as well as meeting all currency requirements. I ask that those qualified persons evaluate how they can better serve our organization.

Thank you for putting your trust in me this past year and joining me as we continue to make our division the very best it can be.



This was taken from the last edition of the RBS publication.

YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE



To all Auxiliarists, your unwavering commitment is the bedrock of our mission to safeguard our waters and lives within them. Your dedication must be a beacon urging you to pursue this noble pursuit. As Auxiliarists, you are the silent heroes, volunteering your time, skills, and passion to bolster the United States Coast Guard.

You aren't just volunteers but an integral part of the team, significantly enhancing maritime safety and security.

Your dedication to continuous learning is commendable. Your thirst for knowledge, skill refinement, and staying current in boating

safety, search and rescue techniques, and environmental conservation is remarkable. It signifies your unwavering dedication and readiness to embrace new challenges to serve our communities better.

You are the champions of boating safety, conducting vital vessel safety checks, offering comprehensive boating safety courses, and tirelessly engaging in outreach efforts.

Your work is invaluable in reducing accidents and promoting responsible boating practices, making our waterways safer for all.

In times of crisis, you stand with the active-duty Coast Guard, offering crucial navigation expertise and local waterway knowledge during search and rescue operations. Your support can make a life-saving difference in those critical moments.

Remember, your mission is not just a commitment; it's a calling, a testament to your unwavering patriotism and love for our nation. Your selflessness sets a remarkable example for all.

Let this be a rallying cry as we look forward: Continue your work. Your unwavering dedication inspires us all, ensuring our waterways remain safe, our communities secure, and our maritime heritage intact for generations. Thank you for your remarkable commitment to the Coast Guard Auxiliary mission.

From Patti Mitrowski, DCO & Mark Villeneuve, DCOS on Veterans Day



volunteers, your shared commitment to the principles of Semper Paratus binds us together as a resilient and supportive community.

Your contributions have made a lasting impact within District Nine, and today, we salute you with the utmost respect and admiration.

Happy Veteran's Day

Patti Mitrowski,
DCO & Mark
Villeneuve, DCOS

Today, as we come together to honor the brave men and women who have served in our nation's armed forces, we extend our deepest gratitude to the dedicated Coast Guard Auxiliarists of the 9th Central Region, past or present, who have also donned the uniform and served with honor.

As we celebrate today, let us also remember the importance of supporting one another. Whether in uniform or as dedicated



Boat School

2024

SAVE THE DATE / PLAN AHEAD

June 14-16, 2024 at Station Charlevoix

After receiving a Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation from the Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, a featured article in our District publication of "Mainstream" as well as our National Publication of "Navigator" we are enthusiastic to bring you the Charlevoix Auxiliary Boat School 2024.

Attend and you can receive both classroom and hands-on evolutions covering Small Boat Operations, Search and Rescue execution, Surface to Air Communications, Telecommunications and Auxiliary Culinary Assistance Program

training. Become qualified as Crew or Coxswain or get re-qualified.

Our dedication to train enhances readiness of US Coast Guard

Auxiliary members and improves our ability to support our Coast Guard units.

Plan ahead and book your accommodations.

Charlevoix has a lot of Airbnb and VRBO that some of you may want to take advantage of and go in on together.

Members are already asking to be part of this experience.

If it doesn't
CHALLENGE you
it doesn't
CHANGE you

Bravo - Zulu to Air Station Traverse



Mark Constance with UpNorthVoice.com

On Wednesday, November 15, a 61 year old Almont man fell from his tree stand in the Roscommon County Dead Stream Swamp area.

The individual fell a approximately 25 ft and resulted in suspected pelvic, back and chest injuries. A family member was able to lead a Roscommon Deputy Sheriff and troopers from the MSP to the victim.

Troopers requested assistance from the United States Coast - Air Station Traverse. Due to the difficult terrain, distance from any travelable roadway and the injuries, the USCG helicopter executed a basket air lift from the scene.

The successful rescue was a result of dedicated individuals from the Roscommon Township Fire Department and EMS, Roscommon Sheriff's Office, a conservation officer from

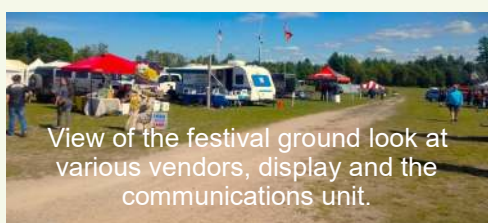
Michigan DNR along with the USCG Air Station Traverse.

Jim Munger, DCDR, 091-26



Spreading the USCG and Auxiliary Boating Safety Message Flotilla Commander James Munger

One of the most important annual events for Michigan fire service and their families is the Michigan Firefighters Memorial Festival which is held in Roscommon Michigan. The event is attended by thousands of firefighters, emergency medical professionals and their families from all across the state. This year the event was held from September 15th through the 16th.



Vendors of all types along participate in the event which begins with a "Family Night" followed by two days of exhibits, training exercises, vendors of all types.

The members of the Roscommon USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 091-26-03 have been honored to have been part of this event for several years.

Auxiliarists Karen Munger and Stan Sionkowski.



According to Flotilla Commander James Munger, the flotilla has always set up a display of all kinds of boating and water safety information as well on information on the USCG and the Auxiliary.

This year in addition to the display booth, the Division 26 US Coast Guard Auxiliary Mobile Command and Communications

Unit. The unit is stationed at Air Station Traverse. Flotilla Commander Munger is also one of the Telecommunications Operators (TCO) who is qualified to operate and transport the unit. In addition to Flotilla Commander Munger, the exhibit was staffed by Vice Flotilla Commander Stan Sionkowski, FSO-SR Karen Munger, who is completing training to become a TCO and the flotilla's newest member Larry Williams.

Unit scheduling is current overseen by Auxiliarist David Montgomery who is the SO-CM for Division 26.

The unit, proudly flying both the Ensign and Auxiliary flags, served as a focal point drawing several hundred of adults and children to visit the display and hear about the boating safety message and the Auxiliary.



The unit contains various radio communications equipment including the traditional VHF marine radios, as well as a radio program to operate on the special VHF frequencies specifically assigned to the Auxiliary. Unit also have the ability to monitor appropriate air traffic radio as well as amateur radio bands. Future equipment is planned to be able to communicate with local and state

(Continued on page 14)

Flotilla Highlights

Traverse City
091-26-10

The Traverse City Michigan Coast Guard Auxiliary celebrates a year of boating education.

Traverse City Flotilla has had a very successful year teaching 118 students in recreational boating safety courses, the most significant number of students in over five years. The techniques covered Paddle Safety, Boat America, Navigation GPS, Weather, Radio, and Knots courses.

Coast Guard Auxiliary Traverse City is proud of its support to the United States Coast Guard utilizing its Air, Surface, and educational commitment to Boating Safety. As well as, its



achievements and will continue its efforts to educate the boating community and enhance the safety and enjoyment of the waterways.

Traverse City conducted an extensive advertising program throughout the year through radio and print media to promote their courses. The classes were held at the Coast Guard Air Station in Traverse City and the Elk Rapids Michigan Marina Pavilion

The success of the courses was made possible by the total commitment of the Flotillas certified instructors, who invested a great deal of time and effort in preparing and delivering the lessons.

Traverse City Updates

- We have added 6 new members with a total of 39, 4 moved to other flotillas several were disenrolled.
- Dick Lavanture and Jim Frick were reelected FC and VFC for 2024 and all FSO positions have been filled by new members or those who were in position last year.
- Winter will see active training in ATON, Crew/Coxswain, and CA-1 qualifications.
- Lavanture and Frick will be earning their CA-1 teaching certificates by the end of November.
- No meetings in January and February but training will be very active those 2 months.
- Traverse City COW will be held on December 5th.
- All flotilla members will be encouraged to finish their workshops, TCT-RM, and Telecom activities in the first two months of 2024.
- We currently only have 4 members who are required to complete their 5-year CORE Training requirements by the end of December; all 4 are working on it now.
- Land ice patrols will start in December.
- 2023 was very successful in our Spring and Fall RBS classes. We trained 118 students, the largest group in recent history. The flotilla did extensive advertising through Radio, newspapers, and tri-fold flotilla RBS pamphlets. The success was only achieved through the support of all our instructors.

Lula Belle



Lola



Boomer



These sweet boating companions person is Dick Lavanture, 091-26-10, Traverse City

Flotilla Highlights *continued*

Roscommon
091-26-03

The Roscommon Flotilla had an active year in 2023. As of October 1, the members have recorded nearly 2,000 hours in AuxData II.

The Flotilla successfully presented two in-person boating safety classes, which were funded by a grant from the Roscommon Community Grant Foundation.

We have two fixed VHF Auxiliary radio facilities. One on Higgins Lake at Gerrish Township Marina and one on Houghton Lake at the residence of James and Karen Munger. The Houghton Lake facility regularly monitors VHF radio traffic on Channel 16 and has additional marine radios typically set for 23A and 83A. As of October 1st, nearly 150 hours were logged monitoring these facilities.



Houghton Lake Fixed Radio Facility

On June 30th, Auxiliarists James and Karen Munger traveled to Engineering Days at Sector Sault and completed Coastie training. They are now certified as Coastie operators.



Auxiliarist Karen Munger with Coastie at Engineering Days.



Auxiliarist Larry Williams (kneeling) and Flotilla Commander James Munger (sitting) with Coastie at National Night Out

Flotilla members also participated in several public affairs events this year including:

- ◇ Houghton Lake Memorial Day Parade where the Div 26 Communication Unit was towed.
- ◇ Highway 55 clean-up project with the local Got Your Six organization.
- ◇ Engineering Days with Coastie.
- ◇ National Night Out with an appearance of Coastie.
- ◇ Michigan Firefighter Memorial Festival – featured the Div 26 Communication Unit.
- ◇ AuSable Canoe Marathon. Conduct pre-race safety inspections of the participating boats and then assist at the finish line. Inspections were conducted of over 100 race boats.

Auxiliarist Karen Munger at the finish



line check-out AuSable Canoe Marathon

The Flotilla purchased and installed nearly forty “Remember to Wear it” signs at the DNR boat launches for Higgins Lake, Houghton Lake, Lake Margrethe, Reedsburg Impoundment, and Lake St. Helens.



Flotilla Highlights *continued*

Alpena
091-26-04

Summer 2023 highlights.

We were unable to repair our only facility this season. No under way time on patrols.

During the winter months we will continue to attend monthly meeting and discuss plans for next season.

In 2024 we will have three new members for crew training and should have facility in the water.

Waiting for new member to get his IMPLID # , Retired active duty CWO from Sector Soo

Changes in leadership Flotilla elected Matt Mousseau as FC, John Knapp VFC, and Dr Currier FS- FN

Took part in oil spill retaining at Calcite, Rogers City. Patrolled with members for Mass Evacuation Drill Mack Island

Submitted by Barry Buchholz



Our poodle Zoey, on our dock in Round Lake. Greg and Marla Weston, 091-26-02, Charlevoix



**Changing Seasons:
Embracing Change**



Tasha, brown and Splash, white enjoying a calm afternoon on the water. Rich Borowicz, 091-26-02 Charlevoix

Flotilla Highlights *continued*

Charlevoix
091-26-02

USCG Auxiliarist to USCG Reservist

Congratulations to **Ethan Passalacqua**, a recent Graduate of Training Center Cape May.

Ethan always wanted to serve in the Coast Guard and joined the Auxiliary in 2009 during high school.

Ethan is a member of the Charlevoix Flotilla and credits the many members who assisted him with boat crew qualifications and embracing the Coast Guard traditions that led him down the path to the Reserves.

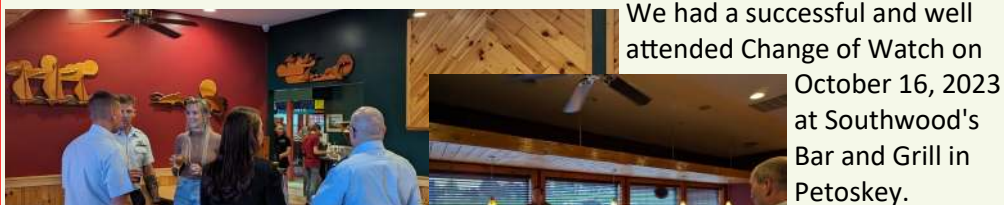
Ethan recently completed the Direct Entry Petty Officer Program (DEPOT) at Training Center Cape May. This program is for those with prior service or experience that will assist the Coast Guard. Instead of the eight week program, this program is three weeks. Upon completion, the members are comprised of active duty and reserves and will either report to A-school or a unit for duty. Ethan will be reporting to Station St. Ignace until BMA School in January.



Ethan stated "I am truly blessed and excited for this journey and look forward to working with my fellow shipmates in the future!"

The Charlevoix Flotilla is very proud of Ethan and we wish him all the best as a newly enlisted Reservist of the United States Coast Guard.

Charlevoix is encouraged to carry the momentum of 2023 into 2024. We reported just under 3,000 hours. Here is link to a brief PowerPoint ["2023 in Review"](#) that was shared at our Change of Watch.



Our Guests were Senior Chief Bradley Bishop with his family and BM2 David Prine with his wife.

Glen Stolt was re-elected as Flotilla Commander and Antanas Janavicius as Vice Flotilla Commander.

The evening began with a social time with beverages and appetizers, followed by a brief meeting (elections), an address by Senior Chief Bishop and FC Glen Stolt. Then a great dinner, followed by more fellowship.

Flotilla Highlights *continued*

*Charlevoix
Continued*

Charlevoix has one new member, Robert (Bob) Leddy since our last edition for a total of 6 new members for 2023.

Bob Leddy from Boyne City. Bob has been a practicing attorney for 37 years with offices in Saginaw as well as a satellite office in Petoskey for the last 22 years. He has a Bachelors Degree in Political Science/History from Northern Michigan University and a law degree from Wayne State University Law School. In addition to his law practice, Bob has been involved with several legal associations and in providing pro-bono legal advice as well as in moot court trial panels for law students.



Bob has also been involved starting when he was 14 years old with political campaigns/organizing/advising throughout Michigan as well as in several other states and on a National level for candidates/elected officials at most all of the three branches of government. In addition, he has used his legal/political background as an advocate for Voting Rights and ensuring

Voting Integrity.

He has also been involved over the years with numerous community, social welfare as well as charitable organizations at various levels and especially the Cub/Boy Scouts, Special Olympics, Youth Injury Prevention Programs, Habitat for Humanity and Community Food Banks. Bob has also been involved with an NGO whose mission is to promote peace/reconciliation programs in an area of prolonged sectarian strife in Europe.

One of his favorite activities is boating and he decided to join the Auxiliary as a way of being able to enjoy being out on the water as well as at the same time continuing to be involved in service to others in being involved with the Auxiliary. In addition to boating, Bob enjoys downhill skiing, fishing, camping, biking and travel. He and his wife have two adult children who all enjoy being out on the water.

On November 10, 2023 Glen and Lynda attended our SeaScout Ship 2602's annual remembrance ceremony for the sinking of the SS Edmund Fitzgerald. This year they also remembered the SS Carl D. Bradley. Names of those who perished in both sinkings were read by Skipper Chris Anderson while BOSN Logan Fuller rang a bell following the reading of each name. One last ring was had for ALL lives lost at sea.

Following the remembrance ceremony they held an induction ceremony for new SeaScout members Nathan Tennant and Harrison Winnell.

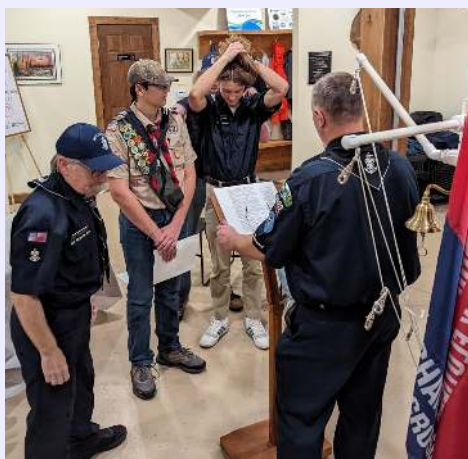
Pictured left to right:

- New SeaScout Nathan Tennant
- Mate Carl Cotanche (Mr. C)
- Blake Brunmeier
- Committee member Bill Fuller
- Skipper Chris Anderson
- BOSN Logan Fuller
- Committee member Laura Brunmeier
- New SeaScout Harrison Winnell



Nathan Tennant and Harrison Winnell have their Tar flap placed around their necks during their induction ceremony recited by Skipper Chris.

While standing on the bridge of their ceremonial "land ship" Skipper Chris reads the names of those lives lost on the sinking of the SS Edmond Fitzgerald and SS Carl D. Bradley, BOSN Logan rings the bell for each name read and the other members stand at attention.



Flotilla Highlights *continued*

Upper Great Lakes
091-26-01

Takeaways from Tuesday November 14th, meeting

1. Elections: Our election committee, Don Warren, Sue Warren and Sue Couture had letters of intent for FC and VC.
2. Tom Griseto was voted in as Flotilla Commander.
3. John Maynard was voted in as Vice Flotilla Commander.
4. Sue Couture will continue to handle our Financials.
5. Our meeting schedule has changed, our next scheduled meeting will be held on April 9th, 5:30pm 2024 online only.
6. Don Warren Member Training, this is a great time to get caught up on training and boating courses.

091-26-01 will continue to support these events.

- ◆ Coast Guard Connections of Cheboygan - Christmas Trees to Chicago in December.
- ◆ Memorial Day parade May 27th 2023 Mackinac City
- ◆ Soo Locks Engineering Day 2024
- ◆ 4th of July parade Cheboygan Mi
- ◆ Top O Michigan boat races August 2024
- ◆ John Maynard Aviation, provide aircraft and highly trained crew for many Coast Guard aviation functions
- ◆ Vessel Exams
- ◆ Safety Patrols
- ◆ Aid the Coast Guard
- ◆ Coast Guard open house in Cheboygan



Congratulations to BM1 Dalton D. Smith, Station Charlevoix for the successful completion of his OIC (Officer in Charge) Review Boards.

Dalton is a champion supporter of our Charlevoix and Traverse City Flotillas, a strong advocate of the Auxiliary and so appreciated by us all.

The Officer in Charge (OIC) review board is an arduous assessment designed to evaluate an individual's comprehensive understanding of the Coast Guard missions. Readiness, discipline, and personnel well-being, among other pertinent topics. This rigorous process entails responding to a series of open-ended questions over a 90-minute duration, testing the candidate's leadership acumen, ethical decision-making, and overall professionalism necessary for assuming the role of an Officer in Charge.

During the board, BM1 Smith demonstrated exceptional resilience and competence as he navigated through the challenging questions. His performance not only showcased his leadership capabilities but also underscored his commitment to upholding the highest standards



of ethics and professionalism required for the OIC position.

Passing the Officer in Charge review board is not only a significant milestone but also a mandatory prerequisite for Boatswain Mate (BM) to take command of their own unit. Beyond the immediate impact, achieving the certifications is instrumental for BMs to advance to the prestigious pay grade of E-8, Senior Chief. In essence, BM1 Smith's success in the OIC review board is one to celebrate!

Senior Chief Bradley Bishop
USCG Station Charlevoix

(Continued from page 7)

law enforcement and emergencies service through the Michigan State-Wide radio system.

The purpose of the unit is to be able to provide communications support not only for the Auxiliary but to support active-duty activities. The unit provided all of the radio communications support for the boat school which

was recently held at Station Charlevoix. The Unit is also utilized to provide hands-on training for new

Telecommunications Operators.

The unit is designed to be completely self-supporting and is easily transported by an approved facility vehicle. Power for operation can be provided by shore power, on-board batteries and inverter, a dual-fuel portable generator and an UPS battery pack.

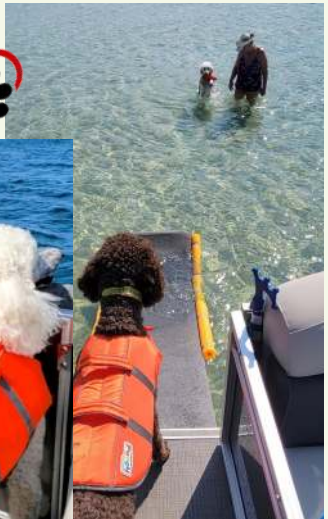


Radio equipment set-up inside.



Richard (Dock) Borth was recognized at the 2023 Fall D-Train for his 50 years of service to the US Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Standard Poodles Cadi, brown 3 yr. old male and Janie, white 12 yr. old female. They love boating and playing in Higgins lake. Larry Williams, 091-26-03



Share—Link—Engage

[Welcome to the Division 26, District 9CR Web Site](#)

[U.S. Coast Guard Station Charlevoix— Facebook](#)

[U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City— Facebook](#)



OPERATIONS: TOGETHER WE CAN . . .

As SO-OP I have spoken with many of you regarding concerns for the operations side of Division 26. We definitely have a different look than we did 5 or 10 years ago. You all should be proud of the hundreds of U/W hours logged in 2023! If you look at our crew and facility numbers, it is really quite impressive how much coverage we had.

Going forward we will need to be creative about building up the operations side of Division 26. I have a few ideas/plans for that. **Together we**

can do this but, it has to be a team, no flotilla standing alone in this. FSO-OPs look through this list and be sure your flotilla prepares throughout the winter.

Seek new members interested in Operations, boat ownership is a definite plus. The goal would be to have 2 facilities available in each flotilla or at least a reasonable trailer distance. **Together we can do this but, it has to be a team, no flotilla standing alone in this.**

Please check your PPE for shortages, battery dates, condition – let's get orders in if you need or will need gear. Think about your new ops trainees they need gear too.

Plan your flotilla TCT refresher over the winter months – It is too cold to work on your boats out in the garage anyway!

Coxswains – check your NAV RULES refresher – soooo much easier to stay current than to get out of REYR.

Get new members past the CT, BQS2 and the PQS training for Crew before next year's season. I have several in Charlevoix that will be working through the PQS so perhaps we could do some online meetings to get more flotillas involved. Stay tuned. But get your Ops interested members ready! PQS handbooks and sign off sheets printed etc. Let me know if there are any problems with getting this done. **Together**

we can do this but, it has to be a team, no flotilla standing alone in this.

There will be a Road/Boat trip to 26-04 Alpena early next spring to bring a few members current who fell into REYR for hours. Alpena and Roscommon will participate. That should keep both flotillas viable for 2024 patrols. Let me know if others have such a need. **Together we can do this but, it has to be a team, no flotilla standing alone in this.**

Together
WE CAN

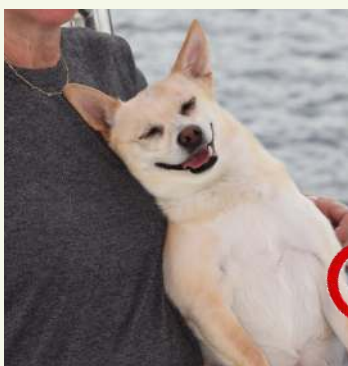
Boat school 2024 is June 14-16. Friday-Saturday-Sunday. It will be in Charlevoix again. Put it on your calendar. Think about lodging early. Airbnb and VBRO is a great idea to buddy up and save on costs. I would like to see a few more boats participate next year. **Together we can do this but, it has to be a team, no flotilla standing alone in this.**

Not everyone can make boat school – we understand. Let's communicate early so we can accomplish your practice and check-rides. There are many options but we need to work together early to make plans. **Together we can do this but, it has to be a team, no flotilla standing alone in this.**

If you are a snowbird – lucky you. Leave my name with your trainees if they need a more local contact. **Together we can do this but, it has to be a team, no flotilla standing alone in this.**

I believe we can maintain and rebuild the Operations in all the flotillas. Operations should be a great time together on the boats. Multiplying the CG presence and building friendships. **Together we can do this but, it has to be a team, no flotilla standing alone in this.**

Glen Stolt SO-OP 091-26
231-557-6050



This is Shelby. She's Lovin the sun from the flybridge. Underway from Fort Meyer to Moore Haven on the ICW.

Lynda Stolt, 091-26-02 Charlevoix



Diversity Thought

Lets consider Diversity OF Thought

Diversity of thought is the reality that there is more than one way to think about something. It's understanding that the way each person interprets and interacts with the world is reflective of their unique identity, culture and personal experiences.

Broadly speaking, diversity of thought is a concept which champions the idea of bringing together individuals from different cultures, backgrounds and personalities to share their thoughts. When organizations bring different individuals together, those individuals bring various valuable perspectives with them.

The Auxiliary is a perfect place to embrace a Diversity of Thought!



Our Golden Retriever Jethro in his PFD. Jim and Karen Munger, 091-26-03, Roscommon County



The strength of the team is each individual member.

The strength of each member is **THE TEAM.**

HOW TO WEAR THE ALTERNATE WORK UNIFORM (AWU)

Please review this information before wearing the new Alternate Work Uniform **AWU**.

- All uniform parts must match (no use of other uniform parts with the polo.) (Example: wearing ODU pants with the AWU shirt).
- The **ripstop material ball cap** is authorized with the AWU. (If you do not have a ripstop cap, you need to get one. No outdated or faded caps.
- Only 5.11 pants and 5.11 shorts may be worn with the polo. Do not use off-brand shorts or pants with the polo shirt. Do not wear ODU pants with a polo shirt.
- Members may wear either a long sleeve or short sleeve polo shirt. It **MUST** be purchased from the online source identified on the Aux Association website. There can be nothing on the back of the shirt.
- Women are authorized to untuck or tuck in the shirt. Men are not authorized to wear the shirt untucked.
- If approved by your Active Duty District Commander, you may wear the summer uniform, which consists of the short sleeve polo and 5.11 shorts with at least a 9-inch inseam.
 - AWU with shorts is not authorized for any PA or PE event. **(9CR Only)**
- Cotton undershirts are authorized but not recommended for summer because they negate the advantages of the wicking polo. Wicking dark blue undershirts are authorized.
- Members wearing full SAR gear (PFD and SAR vest) are authorized to wear the cotton Aux t-shirt or dark navy wicking t-shirt. These are not authorized for wear alone as part of the uniform.
- Footwear: one of three types of footwear are allowed:
 - Authorized boot
 - Authorized boat shoes, brown or blue, without decoration.
 - Postal style walking shoes- all black including sole, top, very few or no seams. (no decoration, and soles must be black.
- Socks- black- either crew or ankle. Socks must be worn.
- Cover rules apply when wearing the AWU
- Unit Command may identify the AWU as authorized for meetings and social engagements.
- AWU is not authorized for any indoor PA or PE event. **(9CR Only)**

Components

Men's Pants are available at this link: [Men's Pants](#)

Women's 5.11 pants: [Women's Pants](#)

Shorts are available seasonally: (must be within two inches of knee): [Shorts](#)

Shirts are available at this link: [Shirts](#)

Caps are available at this link: [Caps](#)



Honor our Auxiliary by
wearing this uniform
professionally

ICE SAFETY

James G. Munger, Ph.D, Flotilla Commander, 091-26-3 Roscommon County

This cold shock is the first threat to your survival. The result is a very high risk of suddenly drowning.

Incapacitation involves the progressive cooling of your muscles and nerves to the point where they simply stop working. First, they get weak, then they get weaker and finally they do not work at all. At that point, you are unable to move your arms and legs. It is quite possible to lose the ability to use your hands in 60 seconds and use of your arms in minutes. Given the current water temperatures this loss of dexterity can occur in less than three minutes.

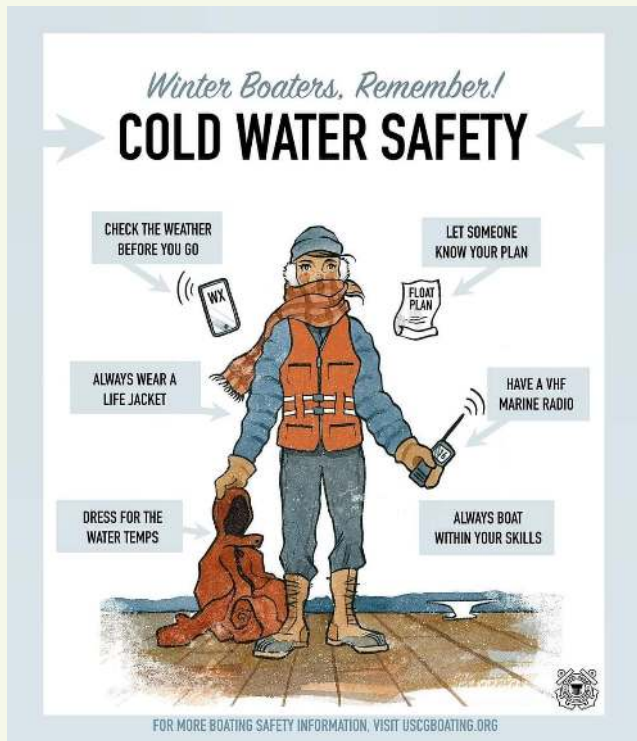
Because skin blood vessels constrict in response to sudden cooling, cold water immersion also causes an instantaneous and massive increase in heart rate and blood pressure. In vulnerable individuals, this increases the danger of heart failure and stroke.

Hypothermia involves a drop in your deep body (core) temperature – the temperature of your brain, heart, lungs, kidneys and liver – in other words, your vital organs.

Circum-rescue collapse is not well understood but appears to be related to an abrupt drop in blood pressure. It can cause unconsciousness and heart failure. It can occur just before rescue, during rescue – as the victim is removed from the water – and after rescue when the person is out of the water.

You can drown in the cold shock stage, the incapacitation stage and the hypothermia stage, but you must survive cold shock before incapacitation or hypothermia even become a survival issue.

Ice fishing can be a fun and exciting activity, but it can be very harsh on your body. The long hours, amidst freezing temperature, can cause hypothermia if you are not careful. Having a good ice fishing suit during this time can help you a lot. Ice safety reminders as hard-water season begins.



Key Dates

Charlevoix Boat School

June 14-16, 2024

DIVISION MEETINGS

FCs, VFCs, SOs and guest

*Our next Division meeting will be virtual and in February.
Date TBD*



Introducing the New "Water N' Kids" Youth Course and Toolkit from the Public Education Directorate

We are pleased to announce the launch of an exciting youth water safety class, called "Water N' Kids" designed to enhance safety, skills, and knowledge for students ages 8 to 10 years (third and fourth grade). Developed by the Public Education Directorate, this course includes many support templates to help instructors contact schools, teachers, parent information, a general lesson plan, and more for those instructors who want to expand their flotilla's course offerings.

"Water N' Kids" is designed to teach basic water safety topics to young students. There are 12 items in the tool kit, including:

- Sample Elementary School Letter
- Sample Elementary School Thank You Letter
- Sample High School Letter
- Sample High School Class Flyer (Boat America)
- Sample High School Thank You Letter
- Sample Youth Course Water N' Kids Flyer
- Student Course Completion Certificate (Fillable)
- Classroom Course Completion Certificate (Fillable)
- Water N' Kids Certificate Letter to Parents
- Summary Lesson Plan for Instructors
- Water N' Kids Instructor Notes (PDF)
- Water N' Kids PowerPoint Presentation
- What topics are included in this course?
- Swimming safely.
- Rip currents.
- Wearing life jackets
- Basic boating safety.
- Clean environment

Getting our instructors into school classrooms will provide a tremendous growth opportunity in boating safety. Not only can we affect the current generation of boaters, but also their families and the next generation. Water N' Kids can be the shining example of "a child shall lead. Please go to the E-Directorate website to download Water N' Kids and join the mission to help educate our school community.

[Click here](#) for What's New and Course Content:



MEMBERS ARE NEEDED for our Culinary Assistance Program!



Our Coast Guard is short personnel and the Auxiliary is being asked to assist.

Our Auxiliary Culinary Assistance program continues its search for members interested in cooking for our Active Duty at Station galleys during active duty personnel absence , at CG Change of Commands, VIP events, Auxiliary events, aboard cutters in their galleys and more as the needs arise.



Our District, 091 has 29 CA1 specialist and our Division, 091-26 currently has only 4 CA1 specialist. Our Northern Region is in need of our service. Many stations have very limited culinary support

We have stations throughout our AOR that will benefit from the services we can provide them through our Culinary Assistance Program.

Email at the link below for more information.



JOIN OUR MISSION:

The AUXCA Program serves to support the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary for all culinary needs. It is a very rewarding program for all participants regardless of expertise or abilities. There is a place in the AUXCA program for all

Join the TEAM
Join the MISSION



Lynda Stolt, SO-CA 091-26

lyndastolt@gmail.com



Lainie on an open beach with a stick in Mackinac City.

“Living her Dreams!”

Glen Stolt, 091-26-02, Charlevoix





Who is Division 26?

are who
We?!

We have six Flotillas within the Northern Great Lakes Area:

- Flotilla 26-1, Upper Great Lakes
- Flotilla 26-2, Charlevoix
- Flotilla 26-3, **Roscommon County**
- Flotilla 26-4, Alpena
- Flotilla 26-10, Traverse City
- Flotilla 26-11, Marquette



Let's learn a little bit about **"Who is" Flotilla 26-03, Roscommon**

See pages 7 and 9 for highlights from Roscommon

Tell us about your Flotilla!

Who's next? Alpena

Coast Guard Auxiliary Leadership

Where do you begin? Well the Auxiliary has many classes and courses for you to take, However, we seem to get overwhelmed with all the material that is tossed at us. Not just one class but 6 classes and more. Let's simplify the process.

There are two classes for the new member. Core Training and the BQII (Basic Qualification) courses. Another recommended class is the AFLC (Aux. Flotilla Leadership Course). This Course is intended for Flotilla Commanders and Vice Flotilla Commanders but, recommended for ALL members! Without these classes it is challenging to understand how the Auxiliary works.

As a new Flotilla Commander or Vice Commander you need to understand what makes the Auxiliary work. Start [CORE](#), [BQII](#) and [AFLC](#) courses to begin your Leadership Team Work!!

Respectfully,

Don Warren, DSO-MT, SO-MT, FSO-MT
And past BC-TLM for Leadership Development

Count

Count your blessings instead of your crosses

Count your gains instead of your losses

Count your joys instead of your woes

Count your friends instead of your foes

Count your smiles instead of your tears

Count your courage instead of your fears

Count your full years instead of your lean

Count your kind deeds instead of your mean

Count your health instead of your wealth

Count on God instead of yourself

Your Blessings

HAPPY
thanksgiving



"All that you do is significant and important! Share it with others in this publication"

[Lynda Stolt, SO-PB](#), Editor for IN VISION 26 - Is there something you would like to see in our newsletter? Please let me know how we can improve our communications, share our victories, support our members and unite as Division 26.

Thank you to our November 2023 In Vision 26 Contributors

Lynda Stolt
Mike Harbin
James Munger
Dick Lavanture
Dianne Walker
Barry Buchholz
Ethan Passalacqua

Marla Weston
Rich Borowicz
Glen Stolt
Tom Griseto
Don Warren
Senior Chief Bradley Bishop

Disclaimer: IN VISION 26 is the official publication of 091-26, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. It is written, edited, and distributed by the members. It is published at no cost to the US Coast Guard or the Government. Lynda A. Stolt, Editor.

Confidentiality Notice: PRIVACY ACT OF 1974: The disclosure of the personal information contained in this publication is subject to the provisions contained in the Privacy Act of 1974. The subject Act, with certain exceptions, prohibits the disclosure, distribution, dissemination or copying of any material containing the home address, home telephone number, spouses names, and social security numbers, except for official business. Violations may result in disciplinary action by the Coast Guard and/or civilian criminal sanctions.