



Waypoints

Issue 2020-1 U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary District 13, Division 4 Spring 2020



Division Four supports six regional flotillas in Northwest Washington state covering Puget Sound, the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Hood Canal. We provide administrative assistance by coordinating activities between flotillas and providing communication to Coast Guard Auxiliary District 13.

Flotilla 41, Port Ludlow & Brinnon; Flotilla 42, Sequim; Flotilla 44, Port Angeles;
Flotilla 45, Bremerton; Flotilla 45 Detachment, Gig Harbor; Flotilla 47, Port Townsend; Flotilla 48, North Kitsap

Division 4 website: <http://a13004.wow.uscgaux.info>

Division 4 Leadership

Dick Halsaver, DCDR
Thomas Bliss, VCDR
Sylvia Oster, IPDCDR

SO-CM: Joseph Treece
SO-CS: Randall Zempel
SO-FN: Lucinda Eubank
SO-IS: David Grant
SO-MA: Lucinda Eubank
SO-MS: Robert Lakshas
SO-MT: Bryan Wilkins
SO-NS: Joe Langjahr
SO-PE: Grant Winther
SO-OP: Larry Kight
SO-SR: Jared Ellars
SO-VE: Lucinda Eubank
SO-PA: James McLaughlin
SO-PB: Randall Zempel
SO-HR: Rodger Maneval
SO-DV: Loretta Rindal
SO-PV: Lucinda Eubank
SO-AS: Gail Porter
SO-FS: Alan Smith

Flotilla Leadership

Flotilla 41 – Port Ludlow
Simeon Baldwin II., FC
Paul Coover, VFC

Flotilla 42 - Sequim
Sylvia Oster, FC
Richard Johnston, VFC

Flotilla 44 – Port Angeles
James M. Armstrong, FC
Ernest Nelson, VFC

Flotilla 45 - Bremerton
Bryan Wilkins, FC
Robert Hancock, VFC

Flotilla 45 Det – Gig Harbor
Tom Bliss, Det Leadership

Flotilla 47 – Port Townsend
Harry Dudley, FC
Lucinda Eubank, VFC

Flotilla 48 – North Kitsap
Dean Alexander, FC
VFC, vacant pending election

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In this issue

- 3 **Division Commanders Remarks**
- 4..... **Risk Management Trainers Needed**
- 5..... **COVID-19**
- 6 **US Coast Guard Air Station Port Angeles**
- 8 **Aid to Navigation Verifiers Needed**
- 8 **Boat Crew and Coxswain Training**
- 9 **Vessel Examinations**
- 9 **Bravo Zulu - Alan Smith**
- 10 **More Good Work**
- 12 **Aux Food Service**
- 13 **Diversity**
- 14 **Crossing the Bar**

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Division Commander's Remarks

Greetings Division 4,

Unfortunately, we lost a very valued member recently. Stephen George Hyman, FL-41, crossed the bar in a sudden and tragic traffic accident in Texas. He will be missed sorely. Steve was extremely dedicated to the Auxiliary, and appreciated by all who sailed with and learned from him. His wife Lynn, a former FL-41 Auxiliarist, has just returned home and will need some time to process her loss. Lynn is planning a memorial for Steve, probably in early summer. We will provide more information as that time approaches.

The COVID-19 virus certainly has disrupted our cadence and suspended most of our activities, but member safety is of prime concern. So now what? This is a superb opportunity to get on line and get immersed in member training offerings, especially those leadership courses most often overlooked. Personal development remains a key factor in forging a strong unit.

On a positive note, a busy year remains underway and change is in the air. Both our new District Commodore, Tiney Singler, and Chief of Staff, Dan Kienle, are quite involved in member training opportunities, invigorating and setting positive direction for District Staff Officers, and in improving communications. COMO Singler is a driver and totally dedicated to our members. Stand by for many improvements to come.

We just concluded a very busy and successful District Training meeting in Clackamas, Oregon from 28 April to 1 March, featuring intense training for Flotilla Commanders and Vice Commanders plus a chance to complete the yearly required Risk Management 4 hour refresher (old TCT) and some operations training. The event culminated in a formal dinner with the Commander, District 13 RADM Vogt and a number of other senior USCG officers attending. I'm sure that all who were present would agree that the inherent dignity of these occasions reinforces one's pride in both serving and wearing the uniform.

Our Division did quite well in the awards categories, and an email listing our individual and unit awards was distributed separately. I was proud to make numerous trips to the front of the room to earned awards on your behalf, and received several congratulatory comments on how well we are performing as a Division. The thanks go to you, our highly valued and high performing members. We even had four highly motivated members travel to the meeting at their own expense, proving their keen interest in District activities and scarce training opportunities.

A side meeting requested by RADM Vogt discussed issues surrounding possible reinstatement of an Auxiliary Air program in D-13. A number of Division members formerly associated with the program attended and offered positive comments on the previous value of the program. Many issues must be explored before a decision is rendered, and the program's future appears many months away from a decision.

Our planned and pending Crew Academy is signaling a successful member reception, with over 20 of you responding positively. Training details are covered elsewhere in this newsletter. I cannot express adequate appreciation to the exemplary efforts of our VCDR Tom Bliss and FC-44 Jim Armstrong, both of whom have invested vast hours in planning, scheduling, and notifications. Hats off to both of you!

I also have received very positive comments on the quality of Division Staff Officers volunteering to serve for 2020. We have great talent and enthusiasm in this group and I invite all members to contact them if issues cannot be resolved at local unit levels. All of us are here to serve you. Our first Division

Board meeting with two follow-on workshops for FCs/VFCs and SOs/FSOs was held on 22 FEB, hosted by FL-48 at the Bainbridge Island fire department. Our thanks to FL-48 for the great meeting site and for arranging for morning and noon food and beverages! We had 25% of our members attending, a tribute to your enthusiasm and willingness to be further involved in and acquainted with Division activities and issues. Minutes of that meeting are being distributed separately to all members.

Congratulations are extended to our lone qualified Food Service member, Alan Smith, for being selected as Sector Puget Sound Auxiliarist of the Year, 2019. He truly is deserving of that honor. BZ to Alan! During his ceremony he was told how highly valued and admired Division 4 is. His, and the achievements of all of you, drive such positive impressions. Thank you all for your Past and pending future service!

Tom Bliss and I see a great year ahead, as we continue to stress training, organizational improvement, and fellowship. We plan to continue rotating Division meetings among host Flotillas and trust that you will see value and opportunity to participate. We look forward to serving you and to continue improving your satisfaction with Auxiliary activities and your personal and organizational growth. Should you have issues or suggestions, please feel free to contact either of us.

V/R
Dick Halsaver, DCDR

Reminder!

All USCG Auxiliary members must stand down on all meetings, assignments to duty, and other Auxiliary activities which involve contact with the public or other Auxiliary members.

- All Flotilla and program staff meetings now must be conducted electronically/telephonically. No face-to-face individual or group meetings relating to Auxiliary business are authorized.
- No direct support activities are authorized.
- Activities such as VSEs cannot be conducted. Likewise, any participation in local civic festivals or shows are suspended. No exceptions.
- Any 7029 reportable hours must result from telephonic or electronic interactions. There should be no 7030 hours reported, with the possible exception of radio facility communications tests or directed activation from home stations. Other operations normally result from orders being issued, and operations are at a stand-down.
- The on-going boat crew academy will suspend all activities requiring physical group interaction or classroom instruction. Training conducted via electronic/telephonic means not involving groups can occur.
- There can be no one-on-one actions relating to recruiting or related testing. All these must be done remotely by phone or email exchanges.

This is a good time to review Influenza Training, Course number 502290, in AuxLearning.

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

There is currently no vaccine to prevent corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

Older adults and people who have severe underlying chronic medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness. Please consult with your health care provider about additional steps you may be able to take to protect yourself.

Take steps to protect yourself

Clean your hands often

- **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, **use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol**. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth** with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact

- **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick
- Put **distance between yourself and other people** if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for [people who are at higher risk of getting very sick](#).

Take steps to protect others

Stay home if you're sick

- **Stay home** if you are sick, except to get medical care. Learn [what to do if you are sick](#).

Cover coughs and sneezes

- **Cover your mouth and nose** with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- **Throw used tissues** in the trash.
- Immediately **wash your hands** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Wear a face-mask if you are sick

- **If you are sick:** You should wear a face-mask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a face-mask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then you should do your best to cover your coughs and sneezes, and people who are caring for you should wear a facemask if they enter your room. [Learn what to do if you are sick.](#)
- **If you are NOT sick:** You do not need to wear a face-mask unless you are caring for someone who is sick (and they are not able to wear a face-mask). Face-masks may be in short supply and they should be saved for caregivers.

Clean and disinfect

- **Clean AND disinfect [frequently touched surfaces daily](#).** This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, counter-tops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- **If surfaces are dirty, clean them:** Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

To disinfect:

Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants will work. Use disinfectants appropriate for the surface.

Options include:

- **Diluting your household bleach.**

To make a bleach solution, mix:

- 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water
OR
- 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water

Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against corona viruses when properly diluted.

- **Alcohol solutions.**
Ensure solution has at least 70% alcohol.
- **Other common EPA-registered household disinfectants.**
Products with [EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens](#) claims are expected to be effective against COVID-19 based on data for harder to kill viruses. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time, etc.).

Learn more on the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) web site:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

Recruitment

I would like to challenge each and everyone of us to bring another member into the Auxiliary. More members bring us the diversity and strength that our organization needs.

Air Station Port Angeles



Port Angeles, WA – Air Station Port Angeles. Photograph by Randall Zempel

“Port Angeles is the oldest continuously operating Air Station in the Coast Guard.”

Air Station/Sector Field Office Port Angeles occupies the terminal end of Ediz Hook, the narrow landmass between Port Angeles Harbor and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Designated by President Lincoln in 1863 as a Federal Lighthouse Reservation, and then in 1935 as a CG Air Station, AS/SFO Port Angeles is the oldest continuously operating Air Station in the Coast Guard.

AS/SFO PA operates and supports the Air Station and its three attached MH-65D (Dolphin) Aircraft and also provides logistical support (Supply, Administrative, Medical, and Engineering) to Station Neah Bay, Station Port Angeles, Station Quileute River, USCGC ADELIE, USCGC CUTTYHUNK, USCGC OSPREY, USCGC SWORDFISH, and USCGC WAHOO. Missions executed include Search and Rescue (SAR), law enforcement, including drug interdiction and fisheries patrol, marine environmental protection, military readiness, logistic support for aids to navigation servicing, and many others.

Annually, AirSta/SFO PA completes approximately 200 SAR cases with 15+ lives saved and 30+ lives assisted. Having qualified numerous pilots and aircrew as Royal Canadian Peace Officers, AirSta/SFO PA is the first CG Air Station to use helicopter crews in prosecution of international Law Enforcement missions. This mission includes supporting US/Canadian Shiprider boat crews in respective country airspace/waters. On the Logistics side, AirSta/SFO PA facilitated a \$32M NAVFAC construction project for Marine Force Protection Unit (MFPU) Bangor. A berthing and operations building and an adjoining pier were constructed. Unit wide berthing overhauls are in progress as well as multiple base security projects.



The Division needs Risk Management Trainers

The old “TCT Refresher” is now the “Risk Management Annual Workshop.” With the loss of Steve Hyman, we no longer have a qualified trainer in the Division.

Please...if you have training experience, or would like to have it, volunteer to take the training to qualify as a Risk Management Trainer.

Aids to Navigation Verifiers Needed

One of the important ways we directly support the Coast Guard and help ensure boating safety, is to verify that the many aids to navigation in the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Puget Sound are in place and working properly.

We need more ATON/PATON verifiers. Boat ownership is not required...many of these aids can be checked from land.

If you are interested, please contact your FSO-NS or Flotilla Commander.

We can train you...no experience required.

Boat Crew and Coxswain Training

Thanks to the leadership of Tom Bliss and Jim Armstrong, the Division 4 Boat Crew and Coxswain Academy training program became a reality. This program will, eventually, allow Division members to either initially qualify, or to re-qualify, as Boat Crew and/or Coxswain.

Unfortunately, the Academy has become overcome by current events and been put into hiatus.

Meanwhile, You can study your Crew/Coxswain Qualification guide (the PQS) and seeing what you can punch out on your own through good old fashioned Book Study in your five (5) downloaded handbooks.

Topics to study while you are "Social Distancing"

- Seamanship
- Chart (1) One
 - Do you know the chart symbols?
 - Demonstrate the use of a nautical chart

Demonstrate the ability to identify navigation and general landmark symbols on a nautical chart.

Demonstrate the ability to plan a voyage by laying down a trackline across safe water and through marked channels.

Demonstrate the ability to take a fix and plot a position on a chart.

Demonstrate ability to calculate actual speed of vessel, determine amount of water beneath keel, and recommend adjustments to vessel's course and speed to match voyage plan.

Measure Distance On A Nautical Chart

Plot A Magnetic Course On A Nautical Chart

Plot A Position Using Latitude And Longitude

Identify Local Landmarks Used In Piloting On A Nautical Chart

Identify Common Aids To Navigation Used In Small Boat Piloting

Identify The Basic Parts, Symbols And Abbreviations Found On A Nautical Chart

- Crew Endurance/Fatigue
- Survival Procedures
- Basic First Aid
- **Coxswains...Nav Rules!!!!**
- Boat Crew Duties and Responsibilities
- Do Not Forget your Knots: Task BCM-03-01-AUX
 - Identify The Different Parts Of A Line And The Hitches Used In Line Handling
 - Tie a square (reef) knot.
 - Tie a bowline in the end of a mooring line and around an object.
 - Tie a round turn and two half hitches.
 - Secure a line to a rail using a clove hitch.
 - Attach a heaving line to a towline using any one of the following: sheet (becket) bend, double sheet bend, snap hook, bowline, or clove hitch with two half hitches.
 - Add length of mooring line to a towline using any of the above knots.
 - AnimatedKnots.com
- State Survival Procedures In The Event The Boat Capsizes Or Swamps
- Identify Common Sound Signals Used By Ships And Boats
- Identify And Describe Accepted Maritime Distress Signals
- Compute Time, Speed And Distance
- Phonetic Alphabet

Vessel Examiners Needed

Now for those of you that are not yet in the Vessel Exam program. WE NEED YOU. There are over 18,000 recreational boats registered in the Division 4 Counties. There are 300,000 registered in the state. While it is true that every boat registered in Kitsap, Jefferson and Clallam is not necessarily moored or kept in our area, there are undoubtedly more that are brought in from other counties that we do not know about.

If you figure that an effective VSC takes about 30 minutes to perform, we have over 9,000 hours of time to get to all the boats.

If you would like to join this program check in with your flotilla FSO-VE and ask them what it takes. You will find that this one on one with public can be very rewarding and that the requirements for time are only what you can or want to put in and are at hours you schedule yourself. We look forward to having you join us.

Bravo Zulu

Alan G. Smith was Named Sector Puget Sound Auxiliarist of the Year for 2019

PORT ANGELES, WA – On February 18, 2020, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary member, Alan G. Smith, of Sequim, was congratulated by USCG Captain Linda A. Sturgis, Commander Sector Puget Sound, on his selection as the Sector Puget Sound Auxiliarist of the Year for 2019. Captain Sturgis presented Smith with a USCG Sector Puget Sound citation, plaque, and challenge coin to reflect his accomplishments, dedication, and commitment to the U.S. Coast Guard. The presentation and recognition was made during the monthly meeting at USCG Sector Puget Sound Headquarters.

USCG Captain Michael M. Balding, Deputy Commander Sector Puget Sound, presented highlights of Smith's activities for 2019 to Smith, his family members present, and other USCG and USCG Auxiliary members in attendance. Captain Balding stated the recognition of Smith is a reflection of Smith's astounding performance, dedication to the U.S. Coast Guard, and service to the community.

Captain Balding continued with his recognition of Smith, stating that as a member of USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 44 in Port Angeles, he volunteered 207 hours, executed eight Vessel Safety Exams, one Coast Guard Facility Exam, and over 34 hours in public outreach. Smith integrated seamlessly with the active duty community in Port Angeles, and participated in a litany of projects, including the Continuity Of Operations (COOP) Tsunami Preparedness Drill.

Captain Balding stated, "You, Mr. Smith, were the first member of Division 4 to certify as an Auxiliary Food Services Specialist (AUXFS) and you eagerly volunteered to augment the Culinary Specialists on board the USCG Cutter Active during its four day deployment for SeaFair 2019."

Captain Balding spoke of Smith's display of consistent devotion to duty, and being first in Division 4 to certify as Junior Officer of the Day (JOOD) at USCG Air Station Port Angeles. Smith was applauded for consistently volunteering for extra shifts, particularly during holiday routines allowing active duty personnel to spend more time with their families, for advocating an ongoing initiative to "adopt" the grounds at USCG Air Station Port Angeles' flag pole area where he leads Flotilla 44 in regular maintenance, and for his participation in the morning and evening flag raising and lowering ceremonies.

Captain Sturgis and Captain Balding congratulated Smith and each echoed, "Thank you for everything you do as a representative of the United States Coast Guard." Smith's name will appear on a perpetual plaque maintained and displayed at the USCG Sector Puget Sound Headquarters.



More good work recognized

Several members and Flotillas of Division 4 received special recognition at the District 13 conference in Clackamas, OR. Those recognized include:

VCDR Tom Bliss, FC-45 Bryan Wilkins, and VFC Bob Hancock all received the Auxiliary Medal of Operational Merit for rescuing a swimmer in medical distress with a severe leg injury from a running propeller and for rescuing two people from a capsized sailboat.

Past DCAPT-N Joe Treece received the Auxiliary Commendation for superior performance during his two years in office.

Jim Armstrong, FC-44, received a plaque for 1st place, Operations Support.

Loretta Rindal, FL-48 and SO-DV, received 1st place for Public Education.

FL-48 received the DCAPT-N Member Training Achievement Award

FL-48 received a flag streamer for 1st place, Public Education

Div-4 received a flag streamer for 1st place, Public Education

Div-4 received a flag streamer for 1st place, Operations Support

All Div-4 members as of the cut-off date received the Unit Commendation Award for the 80th Anniversary of the USCG Auxiliary and are authorized to wear that ribbon, or a star on the ribbon if that member previously had received that award.

These awards will be presented at our next Division meeting, and all-member attendance is encouraged to show congratulations to those being recognized.

Aids to Navigation in Kitsap, Jefferson, and Clallam Counties

We have 5 bridges and 59 PATONS to verify each year (a few of those have multiple lights, 372 in all, that need to be individually checked). Some of those PATONS are used by large commercial vessels to verify their navigational plots while transiting our waters. If those PATONS are extinguished or in the wrong location there is a potential for an oil tanker to end up on the rocks.

Do you like to cook?

One of the on-going needs the active Coast Guard units would like us to fill is in Food Service. They simply do not have enough cooks to meet their needs. The US Coast Guard is asking for more assistance at their land based galleys and cutters in-port and underway. This type of unselfish duty is really appreciated by Active Duty members. It makes it possible for them to attend training or be with their families at critical times, whilst the AUXFS is serving their shipmates.



Qualified AUXFSs complete 24-33 hours of basic food services training, along with completing a series of PQS to demonstrate their skills. The training emphasizes safety and sanitation, working in a galley and basic food preparation. A certified and experienced USCG CS is the instructor for the training, often assisted by a unit Food Service Specialist.

Experience is not required, just enthusiasm!

If you are interested in participating in this valuable service, please sign up for a non-reimbursable class: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080f48adae22a0fe3-food>

More information about the program is on the National website:
<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=H-DEPT&category=auxchef>

Something for everyone

Wherever your interests lie, and whatever life skills you bring to the Coast Guard Auxiliary, chances are you can find an area to participate in that will enrich your life. As an Auxiliarist you can participate in one or more programs including, but not limited to:

1. Patrols
2. Chart updating
3. Training
4. Recruiting
5. Admin. support
6. Public affairs
7. Public education
8. Boating safety programs
9. Environmental protection
10. Search and rescue

KEYS for Success in “Creating a Positive Environment”

How many keys CAN YOU & YOUR FLOTILLA accomplish this year?

1. Executing a retention plan to encouraging 50% of your flotilla to attend at least 4 meetings each year?

Are your meeting agendas interesting enough for your members wanting to attend the meeting?
Are member training and social activities meeting the needs of your members?

2. Implementing a training program for elected leaders and future leaders?

3. Communicating with members via newsletters, phone calls, FB, and website?

4. Recognizing members' participation and service in various activities?

5. Motivating your flotilla's members to have at least 65% of them have activities that are recorded in AUXDATA?

6. Having at least 4 flotilla fellowship activities during the year for the members and their families and friends?

7. Assigning a formal mentor to each new member for the first year?

8. Utilization of the Mentor Involvement Plan to help new members plan their involvement and training?

9. Establishing a Flotilla mentoring program for potential Staff Officers? Succession planning is critical to the success of Auxiliary units.

10. Having meeting facilities that are comfortable and attractive for members and guests with disabilities?

11. Implementing a recruiting plan for targeting local neighborhoods and cultures.
Can your flotilla accomplish at least 4 of them?

What do you think would be the result of accomplishing this goal?

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=D-DEPT&category=diversity-excellence-award>

If you and your flotilla have create a positive environment by completing at least 4 of the goals, your flotilla should complete the application for the NACO Three Star Award for Excellence in Diversity (Form 7064).

Crossing the Bar

We are saddened to report the death of one of our fellow Division 4 Auxiliaries, Steve Hyman, Flotilla 4-1, due to a car accident in Texas on 8 FEB 20. Steve was a cornerstone individual in the Flotilla and Division. He was active within the Auxiliary as an Instructor (including TCT Training and refresher), a Boat Crew Coxswain, a Recreational Boating Safety Visitor, and Vessel Examiner. Steve: You will be missed by all those whose lives you touched.

*Sunset and evening star
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.*

*Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;
For tho' from out our bourne of
Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my
Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.*

By Alfred Lord Tennyson