



We're absolutely thrilled to welcome you to this year's D'Train – a one-of-a-kind training event packed with opportunities to sharpen your skills, connect with fellow Auxiliarists, and take your service to the next level!

This year, we are excited to announce that District 17 (Alaska) will be joining with District 13, bringing together a wealth of knowledge and diverse experiences to make this event even more impactful.

Get ready for an incredible lineup of dynamic courses, hands-on workshops, and insightful roundtables designed to inspire and empower you:

1. **Technology for Leaders** – Lead with cutting-edge tools!
2. **CGICS-300: Intermediate Incident Command System** – Advance your incident management expertise!
3. **AUX-10: Auxiliary Information Systems** – Unlock the power of data and systems!
4. **TCO (Telecommunications Operator) PQS** – Master the art of Auxiliary communications!
5. **Setting Up a High Frequency (HF) Radio Facility** – Get your HF station mission-ready!
6. **Using VHF for Radio Guard** – Enhance your radio communication skills!
7. **From Pleasure Craft to Auxiliary Facility** – Transform your vessel for service!
8. **Paddlecraft Vessel Exams** – Expand your qualifications and outreach!
9. **Successful Communication Strategies** – Connect, collaborate, and communicate with impact!
10. **Roundtables for Staff Officers** – Exchange ideas, solve challenges, and lead with confidence!

This is your chance to dive into new knowledge, share best practices, and celebrate the incredible work we all do as part of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Whether you're here to build your leadership skills, boost your operational readiness, or simply connect with others who share your passion for service, D'Train Spring 2025 promises to be an unforgettable experience.

Let's make it a fantastic event!

COMO Klaas Nijhuis, DCO, District 13

Track One – Leadership

Course Title: **Auxiliary Flotilla Leadership Course (AFLC)**

Course Description: The AFLC is designed to provide consistent leadership and supervisory training to Auxiliary members currently serving, or intending to serve, as a flotilla elected leader, and to assist a member's growth from individual member to becoming a flotilla leader. The AFLC provides and enhances the knowledge, skills and practices needed to become a successful flotilla leader.

Days/Times: 0800 – 1700 Fri 21 Feb

Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available

Instructors: COMO Klaas Nijhuis, DCO, District 13, COMO Dave Larkin, DCO, District 17,
Mark Hannibal Efreem Krisher

Course Title: **Mentorship, Sculpting Success**

Course Description: Learn and build many skills. Improve member onboarding and member engagement. Provide mentee with new development opportunities by offering guidelines and support. This class will enlighten you on the meaning of mentorship and its impact on the building of a successful Auxiliary Team.

Take away: Acquire skills and tools as well as a handout or two to assist the mentors with the best possible successful outcome for mentees.

Days/Times: 1300 – 1500 Fri 21 Feb

Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available

Instructors: Bev Hannibal, Richard Liebe

Course Title: **Technology for Leaders**

Course Description: This course teaches leaders to leverage AI tools like Otter.ai, ChatGPT, Signup Genius, and MailerLite to streamline workflows, organize tasks, enhance communication, and drive team alignment in an efficient and effective way.

Days/Times: 0830 – 1030 Sun 23 Feb

Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available

Instructors: Simeon Baldwin, Thomas Bliss & Joe Giammona

Course Title: **Communications, The Auxiliaries Success Factor**

Course Description: A significant factor for successful organizations is effective communications. We need to examine the types of communications, their various modes, and the importance of understanding the difference between what is sent versus what is received plus the role of timeliness. The issue of clarity will be explored with an emphasis on how it can spell the difference between

successful missions and those that fail to achieve their goals. This is a discussion-based session that will employ participant exercises to highlight key takeaways.

Day/Time: 1300 - 1500 Sat 22 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available
Instructors: Rick Young and Debra Alderman

Course Title: **Status of the Auxiliary**

Course Description: Ever wonder about the *REAL* relationship between the Auxiliary and the active Coast Guard? And what is Title 14 all about? Confusion exists regarding what the Auxiliary actually is, and how we fit into the larger Coast Guard picture. Join COMO Larkin for an in-depth discussion that will clear up that confusion starting with what we are not, then progressing to what we are by addressing the laws and regulations that created and guide us, and illustrate exactly where we fit in *TEAM* Coast Guard.

Days/Times: 1300 - 1400 Sat 22 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person
Instructors: COMO Dave Larkin, DCO, District 17

[Track Two – Team Integration](#)

Course Title: **CGICS-300: Intermediate Incident Command System**

Course Description: Integrate with Active Duty in Response. CGICS-300 provides an in-depth focus on the NIMS Incident Command System (ICS) that includes the tools, practices, and procedures that are available in ICS to effectively manage emergency incidents or planned local events at a local Type 3 level. Expanding upon ICS-100 and -200, this course ensures that responders understand the basic ICS concepts that allow an incident management organization to expand and contract as needed to fit the incident and maintain its operational effectiveness. ***Prerequisites for his course include ICS 100, 200, 210, 700 and 800.***

Days/Times: 0800 - 1700 Thu 20 Feb - Sun 23 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available
Instructors: Ed Madura and Marisa Hutcheson

Course Title: **Life Underway, The Cutter Experience**

Course Description: Ever wonder what it's like to serve an extended underway cruise aboard a Coast Guard cutter or ice breaker? Have you thought about what it's like to go on deck and see nothing but ocean in all directions for as far as you can see? Join Lisa Hickman for a fascinating look at life underway as she takes you through her extensive experience aboard cutters and ice breakers (including to the Antarctic aboard *Polar Star*), how to get the orders, arrange the travel, and what it takes to earn the coveted Cutterman's badge.

Day/Time: 1300 – 1400 Fri 21 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available
Instructor: Lisa Hickman, DSO-CA, District 17

Track Three – Operations

Course Title: **From Pleasure Craft to Auxiliary Facility**

Course Description: Have you ever thought about making your boat a USCG Auxiliary Facility? This training session will provide you an overview and information you need to prepare your vessel to become an operational facility (OPFAC). We will briefly discuss policy and guidance related to OPFACs, required equipment, Offer for Use documentation, and the inspection process for OPFACs. There will be time reserved for your questions as well as tips from OPFAC owners and experienced members of our Boat Crew Program. This training will also connect you with a network of people willing to help you through the process of outfitting your vessel.

Bring your questions, a photo or two of your vessel, and let's talk about OPFACs. Boat Crew members interested in helping others establish new OPFACs are strongly encouraged to attend.

Day/Time: 1300 – 1400 Fri 21 Feb

Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available

Instructor: Kevin Thiel

Course Title: **Aids to Navigation Verifier PQS**

Course Description: Currently, D13 Auxiliarists have been able to complete only about 50% of the over 250 Private Aids to Navigation (PATON) and 150 bridge assignments issued annually. More participation is needed. This course can teach you how to support this important mission. You will receive essential training and some of your Aid Verifier PQS sign offs at this DTRAIN. The remainder can be completed with local, qualified Verifiers, some of which are on-water. You'll receive handouts to help you along the way. Download the Aid Verifier Study Guide, AV-PQS, and some other important items before the class. Prerequisites include: BQ or AX, ICS 100/700, Intro to Risk Management and TCT. Call or e-mail the instructor ahead of the class for details.

Days/Times: 0800 - 1200 Fri 21 Feb, 1300 - 1700 Sat 22 Feb

Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available

Instructors: Pamela Chelgren-Koterba

Course Title: **QE and Operations Workshop, Invitation Only**

Days/Times: 1400 - 1600 Fri Feb 21

Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available

Track Four – Information Systems

Course Title: **Aux 10**

Course Description: For Information Systems Officers and those wishing to serve in that capacity. Successful graduation allows approver status. This is a very rigorous course demanding good knowledge of Auxiliary programs and PQS. This is a C-School Course.

Days/Times: 0800 - 1700 Thu Feb 20 - Sun 23 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available
Instructors: National Training Staff, John Stuhr - Facilitator

[Track Five – Paddlecraft](#)

Course Title: **Paddlecraft Vessel Exams**

Course Description: Help prevent boating related fatalities. A Paddlecraft vessel exam is quite different from those we do for larger boats. Learn about the equipment requirements and safety suggestions to make sure that a day of fun on the water does not result in tragedy. As part of the the AUXPAD program offering at this DTRAIN, you'll become familiar with the recommendations from the American Canoe Association and US Coast Guard for this quickly-emerging sport, where we are seeing an upward trend in mishaps and deaths.

Day/Time: 1430 - 1630 Fri 21 Feb

Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available
Instructor: David Monteith

Course Title: **Kids Don't Float**

Course Description: We all know about “bouncing babies”, but what about floating ones? The short answer is, THEY DON'T! Unfortunately, there is a high youth drowning rate, which makes keeping kids safe around, and in the water, a key responsibility for all of us. Learn how we as Auxiliarists can make a genuine difference by joining COMO Folkerts and representatives from Alaska and Washington state agencies for a full day of in-depth safety training which includes finding out if YOU float in the pool. (Hint: if you think that means you're going to get wet, even fully clothed, YOU'RE RIGHT! So be prepared.)

Day/Time: 0800 – 1200, 1300 – 1700, Fri 21 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person, Classroom and Pool
Instructor: COMO Mike Folkerts, RBSO, District 17
Mr. Joe McCullough, Alaska State Boating Law Administrator and NASBLA Chair

Course Title: **AUXPAD**

Course Description: America's waterways are seeing more and more paddle craft of all descriptions; kayaks, canoes, stand-up paddleboards (SUP), sailboards and more. Unfortunately, many paddle craft operators are not or are at best only marginally trained in the safe operation of these watercraft, and just as unfortunately, they often show up in areas of high commercial and recreational boating traffic, thereby posing a hazard to themselves and the rest of the boating public. Do you know how to survive and recover from a rollover? How do you avoid your kayak becoming a “speed bump” for a power boat and what happens if it does? What's the best type of PFD for the different types of paddle craft? Join Chet Williams and representatives from D13 and the American Canoe Association (ACA) for an in-depth look at the burgeoning world of paddle craft. This course will teach you how to: choose the right equipment tailored to your paddling style and location; thoroughly

prepare for a safe and enjoyable paddling experience; access a variety of safety resources including online guides and in-person training opportunities; and perform more knowledgeable paddle craft vessel inspections.

Day/Time: 0800 – 1200, 1300 – 1500, Fri 21 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person, Classroom and Pool
Instructor: Chet Williams, Chief of Staff, District 17

Track Six – Communications

Course Title: **TCO (Telecommunications Operator) PQS**

Course Description: In order to serve as a radio watchstander, Auxiliaries are required to have this qualification. This course will get you signed off on the majority of your PQS.

Day/Time: 0800 - 1600 Sun 23 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available
Instructor: John Mackey

Course Title: **Setting Up a High Frequency (HF) Radio Facility**

Course Description: Learn hands-on how to set up and operate a radio station to be part of the PACAREA Emergency Comms. Advise that members taken or will take TCO and are HAM (Amateur) Radio Operators

Day/Time: 0900 - 1100 Fri 21 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available
Instructor: John Mackey

Course Title: **Using VHF for Radio Guard**

Course Description: Maintaining radio guard for surface operations is vital to ensuring the safety of our operations personnel. In areas where there is no Coast Guard presence to assume this role, Auxiliaries will need to establish a shoreside radio station to help coordinate resources in the event of an emergency. You'll learn hands-on how to do this. HAM and TCO Qualification are encouraged but not required.

Day/Time: 0800 - 0900 Fri 21 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available
Instructors: John Mackey and Dave Hansen

Course Title: **Communicating with Cutters**

Course Description: Join the digital message COMMS team with cutters at sea. Learn about recent communications tests with the Healy while it was in the arctic. This is a new program that PACAREA is seeking to grow.

Day/Time: 1400 – 1500 Fri 21 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available
Instructors: William Scholz, D11, SCPO Lesia (USCGC Healy)

Mission Specific Roundtables

Human Resources: Mrs. Bobo, Mrs. Hannibal

Member Training: Mr. Hannibal

Public Affairs and Publications: Maury Costantini and Camile Hickman

Session Description: Get together with fellow appointed officers to talk about ways to make the job easier and more successful. Explore how we can all support one another.

Date/Time: 0830 - 1030 Sun 23 Feb
Delivery Mode: In-person – Bring a laptop if available
Facilitators: DSOs and ADSOs for PA, PB, MT and HR
