

Kodiak Flotilla, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Regular Meeting
May 9, 2015
Pacific Cod Room, Commissary Building, USCG Base Kodiak

FC Wes Hanna led the meeting. Nicole Clark served as minute taker.

Also in attendance:

Darren Asuncion	Tracey Mertens	Lyle Refior	Susan Schail
Alan Kinman	Dave Hammitt	Kelly Harris	Wendy Carstens
Fran March	Joyce Blair	Jill Bunting	Joe Spear
Jeff Stewart	Paul Van Dyke	Drew Herman	

The meeting was called to order at 9:35. Darren Asuncion led the Pledge of Allegiance. Nicole Clark gave the invocation.

Visitors included Alan Kinman's daughter Emily and Steve Rennewanz.

Active Duty Update:

Tracey Mertens gave a report on the recent USCG outreach trip to the village of Ouzinkie. Alan Kinman represented the Auxiliary. Tracey created the syllabus which is now a successful blueprint for future safety awareness training. Ouzinkie community was very receptive. Steve R. mentioned the Dig Afognak camp is looking for people to do water safety/ cold water survival training - possible future collaboration.

Rescue swimmers are climbing Mt. McKinley to raise money for the Coast Guard Foundation Fallen Heroes Fund. They have a Facebook page if anyone would like to follow their updates.

Member Training:

Drew gave a presentation on America's Waterway Watch, the USCG maritime homeland security outreach program. "If you see something, say something" - the public is encouraged to report suspicious behavior on the waterfront to authorities. Would like to increase public awareness of the program.

Announcements:

Drew and Lyle will be teaching the next ABS course 5/19-20 from 5:30-9:30 p.m. in the Pacific Cod Room.

New meal prices at the galley have taken effect, price difference based on orders/not on orders.

Members are getting qualifications. We are up to nine vessel examiners and one new instructor. We have pamphlets to hand out with a space on the back to put our contact info.

The "We Don't Float" poster contest was a success. In addition to the photo in the Kodiak Daily Mirror, the press release was featured on the D17 blog and will be going into the Navigator Express. We have a strong Facebook presence right now.

Members are responding to Vito's emails requesting volunteer help, including the Sesame Street USO show and the CPOA Crab Fest turkey leg booth. We still need people to lead base tours, as the requests are coming in.

Crab Festival:

Tracey announced the CG helicopter demo, which was canceled last year, is back this year. In addition to the helicopter and rescue swimmers, they will also be doing a C-130 formation flying demonstration.

We need people for the survival suit race. Possibility may exist for a Coastie presentation. We have the ice cream coupons to hand out.

Coastie:

Upcoming appearances include 5/14 (9-10:30 @ North Star); 5/16 at the library and 5/23 at the health fair (convention center).

Accomplishments:

At its 5/7 meeting, the Kodiak Island Borough Assembly proclaimed May 17-22 National Safe Boating Week. Drew and Nicole accepted the proclamation and emphasized the fact that recreational boating deaths have gone down. However, paddle craft deaths have increased.

Mandated Training:

Wes announced there is a new way to get the mandated training done: a self-guided powerpoint with voiceover instructor. Fill out a form and send it in and you get credit for the course. We can do this in a classroom setting as well. Starting next month we will be holding a training meeting immediately following the flotilla meeting in which we will complete one of the mandated courses. The next training meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. 5/14 at the library, and we will be going over how to access the mandated training online.

Wes also announced a new set of PQS intended to give new Auxiliarists a strong foundation in general Auxiliary knowledge, currently being tested in certain districts. The PQS would take 10 weeks, after which a new member would be BQ and ideally have a better idea of what they would like to do in the Auxiliary. Would require experienced Auxiliarists to be mentors; we likely do not have enough mentors to help every new member with this process but are willing to test it out with anyone who would like to.

Meeting adjourned 10:45 a.m.