



VOLUME 1. ISSUE 3



NEWSLETTER FOR DIVISION FIVE



MARCH 2010



WORDS FROM THE COMMANDER:



We need a name for our Division Publication..... I will give \$25.00 to the lucky winner. Tony Ashlin, Jackie Garbrant and myself will choose the name that best fits. Send your names to me and I will take care of them...

Dennis Grinstead, Div. 5 Commander

Tony Ashlin , DVCDR - 5

Current progress relative to Auxiliary Business Plan, District Strategic/Operational Plans and Contingency Plans

- Mandatory Workshops have been planned division wide

Accomplishments in your Division

- Whale of a Day Pt. Vicente Lighthouse Open House
- Active participation at LA and Fred Hall Boat Shows

Program performance (not AUXDATA information)

- Whale of a Day Pt. Vicente Lighthouse Open House greeting 3500 visitors
- PA Events went well

Future plans and milestones from the Departments

- Plan to place FSO's in flotillas missing staff officers.
- Plan to actively assist flotillas in recruiting new members.

NEWS FROM THE DIVISION:



Flotilla Commanders for Division 5



John Kinner works on his inflatable facility at Point Vicente Lighthouse "Whale of a Day".



Commodore Mike Johnson & Harry Jacobs, DCOS inspect Kinner's OPFAC inflatable at the "Whale of a Day" at Point Vicente Lighthouse.

STAFF OFFICER REPORTS:

COMMUNICATION SERVICES – Dennis Grinstead

We now have a new Division 5 Web Site it is: <http://cgaux11s05.org/>, it is up and running. We can now upload photos, newsletters and other matters of interest to the Division 5 community. I will continue to update the National Web site for a few months to get everyone aboard the new site.

I am looking forward to providing the members with all the information needed to make it a good web site. If you want photos and other information posted on the website please let me know and we will make sure the information is within the guide lines of the publications manual and I

will post it. I will set up a Publications page where we can keep copies of our Division 5 monthly publications.

OPERATIONS - Karl McMillan

Current progress relative to Auxiliary Business

- Flotilla 57 – presently only 2 members are current on Coxswain/Crew qualifications. They are working on new and re-qualification of other members.

Accomplishments in your Division

- Flotilla 53 – completed 18FEB10 Noble Eagle patrol on vessel facility Tin Boat
- Flotilla 53 – completed 09MAR10 Noble Eagle patrol on vessel facility Tin Boat
- Flotilla 5-12 – completed 14MAR10 Training patrol with vessel facilities Merryot & Tolly Ho
- Flotilla 5-12 – safety patrol on 27FEB10, activated but kept in reserve by Sector LA (Chile earthquake & tsunami advisory)

Assistance required from the Coast Guard

- There is a scheduling conflict for Bldg 32 on 10 APR2010 between the Division 5 mandatory workshop training and the District 11 South S.E.T.S Safety Awareness Training session.

Future plans and milestones

- Flotilla 53 – 20MAR10 Paton Patrol on Mulermeister
- Flotilla 53 – 15APR10 Noble Eagle Patrol on Tin Boat
- Flotilla 51 – plan to begin Lake Elsinore patrols Memorial Day weekend

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - Tony Ashlin ,

Current progress relative to Auxiliary Business Plan, District Strategic/Operational Plans and Contingency Plans

- Getting the word out where I feel we can get the greatest audience with a common interest.

Accomplishments in your Division

- Whale of a Day Pt. Vicente Lighthouse Open House
- Program performance (not AUXDATA information)
- Members participated Whale of a Day Pt. Vicente Lighthouse Open House greeting 3500 visitors
- Members participated in LA Boat Show
- Members participated in Fred Hall Boat Show

Problems encountered/potential problems and suggested solutions, Action items

- Some staffing issues getting Watch Standers for LA Boat Show
- Assistance required from the Coast Guard and/or District Board
- Sent emails up the chain and to FSO PA's in Division and watch standers gaps filled.

Future plans and milestones from the Departments

- Plan to place FSO PA's in flotillas missing staff officers.
- Plan to assist in growing flotillas with recruiting releases.

3/.

PROGRAM VISITOR – Mark Oshiro

Current progress relative to Auxiliary Business Plan,

- Conducting additional PV visits of existing Partners.
- Searching for new PV Program Partners.
- Updating FSO-PVs on the progress of the visits to avoid duplicating our efforts.

Accomplishments in your Division

- Qualified a new Program Visitor from Flotilla 5-12.
- Completed 9 PV visits and updated the RBSPV Master Partners List.
- Created a new PV Brochures Pool to maintain our presence with our partners and comply with the Auxiliary's mandates to increase our efforts in this area.

Program performance (not AUXDATA information)

Proposing new ways to streamline and continue with the Auxiliary's mandates to increase our efforts of spreading boating safety to the general public.

Problems encountered/potential problems

Shortages of PV brochures due to rampant budget cuts by the State of CA and other publishers of PV materials.

Possible solutions are: pooling of existing brochures among the FSO-PVs in this Division and possibly other Divisions and also to look for alternative sources of PV materials.

- Delay in qualifying new Program Visitors as a result of the long wait for their qualifications to be reflected by Diraux. Possible solution is to obtain a waiver from the Chain of Leadership and Management allowing new Program Visitors to continue on with future PV visits prior to receiving their qualification certificates from Diraux given the long delay.

Assistance required from the Coast Guard and/or District Board

- Requested assistance from the DSO-PV regarding the possible waivers for new Program Visitors from the Chain of Leadership and Management.

Future plans and milestones from the Departments

- Updating the National RBS Visitation Program Master Partners List by June 1st.
- Assist in the qualification process of new Program Visitors.
- Look for alternative sources of PV brochures and other materials.
- Continue with new PV visits.

PUBLIC EDUCATION – Gary Norgaard

- As I am sure you are aware, the scheduled mandatory workshops for all disciplines, on 10 April has been cancelled due to losing Lighthouse room (bld. 32). With few open dates I have secured the Lighthouse room for Sunday 11 April 2010 from 0800 to 1600. I will accommodate, prior to June, another workshop. Please give this change the widest distribution.

0830 – TCT

0945 – Operations

1100 – Instructor

1300 – Vessel Examinations

1415 – Marine Dealer Visitor

- I am proud to be a member of Division 5. The spirit of working together is strong and well. Last week I found the class at Cabrillo Marina was without an Instructor. Tony Ashlin and Bob Vatz came forward and did an outstanding job, on short notice. **BRAVO-ZULU!**
- Flotilla 5-3 - ABS class – 6 students, all passed.
- Flotilla 5-10 – ABS class – 10 students – 10 passed.
- Flotilla 5-10 – Working on two new instructors.
- Flotilla 5-13 – ABS class – 55 students all passed.
BS&S with 55 students ongoing.
BS&S with 10 students ongoing.

VESSEL EXAMINATIONS - Geoffrey Emery,

Current progress relative to Auxiliary Business Plan,

- A number of flotillas in the Division are actively planning VE events in the next several months and various Marinas from Long Beach to Cabrillo in San Pedro. More details to follow.

Accomplishments in your Division

- 12 Vessel Exams have been accomplished year to date
200 VE stickers are on hand and available for distribution
- 25 VE stickers have been distributed to Lee Anthony
- Various educational materials have been received for the USCG supply center

Problems encountered/potential problems

- Some delay was experienced in getting materials in house this has been resolved
- 8 Flotillas have failed to report in.

Assistance required

- We have more materials on order and expect delivery soon.

Future plans and milestones from the Departments

- A number of flotillas in the Division are actively planning VE events in the next several months and various Marinas from Long Beach to Cabrillo in San Pedro. More details to follow.
- I expect to reach out more often to the Flotilla VE's

NEWS FROM THE FLOTILLAS:

Flotilla 5-3– Donn Kirby, FC

Current progress relative to Auxiliary Business Plan,

- Workshops planned with one completed already

Accomplishments in your Flotilla

- Three members stood watch at Fred hall fishing show

Program performance (not AUXDATA information)

- VE and PA day planned for 27MAR at Davies Launch Ramp, Long Beach

4/.

Problems encountered/potential problems

- Need procedure for members wishing to give up qualifications

Future plans and milestones

- Mentoring of 3 new members ongoing at this time

Flotilla 54 – Evertte Harper, FC

Current progress to Business Plan, etc.

- Three potential new members in process.
- Two potential transfers attending Flotilla meetings.
- Mentors for new members.

Accomplishments in Flotilla

- Participated in Point Vicente Whale of a Day PA event.
- Members stood booth watch at Fred hall boat Show.
- VE's publicized in Cabrillo Marina newsletter.

Future plans and milestones

- Increase participation by members as VE & Instructors.

Flotilla 05-07 – John Kinner, FC

- Commodores goals discussed.
- Whale of a Day at Point Vicente – 6 March
- Two members (John Kinner & Ruben Figueroa) will stand watch at Fred Hall Fishing & Tackle show 3/3-3/7.
- Flotilla decided to wear Tropical Blue Uniform to meetings .
- Flotilla Crew Class continues.
- Still looking for a venue to teach BS&S class.
- Flotilla 05-07 has been busy preparing for and presenting all these mandatory workshops with little time for anything else.
- We are concerned that no information was received via the telephone tree concerning the earthquake in Chili and the tsunami warning broadcast by the Coast Guard.
- Member training is underway in an effort to get some of our members status out of REYR.
- Member Training – 1 hour Operations Workshop
- Next meeting 25 March.

Flotilla 5-9 Rose Castrobran, FC

Current progress relative to Business Plan

Currently planning VE events for Spring/Summer 2010 including VE pushes and NSBW activities primarily in Cabrillo/San Pedro areas, but also to include Castaic/Pyramid lakes.

Accomplishments in Flotilla

- 22 VE's performed since beginning of year. Have received our allotment of VSC decals and new material.
- 16 Flotilla members participated in Whale of a Day/with VFC bringing helo to Pt. Vicente.

- Had a training session on how to apply/attend C schools and Training on new forms for reporting hours.

Assistance Required

- **Funeral** for member Ryan Farhand on 18 March at 1330 hrs. Div 5 members encouraged to attend.

Future Plans

- 5 members will be attending C Schools.

Flotilla 5-11– Geoff Emery, FC

Current progress relative to Auxiliary Business Plan,

- Moving forward with a committee to develop and implement strategies to promote and emphasize National Safe Boating Week in the South Bay area.
- Statistics distributed and rationale for the week given to committee members:
- H. Bodkin, A. Curran, M. Drouillard, M. Emery, M. Haynes, chairperson
- Plans to reserve space at Cabrillo Marina, Wal-Mart and/or Del Amo mall for the establishment of a PA booth for information on boating safely and enrollment in PE classes to be conducted by the Flotilla/Division during the weeks prior to May 22-28.
- A CME blitz at Cabrillo Marina during the weekend of May 22
- Giving assistance to the Immediate Past Division Commodore to complete plans for the Division Awards Brunch
- 4 qualified/certified instructors at flotilla level

Accomplishments in your Division

- Establishment of PA officer for our flotilla.
- Completion of Aux 12 C-School by the officer during 2009

Assistance required

- Coordination/promotion of interaction of activities within the District of PA officers of various flotillas to implement strong training programs for recreational boating public

Future plans and milestones

- To have a cadre of instructors willing to develop and implement a group of courses for boating safety for the general public. Said classes would include but not be limited to GPS, Boating Safely, Boat handling procedures

Conducted ODU uniform training for new and existing members at our February meeting.

Reports were given on the following subjects:

1. The Coast Guard search for a crewman missing from the Cruise Ship Pacific Venus enroute to Japan
2. The resume of Rear Adminal Joseph Castillo
3. A report on Coast Guard Ice Breakers working on the St. Clair River
4. The sinking of a Barge in Seattle on February 23
5. USCG Helicopter Tactical ops in Jacksonville Florida. Plans were discussed for VE and PA activities going forward.

Next month Radio Watch Training.

5/.

Flotilla 5-12 Edward Green, FC

Current progress relative to Business Plan, etc.

- Progressing with membership growth and retention programs.

Accomplishments in Flotilla

- Participated in Pt. Vicente Lighthouse day. VE pushes set for 2010m new VE examiners in **progress**

Programs performance

- Increasing activity by new members in SO position

Problems encountered/potential problems & solutions

- Strong debate over fees for education programs – solved by creating a committee of members that felt strongly, held meeting and were able to mediate issues very successfully

Future Plans

- Increased activity in multiple areas to include training new instructors and VE's.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT:

INFORMATION SERVICES – Ken Edwards, DSO-IS

Current progress relative to Auxiliary Business Plan,

- Improving reporting system consistent with Comodore's Goals

Accomplishments in your Department

- The 2009 REYR List has been forwarded to each individual Division listing all members in their Division who failed to meet the minimum requirements in the competencies they participate in. Rework on the REYR lists have already started by some members. As a reminder, for a member to have the REYR flag removed, they must send me a copy of the proper reporting form showing they have resolved the discrepancy. With that copy, I can reset their status and make them Certified to continue in that discipline for 2010.

Problems encountered/potential problems

- Since the FSO-IS Officers and members are now allowed to update their personal information in Auxdata, many are not including the Plus Four in the Zip Code changes. Additional training in this area is

recommended by the SO-IS Officer. Also, many members are still confused about how to properly fill in this complete new 7029 area is ongoing.

Assistance required from the Coast Guard

- The IS Department needs a District Policy established covering Timely Data Submittal.

TCT I HOUR COURSE

The relevant 2010 facilitator and participant documents, as well as the 2010 workshop PowerPoint Presentation for **Team Coordination refresher training** are now available for download on the [surface operations page](#). The training is mandatory for all coxswains, crew, and PWC operators, before December 31, 2010. [Posted: 20 Feb 10]

2010 The PowerPoint Presentation for the D11S Surface Operations Workshop, first presented at the 2010 District conference, is now available for download on the [surface operations page](#). The workshop is mandatory for all members involved in surface operations, and must be completed before 15 July 2010. [Posted: 05 Mar 10]

MONIES FROM PE COURSES:

There seems to be some discussion as to how much can be charged for a Public Education Class and how the money may be used. Following are the Auxiliary Manual provisions regarding course fees, their identification, collection, and use.

Based on the information contained in the Manual I believe that funds derived from Public Education courses may be used for goods and materials having to do with the conduct of the course (projector, laptop, marker board, screen, paper and pens for students, etc.), the comfort of the student (food, snacks, beverages), and publicity (mementos to students, fliers, advertising etc.). In addition, materials to further the overall work of the Flotilla may be purchased such as items to assist the Flotilla in conducting Vessel Safety Checks that provide visibility to the boating public and/or safety and comfort to the members who are participating such as a table for pamphlets, chairs, ice chest and water, and an awning or "pop-up" tent for shade from the sun.

If you disagree with my analysis OR if you have a specific question concerning the use of PE funds, please send it to me and I will get a response for you.

L.1 Custodial Fees – When PE courses are conducted in buildings whose management charges the Auxiliary custodial or rental fees, Auxiliarists must inform students that the Auxiliary is not charging for instructing the course. Such fees should be properly labeled as, "custodial fees". The fees must be kept separate, both for accounting poses and physically, from any collections for texts and other ma

6/.

terials. When custodial fees become too costly, flotillas should make every effort to re-locate to a classroom site with little or no cost.

L.2. Course Material Fees – When conduct of a PE course involves texts or training aide that become student property, the purchase of these materials must not be mandatory. The purchase of course materials must not be a condition of class attendance. Attending class without purchasing materials must not be termed auditing, nor will course completion certificates earned by students through satisfactory class attendance, homework preparation, and passing of an exam, as may be required of the class, be withheld for not purchasing materials, but an examination and certificate fee may be charged. Course texts, aids, and related items may be sold to students at the fair market driven prices.

L.3. Administrative Fees – Administrative fees are used to support various authorized Auxiliary programs and may be added to textbook costs. These fees support purchase of teaching aids such as pencils, paper, projectors, bulbs, screens, and miscellaneous audio-visual or operational equipment. The collected fees shall not be used for any flotilla social functions.

L.4. Registration Fees - Some classes are conducted as part of organized adult education programs which require the collection of registration fees. This fact must be amply advertised in the advance course publicity. The Flotilla Staff officer – Finance (FSO-FN) shall collect and deposit these fees to the flotilla treasury for furtherance of Auxiliary programs. Such funds shall not be used for flotilla social activities. Some programs are established where payment must be given to course sponsors or instructors as wages. In this case, the Auxiliary will arrange for the institution to keep the payment as an Auxiliary donation.

L.5. Remuneration – Auxiliary instructors serve as volunteers, therefore, they and their units are prohibited from collecting or receiving any compensation for compensation for their services performed as an Auxiliarist.

L.6. Course Surcharges – In some instances, units are adding surcharges to the costs of PE materials in addition to the administrative fee to support other Auxiliary programs such as AIM. Such surcharges should be added to the administrative fee and not separately advertised. A small, general increase to the course materials costs is the preferred method of supporting other programs..

L.7. Prohibited Use of Fees – Funds collected from the

sale of public education materials may not be used for social activities. Funds may be used to support all other authorized activities conducted independent of the course.

Victoria Jacobs, DSO PE,

District 11S Auxiliaries Patricia C. Swope (Flotilla 65, Santa Ana) has been singled out by the Coast Guard as a "**Coast Guard Hero**". See this [article about Pat](#), excerpted from the [United States Coast Guard 2010 Posture Statement](#). [Posted: 15 Mar 10]



Auxiliarist Patricia C. Swope

Coast Guard Auxiliarist Patricia C. Swope has displayed perseverance and dedication to serve the greater good of others for nearly 30 years earning her the nickname of "AUXMom." Ms. Swope has volunteered more than 14,800 hours of service (equal to more than seven years of full-time work) providing administrative support to 1,800 Auxiliarists who support the Coast Guard in her region. Ms. Swope has also logged many hours as a communications watch stander for Coast Guard Station Los Angeles and has served as a qualification examiner for the Auxiliary Boat Crew Qualification Program and as a team coordination training instructor not only for the Auxiliary but also for many Coast Guard active duty units. Ms. Swope has served in several elected offices including flotilla commander, division captain, and rear commodore. She currently serves as chair of the District Training Conference Committee and as president of the Past Captains Association. With an ever-present smile, Ms. Swope has been an outstanding mentor to the entire Auxiliary chain of leadership from new enrollees to District Commodores and Directors of Auxiliary.

NEWS FROM NATIONAL:

Division Honor Guard Receives Award The Honor Guard was inaugurated in September 2008. They recently received a Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation that stated, "The Honor Guard team has exhibited the highest degree of commitment and professionalism while performing drill and ceremony duties across the Seventh District." Read about the team that performed in support of several high-profile events, now on [SITREP](#), the Auxiliary's National e-magazine. [Posted: Feb 22, 2010. Source: Mel Borofsky, Editor SITREP]

American Safe Boating Campaign begins soon.

Less than two weeks until the "Wear It!" Free Resources will be available! On March 1, 2010 the North American Safe Boating Campaign will once again be offering Free Campaign Resources to help with your RBS promotion efforts. Visit their Resource Warehouse (www.BoatingOrders.com) to order resources including the 2010 campaign poster, stickers, and great educational brochures from our member organizations. Also be on the lookout in the next few weeks for the 2010 Campaign Press Kit. The Press Kit will be available online at www.SafeBoatingCampaign.com and will include helpful information like sample Press Releases, newly-released USCG Accident Statistics, and customizable PSAs to use to promote your National Safe Boating Week (May 22 – 28, 2010) efforts in your area! [Posted: Feb 26, 2010. Source: William Griswold, BC-BLN]



NEWS - By Harriet Howard, Special Assistant for NSBW

The first National Safe Boating Week Proclamation was signed by President Dwight Eisenhower in 1956, specifying the week including July 4th as National Safe Boating Week. In 1995, the date was changed to the seven-day period immediately prior to Memorial Day. This year NSBW will be celebrated May 22-28.

Thirty to 45 days before the annual event, contact your governor, mayor or other dignitaries to request them to sign a National Safe Boating Week Proclamation. Follow up with a letter or phone call to the politician's staff as a reminder. Ideally, the Proclamation should be presented

during the week of May 22-28.

The National Safe Boating Council is offering us a sample NSBW Proclamation to download from their campaign website: www.safeboatingcampaign.com. Go to the "Communications" category on the "Site Index" and click on "Proclamation". Adapt the document to fit the needs of your particular community. Request the elected official to fill the blank and sign it. In the Proclamation, stress the importance of taking a boating safety class, getting a vessel safety check and above all, wearing a life jacket when aboard.

Remember to post your PA events and planned NSBW activities in the campaign website. Also, please send me your brief write-ups and photos of your NSBW events by June 10t, at harriethoward@speakeasy.net. They may be considered by the editor of the Navigator for inclusion in the NSBW issue. Be a star in the Auxiliary firmament.

National Testing Center

The National Testing Center (NTC) and USCG Auxiliary Virtual Classroom (MOODLE) have been restored. Those training opportunities, along with others, are available on the eLearning site:

<http://www.cgaux.org/training/TETTraining.html> [Posted: Feb 25, 2010. Source: Irene Wetzel, Acting DIR-I]

REYR VS MISSIONS DATED 31 DEC

All:

There have been some instances that members go into REYR when a mission is dated 31 December. For some reason, the system does not always pick up a mission dated 31 December for that calendar year; and therefore may cause the member to go REYR. If you have this situation, change the date of the 31st mission to the 30th and see if that will solve the situation. I believe the situation has something to do with the Zulu conversion time but do not remember the exact cause which was determined a year ago January but evidently has never been resolved.

Try to get your members to submit their forms in a more timely manner especially when their currency maintenance is at risk.

Marilyn

BoatU.S. Foundation Now Rents GPS-enabled EPIRBs.

The BoatU.S. Foundation has rented out EPIRBs more than 5,000 times over the past 14 years, with 62 lives saved. Now the Foundation has added GPIRBs (Global Position Indicating Radio Beacons) to the program. These GPIRBs are easier to ship and store, and provide a more accurate location fix - potentially leading to speedier rescues. The new GPIRBs are available at:

8/.

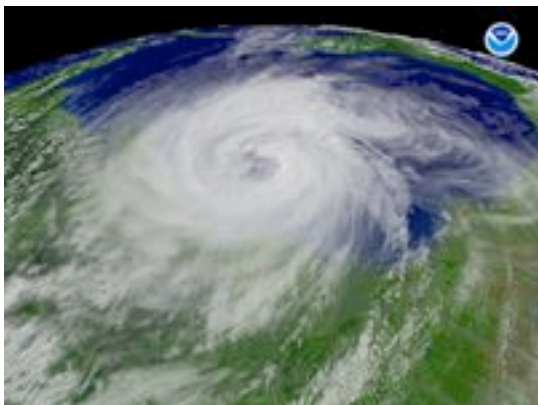
www.BoatUS.com/Foundation/epirb for just \$65 a week. The program offers McMurdo Smartfind Plus GPS-enabled EPIRBs. Since these include GPS technology in addition to the standard 406-MHz satellite signaling capabilities, they provide search and rescue authorities with a more accurate location of a vessel in distress. Compared to standard EPIRBs, these new models also enable rescuers to respond sooner. The new GPIRBs are stored in a small "lunch box" size, waterproof case that makes it easier to stow aboard in more readily accessible locations. If you order by 2 PM E.T., the GPIRB is on its way the same day. An easy online booking system at www.BoatUS.com/Foundation/epirb allows users to save their vessel and contact information for future use, or make changes to their itinerary if needed. [Posted: Feb 25, 2010. Source: Bruce White, BC-BLB]

NATIONAL AUXCHEF PROGRAM APPROVED BY FC-5

The AuxChef Program has been approved by FC-5. The new AuxChef Guide will be available shortly, and all training classes will proceed as planned. For details on this great program, please contact DVC-AuxChef Russ Venti venti@bkmsd.com (West Coast) and BC- Ron Ellis rae-graph@msn.com (East Coast) [Posted: Feb 23, 2010. Source: Dante J.Laurino ANACO-RS]

New Errata Sheet Posted for Boating Skills & Seamanship, 13th Edition

A revised errata sheet has been posted to the E-Library Resource Center for BS&S, 13 Edition. Updates include changes to a Chapter 4 review question and Chapter 5 graphic corrections. To view the errata sheet, go to the E-Library Resource Center under the BS&S chapter downloads or directly by clicking [here](#). [Posted: Feb 27, 2010. Source: Anne R. Lockwood, DIR-E]



New Hurricane scale from NOAA's National Weather Service

NOAA's National Weather Service has announced it will

use a new hurricane scale this season called the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. [See additional information on the Response - Incident Management News page at this link.](#) [Posted: Feb 27, 2010. Source: Murrianna K. Thomson BA-PA, OIM]

Education Connection Posted

Read the latest update about the NEW Paddlesports America Course in the March edition of the "Education Connection", the E-Department newsletter. Other articles include tips on Differential Instruction, an ABS success story, and "The Learning Corner" reporter discusses Plankton. [Posted: Mar 1, 2010. Source: Anne R. Lockwood, DIR-E]

2010 Vessel Safety Checks underway

With the arrival of the new orange Vessel Safety Check decals, Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Examiners have taken to boat ramps and marinas with a fresh vigor toward promoting recreational boating safety. Read one examiner's techniques, now on [SITREP](#), the Auxiliary's National e-magazine. [Posted: Mar 1, 2010. Source: Mel Borofsky, Editor SITREP]

National Testing Center Information

NTC Process- As you know there have been significant changes made to the National Testing Center. Below is the new process. This document was prepared and reviewed by: Gail Venezia, DIR-T, DIR-CTO Bill Pritchard, and DIR-CTOD Alex Proven. There are several different ways to utilize NTC (National Testing Center)

1- Member or student wishes to take an online test. The student or member signs on using their standard e-directory password. They pick the test they need. Once the test is completed the student's test results will be displayed. If any questions are missed, the student will be given the opportunity to review the missed questions.

2- Taking a test with a Proctor (AUXOP and Initial Nav Rules Test need a proctor.) After the student selects the desired test from the catalog, the student will see an instruction page. A login screen will be displayed for the proctor if one is required. Once the proctor has logged in, the test will proceed. (Note: The system does not permit the proctor to self administer tests.)

3- Public Affairs Tests- Are not ready yet. We expect this to be ready shortly. When any member takes any test and passes the test, the member or test taker will get an e-mail sent to their e-mail address that is currently listed in AUXDATA. That email will have a link that allows the recipient to verify the legitimacy of the email. Every Monday the following actions happen:

- **Test data is sent to OSC Martinsburg.** The information is batched and then sent to AUXDATA. The same information is sorted by District and sent to the test takers Director's Office. Director's Office gets the same e-mail information and the link the member gets. The Director

9/.

can print a certificate if they so desire. DSO-MT's get the same information as the Director. Information is also available in the Auxiliary Officer and a member can re-print or print a new certificate here as well. (Certificates are not yet ready) <https://auxofficer.cgaux.org>

At the time of this writing, (Feb. 21) the program performs the following tasks:

- 1-** Allow members to login to NTC using eDirectory for user authentication.
- 2-** Presents the user with a catalog along with the date and score of any tests taken (under the New NTC only). Tests taken since 2007 are viewable in a member's detail screen at <https://auxofficer.cgaux.org>.
- 3-** Requests a proctor login for any tests that require proctors.
- 4-** Provides immediate score, review of missed questions, database recording of test results, email notification of appropriate officers. Existing Operational Issues: Currently, from NTC2, emails are being rejected from at least AOL and Comcast (there may be others). The reason for the email rejection is due to a large number of reported spam emails from that address. NTC can report back on rejected emails. We can then deal with these issues as they arise by sending an email to the rejecting agency and requesting that block is lifted. Currently Working Issues: DIR-CTO and DIR-CTOD are currently working on a special login page for proctors that will allow them to "sign-out" a test sheet and answer key for a member when they are unable to take computer based tests. The program will facilitate proctors being able to "sign-in" the test results in order that the test is recorded for notification of appropriate officers. Certificates are being formatted and will be ready to add to program soon. [Posted: Feb 28, 2010. Source: Gail Venezia, DIR-T]



Attendance Overview

The theme for NACON 2010 is

Leadership, Performance, and Readiness.

NACON2010 The NACON 2010 page is now online at www.cgauxa.org/nacon. Addition information and registration details for NACON 2010 will continue to be added as they become available. Significant updates will result in additional announcements posted here. [Posted: Mar 4, 2010. Source: Bill Pritchard]

To: DHS-ALL

Subject: MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY NAPOLITANO: THE DEPARTMENT'S SEVEN-YEAR ANNIVERSARY -013/10

March 1, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

Today, we celebrate an important milestone in the history of our Department: our seven-year anniversary.

Seven years ago today, 22 federal agencies and offices joined together to form the Department of Homeland Security, and to begin the important work of securing our country against a new era of threats.

I am proud of what we have achieved together in support of our vital missions - guarding against terrorism and other threats; securing our land, air and maritime borders; enforcing our immigration laws; protecting cyber space and critical infrastructure; and ensuring resilience to disasters.

Through One DHS, we're building a more efficient, capable, and collaborative Department. This work continues as we roll out our new Department-wide intranet site, Connect, at:

<http://dhsconnect.dhs.gov> - it is a powerful tool in bringing our many components together.

As we look forward to this year and beyond, I am proud of the publication of our first-ever Quadrennial Homeland Security Review, which, as a result of the contributions of literally thousands of DHS employees, provides a clear path to ensuring a more secure and resilient future for our Nation.

At the core of these successes are all of you - our DHS employees. You are the Department's greatest assets and the reason for our remarkable progress over the past seven years. I thank you again for your hard work, for your commitment to the Department, and for your service to our country.

Yours very truly,
Janet Napolitano

10/.

Commissioning of United States Coast Guard Cutter Waesche

The Waesche (to be stationed at CGI) is the second ship in a new class of National Security Cutters, the first being the Bertholf (also stationed at Alameda). She is a state-of-the-art 418-foot vessel supported by a crew of about 110, and will be commissioned in Alameda, California at Coast Guard Island on May 7, 2010. Learn more about this historic event, visit <http://www.uscgcwaesche.com/> [Posted: Mar 2, 2010. Source: Irene Wetzel, DIR-I]

Education Connection Posted

Read the latest update about the NEW Paddlesports America Course in the March edition of the "Education Connection", the E-Department newsletter. Other articles include tips on Differential Instruction, an ABS success story, and "The Learning Corner" reporter discusses Plankton. [Posted: Mar 1, 2010. Source: Anne R. Lockwood, DIR-E]

To: ALAUX

From: CHDIRAUX

Subj: Auxiliary use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's) -014/10

1. CG-5421 and CG-112 recognize the unique skills Auxiliarists bring to the table. While trying to take full advantage of the medical skills many Auxiliarist possess we need those patrolling with AED's to be in full compliance with State and Federal standards. Since there is no Coast Guard wide AED program, individual units must know, and comply with, the State and Federal guidelines. This message corrects and clarifies information distributed through ALAUX 001/06 in regards to the Auxiliary's use of AED's.

2. Units that do procure AEDs for use in a Public Access Defibrillation program (PAD) (read 'Public Access' broadly as in the device may be used on the public and not limited as only when left unsecured where the public can access it) must comply with the federal guidelines for such programs including the requirement for a Medical Director. The Medical Director, a licensed physician, is by Federal law required to oversee the AED's maintenance program and ensure all users are properly certified. States differ on the interpretation of "oversee" from being directly involved and hands on to being able to delegate some of the tasks but none of the responsibility. A Coast Guard Medical Officer may be utilized as a Medical Director but there is no obligation for the officer to do so. If the Medical Facility chooses not to accept the added responsibility the purchasing unit will have to contract a physician to oversee the program. Any PAD program that is created locally will have to have an SOP that is within those guidelines.

3. Any Auxiliarist who is currently certified by the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, or American Safety & Health Institute to use an AED (defibrillator) is authorized to do so on anyone indicating need of an AED. If that certification has expired, however, an AED should not be used. After initial certification, those personnel who have taken the AED Provider course are required to recertify every 2 years. The training must be hands on. On-line training is not acceptable.

4. An Auxiliarist or a flotilla that has an AED that is not part of a maintenance program overseen by a Medical Director is prohibited from being used or taken on patrol. Order Issuing Authorities and DIRAUX's must ensure Auxiliarists that patrol or travel on orders with an AED are certified to use it and the AED is part of a PAD maintenance program. For example, a member who has an AED as part of a medical kit for his/her job as an EMT with the local Fire Department most likely has an AED that is part of a State compliant program and is perfectly acceptable.

5. Any Flotilla wishing to purchase AEDs for use by currently certified members is authorized to do so but it may not be used until part of a compliant PAD maintenance program. There are no specific models required or recommended. The environment the AEDs will be used in should dictate the models used on surface facilities (waterproof models are very difficult to find).

6. Coast Guard units are not prohibited from purchasing AED's using local funds. If a Coast Guard unit purchases an AED, the unit is entirely responsible for its storage, issuance, use, and maintenance until properly transferred or disposed of IAW the Property Manual. The AED shall not be issued until part of a compliant PAD maintenance program.

New e-mail for National Testing Center Help Desk & Proctor info!

If you are needing help from the National Testing Center please do not use the ntchelp@auxtdept.org e-mail address. If you use this old address you will not get any help. This link is no longer in use as we do not have access to this old e-mail account. Help Desk for National Training Center The correct one is admin@ntc.cgaux.org. Also Note: Send all PROCTOR REQUESTS to admin@ntc.cgaux.org [Posted: Mar 5, 2010. Source: Gail Venezia-DIR-T]

The March 2010 issue of the Interpreter Corps Newsletter is now available [Posted: Mar 5, 2010. Source: Wayne Spivak, Chief Comms International Affairs]

11/.

Uniform Distribution Center

(UDC) shipping update Auxiliary members may at the present time still order one set of ODU's from the UDC in Woodbine, NJ. Some members have requested FED EX shipping. This is not available. UDC ships no charge and we must follow their shipping procedures. [Posted: Mar 7, 2010. Source: Joseph G. O'Leary Director of Human Resources]

NEW AUXCHEF PAGE ON THE NATIONAL HUMAN RESOURCE WEBSITE

The National AuxChef Program has a new webpage. It will keep all AuxChef's updated on program details and classes scheduled around the country. If you are interested in becoming a certified AuxChef contact Division Chief Russ Venti at: rventi@bkmsd.com [Posted: Mar 8, 2010. Source: Dante J.Laurino ANACO-RS]

2010 National Boy Scout Jamboree

CHDIRAUX released ALAUX "2010 National Scout Jamboree - 08/10" on 23 January reporting that a Coast Guard Task Force has been developed to coordinate Coast Guard support to the Joint Task Force (military and other agencies) for the upcoming 2010 National Scout Jamboree (to be held at Fort AP Hill, VA / 26 July - 04 August). The Coast Guard Task Force will consist of approx 200 active duty, reserve, retired, civilian, and Auxiliary personnel (approx 65 Auxiliarists will participate). This will be a very special Jamboree, since 2010 is the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts Of America.

- Additional positions for Auxiliarists are still available, but the billets are filling up fast. Auxiliarists who have a scouting background, especially those who are Eagle Scouts are needed to serve in the Coast Guard exhibit area as well as the Merit Badge Midway and other mission areas.
- All Coast Guard Task Force members will be required to provide a copy of orders when checking in at the Jamboree site. The Chief Director has provided information to all DIRAUX' concerning orders. Orders should cover from 24 July to 5 August and include the words "2010 NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE" in the subject line. Participating Auxiliarists have their Aux ID card as well as their orders with them when they report to the site.
- Travel costs to/from the Jamboree sight will be borne by each Auxiliary member. Coast Guard Task Force Auxiliary Liaison is Bill Reisa, CGNSJTF@msn.com or 317-509-2398. [Posted: Mar 10, 2010. Source: Tom Nunes, DIR-Ad]

National Awards Application Deadline

May 31, 2010

The National Awards Committee is responsible for soliciting nominees for each of the three National Awards for the year 2009, sponsored by Boat/US, Marine Retailers Association, and National Boating Federation. Boat/US recognizes the top Flotilla of the Year Award. Competition is in all areas of Activity, The Marine Retailers Association recognizes the Best Flotilla in the Nation for Vessel Safety Checks by Vessel Examiners and Marine Dealer Visits by Program Visitors. The National Boating Federation recognizes the Best Flotilla in the Nation in Public Education. Flotillas can submit a nomination via their Flotilla Commander, Division Commander, and the District Commodore who will in turn submit the nomination to me, Rick Ives (Chairman) of the Awards Committee. The winners will be announced at NACON in Scottsdale, Arizona, August 2010. We hope we will be swamped with a flood of nominations. Don't Delay entry deadline is May 31, 2010. We are all members of a Flotilla, imagine how disappointed you and your fellow Flotilla members would be if your Flotilla was qualified for a National Award and no one submitted an application. Applications are available on the NAC website. www.cgaux.org/nac Rick Ives, Chairman National Awards Committee [Posted: Mar 10, 2010. Source: Rick Ives, President, National Association of Comm]

About Boating Safely Test

The About Boating Safely test has now been translated into Spanish. It is available from AUXCEN upon request. [Posted: Mar 11, 2010. Source: Anne R. Lockwood, DIR-E]

Reporting National Testing Center (NTC) Problems!

If you experience any technical difficulty in using NTC or you are in need of help from the National Testing Center you should direct your request to the e-mail link below. This should be the only link you use. We want all requests to go to one location only! This will allow everyone at the National level to see all issues and track how these requests are being handled and how quickly they are being resolved. Help Desk for National Training Center is: admin@ntc.cgaux.org [Posted: Mar 12, 2010. Source: Gail Venezia, DIR-T]

For Safety's Sake, Volume II - 2010

The newest edition of For Safety's Sake, Volume II - 2010 has been released. This new issue was released on March 15th and is available for downloading from the V Departments Newsletter page at <http://safetyseal.net/Newsletters/>. In this issue is: 2009 Performance, Boating Safety Resource Center, Digital Select Calling Radios, Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program Guide, Opportunities with Sea Scouts and Boy Scouts of America, VSC Mega Weeks and Download

your copy and pass it on to your associates after you've read it. [Posted: Mar 15, 2010. Source: P. Urgola, Director V-Dept]

Reducing the Number of Powerless Boaters: BoatU.S. Towing Requests Due to Battery Problems Spiked in 2009 Vessel Examiners and PE Instructors may want to highlight battery maintenance and management this season. According to BoatU.S. Towing Services, battery problems have jumped from the fourth-ranked reason for requesting towing services to the second, just behind general engine failures. (Groundings, fuel problems, and propulsion system failures are the remaining top-five reasons.) There was an 8% overall increase in towing requests in 2009, according to Jerry Cardarelli, BoatU.S. Vice President of Towing Services. He attributes this increase to the recession, which has led "many boaters to skimp on routine maintenance, which always means more on-the-water breakdowns." Boaters with battery problems reported that they "forgot to monitor their battery's charge level, delayed replacing a poorly-performing battery, or substituted a less expensive starting battery when a deep-cycle was needed." They also inadvertently drained their batteries by running audio systems, refrigerators, and fans. Auxiliarists can help reduce the number of battery problems boaters suffer by adding some discussion about battery maintenance during a Vessel Safety Check. Asking boaters if they know how old their batteries are, whether they are starting or deep-cycle, and what was done with them during the off-season will quickly reveal potential problems. PE Instructors can help boaters avoid finding themselves in powerless situations by explaining the basics of battery management during safe boating courses. [Posted: Mar 15, 2010. Source: Bruce White, BC-BLB]

Paddlesports America - Now Available

Celebrate the arrival of spring by launching the 2010 boating season teaching the new Paddlesports America course to our newest budding audience – novice canoeists and kayakers. It is NOW ready and available for ORDER as an Auxiliary approved course. Materials may NOW be ordered through the District's normal ordering procedure. The order number is 1PA-10150. Supporting materials – PowerPoint Presentations and Chapter Summaries – are available for download on the E-Library Resource Center. The course has been added to the 7023 Form – Intent to Teach as code – PA. When submitting the final Course Completion on Form 7030, the mission code for Paddlesports America is 14J. Reach out and help save the lives of all recreational boaters by including the kayakers and canoeists. Click [here](#) for the PowerPoint presentation [Posted: Mar 16, 2010. Source: Anne R. Lockwood, DIR-E]

I Department Teams with CTO Department to Provide Technical Services

Information Technology Department is now aligned with the CTO Department to provide greater technology services. The I Department Member Services Division is now the primary support for unit websites as the Unit Web Support Division with only minor alignment of positions. Web Presence, Hosting Services, and Legacy Divisions remain as established. The Application Development Division now resides in the CTO Department and Project Management Division is reorganized with new roles.

Jointly, I Department and CTO Department form a strong team under the CIO umbrella for technical project development and implementation. There is now a plan in place for the two departments to work together in providing products, which will be well planned, tested, and provide user support. CIO Team customers are those within the Auxiliary: membership, units, and national entities. I Department is responsible for the technical services and will move forward to provide smooth sailing with new technical development.

To that end, there are two new divisions within I Department. User Support Division does the initial project planning, beta testing, and maintains a Help Desk. The second new division is Data Base Administration to establish and maintain databases, which will provide functionality of data now and in the future. We will need new staff to provide these services. This new project protocol will create an environment for moving technology forward in the Auxiliary.

Additional Information: *Technical Project Planning* and *Project Planning Graphic Display*

Team Coast Guard - Training Together

Recently, four Auxiliarists completed a Minor Aids Technician class alongside seven active duty members of the Aids to Navigation Team (ANT) at Milford Haven, CT. Auxiliarists spent four days in classroom and hands-on instruction learning how to service Aids to Navigation. When fully qualified they will assist their local teams in servicing these aids. Read about this class and its possibilities, now on SITREP, the Auxiliary's National e-magazine. [Posted: Mar 16, 2010. Source: Mel Borofsky, Editor SITREP]



An Irish Friendship Wish

*May there always be work for your hands to do;
May your purse always hold a coin or two;
May the sun always shine on your windowpane;
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;
May the hand of a friend always be near you;
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.*

**DEPARTMENT OF HOME LAND SECURITY
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
U S COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
SO PB 5
1510 RANDALL WAY
WEST COVINA, CA 91790**

TO SEND REPORTS OR INFORMATION

J. Garrabrant, Editor

E-mail – jg13aux@aol.com

Fax: (626)-960-5459

NEXT DIVISION MEETING

20 APRIL 2010

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

“SEMPER PARATUS”



MARCH 19 2010

BUD LATHROP, ADSO PB

“WHALE OF A DAY AT POINT VICENTE LIGHTHOUSE”

