
EIGHT



BELLS

**Monthly Voice of USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 14-8 Jacksonville, Florida
Seventh Coast Guard District**

Volume XXXV No. 3

March 2009



**4 New members take their Oath as USCG Auxiliarist
from left to right in Michael Morgan, Michael Hagan, Amanda Reese and Paul Tynda**

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FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER		
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UPCOMING MEETINGS & OTHER ACTIVITIES

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------|---|
| March | 03 | Flotilla Meeting -1930 – Florida Tackle & Gun Club |
| | 09 | Flotilla Staff Officers Meeting – Stellar Building 1900 to 2100 |
| | 20 | Eight Bells Deadline – Reports due to FSO-PB |
| | 21 | VSC Blitz – West Marine – Blanding Blvd – from 0900 to 1500 |
| April | 05 | Blessing of The Fleet – North River Front Park – Arrive by 1330, starts 1400 |
| | 07 | Flotilla Meeting -1930 – Florida Tackle & Gun Club |
| | 20 | Eight Bells Deadline – Reports due to FSO-PB |
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FROM THE FLOTILLA COMMANDER



Daddy my coat was too small:

Sometime in the early 1900's in North Dakota, it was an unusually warm day for March. The day dawned bright with sun and the temperature was an extremely uncommon 70 degrees. Many of the children going to school that day dressed lightly as children are apt to do, but as the day progresses the temperature began to drop and the weather began to change toward the more characteristic snow clouds and wind of the Northern Plains.

A farmer and father of three children decided to go and pick the children up at school so he hitched the horses and wagon together and began the trek to the school. The wind had increased and the snow began to come down in sheets horizontal to the ground. When he arrived he loaded the children in the wagon but before he could reach the reigns the horses spooked in the severe storm and ran away. It was hours of struggling through blinding snow and sub zero temperatures before he could see the wagon ahead. As he got closer his oldest daughter collapsed in his arms and said "Daddy, I'm sorry. I tried to cover them but my coat was too small." Reaching the wagon he found his two other children had died in the storm.

We may wonder how this applies to us as Auxiliary Volunteers but it is right on the mark. We are the larger coat that covers those exposed to danger. The active Coast Guard cannot cover it all. Without the extra coverage of the many volunteer hours of **America's Volunteer Lifesavers** we don't know where the negative public safety numbers would be but we can surmise that they would be significantly different without our input. Do not underestimate the hours you serve. You are saving lives.

Jeff Blomgren, Flotilla Commander

STAFF REPORTS

PERSONNEL SERVICES (PS):

Mr. David Gallisath has submitted his application for membership; he is a military trained pollution response technician and will be an asset to our flotilla.

Three other applications are outstanding and queries indicate all are forthcoming. Corliss (Cory) Klinefelter has submitted his application for disenrollment due to medical reasons. Corey is an experienced seaman and would have been a welcome asset. Good luck to him

Flotilla members should check their ID cards for expiration. Three months prior to the expiration a request for renewal should be submitted. Call me and I will explain the procedure. Anyone who has received a membership number over ninety days ago and has not received an ID card can notify me and I will query up channel.

Charles Smith FSO-PS

COMMUNICATION SERVICES (CS):

Our new website continues to evolve. All staff officers now have their own webpage. Staff Officer web pages are accessed from either the Member's Home Page or the Flotilla Staff Officer's Link on the left navigation bar. I hope that each staff officer will continue to send ideas and information to add to their webpage. Always check the "What's New" link to see if any changes have occurred since you last visited. You will also notice changes to the Division 14 website.

New members should take an extended tour through the Auxiliary Internet. You will find the tools to enhance and guide you through your development as an Auxiliarist. The 7th District and National Auxiliary websites are full of information and you can gain a good idea of what the Coast Guard Auxiliary does in addition to its Surface Operations program. Find the jobs and programs that fit your interests and talents!

In addition to the FSO web pages, items added to the website this month include. An article on the "Clean Marina" program, a Public Affairs video shot in Key West about what the Coast Guard Auxiliary does, and a page dedicated to your uniforms with a presentation on the Operational Dress Uniform (ODU). Links to some of the commonly used Mission Activity reporting forms have been added to the FSO-IS webpage.

I always welcome your ideas on how our website can fill your needs as an Auxiliarist. Please don't hesitate to contact me.

Paul Burns, FSO-CS

OPERATIONS (OP):

The division operations meeting took place on 1/24/09. Most of this was devoted to details of operations division wide. In the near future, all aux patrols will be directed by Station Mayport in order to achieve overall efficient coordination and use of resources. A letter from CWO DeVane Commanding Officer USCG Station Mayport, detailing requirements for aux ops in Station Mayport area of responsibility was discussed. Many other items were discussed, too many for me to type at my speed.

Operations', boating with a purpose, teaching and learning about boating the Coast Guard way, helping the Coast Guard and other mariners, is one of the best aspects of the Auxiliary in my opinion and I encourage you to get involved.

Whit Vick, FSO-OP

PUBLICATIONS (PO):

The year is off to a great start for the Vessel Examiners, there are numerous events planed to kick off the boating season. Please make sure you have the current stickers as well as updated literature. Now is also is great time to pull out copies of you VSC from last year and contact individuals who received VSC's last year.

Adopt A Ramp and Marina

I would like to say thank you to everyone who has signed up to adopt a boat ramp and or Marina, the list for 2009 is as follows:

Bob Flaige	Julington Creek Marina	Holiday Mandarin Marina	Bull Bay Marina	Pier 3 are across the street
Ralph Little	Goodby's Ramp			
Rusty Gardner	Lakeshore Boat Ramp (Fleming Island)			
Bob Strong	Wayne B Stephens Boat Ramp			
John Russette	Knights Boat Ramp and Govenor's Creek Boat Ramp (Green Cove Springs)			
2 Still Left	Dr's Lake Marina (Orange Park) and Mandarin Park Boat Ramp			

UP Coming VSC Blitz (West Marine, Blanding Blvd)

March 21st form 9:00-3:00 This event will allow us the opportunity to kick off the boating season. We will perform VSC and pass out literature.

Mark your calendar for Safe Boating Week:

On May 16th I would to see us Blitz in our AOR with numerous vessel check locations. At each location we would need a minimum of 2 vessel examiners. The time would be from 9:00-3:00 (so bring you lunch) the locations I would suggest at this time are. (More can be added if needed):

1. Gooby's Creek Boat Ramp (San Jose)
2. Knights' Boat Ramp and Marina (Black Creek)
3. Wayne B Stephens Boat Ramps (Otage River)

Rusty Gardner, FSO- PA

MATERIALS (MA):

The District store has missed its reopening date of February 7th, hopefully it will begin conducting business again in a couple of weeks.

The following items are currently not in stock (NIS) at the National Supply Center.

February ANSC items NIS

2001E	VE Pocket Aid	3502	Boating Course - Poster
3007	USCG Air Ops – Pamphlet	4014	Officer Snook Coloring Book
3010	Boating Fun – Adv. With Coastie	4060	Colors Ons Keep Water Clean
3020	Decal – Emerg. Radio Call Proc.	4061	Zebra Mussel Watch - Card
3021	Aids to Nav. - Pamphlet	4062	Marine Pollution – Sticker
3024	Saved By The Signal – Pamphlet	5529	Nav Chart 1210
3025	Pyrotech Distance - Poster	5532	Nav Rules Text
3039	5 Tons No Brakes	6000	Fingerprint Card Holder – Ink Pad

Bob Flaige FSO-MA

Did You Know – This Month - Coast Guard History Near You

Did You Know there are more than 20,000 artifacts and memorials representing the United States Coast Guard history? This history includes some predecessor agencies such as the U.S. Lighthouse Service, U.S. Life-Saving Service, U.S. Revenue Marine & Revenue Cutter Service, Bureau of Navigation and the Steamboat Inspection Service. If you are unable to visit the Coast Guard Museum in New London, Connecticut, here are some, right here in Florida. You can also visit the U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office online at: <http://www.uscg.mil/history/>

FLORIDA	Crystal River	Douglas Munro Memorial Monument
	Key West	Key West Lighthouse Museum
	Pensacola	National Museum of Naval Aviation
	Ponce Inlet	Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse Museum
	Port St. Joe	St. Joseph Historical Society
	St. Augustine	Flagler College
		St. Augustine Lighthouse Museum
		Coast Guard E-2C Aircraft No. 3501 Memorial
	St. Petersburg	CGC <i>Blackthorn</i> Memorial Park
	Sanibel Island	Sanibel Historical Village & Museum
	Sebring	Military Sea Services Museum
	Tampa	Veterans Memorial Museum and Park

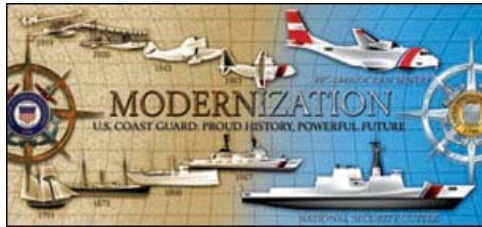
FLOTILLA 14-8 PHOTO ALBUM



On board Auxiliary facility, Sierra, Bob Funk, Howard Graves, 14-3 and Claire Bailey, Maintain a security zone on the St. Johns River during "Blessing of the Fleet."



On behalf of the Division 14 Honor Guard, Sarah Tamargo, 14-8, accepts the thanks of St. Johns County Deputy Rick Domingo for the Honor Guards participation in the funeral services of a retired WWII Coast Guard Veteran. Other Honor Guard members attending were David Green, 14-4, Rich Craven, 14-4, and Bill Sekeres, 14-2. Photo taken by Bill Sekeres



U.S. Department of
Homeland Security
**United States
Coast Guard
Auxiliary**



News Release

Date:
Feb. 27, 2009

Contact: U.S. Coast Guard
Petty Officer Rob Simpson

Florida Department of
Transportation Kristen Carson

St. Petersburg Beach, South Pasadena drawbridge schedule to change

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. - The Coast Guard has approved a temporary deviation governing the operations of two drawbridges across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. March 2 to May 8.

The Pinellas Bayway Structure "C" drawbridge on State Road 682, in St. Petersburg Beach, Fla., and Corey Causeway drawbridge on State Road 693, in South Pasadena, Fla., will open twice per-hour compared to their current schedule of three times per-hour.

This temporary change will allow the Coast Guard and Florida Department of Transportation to gather data to determine if this schedule meets the reasonable needs of navigation while accommodating an increase in vehicle traffic throughout the area and whether it should be proposed as a permanent change.

Only vessels taller than 18 feet, which require the raising of the bridges, will be affected.

The deviation may be terminated or cancelled at any time via a Broadcast Notice to Mariners.

For further information you can go online to: <http://www.uscg.mil/>



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
America's Volunteer Lifesaverssm

25th Annual Blessing of the FLEET
Northbank Riverfront Park, Downtown Riverfront
Presented by The City of Jacksonville & the Captain's Club
On Sunday, April 5, 2009
Captains are to arrive downtown by 1330
Blessing at 1400
Tune in on VHF channels 16 and 72
To register, visit
www.makeascenedowntown.com

FLOTILLA 14-8
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
Tuesday 7th April 2009 at 1930
FLORIDA TACKLE AND GUN CLUB
9010 San Jose Blvd



8 IS GREAT !

Visit our award winning website at <http://a0701408.uscgaux.info/>

EIGHT BELLS is published at no expense to the government. Cost of its publication is borne by the dues paying members of Flotilla 14-8 of the 7th District U.S. Coast Guard.

PRIVACY ACT: Telephone numbers and addresses of members are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. As a matter of policy, rosters of names, addresses and telephone numbers shall not be made available to the general public or any outside organization.