
EIGHT



BELLS

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

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May 2009



David Gallisath and Robert Washington are sworn in as new members by Charles Trippe VFC and Jeff Blomgren FC and Charlie Smith FSO-PS

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UPCOMING MEETINGS & OTHER ACTIVITIES

May	05	Flotilla Meeting -1930 – Florida Tackle & Gun Club
	11	FSO Meeting – 1900 - Tentative
	16	VSC Blitz Goodby's Creek, Knights' Ramp & Marina, Wayne B Stephens
	16-22	National Safe Boating Week
	20	Eight Bells Deadline – Reports due to FSO-PB
	23-25	Blue Crab Festival – Palatka, Fla
	25	City JAX Memorial Day Celebration - Honor Guard Veterans Wall.
June	02	Flotilla Meeting -1930 – Florida Tackle & Gun Club
	20	Eight Bells Deadline – Reports due to FSO-PB
	23	USCG AUX 70 th Anniversary

FROM THE FLOTILLA COMMANDER



The first quarter of 2009 was fraught with challenges and replete with success. We had the challenge of replacing some of our staff and overcoming the learning curve but with the excellent membership staff support we were able to fill those jobs with capable people and we are progressing really well. Here are some of the things we have accomplished.

We have sworn in 6 new members since January and have three candidates who have expressed interest in the Auxiliary.

Flotilla 14-8 received a check from the United States Coast Guard Association for \$1,000 that was given through the Jacksonville Wal-Mart Group. The money will be used to supplement the Boating Safety Program.

Rusty Gardner has been selected by the National Coast Guard Auxiliary to be a member of the National Auxiliary, Public Affairs (PA) Staff.

We are currently working on a format to assimilate new members. Part of the assimilation process will be a New Member Orientation and social function attended by the FSO staff. Auxiliary opportunities will be discussed as well as a proper uniform orientation.

Sarah Tamargo has proved to be a very capable with Publications (PB) and has done a tremendous job of keeping the newsletter up to the same standards established by Carolyn Strong. In addition Sarah is our Uniform Standards Representative and will help new and old members keep up with uniform changes and directives.

Paul Burns has completely remodeled the 14-8 website and it is up to date with information and links that provide "one stop shopping" to members and guests.

We are working to develop a partnership with local Boy Scouts of America and are researching opportunities to provide water safety training to the scouting membership.

We are working with Rusty Gardner and his college staff to develop a Digital Selection Call (DSC) training program that will include two training videos, a demonstration package that will be taken to Vessel Safety Check's (VSC) and shown to boaters to help them understand the registration process. We are also working on a DSC handout and we hope to have it ready for the boat show.

We have an aggressive action plan for VSC and Program Visitor (PV) to support the Safe Boating efforts. We need volunteers for the scheduled VSC's at Drs. Lake, and Knights Lake and Black Creek on May 16 and NAS on the 30th of May.

Needs for continued success:

We need volunteers! We need help in the PV and Vessel Examiner (VE) areas specifically. If you have an interest in these areas and want to be an active supporter of the auxiliary, and work with some fun people, contact John Russette and Rusty Gardner.

Jeff Blomgren, Flotilla Commander

STAFF REPORTS

MEMBER TRAINING (MT):



Be sure to attend the May meeting for the required annual Sexual Harassment Prevention Training being presented by Jeff Blomgren, FC 14-8.

The entire membership is invited to attend training at Station Mayport that will be held one Saturday morning a month over 4 months beginning in June. While the training is geared to the Operations side, anyone may attend and you will have an opportunity to learn how the Auxiliary interacts with the active duty Coast Guard. Training by the active duty Coast Guard will be included and will cover topics such as Search and Rescue, Man Overboard, Towing, and Navigation. If you have any interested in becoming part of the Operations side, this is not to be missed. If, you own or spend time on a boat, all the topics will further your knowledge and safety while on the water. There will be another communication coming out shortly that will provide further details.

September 11-13 are the dates for the District Seven (D7) Conference held this year in St. Petersburg. D7 will offer many training opportunities on a number of topics. Consider getting away for a few days to enjoy this fun and educational get together. Check the Seventh District website under Conferences for details.

Claire Bailey, FSO-MT

PERSONNEL SERVICES (PS):



The following have accepted membership applications:
James Permenter and Michael Gollubske

The following have received membership numbers:
David Gallisath and Robert Washington

Flotilla members who have received membership numbers but have not yet procured uniforms should be aware that many activities do not require the wearing of a uniform, i.e., flotilla meetings and fellowship get togethers. In addition many flotilla sponsored training seminars can be attended in casual dress including the About Boating Safety (ABS) class which is required for all CGAUX personnel. Lastly, other local flotillas also sponsor training classes that are open to all CGAUX personnel.

Charles Smith FSO-PS

OPERATIONS (OP):



On 4/11/09, a division operations meeting was held at the Mayport CG Station. The meeting was organized by Bob Funk in cooperation with the Coast Guard. Excellent presentations were given by two Coast Guard men on search and rescue patterns (including a very good handout), Mike Owsley and Bob Funk on many of the aspects of QE audits, and Tom Hayden on the terror attack at Mumbai. For anyone interested in operations, this was a most useful experience.

With Claire Bailey as crew and Amanda Reese as crew trainee, I took my boat, Carlie, on its maiden patrol as a Coast Guard Aux facility on Easter Sunday. It was a beautiful clear day, slightly windy and choppy. We rode from Julington Creek to Green Cove Springs, then to the Ortega River and back.

Claire Bailey has sent an e-mail outlining crew training to be done this summer at Station Mayport. This should be an excellent opportunity to begin working towards crew or review and training for those already crew qualified.

FLOTILLA 14-8 PHOTO ALBUM



Sheena Chin presented the members with an excellent outline of the Clean Marina Program. The program outlines the steps a marina can take to become compliant in some of the environmental compliance areas. Sheena is a Regional Director for the Department of Environmental Protection.



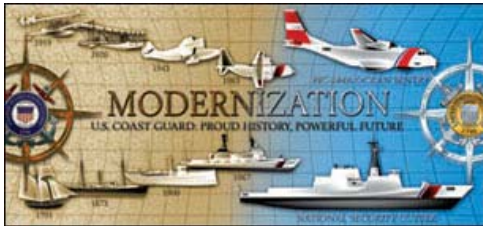
Jack Holler Immediate Past Flotilla Commander and Bob Strong FSO-FN presented Rusty Gardner FSO-VE with congratulations for his efforts in boating safety that helped 14-8 receive an award through the Coast Guard Association of \$1,000. The award was a grant from the Wal-Mart stores of North Florida. The Flotilla intends to spend the money on an educational project for marine safety which is being developed by Rusty and his team



Jeff Blomgren FC 14-8 and VFC Charles Trippe presented Charlie Smith FSO-PS with a certificate for passing the PV exam



Amanda Reese her way to becoming Boat Crew certified on board Whit's "Carlie" departing from Julington Creek.



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



PRESS RELEASE

Date: April 17, 2009

NOT ALL BOATING ACCIDENTS HAPPEN ON THE WATER

Contact: Anthony Turner, Public Affairs Officer

<http://www.news.auxpa.org/>

LOS ANGELES, Calif - Some boating accidents occur while transiting to and from the water and quite frequently on the launch ramp. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary says “a successful boating outing begins when you leave home and ends when you safely return home.” Since the majority of recreational boats in the United States are transported to and from the water it is important that boaters take as much care transporting their boat, whether it be a power boat, sailboat, paddle craft or personal water craft as they do operating their boat on the water.

When it comes to trailered boats nine out of ten trailering malfunctions and accidents can be directly traced back to a failure to dedicate some time to the most basic preventative maintenance. Wheel bearings, suspension parts, lights, and a host of other components require constant attention to help insure any trailering trip smooth and hassle free.

Special attention to the tow vehicle’s hitch is a good idea, as that is the only link between the tow vehicle and trailer. Also consider the fact that one needs a special license and classification to drive things like motorcycles, school busses and vehicles with air brakes like semi-trailer trucks, gravel trucks, etc. But just about anyone can go out and buy a \$30,000 boat and trailer, attach it to his/her car... and simply drive away. No special training is required beforehand and no special license classification is needed. Anyone who has ever hauled a boat around for a number of years knows that it may not be too difficult to drive in a straight line at low speeds. But when it comes to things like driving at highway speeds, passing other vehicles, high winds, backing up, etc... the task becomes much more difficult than one might think.

The U.S. Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety offers safety tips for trailering, pre-launching preparations, launching, retrieval and boat storing at:

http://www.uscgboating.org/safety/metlife_archived_9?21?2007/boat_trailer.htm.



(photo credit: U.S. Navy)



FLOTILLA 14-8
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
Tuesday 5th April 2009 at 1930
FLORIDA TACKLE AND GUN CLUB
9010 San Jose Blvd

Memorial Day

Traditional: May 30
Observed: last Monday of May
This Year: May 25, 2009

For more information on events around town go to the department of Military Affairs, Veterans at:

<http://www.coj.net/Departments/default.htm>



8 IS GREAT !

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

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