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# EIGHT



# BELLS

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

**Volume XXXVI No. 4**

**April 2010**

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## **Meet Philip Shultz**



*Philip Shultz, has applied for membership in Flotilla 14-8. He was a visitor at our March flotilla meeting and received a certificate for challenging and passing the ABS Exam. Be sure to greet him and make him feel welcome at our April meeting.*

*Photo by Bob Strong*



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

**America's  
Volunteer  
Guardians**  
Since 1939

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## FROM YOUR FLOTILLA COMMANDER



It is my feeling that the most important area of our responsibility as Auxiliarists is public on the water safety. Nothing takes the place of proper training and the use of proper protective equipment. Bob Strong, Paul Burns and Top Ingram are fulfilling that big niche each Monday when they teach students about what it takes to be safe on the water.

National Safe Boating week is May 22-28. Let's do our part and get involved. Bob needs volunteers for his Monday night classes and there will be many opportunities to piggy back on events with other flotillas in the area during this designated time. As the Nations Lifesavers it's what we do best.

### Standing Rules Vote

**We need as many people as possible to attend our April 6 meeting in order to approve the changes made to the Flotilla 14-8 Standing Rules. The rules are reviewed every three years and changes must be approved by the membership. Make April 6 a priority meeting and take part in this necessary exercise.**

Jeff Blomgren, FC 14-8

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## STAFF REPORTS

### OPERATIONS – WHIT VICK, FSO-OP



Operations was quiet this winter month for our flotilla. The winter has been almost as cold here as I remember in northwest Georgia.

This boating season I am hoping to get trainees on the way to crew qualification. Before undertaking operations, consider these factors: the training and standards for Auxiliary operations are essentially the same as for active duty Coast Guard crew. The qualification process is challenging mentally, physically, and financially. Time commitment is large. high motivation, doggedness, and willingness to study and learn new material are necessary. With the limited operations resources in our flotilla, you will likely have to do some of your training with other flotillas. Tests are required. But the rewards in becoming crew or coxswain qualified are real. You have the opportunity to be on the water, to learn in detail about all aspects of boating. You get to know how the Coast Guard operates on the water to promote and provide safety for the public. You aid the Coast Guard in their surface operations. You have the satisfaction of knowing you accomplished a challenging but worthy goal and that you are giving back something to your country. If you think you possess the level of commitment required to achieve goals like these, I encourage you to join operations.

Whit Vick, FSO-OP

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### MEMBER TRAINING – JEFF BLOMGREN, FSO-MT



Our 7029 class has been put on hold until Neill gets his schedule back in order. We are looking for him for our May meeting to make his presentation. Chuck Farmer, SO-NS 14 will be with us for an ATON refresher on April 6 and Michael Morgan is working on mini training sessions on Program Visitation and Vessel Examination that will help stimulate interest in those areas and supplement our meetings.

Bob Strong, Paul Burns and Top Ingram continue to be the sole teachers for the Monday night Boating Safety Classes. We need your help to give some relief to those who have made this training program a success. See Bob Strong or Paul Burns for details.

Jeff Blomgren, FSO-MT

**PUBLIC EDUCATION – BOB STRONG, FSO-PE**



Our Monday evening Boating Safety program is doing better than I had expected so early in the year. Five more participants joined on 15 March. Total to date is 24 participants and 9 have already graduated. Thanks to Top Ingram for getting Jim Sutton, Times Union Outdoors Editor, for placing our ad in the Sunday Outdoors Calendar.

In the beginning, I said we had to have two instructors and one aid at every session. The Seventh District has now made that a requirement. Not to insure we always have an instructor but to be sure the teaching instructor doesn't commit an error. In other words, the second instructor must monitor the first and interrupt to correct the first if he or she misspeaks. We need two instructors and at least one aid every Monday evening, please let me know if you are willing to help.

Jeff Blomgren, FC, has begun conducting "water and kids" safe boating training to elementary school children. To date he has conducted one program and is looking forward to the next one. Please let Jeff or me know if you are willing to help with this.

Bob Strong, FSO-PE

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**COMMUNICATION SERVICES – PAUL BURNS, FSO-CS**



**Protecting Your Computer Against A New Wave Of Malicious Software Attacks**

**Correction to Last Month's Report:** You may have read last month's report about a malicious software (computer virus) infection which I suspected was being spread thru Adobe PDF files. To correct that report, it turned out that the particular virus that I reported on was being spread from infected advertising planted on several legitimate news websites. It appears that these news sites have since learned how to preview their advertising because computer infections seem to be reduced this month. More information about "Phony Anti-Virus Computer Infections" can be found at:

<http://a0701408.uscgaux.info/pages/14-8computersecurityvirus.htm>

The Computer Security page on the flotilla website, <http://a0701408.uscgaux.info/pages/14-8computersecurity.htm> now includes a list of Free anti-virus programs that automatically update themselves every day and help to protect your computer. Links to the programs are included which will allow you to review the programs and decide which might be best for you. If your current Anti-Virus program has expired and stopped downloading updates, you should either renew your subscription or un-install it and try one of these free Anti-Virus programs. Anti-Virus software is only as good as today's update. Expired Anti-Virus programs do not protect your computer.

Paul Burns, FSO-CS

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**HUMAN RESOURCES – CHARLES SMITH, FSO-HR**



The arrival of warmer weather is drawing more of the boating public into the water. This is our opportunity to increase our recruiting efforts while distributing boating safety information and conducting vessel safety checks or marine visitations. To date, we only have one application awaiting a membership number. To meet Jeff's goal of 10 in 10 active, participating members we must recruit one member a month for the remainder of the year. The creation of Flotilla 14-5 has decreased our potential for new members by at least half which means we must double our efforts on the east side of the river. As stated previously, I'm confident that with everyone's participation this goal of 10 in 10 can be

met and exceeded.

Charles Smith, FSO-HR

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# FLOTILLA 14-8 PHOTO ALBUM

## Flotilla Meeting 02 March, 2010



**Jeff Blomgren, FC presented Certificates of Appointment to Mike Morgan for the Staff positions of FSO-PV (Program Visitation) and FSO-VE (Vessel Examination)**



**Whit Vick, FSO-OP received a Facility Inspection Decal for his second facility CARLIE II**

*Photos by Bob Strong*

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## Flotilla 14-8 presents Parka to Rusty Gardner



**On Monday, 15 March Bob Strong and Top Ingram, along with Jeff Blomgren, FC on behalf of Flotilla 14-8, presented a Foul Weather Parka to Rusty Gardner who was appointed by National to record an event in Maine.**

From Rusty: "I will be video taping an exercise that the Coast Guard, as well as a few other agencies, will be conducting this coming week. The video will be used for briefing as well as training. The event is called SONS 2010 (Spill of National Significance). I have copied an overview below." (see next page)

"Also, I would like to say a special thanks to Bob Strong as well as Flotilla 14-8. I was so surprised when I was told that the flotilla had voted to purchase the Foul Weather Parka. I had prepared myself mentally to come to Maine without it. I arrived today (3/21) and the weather will be in the 20s and 30s with light rain the first part of the week. Needless to say your generosity has saved me".



<http://www.sons2010.com/go/site/2221/>

On March 24-25, a Spill of National Significance (SONS) exercise will take place off the coast of Portland, Maine; Portsmouth, New Hampshire; Boston, Massachusetts; and in Washington, D.C. A SONS, defined in the National Contingency Plan (NCP), is a rare catastrophic oil spill event which captures the nation's attention due to its actual damage or significant potential for adverse potential impact. SONS 2010 is a full-scale Department of Homeland Security Tier II exercise intended to implement oil spill response plans that initiate a response organization including a local Unified Command, National Incident Management System (NIMS) Area Command and National Incident Commander (NIC) response organization in accordance with the NCP and National Response Framework.

A SONS exercise, which takes place every three years, provides an opportunity to exercise the National Incident Command position's support role to the Unified Command and Unified Area Command due to its magnitude and impact on public health and the environment. The focus of SONS 2010 will be on implementing the new SONS Response Policy, the first to define the roles and responsibilities for the NIC, as well as exercise regional and local oil spill response policy, plans, and procedures. The NIC will have a unique opportunity to interact with the National Response Team as intended in the NCP.

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## NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK MAY 22 - 28



### OPERATION: **“WEAR IT”** LIFE JACKETS FOR LIFE TOUR 2010 (A National Safe Boating Week Initiative)

#### WHO:

1. A joint effort between the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), United States Coast Guard (USCG), and all local partners.
2. Local partners will include Coast Guard Auxiliary, US Power Squadron, Maritime enforcement agencies and vendors that specialize in safety product in and around the marine environment.

#### WHAT:

A tour of participating marine units down the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) highlighting the importance of Life Jacket wear and safety equipment aboard a recreational vessel.

This Operation was designed specifically to run concurrent with National Safe Boating Week.

#### WHEN:

Starting date is scheduled for Sunday 23 MAY 2010 and ending Friday 28 MAY 2010.

#### WHERE:

- **KICK OFF : Sunday: 23 MAY 2:00 PM:** Sister's Creek - Jim King Park & Boat Ramp ICW Jacksonville/  
*Public Event*

- **Monday 24 MAY 10:00 AM:** Sister’s Creek - Jim King Park & Boat Ramp ICW Jacksonville (*Media Event*)
- **Monday 24 MAY 6:30 PM:** Daytona Beach / *No Event Planned* /Halifax Harbor Marina
- **Tuesday 25 MAY 10:00 AM:** *USCG STA PONCE (Media Event)*
- **Tuesday 25 MAY 6:30 PM:** Titusville - *No Event Planned* /Titusville City Marina
- **Wednesday 26 MAY 10:00 AM:** Titusville -Titusville City Marina (*Media Event*)
- **Wednesday 26 MAY 6:30 PM:** West Palm/Riviera Beach - *No Event Planned* /Phil Foster Park
- **Thursday 27 MAY 10:00 AM:** West Palm/Riviera Beach – (*Media Event/Phil Foster Park*)
- **Thursday 27 MAY 6:30 PM:** Pompano Beach – (*Public/Media Event/14<sup>th</sup> Street*)
- **FINAL EVENT: Friday 28 MAY 12 Noon:** Miami (*Media Event/Watson Island*)

**HOW:**

A lead vessel the “WEAR IT FLORIDA” campaign FWC jet boat will travel the ICW from Jacksonville, Fl. (Jim King Park) To Watson Island, Miami, Fl. (Watson Park Ramps) making five stops during the trip to Miami.

- Daytona (Halifax Harbor Marina)
  - USCG STA Ponce De Leon Inlet
  - Titusville (Titusville City Marina)
  - West Palm/Riviera Beach (Phil Foster Park)
  - Pompano Beach (14<sup>th</sup> street Alsdorf Park)
1. The lead vessel can be accompanied by additional interest, Police, Fire, Coast Guard, Coast Guard Auxiliary, Power Squadron, etc.
  2. Public event stops will include boating safety equipment give-a-ways.
  3. Media events will consist of a brief description of this tour, and safe boating messages.
  4. Additionally, if available safety equipment will be given away.
  5. VIP’s to address Media. (Mayors, local politicians, etc.)
  6. Quarters for the Tour team are planned to be provided by local hotels that can accommodate equipment. (Truck/Boat/Trailer, Truck /Trailer combination)

**EQUIPMENT:**

- FWC “Wear It Florida” Jet Boat w/tow vehicle and trailer.
- US Coast Guard “BAT-PAK” w/tow vehicle.
- USCGAUX (1) w/vehicle / “Scout Person”

**TASKING:**

- Vendor contact for product give-a-way – USCG (B.Wright)
- Operation Plan – FWC/USCG (B.Wright/B.Rehwinkel)
- Auxiliary coordination – USCG (B.Wright)
- Uniforms – FWC (B. Rehwinkel)
- Sea Tow & Tow US – USCG (B.Wright)
- Media Coordination – FWC (B. Rehwinkel)
- Quarters (Hotels) – USCG ( S.E. Wright)

**POCs:**

- USCG: Bruce R. Wright (305) 415-7057
- FWC: Brian Rehwinkel (850) 488-5600

**WORKING FREQUENCIES:**

- Channel 22 *VHF-FM* (Marine Radio)

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- Times are approximate and subject to change, although if a major deviation occurs advanced notice will be given.

## MAN OVERBOARD

We train as Auxiliarists on this scenario, but maybe we can learn a few things from larger vessels. On USCG cutters, Navy ships and larger vessels more is involved than just what we do on a 2-3 person rec boat.

1. A muster is taken to determine "WHO" and "HOW" many went overboard. It could be MORE than 1 person.
2. The Pointer uses Binoculars trained on the victim(s).
3. The Medical Kit is made available.
4. If on Autopilot, it is switched off.
5. If the vessel has Bow/Stern Thrusters, these are used and are very effective and safer than the normal propellers.

May all of your MOB's be...drills!

## RUNNING ON 1 ENGINE AND PROP DRAG

Running your boat on 1 engine can save fuel and reduce wear. Internal Combustion engines are most efficient at 60-70% of their rated power.

When an engine runs slowly, the greater percentage of fuel is used for the Parasitic loads, water pump, fuel pump, alternator etc.

The question is often asked- what about the other prop shaft- freewheel or lock. Many marine transmissions can be damaged if the prop were allowed to operate without the engine running. Some transmissions will lock the prop if it is shifted into reverse. Also Dripless Shaft Seals require a flow of pressurized water for lubrication. A freewheeling prop will exert less drag. Check with your transmissions manufacturer to know what you can do.

## BOAT SAFETY TIPS

- A. To clear fogged up dash gauges, turn on your lights, the heat from the bulb should clear them up.
- B. Need a temporary secondary anchor. A cheap small nylon backpackers type of bag can be filled with sand. It stows easily and will not scratch the boat or inflatable.
- C. If the fire is in a below decks compartment or Engine space where the entrance is a hatch, DO NOT OPEN the hatch all the way. Crack the hatch enough to put the nozzle in. Opening it all the way emits more oxygen to feed the fire. Empty the extinguisher into the compartment. Have another one standing by in case of reflash.
- D. Remember the Best Bilge Pump in the World is a scared person with a bucket.
- E. Thru Hull Fittings- Put your thumb in one and if you can stick your next finger in the one next to it, it is to close, this weakens the hull.
- F. Cleat Size- 1" of length for every 1/16" diameter of line. EX: 3/8" line= 6" cleat
- G. When approaching a bridge, with your eyes at the highest point on the boat, sight on an object (landmark) in the distance past the bridge and align it with the bottom of the bridge. You will clear the bridge IF the object appears to move down showing space above the object and the bridge, IF the object appears to move UP above the bridge, you will not clear the bridge.

## ETHANOL DECISION

The EPA has delayed its decision on E-15 until June when more testing is completed. The USCG will continue to oppose the ruling unless it is determined that such fuel is compatible with marine engines and fuel systems.

## FLOAT PLANS ONLINE

[www.floatplangenerator.com](http://www.floatplangenerator.com) This one is free.

[www.marisafe.com](http://www.marisafe.com) Join for \$49.00 a year.

*A complete copy of Marc Lang's Marine Safety report is available from Bob Strong who will have copies on hand at the next flotilla meeting.*





## FLOTILLA 14-8 REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday 6 April 2010

Training Topic: ATON Refresher by Chuck Farmer, SO-NS 14

FLORIDA TACKLE & GUN CLUB

9010 San Jose Blvd, Jacksonville

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### UPCOMING MEETINGS & OTHER ACTIVITIES

- APR 06 Flotilla 14-8 Meeting – Florida Tackle & Gun Club – 1930  
 10 Division 14 Board & General Meetings – Stellar Building 0900  
 16–18 Jacksonville International Boat Show – Metro Park  
 20 Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to FC, FSO-PB and Division SO  
 24 VSC Event – Goodby’s Creek Boat Ramp – 0800 - 1500
- MAY 04 Flotilla 14-8 Meeting – Florida Tackle & Gun Club – 1930  
 20-22 National Safe Boating Week Activities  
 20 Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to FC, FSO-PB and Division SO
- Each Monday evening – *About Boating Safely* Program – 1830 – Stellar Building



<http://www.jaxboatshow.com/>



## 8 IS GREAT !

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