
EIGHT



BELLS

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

Volume XXXVI No. 12

December 2010

FLOTILLA COMMANDER
FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER
PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

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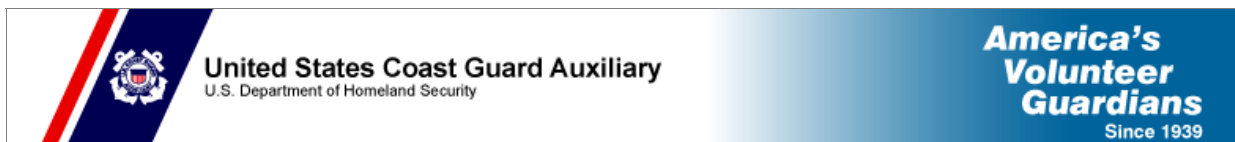
Jeffrey A. Blomgren
Michael S. Morgan
Carolyn G. Strong

Introducing Our Flotilla 14-8 Officers for 2011



Mike Morgan, Flotilla Vice Commander and Whit Vick, Flotilla Commander (Elect)

Photo by Carolyn Strong, FSO-PB 14-8



FROM YOUR FLOTILLA COMMANDER



My last report for Eight Bells as Flotilla Commander comes with mixed feelings. After two years of learning and growth in the position of FC, I need to thank all of my staff for their faithfulness and service. I have been blessed with excellent people who have given so much of their time and effort to ensuring our success as a flotilla. All of you are deserving of much more than my gratitude.

Your new Flotilla Commander and Flotilla Vice Commander are excellent. I am excited to see that we are getting many new people involved who are anxious to begin their volunteer service. I am not a prophet but I do see a bright future for 14-8 and the members that make up her heart and soul. I wish you all well and calm seas and following winds on your journey into greatness.

Jeff Blomgren, FC 14-8

FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT



I wanted to end this year with talking about a fitting subject "Leadership".

We will soon be swearing in a new Flotilla Commander, Flotilla Vice Commander and appointing new Flotilla Staff Officers. Each of these areas carries a form of responsibility, or in other words a 'Leadership Competency'.

Leadership is defined as:

- The position or function of a leader
- Ability to lead
- An act or instance of leading; guidance; direction.

Competency is defined as: The quality of being competent; adequacy; possession of required skill. The United States Coast Guard in their Leadership Development Framework has twenty-eight Leadership Competencies arranged in four categories, to which I will only talk of three.

- The first is: Leading Self – Having Accountability & Responsibility, Aligning Values, Followership, Health & Well Being, Self Awareness & Learning, Personal Conduct, and Technical Proficiency.
- The second is: Leading Others – Effective Communications, Team Building, Influencing Others, Mentoring, Respect for Others & Diversity Management and Taking Care of People.
- The third is: Leading Performance & Change – Conflict Management, Customer Focus, Decision Making & Problem Solving, Management & Process Improvement, Vision Development & Implementation and Creativity & Innovation.

Leadership Competencies are the knowledge, skills and expertise of any member in an organization and they are demonstrated at every level. We have a "Chain of Leadership" in the Auxiliary as opposed to a "Chain of Command" and we rely on our volunteers to fulfill those leadership roles and duties to the best of their ability. The Boy Scouts of America has a motto: "Do Your Best!" And we should always strive to do our best!

Have a Great Holiday Season with your family and friends and be safe! And although I have only been your VFC for the last 6 months of this year, it's been my pleasure to serve, work and fellowship alongside each and every one of you. I look forward to serving as your VFC in 2011.

Semper Paratus - "Always Ready"

Mike Morgan, VFC 14-8

FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS

MEMBER TRAINING – JEFF BLOMGREN

As I mentioned above, along with my position as FC, I will be handing over the reins to someone who is more qualified than I am, or have been, for the position of MT. Mike Morgan has demonstrated a desire to train and provide training to take us to the next level. He's done the groundwork and preparation and has the background. To enable is to be THE training benchmark for Division 14. What a wonderful way to end my term by leaving it in capable hands. Good luck Mike and I know you will do well.

Jeff Blomgren, FSO-MT

INFORMATION SYSTEMS – MIKE MORGAN

Great News! I'm sure you have heard by now that we now have our own person to input into AuxData. Effectively I will be the one that inputs everything into AuxData.

Here are a couple of links you need to know about:

- <http://www.cgaux7.org/auxinfo/Division14.htm> you will go to this site and verify your information that is currently in AuxData. If there is anything that needs to be changed or updated please let me know.
- <http://webforms.cgaux.org/forms/beta/index.php> is where you will now input your 7029 information.
- <http://forms.cgaux.org/email.html> this is the electronic form website for 7038 & 7046 forms. You will use my email msmorgan221@gmail.com at the bottom and hit submit. If you have any questions please let me know.

Mike Morgan, FSO-IS

HUMAN RESOURCES – CHARLES SMITH



As the New Year approaches it's time to stop and reflect on the past year and the many accomplishments of our flotilla. These figures are drawn from AUXINFO and are rounded off to the nearest hour:

Marine Patrols - 228
CG Ops Support – 566
Member Training - 80
RBS – 1,458
SAR - 2
Marine Dealer Visits - 52
PA - 15
VSC - 131
PE - 165
All Missions – 2,697

At the federal minimum wage of \$7.30 that's a donation of \$39,383.50 and the year isn't over yet!

As the FSO-HR it is my privilege to have worked with and for all hands in the flotilla. I look forward to the coming year and the experience of doing so again.

Charlie Smith, FSO-HR

PUBLIC EDUCATION – BOB STRONG



This may be the end of 2010 but we all need to be looking forward and planning for 2011 now. It will be here before you know it. It is with this in mind that I have tentatively scheduled twelve all day About Boating Safety (ABS) Public Education courses for 2011. We have never offered this many courses in one year before but with our large number of qualified instructors I know we can do it.

However, I'm asking all instructors to review these dates now and let me know if you know of any major conflicts with any of these dates. The ABS course will be an all day Saturday course taught at the Stellar building with registration beginning at 0730 and the final exam ending at 1700. This means the registration group and first instructors need to be at Stellar no later than 0715. The examination instructors and helpers should finish by 1730.

The dates for 2011 are: February 19, March 19, April 9, April 30, May 21, June 4, June 25, July 23, August 13, September 3, October 1 and November 5. Please mark your calendars accordingly and advise me of any conflicts ASAP.

A one-day ABS course at the Florida Yacht Club is still scheduled for Thursday, December 30, 2010. We need four instructors and I would like to have at least three helpers. Since this is to be a class of teenagers, I want two instructors and two observers in the classroom at all times. One instructor and one helper will print the certificates in another room so we can have an old time graduation ceremony at days end. I'm told we will have a count of participants by December 15.

Bob Strong, FSO-PE

VESSEL EXAMINER / PROGRAM VISITOR



VE: First of all I would like to say it has been great serving as the Flotilla Staff Officer for Vessel Safety Checks (VSCs) and Program Visitor (PV). I have definitely learned a lot in serving in these two positions. These positions are some of the most important positions in any flotilla as you are interacting with the public. You are checking to see if someone has their safety equipment, you're educating people on boating safety and you're putting literature where the public can be informed. We have done fairly well in the number of VSCs we have performed this year. Currently we have performed 84 VSCs in 2010. That is 16.8 per Vessel Examiner (VE). In 2009 we performed 91, that

was 11.375 per VE and in 2008 we performed 68, that was 8.5 per VE. So we were slightly down from last year, but we did the 84 with fewer people performing VSCs, compared to the number that performed in 2009 and 2008. So comparably, each person that performed VSCs this year did almost twice as many per person than in the past 2 years.

In 2011 our goal should be to perform twice as many VSCs with twice as many VEs, so if you are not yet VE qualified, please go to this site <http://safetyseal.net> and download the material, study it, take the test and schedule your five VSCs with a qualified VE.

PV: Program Visits (PVs) this year have been outstanding thanks to Top Ingram. Top has performed 60 Program Visits this year. In 2009 he performed 16, and 26 in 2008. What a jump! Great Job!!! Now, we need more Program Visitors. If you are not qualified you can go to the same website where the VE information is. Download the material, study, take the test and schedule your three PVs to become fully qualified.

I will be looking for bigger and better things for the VE and Recreational Boating Safety Program Visitor programs this next year, let's give Top a hand and get out and then do double the PVs that he did this year.

Mike Morgan, FSO-VE/PV

PUBLIC AFFAIRS – RALPH LITTLE



Our article for the December edition of the Mandarin Newslines talks about the flotilla's election results and its subsequent activities through the Change of Watch. It also discusses general plans for next year's Public Education schedule and mentions the increased boating fatalities in 2010. Contacts are provided for recruits and courses, but nothing specific due to our Public Education program ending soon after the edition is published. Personal reasons may limit or negate my future Public Affairs contributions to the efforts of the new FSO-PA. I do enjoy the writing part and hope to continue that if I can.

Ralph Little, Public Affairs

OPERATIONS – WHIT VICK



The Welaka Auxiliary boat is back in action at a reduced pace for the winter as funds seem to have slowly started to make it through the system. Bob Funk indicates a designation of "ops excellence" will be required for all Welaka crew next year--this requires going through many of the required coxswain elements under a qualifying examiner at a rapid pace.

It is exciting that we now have four crew trainees in our flotilla. All four went on patrols at the air show at NAS Jax last month. Another patrol on *Carlie* took place on 20 November and we took two of the trainees (see pictures on page 6). Nothing beats time on the water for learning and doing the required crew tasks.

A small primer on anchoring: Coxswain heads boat into prevailing current/wind. At appropriate spot, coxswain gives order to lower anchor. Crew lowers anchor. Crew tells coxswain when anchor on bottom. Coxswain lets boat fall off with current/wind. Scope of 7:1 recommended--greater in strong winds/current. Anchor watch set to see if anchor holding. To weigh anchor--ideally two crew--one to raise anchor--the other to signal coxswain. Coxswain drives boat slowly in direction anchor line tends to provide slack in anchor rode as crew pulls up on anchor line hand over hand to avoid entangling line/hands.

Operations continued....

Crew communicates verbally with coxswain by turning to face coxswain, and hand signals coxswain direction rode tending--hand signal given over head so coxswain can see direction hand is pointing. Crew tells coxswain when anchor line is vertical, when anchor at water surface. Tells coxswain if anchor "fair"= clean; "shod"= mud covered; or "fouled"= anchor line tangled around anchor. If shod, may dip in water until reasonably clean.

Here's a towing lesson I learned last weekend. On a side tow, if the tow (disabled boat) is considerably larger/heavier than the tow boat, let the larger boat steer. The smaller boat mainly provides propulsion while the larger boat steers. This worked well with our 25 foot Boston Whaler hip towing a 43 foot 35,000 pound sailboat with a 6 1/2 foot draft. Heather, the sailboat captain, steered us up the narrow East River in Brunswick GA to a dock at Brunswick Landing Marina. I provided minimal steering help with my boat. Steering this large a boat with the much smaller towboat would have been challenging--especially as I could not get my stern behind the sailboat stern due to a dinghy hanging on the sailboat's transom. Of course, this technique will only work if the larger boat has a functional and relatively large rudder--like a big sailboat should-- and a good helmsman.

Whit Vick, FSO-OP

***** FLOTILLA 14-8 PHOTO ALBUM *****

FLOTILLA MEETING 2 NOVEMBER 2010

Whit Vick, FSO-OP was elected as our new Flotilla Commander and Mike Morgan was re-elected as Flotilla Vice Commander (see picture on page 1)

Jack Holler, Immediate Past Flotilla Commander conducted the election of Flotilla Officers and Mike Morgan, VFC chaired the meeting in the absence of Jeff Blomgren, FC who was out of town. David Green, VCDR 14 was present to witness the election.



Mike Morgan, VFC gives Charlie Smith congratulations along with his certificate for successful completion of the Administrative Procedures Course.

Photos by Carolyn Strong, FSO-PB



Mike Morgan congratulates Marlene Koehl on successfully completing the Program Visitor exam as her husband Kevin stands by.



Kevin also received his certificate for completion of the Program Visitor exam.

November 20 Crew Training Patrol

Crew training with Whit Vick on his facility *Carlie*: Claire Bailey from Flotilla 14-7 with trainees Kyle George and John Hadley. Whit says "We went up Black Creek where you can see them doing some hard work having a picnic--may be a good crew recruiting photo".



John Hadley (right) and Kyle George (center) with Claire Bailey from 14-7



Claire, Kyle and John picnicking on the dock

Photos by Whit Vick, FSO-OP

CPR & First Aid Training



Ronald Knauss demonstrates the proper technique for rolling "victim" Robert Faulkner into the "recovery position"

November 21 CPR & First Aid

Saturday November 21 Jeff Blomgren, FC 14-8 did a CPR and First Aid training session for Division 14 members. Members from various flotillas attended. Chuck Whipple 14-5, Janet Smith, Robert Faulkner, John Fields and David Jones from 14-4 and Ronald Knauss from 14-1 took part in the practical aspects of CPR and First Aid through discussion, video and hands on techniques. Jeff Blomgren is a certified CPR and First Aid Instructor for the National Safety Council with over 7 years of experience in teaching the skills of Basic Lifesaving.



A demonstration of putting a victim on "the recovery position". The "victim" is Robert Faulkner. Janet Smith is instructing the process while all others observed.



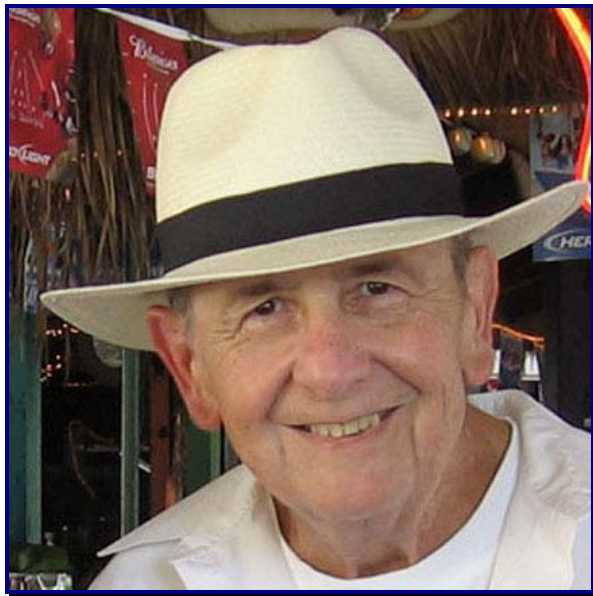
The hands on CPR compression technique was demonstrated by Janet Smith (standing), with Robert Johnson (facing camera), John Fields, Chuck Whipple and Robert Faulkner. Ronald Knauss is assisting in the instruction.

Photos by Jeff Blomgren

In Memoriam
Charles M. Carlson
August 25, 1942 ~ November 13, 2010

A New York native, Charles served in the USMC from 1959 to 1963. He worked as a CPA before the positions of Chief Financial Officer, then Chief Executive Officer at the Osteopathic Hospital and Clinic of New York and later as Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operations Officer at Westminster Securities in New York. He was a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary in New York before moving to Jacksonville and transferring his membership to Flotilla 14-8 in 2009. An avid lifelong sailor, Charles was a member of the Richmond County Yacht Club in Staten Island, NY and the Rudder Club of Jacksonville. He was a Flotilla Commander and Safe Boating Instructor for his flotilla in Staten Island.

Visitation was held in Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home of Mandarin on November 17. David Green and Paul Davis, members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary DIV14 Honor Guard provided their services at the Funeral Home.



**Charles in September 2010 at our
 Whitey's Fish Camp Flotilla social**

On behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary DIV14 Honor Guard, it is our most sincere pleasure to be there for our shipmates and families. We appreciate the opportunity to serve as Mr. Carlson's Honor Guard.

*Very Respectfully,
 Paul Davis
 Vice Director Honors D14
 FC (E) Flotilla 14-4*



David Green, VCDR 14



Paul Davis and David Green



Paul Davis, FC (Elect) 14-4

Collaboration Fuels Innovation

“The collaborative exchange of ideas is the single most critical element of innovation”.



**Theme: The Spirit of Innovation:
Celebrating the Diversity of Ideas**



Rusty Gardner, member of Flotilla 14-8 at the Coast Guard Innovation Expo in Tampa

The tenth annual Coast Guard Innovation Exposition (Expo 2010) was held at the Tampa Convention Center, Tampa, Florida from 2 - 4 Nov 2010. Expo 2010 is sponsored by the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) with service participation coordinated by the Commandants Innovation Council (CIC). All members of the Coast Guard were encouraged to attend Expo 2010.

The following excerpt is from a release by VADM Brice O’Hara, Vice Commandant: “The theme for Expo 2010 is ‘The Spirit Of Innovation-Celebrating the Diversity of Ideas’. Organizations innovate to remain relevant in the face of continuous change. This year we celebrate our strong innovative ‘can do’ spirit and the strength our organizational diversity brings to the innovation equation. More than ever, it is vital that we identify and implement new ways to improve mission execution and mission support - particularly in these times of severe budgetary pressure and heightened operational tempo. Whether In routine operations or critical responses such as the Haiti Earthquake relief or Deepwater Horizon response it is the diversity of our backgrounds, disciplines, cultures, experiences, education, and operations that better defines challenges and broadens the applicability of solutions.”



*United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
District Seven, Division Fourteen*

Division Change of Watch

*All members are welcome to attend the Division Change of Watch.
During the evening, Division Staff Officers will be sworn-in,
And Division awards will be presented.*

*The ceremony will take place at the Ocean Breeze
Mayport Naval Station, Mayport, Florida
Commencing at 1800 hours.
08 January 2011*

*R.S.V.P. by December 27, 2010
Bill Sekeres at 904 591 4493
Or: bill@sidquality.com*

*Uniform:
Dress Blues
Tropical Blue Long
Appropriate Civilian Attire*

More information to follow soon



FLOTILLA 14-8 HOLIDAY DINNER MEETING

1830 Tuesday 07 December 2010

SANTIONI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

11531 San Jose Blvd, Jacksonville

ALL FLOTILLA MEMBERS AND GUESTS WELCOME

(Civilian attire – order from menu at restaurant)

Please make your reservation by Saturday, 4 December by email: cgstrong@comcast.net
Or by calling Carolyn Strong, 721-7828

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- DEC 04 Division 14 ICS 210 Course 0800 - 1400 – Stellar Building
- 04 Julington Creek Lighted Boat Parade
- 07 **Flotilla 14-8 Dinner Meeting / Holiday Social 1830 – Santioni's Restaurant**
- 20 Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to FC, FSO-PB and Division
- 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY**
- 30 One-day ABS Program at Florida Yacht Club (tentative date)
- JAN 01 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**
- 04 Flotilla 14-8 Change of Watch Dinner and Ceremony 1830 – FT&GC
- 08 Division 14 Change of Watch Dinner and Ceremony 1800 – NS Mayport
- 20 Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to FC, FSO-PB and Division

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FLOTILLA 14-8 CHANGE OF WATCH DINNER AND CEREMONY TUESDAY 4 JANUARY 2011 – FLORIDA TACKLE & GUN CLUB

Save the date...an invitation will go out soon to all Active & Retired Members



8 IS GREAT !

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

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