
EIGHT



BELLS

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

Volume XXXVIII No. 6

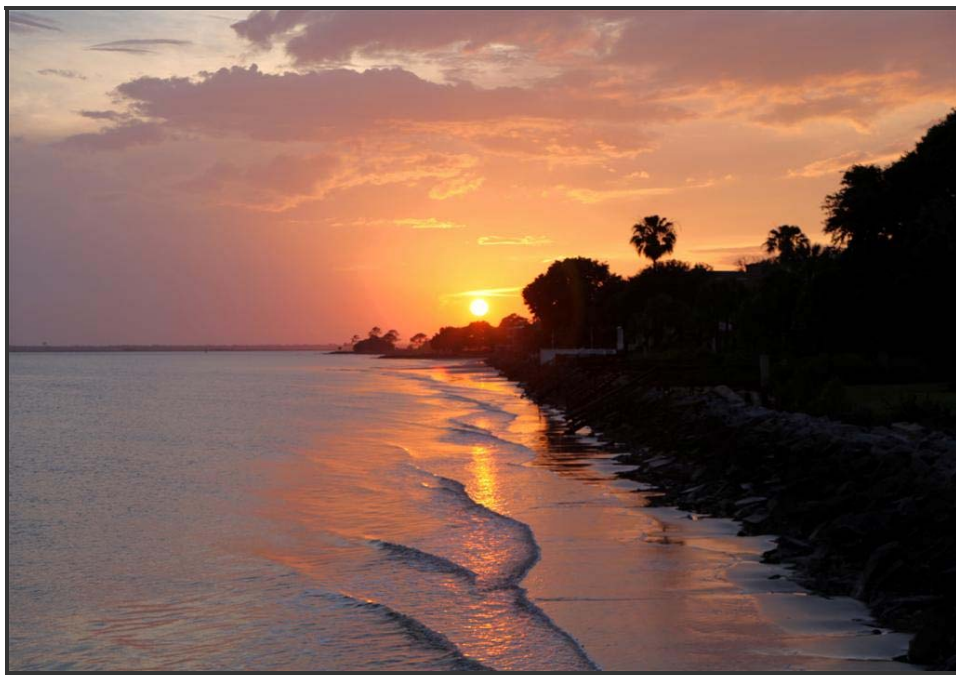
June 2012

FLOTILLA COMMANDER
FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER
PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

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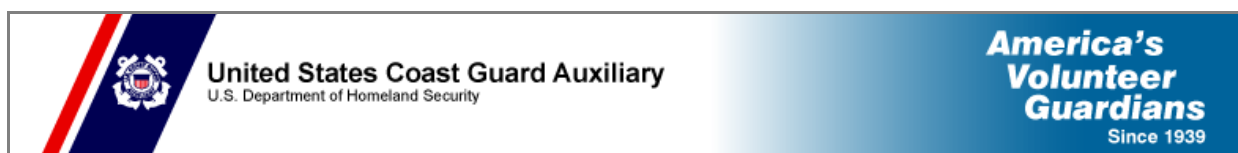
C. Whitley Vick
Kevin R. Koehl
Carolyn G. Strong

A May Sunset over Beautiful St. Simons Island, Georgia



Whit Vick, our Flotilla Commander took this photo on a rare day off when he was able to enjoy both the sunrise and the sunset at his home on St. Simons Island.

Photo by Whit Vick, FC



Visit our award winning website at: www.SafeBoatingJax.com

FROM WHIT VICK - YOUR FLOTILLA COMMANDER



"Optimism is the true moral courage"--Sir Ernest Shackleton

As some you likely know, Sir Ernest Shackleton was an Irish born explorer who in the early 1900's saved the lives of 27 men stranded on the Antarctic ice for almost two years. The story of his expedition is recounted in a beautifully illustrated book by Caroline Alexander called "Endurance", which was the name of Shackleton's ship. During his ordeal, Shackleton exhibited several traits which resulted in the survival of all members of his expedition. First, he led by personal example--he did not seek to be treated more favorably than his men, he built a strong team of equals with all invested in their mutual outcome. Secondly, he was flexible and adapted to continuously changing and dire conditions--when one plan or mission failed, he never displayed self pity or doubt, rather he moved on to a new plan, re-focused his goals. Lastly, Shackleton had bullet proof optimism. Although we can be certain he was fully aware of his nearly hopeless predicament, he never showed fear that he and his men would not survive. He remained always calm, confident, and positive.

This is not to suggest our situation in the Auxiliary is comparable to Shackleton's, but we are facing challenges and can take some lessons from his example.

In our flotilla, attendance at meetings, recruiting, willingness to participate in various activities are down. Fewer and fewer seem to be doing more and more. I and others are rightfully concerned for our future.

However, there are reasons to remain optimistic for the future. Our "Recruitment and Retention" (R & R) committee came up with recommendations which should make our flotilla more attractive for recruits and current members. Some of these ideas will take time to be implemented and to take effect, and some will likely change and evolve as we see what works and what doesn't. One immediate result of the R & R committee recommendations is that our meetings have become more interesting and educational as a result of having a speaker at every meeting. These speakers have been arranged by John Hadley, our FSO-Member Training.

Another positive is that we have a nucleus of very active, energetic members doing outstanding jobs individually and working as a team--for example, in public education, vessel safety checks, program visits, and public affairs. Another positive development is that we currently have more potential prospects interested in joining our flotilla than I have ever seen--more than 12 at this time. Becky Habermas, our FSO-HR, is doing an outstanding job with these individuals, a true juggling act. Our flotilla stands to benefit from her efforts if we can get just a couple of active new members. I encourage all to help her in this process any way you can, but especially by attending meetings and welcoming and engaging prospective members when they do come to our meetings. Once a new member signs on, we need to provide effective mentoring for that individual.

Considering these positives, I believe we shall not only survive but will thrive if we remain resolute, flexible, and optimistic--like Shackleton did many years ago in circumstances much more difficult than we face.

Semper paratus, Whit Vick, Flotilla Commander

FLOTILLA STAFF OFFICERS

Paul Burns - Communications Services (FSO-CS)
Robert Strong - Finance (FSO-FN)
Marlene Koehl - Information Systems (FSO-IS)
Robert Flaige - Materials (FSO-MA)
Kyle George - Marine Safety (FSO-MS)
John Hadley - Member Training (FSO-MT)
Cris Vonderheide - Navigation Systems (FSO-NS)

Whit Vick - Operations (FSO-OP)
Kevin Koehl - Public Affairs (FSO-PA)
Carolyn Strong - Publications (FSO-PB)
Robert Strong - Public Education (FSO-PE)
Rebecca Habermas - Human Resources (FSO-HR)
Marlene Koehl - Program Visitor (FSO-PV)
Charles Smith - Vessel Examination (FSO-VE)

FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - LOGISTICS

HUMAN RESOURCES – REBECCA HABERMAS



We're very excited to once again have had two new recruits attend the May meeting. They are Charles White and Jed Norton. Charles has been attending BCA classes and is very interested in becoming Boat Crew certified. Charles has a Law Enforcement background. He attended St. Johns Law Academy where he received certifications in Law Enforcement and Corrections Officer training. Charles is now retired and has lots of time to give to our flotilla. He has also worked as a volunteer for Habijax for Humanity. Jed Norton is the Director of Operations for AK Security Services; he retired as EMA Director, and has previous experience as a police officer and a fire fighter. Jed is a member of the American Legion, and also works as a volunteer fire fighter. He's also interested in becoming Crew certified; he's an experienced boater and owns his own boat. Welcome Charles and Jed, we're looking forward to working with you both and making you productive members of our flotilla.

Becky Habermas, FSO-HR



Becky (center) with Charles White (left) and Jed Norton (right)

INFORMATION SYSTEMS – MARLENE KOEHL



I recently sent out an email to all members regarding updating your contact information. The Auxiliary directory and the Auxiliary's emergency calling list is drawn from the information that is in AUXDATA. If you have had a change in any of the following since first submitting the information, please complete form 7028 or send me an email with any changes: home phone number, cell phone number, email address or emergency contact person. It is important that we have the correct information in AUXDATA. If you are unsure, contact me at mekoehl@gmail.com and I will be happy to confirm what is now in the system.

Currently, we have only about one fourth of our members reporting mission hours. I understand that for many of us, reports are tedious and sometimes low on our list of priorities. However, submitting mission reports is one of the responsibilities of an Auxiliary member. If you are having difficulty with on-line reporting, please contact me and we will figure it out together. Thank you to the ten members who consistently submit reports to Information Systems.

Marlene Koehl, FSO-IS

PUBLIC AFFAIRS – KEVIN KOEHL



April May in Northeast Florida has been unseasonable cool, but the warm days and cool evenings have been perfect for enjoying boating on Jacksonville area waterways. The Jacksonville public boating events are starting to heat up with the Mug Race, Kayak races and Poker Runs filling the St. Johns River on the weekends. The Auxiliary provided security patrols for the Kayak race on May 5.

Photo at right:
Kevin Koehl & John Hadley,
standing on the pier beside
Whit Vick's facility *Carlie II*,
talking with two boaters at
the "River City Challenge"
Kayak race on the St Johns
River

Photo by Whit Vick



May 19 kicked off National Safe Boating week. Flotilla 14-8 supported this event with an information booth on Saturday, May 19 at West Marine in St. Johns Town Center, staffed by Bob Strong, Marlene and Kevin Koehl. On Sunday, a Vessel Safety Check (VSC) event was held at Mandarin Park Boat Ramp with Vessel Examiners Charlie Smith, John Hadley, Ralph Little, Bob Strong and Marlene and Kevin Koehl attending. In addition Becky Habermas participated to conduct qualifying VSCs to become a Vessel Examiner. New Auxiliary candidate Charles White participated to get a better understanding of Auxiliary operations. Approximately 10 VSCs were conducted in about 2 hours. Only a couple decals were awarded signifying how important conducting VSCs is to helping boaters identify and carry Federal and State required safety equipment. A special boating safety class was held at the West Marine at Town Center on Thursday, May 24. Bob Strong presented a class on the basic safety equipment required for area boaters.

Our Coast Guard Auxiliary Jacksonville Facebook page, **US Coast Guard Auxiliary Jacksonville, Florida**, continues to gain followers. Thirty six people "like" our page, receiving regular updates and hundreds of people view the page on a monthly basis. The page provides information on Auxiliary activities as well as stories and events of interest to area boaters. Ralph Little contributed an article in the *Mandarin Newsline* featuring the importance of Visual Display signals when boating (see article on page 13). Boating Safely Class information was published by the *Florida Times Union*. Information was also published to a new online website, <http://www.boatnortheast.com>, which specializes in boating information and events for Northeastern Florida.

Kevin Koehl, FSO-PA

PUBLICATIONS – CAROLYN STRONG



Flotilla Staff Officers are reminded to forward their reports to the Publications Officer by the 20th of each month. We are also always open to submissions of photographs and articles by members. This is your newsletter and your input is valued.

Carolyn Strong, FSO-PB

FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - PREVENTION

MEMBER TRAINING – JOHN HADLEY



The past month has been increasing in activity in many areas: public education, program visits, and vessel exams. This is a good month to be out and about. With this in mind, I have sought to take advantage of recent events in order to get scheduled flotilla operations updated. To get more activity in this area I hope an increase in motivational activity will keep member interest high.

After consulting with Whit Vick, FC, Cris Vonderheide, FSO-NS and others, we are hoping to take on a more active policy of bringing in more speakers. With some judicious choices, we hope to stimulate interest in our flotilla, its actions, and help fuel the light of volunteerism in prospective members. With this in mind, we are pleased to report that this past month we accomplished the following:

- Mr. Al Abattiello, Chairman of the Scenic Bartram Highway council spoke at the Tues 1 May meeting. He presented slides and spoke at length about the council's efforts which have generated grants to help with a plan for preservation of the historic St. Johns River in lower Duval and upper St. Johns counties. The talk was well received, and has served to encourage more activity.
- The 5 June meeting will feature retired LT. Bill Leeper, formerly of the Florida Highway Patrol. He will speak on some law enforcement issues, as well as the missions and goals we all serve to accomplish.

Presently, member training accomplishments for the year include:

- 2012 TCT update
- CPR refresher
- 7029 update training

I have received materials for refresher training in yearly mandatory USCG workplace/sexual harassment prevention. I will address scheduling, and will present dates and times later.

Respectfully, John Hadley FSO-MT

PROGRAM VISITATION – MARLENE KOEHL



On 19 May, the first day of National Safe Boating Week, flotilla members Kevin Koehl, Robert Strong and Marlene Koehl staffed a boating safety information table from 9:00 am to 4:15 pm at one of our partner locations, the West Marine store located at St. Johns Town Center. Approximately 30 contacts were made at the event. One new location was added in May to our partner list bringing the total number of program partners to forty-one. Our program visitors continue to call on the partner locations replenishing boating safety literature and being a point of contact. As of 20 May, 30 partner visits were made this month. We currently have five certified program visitors in our flotilla and would welcome others to join us. If you are interested in learning more about RBS-Program Visitations or know of a potential partner location, please contact me at mekoehl@gmail.com.

Marlene Koehl, FSO-PV

MARINE SAFETY – KYLE GEORGE



Libby Rattrie, Flotilla 14-5 (pb-rattrie@att.net) is currently planning and conducting HARPAT missions at marinas and boat ramps in our AOR. (She does land-based ones, looking for pollution; oil and hazardous substances.) These are usually done mid-day during the week so I have not been able to attend. If anyone would like to go along and help I'm sure Libbie would appreciate it. You can count your hours for our flotilla.

Kyle J George, FSO-MS

PUBLIC EDUCATION – BOB STRONG



May was our best month this year for students. We had a total of 19 students complete two ABS courses. Yes, we only had one course scheduled, but a woman business owner called me about 1 May and asked if I would hold a special course on 10 May for ten working women. She said the women's husbands all own boats so their families all go boating every weekend and these women are unable to attend our Saturday courses.

John Hadley and I spent one whole day teaching the About Boating Safely (ABS) course to these women in the small conference room of a business in Mandarin. On the scheduled day only six women showed up, this was a good thing because the room was a wee bit small. We didn't have room for our screen so we removed a picture from one of the walls and projected directly onto a pale green surface. Our projector sat in the middle of the conference table with our laptop a foot or so behind it. I never realized how much heat that projector puts off. I was getting worried that our laptop might overheat but I didn't want to hold it on my lap either because laptops get hot on the bottom. I've often wondered who came up with the name "Laptop"; they obviously never set one on their lap for any length of time.

One really big advantage with this group of students was they all knew exactly what we were talking about, especially when we talked about docking, handling lines, anchoring and many other operating situations. They also had developed many misconceptions about some practices that I will not discuss at this time, but almost all agreed that their husbands needed to take this safe boating course. None would commit to a date that was going to happen.

The regular 12 May ABS course at the Stellar building had thirteen students. A grandfather brought three of his grandchildren ages 15 to 17. They were all cousins, not brothers or sisters. I presented all three our pocket card with their date of birth noted on it. This is a new requirement by the State of Florida so they don't have to wait for their Education I.D. Card. They can now leave our classroom, jump on a boat and operate it without any direct supervision. Oh my, what am I doing? Think I'm getting too old for this job.

Paul Burns is still working out of town, so we need another instructor with boating experience to help teach the courses scheduled for 23 June & 14 July. Please contact me if you are interested in helping.

Bob Strong, FSO-PE

VESSEL EXAMINER – CHARLES SMITH



On Saturday, 5 May, Marlene Koehl and I entered Epping Forest Yacht Club to perform previously coordinated vessel examinations. Unfortunately, the harbor master had neglected to inform me that two weeks before, the US Power Squadron had examined fourteen vessels. Marlene examined one that was awarded a decal. One side benefit was that a concerned boater reported a partially submerged navigational aid that needed to be repaired or replaced. That information was passed to the USCG for resolution.

On 20 May a Vessel Safety Check (VSC) effort was performed at the Mandarin Park Marina. It was a very productive day. All examiners present completed their annual requirement of five VSCs. Becky Habermas completed her five qualifying exams. Charles White, who is awaiting his membership number, was present to monitor examiners and assist in maintaining checklists.

On Saturday, 23 June, 1000-1400, our efforts will be directed at the Florida Yacht Club. Mr. Stephen Crowder, the new waterfront director, will advertise for us at their monthly club meeting. In the past this has proved to be very busy and productive. Those examiners who have not completed their annual requirement should make every attempt to be available for this one.

A total of 63 VSCs have been reported thus far for the year. Those who dislike the computer reports can simply snail mail a copy of the completed exams to our FSO-IS and she will enter the data in AUXINFO.

Charlie Smith, FSO-VE

FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - RESPONSE

OPERATIONS – WHIT VICK



Kevin Koehl served as crew and John Hadley as crew trainee on 5 May on our 14-8 facility, *Carlie II*, at the River City Challenge, a kayak race on the St Johns River in downtown Jacksonville. We were joined by John Davis and Marc Lang from Flotilla 14-4 on Marc's facility, *Sentry*. This was a beautiful day to be out on the river on a boat and a reminder to me of what can really be a fun part of being in the Auxiliary.

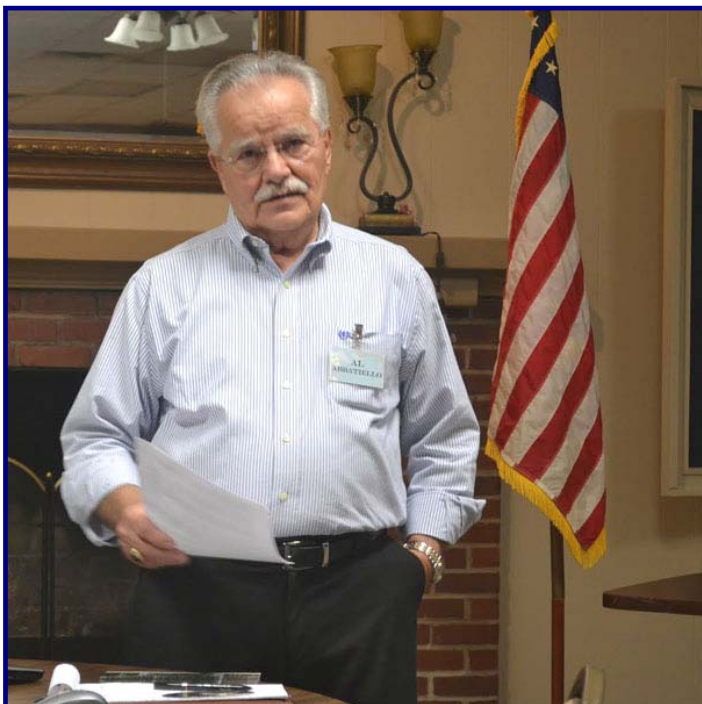
The next weekend, on 12 May, a meeting was held in Welaka to go over what will be coming up this season at the Auxiliary Welaka detachment. Mike Owsley, from Flotilla 14-1, and Ted Schneider, from Flotilla 14-7, outlined details of the Welaka operation.

CWO Doug Schubert, Station Mayport commander, brought the 18 foot Welaka facility down from Mayport where the boat had undergone extensive engine and electrical maintenance. There were also officers from Florida Fish and Wildlife and Putnam County Sherriff's office who thanked us for being there and pledged support for Welaka Auxiliary mission. Some new items for this year: Patrols will be run from approximately 1500 until dusk, as these are the most likely times for recreational boaters to need assistance; crew trainees for Welaka can ride on the boat during patrols. This should provide anyone interested in operations more opportunities for training.

With quite a few prospective members currently looking into joining our flotilla, we can hope that an additional boat or two might become available for our operations program. This could make a huge difference.

Whit Vick, FSO-OP

FLOTILLA 14-8 PHOTO ALBUM



Flotilla Meeting 01 May 2012

Mr. Al Abattiello, Chairman of the Scenic Bartram Highway council spoke at our May meeting. He presented a slide program and spoke at length of the council's efforts which have led to grants to help with producing a plan for preservation of the historic St. Johns River in lower Duval and upper St. Johns counties.

Congratulations



Carolyn Strong received congratulations from Kevin Koehl, VFC and Whit Vick, FC for 30 years of Auxiliary Membership.

John Hadley received a 4th Sustained Service Award and 2nd Auxiliary Performance Award for RBS-VE/PV



Meeting photos by Marlene Koehl

VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS

On 20 May a Vessel Safety Check (VSC) effort was performed at the Mandarin Park Marina. It was a very productive day.

All examiners present completed their annual requirement of five VSCs. Becky Habermas completed her five qualifying exams. Charles White, who is awaiting his membership number, was present to monitor examiners and assist in maintaining checklists.



Above: Kevin and Becky prepare to view the nav lights and hull ID numbers

Left: Becky intently studies the documenting process.

Vessel Safety Checks continued...

Right:

Bob Strong explains the “ins and outs” of engine compartment care and compliance standards.



Left:

Marlene Koehl supports with brochure handouts

Right:

Charles White (seated), who is awaiting his membership number, was present to monitor examiners and to assist in maintaining checklists, shown here with Ralph Little and Charlie Smith (back to camera).



VSC Photos by John Hadley

“Whatever floats your boat”

By Kevin Koehl

One recent Sunday morning at the Marina at Ortega Landing was not so pleasant for a boat owner. As I walked toward the Marina office, I saw a group of boaters gathered to view a boat that had sunk in the slip at the dock overnight ruining a beautiful morning for the boat owner. Many sympathetic and supportive boaters brainstormed about what it would take to re-float the boat. Everyone had ideas, most of which would not work. The only way to refloat the boat was to get the transom above the waterline, then pump the water out of the boat. The boat owner called Sea Tow for assistance, but it would be some time before they could arrive, so the boaters made valiant attempts to secure the boat to the dock and physically lift the rear of the boat high enough to get the transom above the waterline. Manually lifting a boat full of water was not possible and soon, after many attempts, Sea Tow arrived on scene. A diver secured two air bags underneath and on each side of the outboard motor. The airbags were inflated to lift the transom above the water. A high volume pump was used to pump water from inside the boat, livewell and bilge. What caused the boat to sink was not clear, but after securing the thru hull to the livewell, the boat was stable enough to be towed to a nearby boat yard for diagnosis and repair. The event resulted in a restless night for me as I started thinking about the thru hull fittings, hose clamps, and hoses that are below the waterline on my own boat. It is definitely a good idea to make sure every boat has adequate hose clamps and good hoses on all thru hull fittings. Periodically checking the tightness for hose clamps on my thru hull fittings is definitely on my “to do” list.



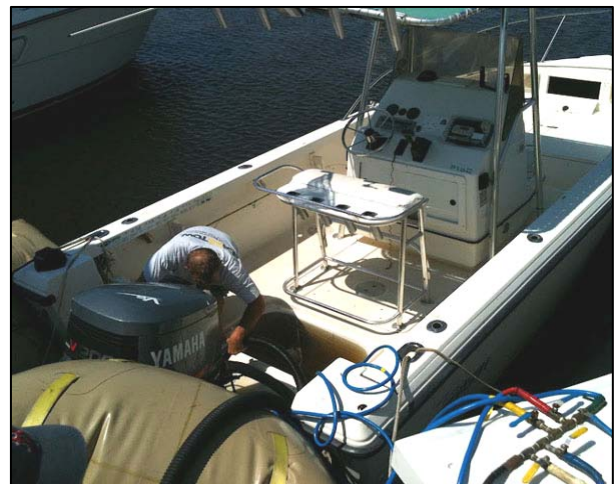
View 1 – Sinking boat



View 2 – Full of water



View 3 – Air bags to the rescue



View 4 - Success!

LT. BILL LEEPER - GUEST SPEAKER AT JUNE FLOTILLA MEETING

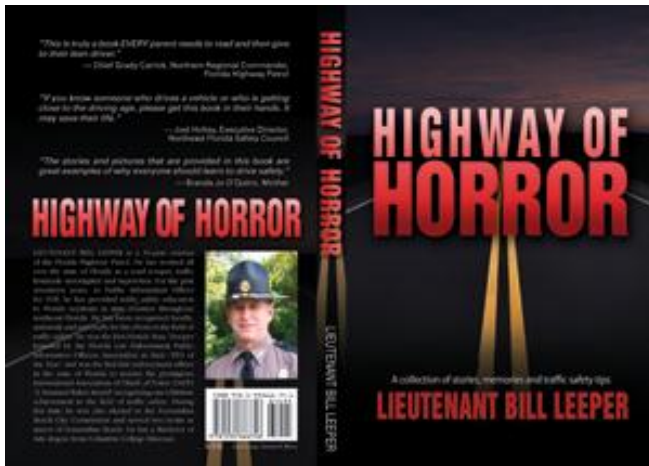
Lt. Bill Leeper recently retired from the Florida Highway Patrol after serving 35 years in the agency and 18 years as a Public Information officer for Jacksonville.



Bill Leeper grew up in Fernandina Beach and graduated from high school there in 1971, was a baseball player of some note, and played in the NY Mets professional baseball system for a time.

Bill learned from an early age that public service is an honorable way to help people. He has served as a Florida State Trooper for the past 35 years. He recently received the International Association of Police Chiefs' "J. Stannard Baker Award" for outstanding career achievements in highway safety, the first Florida law enforcement officer to achieve this award. He has served as President of the Northeast Florida Safety Council, is Chairman of the Nassau County Community Traffic Safety Team, and serves on the board of the American Red Cross, Micah's Place, Columbia College National Alumni Association and US Army Jacksonville Community Advisory Board.

In other activities, Mr. Leeper served on the Fernandina Beach City Commission and served two terms as Mayor of Fernandina Beach. He is running for Sheriff of Nassau County in the November elections.



Florida Highway Patrol Lt. Bill Leeper has written a book just released called *Highway of Horror*. "It is a collection of crashes, stories and pictures designed to help keep you safe on the highway," he said. A copy of *Highway of Horror* can be obtained at highpitchedhum.net/index2.htm. This is the website of *High-Pitched Hum Publishing* in Jacksonville Beach.

"As far as a role model for public service, I cannot think of a better one. I have asked him to include some remarks about this. In speaking with this gentleman, one thing I really appreciate about him is that he is a

listener. It would be great if our young people and new members, and applicants can hear this message. This IS what we do - serve."

John Hadley, SO-MT 14-8

We have invited some guests to come and hear our speaker. There will be a reception with refreshments beginning at 1900. Flotilla members, please make every effort to attend.

Mandarin Newsline – June Edition



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Update Distress Flares – Using or Seeing

By Contributing Writer Ralph Little, Flotilla 14-8

In many coastal or river communities, lights in the sky after dusk are rare, but streaking lights always make people look twice. With the exception of fireworks events, these streaking or arcing lights at night should make you sit up and take notice. They are probably a Visual Distress Signal (VDS), commonly referred to as an Aerial Flare. Besides having current flares onboard for your own use, it is important to others that you recognize a call for help, have the necessary nautical knowledge and know how to take action.

One family was made happy and safe one evening near Cedar Key, Florida in April 2004. After a flare had been seen from a local restaurant, a waitress called the Coast Guard. Seeing a second flare, an Auxiliarist on the scene estimated the distance to the flare to be one to two miles. The Coast Guard directed a Florida Wildlife Conservation officer (FWC) with an airboat to the area where the Auxiliarist told him to “Follow Orion’s (the constellation) “knife sheath” stars down to the waterline”. “This will place you in the approximate spot the flares were sighted.” Following the progress, the Auxiliarist used a nearby boat’s VHF radio to re-direct the Officer who eventually returned with five persons.

The family’s boat had run aground. The husband, wife and three little girls were okay, but cold and shaken, having had no way to stay warm and no emergency supplies. While all ended well, it may not have been. So here are some guidelines should you see what you believe is a flare.

1. Estimate flare’s direction and distance from you.
2. Record time of each sighting
3. Know your location.
4. Call Coast Guard.
5. Describe flare’s action.
 - A. Did you see flare rise and fall, or just fall?
 - B. Did flare rapidly or slowly rise and fall?
 - C. Was trajectory mostly vertical or horizontal?
7. What color?
8. How long did flare burn?
9. Estimate angle from you to top of flare’s trajectory.

(Hold fist at arm’s length, thumb on top and bottom on the horizon. Was top of trajectory above or below the top of your fist?)

Answers will aid the Coast Guard in calculating true distance and direction from your location to the approximate position of the vessel in distress. VDSs come in a variety of forms and include smoke, hand held and launched flares. They do expire, so buy well and check the dates annually. They are required in coastal waters and highly recommended on the river.

USCG Sector Jacksonville News



The Navy League's Annual Awards Night honoring the U. S. Navy, Marines, Merchant Marine and Coast Guard Sailors and Coastie of the Year was held on Thursday evening, May 17th, 2012 at the Ocean Breeze Club, Mayport. The Commanding Officers, Staff Officers and Enlisted personnel were at this event to recognize the outstanding achievements of the Awardees.

The 2012 Coastie-of-the-Year is FN Danielle Garcia of Station Port Canaveral.

SECTOR JACKSONVILLE COASTIE-OF-THE-YEAR 2012

FN Danielle Garcia

Dani Garcia joined the U. S. Coast Guard in September 2010. She was born in Pasadena, TX. Prior to joining the Coast Guard she lived in Columbus, GA.

FN Garcia reported to Station Port Canaveral in the fall of 2010 as a fireman and hit the ground running. At Station Port Canaveral, she diligently worked to complete a number of qualifications including boarding team member and boat engineer.

FN Garcia's interests include physical fitness, firearms and community service. She enjoys finding new ways to help people or co-workers both on and off duty as evidenced by her long list of volunteer efforts.

FN Garcia is currently on the ME A School list and hopes to be assigned to one of the Tactical Law Enforcement Teams upon completion of A School.



*RADM William Baumgartner
Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District*

Announces

*U.S. Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville
Change of Command Ceremony at which
Captain Andy Blomme, USCG
will be relieved by
Captain Tom Allan, USCG
on*

*Friday the eighth of June at ten o'clock in the morning
Naval Station Mayport, HSL-48*

DHS AND COAST GUARD MEMORIAL DAY MESSAGES:

May 24, 2012

Dear Colleagues,

On Monday, we pause to remember our men and women in uniform who have sacrificed their lives to protect our freedom. We are thankful for all the soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and members of the Coast Guard who have fought and died throughout American history.

This year, we also commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812, when America mobilized all its resources, including a forerunner of the U.S. Coast Guard, the Revenue-Marine, to fight the dominant naval power in the world. During the war, the Revenue-Marine made important contributions, including the capture of an enemy ship.

The bravery of our military is a reminder of the spirit of sacrifice that has helped make our nation great - the same spirit that motivates today's Coast Guard personnel; reservists and National Guard members throughout DHS; and the 50,000 military veterans who continue their service to America as part of the DHS family.

Wherever you are on Memorial Day, I encourage you to observe our National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. This act of solidarity honors the fallen and reminds us all of the importance of carrying on their work.

Thank you for your continued service and commitment to the Department and our Nation.

Yours very truly,

Janet Napolitano

Secretary

**** **** **** ****



MAY 12

FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC

SUBJ: MEMORIAL DAY 2012

1. Shipmates, Memorial Day is a time to honor and remember our fallen Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Merchant Mariners, and Coast Guardsmen.

By taking the time to attend to the manners of our profession, we respect the service of those women and men who gave their lives fighting in our Nations wars. We owe them an eternal debt of gratitude.

2. As we reflect upon those who gave their last full measure of devotion, it is also important that we pay tribute to all our women and men in the Armed Forces currently standing the watch, many of whom are in harm's way, fighting to preserve our freedoms. It is their dedication to duty that secures our Nation. It is their commitment that protects us. It is their service that inspires us. It is our duty to honor them.

3. The names of our lost heroes are etched on the Coast Guard World War Memorial in Arlington Cemetery and on other memorials throughout our nation and around the world, many in locations where you might be surprised to find them. I encourage Coast Guardsmen to visit the Coast Guard Historians website to find the memorials near you, and make a point to visit one. If you find a memorial that is in need of some care, there is no better way to honor our lost Shipmates than to tend to it, as a unit or on your own. You can link to the website at:

<http://www.uscg.mil/HISTORY/FAQS/USCGMEMORIALS.ASP>

Admiral Bob Papp, Commandant



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

**America's
Volunteer
Guardians**
Since 1939

FLOTILLA 14-8 MEETING

Tuesday 05 June 2012

Fellowship & Refreshments 1900, Speaker at 1930

Regular Meeting to follow Guest Speaker

Florida Tackle and Gun Club

GUEST SPEAKER AT JUNE FLOTILLA MEETING

LT. BILL LEEPER – FLORIDA HWY PATROL

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- | | | |
|------|-------|--|
| MAY | 28 | Memorial Day |
| JUNE | 05 | Flotilla Meeting – 1900 - Florida Tackle & Gun Club – Guest Speaker |
| | 07 | May 7029 Reports due to FSO-IS |
| | 20 | Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to VFC & FSO-PB |
| | 23 | ABS Class – 0730 to 1700 – Stellar Building |
| JULY | 04 | Independence Day – Fly Your Flag |
| | 05 | Flotilla Meeting – 1900 - Florida Tackle & Gun Club |
| | 07 | June 7029 Reports due to FSO-IS |
| | 14 | ABS Class – 0730 to 1700 – Stellar Building |
| | 15 | Division Staff Officers' Reports due to VCDR 14 |
| | 16-21 | Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament |
| | 20 | Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to VFC & FSO-PB |
| | 21 | Division 14 Quarterly Meeting – 0900 - Stellar Building – Host Flotilla 14-5 |



8 IS GREAT !

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