

---

# EIGHT



# BELLS

---

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

Volume XXXVIII No. 7

July 2012

FLOTILLA COMMANDER  
FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER  
PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

[cwvick@comcast.net](mailto:cwvick@comcast.net)  
[kevinkoehl@gmail.com](mailto:kevinkoehl@gmail.com)  
[cgstrong@comcast.net](mailto:cgstrong@comcast.net)

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

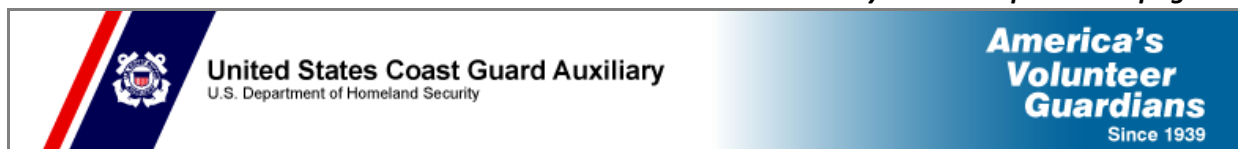
## USCG Sector Jacksonville Change of Command



**Left to Right: Capt. Andy Blomme, RADM Baumgartner, Capt. Thomas Allan**

*USCG photo by Petty Officer Jessica Potter*

*Story and more photos on pages 13-18*



Visit our award winning website at: [www.SafeBoatingJax.com](http://www.SafeBoatingJax.com)

## FROM WHIT VICK - YOUR FLOTILLA COMMANDER



### **Making a Difference**

At our June flotilla meeting John Hadley, our FSO-Member Training, arranged for LT Bill Leeper to give a talk. LT Leeper is somewhat of a local celebrity with numerous law enforcement accomplishments, and he recently retired after 35 years with the Florida Highway patrol. Although most of his talk dealt with motor vehicle crashes and how to avoid them, he told a story at the end of his presentation that stuck with me. I wanted to remember this and also share it for those unable to attend the meeting. The story went something like this:

A man saw a young boy throwing starfish stranded on a beach back into the ocean. The old man asked the boy why he was doing this. The boy answered, "So the starfish will not die". The man told the boy that because there were so many starfish on the beach, there was no way this would really make any difference. As the boy threw another starfish back into the ocean, he replied, "It made a difference to THAT starfish."

As Auxiliarists, we may wonder if our efforts are really doing any good. When I see what our members are doing in their interactions with the public -- teaching boating safety classes, doing vessel exams, going on program visits, working at Auxiliary safety information tables, writing articles about recreational boating safety, developing web sites, working with Auxiliary recruits, I believe, like the little boy, you are making a difference for THOSE people. Keep up your good work.

*Semper paratus, Whit Vick, Flotilla Commander*

## FROM KEVIN KOEHL - YOUR FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER



### **Attendees of our June meeting**

Thanks to all members of 14-8 who attended the June flotilla meeting. John Hadley has been doing a great job of following up on the recommendations of the R and R team by scheduling guest speakers to expand our meetings beyond the business meeting. It was exciting to see a good turnout for Bill Leeper's presentation. I am sure it made taking time out from celebrating his wedding anniversary worthwhile. Becky has been doing a great job managing multiple people interested in joining our flotilla.

A strong attendance also made a positive impression on the candidates attending our meeting. To be successful as a flotilla, we need members who are willing to take a leadership role in organizing flotilla activities and members who are willing to support those activities. Our last meeting was an excellent example of both coming together.

*Kevin Koehl, FSO-PA*

## 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

### **COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES – PAUL BURNS**

#### **"Can the FBI Turn off Your Computer and Other Computer Hysteria Rumors"**



I wish that I got paid for every email that I received that said there was some horrible computer virus coming that would do unimaginable things to my computer, infect the meat in my refrigerator, and make my hair fall out. Since I've never read one of those emails that had an ounce of truth, (except for that "Hair Loss" virus), I was unmoveably skeptical when I got emails warning that legitimate news sources were reporting that the FBI was going to turn off the Internet connections for hundreds of thousands of Americans because of a computer security issue.

After waiting a month for the hysteria to subside and doing some research, I've discovered an "ounce" of truth in a "gallon" of hysteria. There was a criminal group that released a computer virus that took control of a computer's Internet access, directing those computers only to the criminals' websites.

The FBI nabbed the bad guys, shutdown the criminals' operation and as a temporary measure, re-programmed the criminals' websites to put the infected computer's Internet traffic back on the correct path. This measure did not repair the infected computers it only nullified the criminal effects of the virus as long as the FBI was willing to allow the criminal's computer to stay online. The problem is that the FBI's "band aid" disguises the problem so the owners of those computers may not know they are still infected. Those computers that are still infected are apparently only able to access the Internet due to the FBI's control over the criminal's network which is planned to be shut down on July 9th. It's estimated that this affects about 500,000 computers in the US which is a pretty small percentage.

Here is how you can set your mind at ease on this issue:

First go to this internet address: <http://www.dns-ok.us>. If you see a green background, you can breathe a sigh of relief and fuhgeddaboutit. You are NOT infected.

If you see a red background, your computer has the infection and you may need to seek a Computer Virus expert for advice. It's far from the end of the world, however. Keep in mind if you see the red background and you do not have the problem corrected by July 9th, you will lose your Internet access on that computer and make it more difficult and possibly more expensive to repair your computer.

Most up-to-date computer virus programs will stop, kill and correct this virus. I suggest Microsoft Security Essentials. It's free to download and install from Microsoft. It works without you having to help it, and it is the most effective program that I've seen to stop an infection the instant your computer is exposed.

*Paul Burns, FSO-CS*

### **HUMAN RESOURCES – REBECCA HABERMAS**



#### **We have 4 new members joining our ranks this month.**

They are in various stages in the application process but most of them have completed their paperwork and are awaiting member numbers. They are: Tim Hansen, George Law, Whatley Law, and Tom Edwards.

Tim Hansen attended our June meeting. Tim works as a Criminal Investigator for the Navy at NAS JAX. Tim's main interest in the Auxiliary is becoming Boat Crew certified and he has already completed his Boat Crew Academy training. He would like to eventually become a Coxswain and learn more about Aviation and Air Patrols. Tim also does volunteer work as a troop leader for the Boy Scouts of America.

*HR continued on page 4*

*HR continued...*

George Law who was also at our June meeting, has a background in computers and is an experienced boater as well. He's an avid fisherman and enjoys scuba diving. George would like to learn more about Boat Crew and also being an Instructor for the Auxiliary. He has worked in other volunteer organizations like Habijax and with the All Saints Episcopal Church.

Whatley Law is Manager of the Florida Operations and Sales for MSPACE Holding Inc. He's an experienced boater, and a master scuba diver. His interest in the Auxiliary is to get Boat Crew certified and eventually become a Coxswain. Whatley has also worked as a reserve Deputy Sheriff for 8 years focusing on Search and Rescue operations as well as 2nd man in patrol car shifts, fund raising with the Delores Barr Weaver Golf Tournament for 10 years raising money for Habijax. He was formerly an alumni board member of Episcopal High School, fund raising chair, and for the last 6 years, a board member of St. Johns Country Day School directing and overseeing new construction of 6 major building projects. Whatley also serves as the Institutional Representative and Assistant Scout Master of Troop 136 of the Boy Scouts of America and he would very much like to bring his skills and experience to the USCG Auxiliary.

Tom Edwards is an attorney. He is an avid boater, enjoys hunting, fishing and scuba diving. He owns a 19' Mako and a Piper Lance aircraft. His interest in the Auxiliary is becoming Boat Crew certified and enhancing his seamanship skills, as well as working in Aviation and Air patrols. He has worked as a volunteer with various legal and non-legal organizations including ABOTA – American Board of Trial Lawyers Association. He was President of the State Trial Lawyers Association, and of the Jacksonville Bar Association. He also did fund-raising for United Way.

Mike Montonera also attended the June meeting, although he has not yet decided to join our group. Mike is retired from CSX and has a lot of boating experience. He owns 2 boats, a 16' Runabout and a 26' Cabin Cruiser. I'd like to thank Mike for attending the June meeting and I look forward to helping him become a member of our flotilla.

I would also like to thank Daniel Cronrath for coming to the June meeting. Daniel turned in his application but unfortunately is not going to be able to join our flotilla. Daniel has taken a job in Gainesville and will not be able to spend very much time in the Jacksonville area. He has decided to withdraw his application at this time. Congratulations Daniel and good luck in your new job.

Welcome to all our new members, thank you for your enthusiasm and for being so prompt in turning in your applications. We look forward to working with you in the USCG Auxiliary.

*Becky Habermas, FSO-HR*



***New Members: Tim Hansen, George Law, Whatley Law and Tom Edwards - Welcome to Flotilla 14-8!***

***George, Tom and Whatley all attended  
the About Boating Safely course  
Saturday, June 23rd***



## **INFORMATION SYSTEMS – MARLENE KOEHL**



While we still occasionally experience some difficulties with electronic reporting, many of the issues of the past have been resolved and submitting your mission hours should be getting easier and quicker. The 7029 reports are due by the 7th of each month. However, if you have been unable to get them in on time, please submit any unreported hours and I will get them posted in AUXDATA so that we have an accurate count of your volunteer hours. Remember that other mission reports (7038, 7046 and 7030, etc) may be done as missions are completed.....anytime during the month. I send out a confirmation email that I have received and posted every report submitted.

Therefore, if you submit a report and do not receive confirmation from me within one week, please contact me to verify that I did indeed receive it. As always, I am available to assist you with questions or concerns regarding mission reports, certifications, training status and changes to member contact information. Please contact me at [mekoehl@gmail.com](mailto:mekoehl@gmail.com).

*Marlene Koehl, FSO-IS*

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS – KEVIN KOEHL**



June 1 begins hurricane season for Floridians. Tropical storm Beryl decided it could not wait that long, hitting northeast Florida in late May, ending several years of drought for our area. The storm was an early reminder of how weather can play a major role in safe boating. As a relatively new "Florida" boater it was a test run for implementing a hurricane plan for securing my vessel. Boat US provides great information for techniques on properly securing a vessel for major storms. I included links to the latest trends in preparing boats for storms on our Coast Guard Auxiliary Jacksonville Facebook page. While Beryl never reached hurricane strength, the storm

did sink several moored boats in its path. I am happy to report, even though the center of the storm passed within 2 miles of where my boat was moored, it made it through Beryl without damage.

West Marine in St. Johns Town Center has been a very aggressive partner in utilizing the Auxiliary this year. In addition to the information table during Safe Boating Week, they sponsored a safe boating seminar on May 24. Bob Strong taught the course with Paul Burns, Marlene and Kevin Koehl attending. A safe boating event was also held on June 16 with Bob Strong and Paul Burns manning an information table.

*Kevin Koehl, FSO-PA*

## **PUBLICATIONS – CAROLYN STRONG**



We recently got a sneak preview of the winners of the District 7 Publications Contest. I am happy to say our flotilla newsletter EIGHT BELLS placed 2nd! I couldn't do it without your help. This is your newsletter and all of your input is valued. Thank you!

I just want to add that I feel really good about *EIGHT BELLS* winning 2nd place. The 1st place winner, Dottie Riley is not only the District 7 DSO-PB, she is also FSO-PB 79 and SO-PB for Division 7, and she won 1st place for both her flotilla and for her division. She was also first place winner for the past 3 years!

Karen Miller, FSO of FL 11-1 (3rd place), was once the District 7 DSO-PB. She currently serves as Seventh District ADSO-Member Training; SO-PB and SO-MT for Division 11; and FSO-PB for her flotilla. She was a tremendous help and excellent mentor to me when she was DSO-PB D7 and I was a rookie Publications Officer.

Karen, one of our Publications Officers is also quite active in the Operations programs. Kudos, Karen!

Check this out - <http://tbo.com/ar/409479/> (see photo on next page).

*Carolyn Strong, FSO-PB*

*PB continued on page 6*

PB continued...

## Crew saves pelican with fishing hooks in beak, body

Photo by Deb Mallory

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary member Karen Miller helps an injured pelican after finding a fishing lure at least 6 inches long embedded in its beak and body. Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary members later removed the hooks and the seabird is recovering. Karen, an active member of Flotilla 11-1, currently serves as ADSO-MT D7; SO-PB and SO-MT 11. She also serves as Publications Staff Officer for Flotilla 11-1.



### FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - PREVENTION

#### **MARINE SAFETY – KYLE GEORGE**

##### **Mickey Mouse comes to the First Coast**



The Jacksonville Port Authority, Mitsui O.S.K. Lines and TraPac announced Tuesday that Walt Disney Parks and Resorts began importing most of the Florida merchandise through JaxPort's TraPac Container Terminal at Dames Point, a shift that underscores the port's growing attractiveness to shippers.

Port officials said the move also reflects the significance of MOL's investment in JaxPort and commitment to Jacksonville. The Tokyo-based shipping company opened its \$300 million, state-of-the-art TraPac Container Terminal at Dames Point in 2009. TraPac is the U.S. terminal operating arm of MOL.

Gov. Rick Scott and Lt. Gov. Jennifer Carroll joined Jacksonville Mayor Alvin Brown, JaxPort CEO Paul Anderson, Florida Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Mark Wilson and MOL (America) Vice President Dennis Sheehan in welcoming special guests from Walt Disney Parks and Resorts: U.S., Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Anthony Connelly, and surprise guest Mickey Mouse to the docks for the announcement.

Gov. Rick Scott also claims the new expanded business model for the port will increase funding opportunities and community support for the long put off Jaxport Police Department which has been scheduled several times to be annexed. The current plan is to annex the department by January 2013.



*Kyle J. George, FSO-MS*

## **MEMBER TRAINING – JOHN HADLEY**



**The flotilla experienced some interesting activity during June.**

Because of our Human Resources and Public Education, we found ourselves actively addressing the presence of one, then two, then four new shipmates. This has had a great effect on efforts to improve our flotilla meeting presentations. In this, we can say we have enjoyed a certain level of success.

We are pleased to note that, because of some of our headliners, we can also say for sure that the interest level seems to have climbed a bit, as well. So far, we can say that we have had the President of the Corridor Management Council/ William Bartram

Scenic Highway, our last month's speaker LT. Bill Leeper FHP (ret.), and for the upcoming month: the Captain and supervising Fire Chief of the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department fire boat.

The effort expended in getting these speakers to visit us has been exciting and interesting for sure. More importantly, we plan to make this our policy. The more we get exposure to the other agencies we meet, the more exciting and interesting our activities will be to our members. Flotilla 14-8 matters as a unit assisting the United States Coast Guard. At some level, our missions and activities affect other public assistance agencies.

We would not enjoy the success and growth we have had in Member Training without the inclusion of these activities as part of the policies we employ in 'growing the flotilla,' and neither would we enjoy the success we have had without the encouragement, interest and enthusiasm of our fellow shipmates.

*Respectfully, John Hadley FSO-MT*

More Member Training...

WEBINARS: This is how members can access some of the more high-level training, even without an ID card, and still as IQ-members. The three core-level REQUIRED courses, AUX COM, AUX SEA and AUX WEA, at one point each, will lead to the eventual total of 7 points - and AUXOP specialty. No quals as Boat Crew, Coxswain or Watchstander are required to do this... just perseverance, and your member number, a computer with a microphone and speakers - and time. These classes are given at 8:30 p.m. our time, and will run up to 2 hours one or two times per week. Contact John Hadley, FSO-MT at [john.hadley83@yahoo.com](mailto:john.hadley83@yahoo.com) to learn more.

And more...

As for ICS-300....it is an advanced FEMA Course and is required (either as a mandatory qualifier or an elective) for many of the advanced medals and ribbons. Examples: Marine Safety Training Ribbon, Trident Device, AUXOP Device (elective), etc.

Current needs are due to the recent Pollution Responders classes being held at Station. It is a basic requirement for that certification. Prerequisites include the usual, ICS-100, 200 & 700.

Hope this helps.

*Respectfully, JHFields, SO-MT 14*

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION – BOB STRONG**



**May was our best month this year for students.** We had a total of 19 students complete two ABS courses. For awhile it was beginning to look as if June might beat May with only one course but then, just like the stock market, students began dropping out. We ended up with ten really wonderful students, three are prospective new members. For the first time, in a long time, we had two students score 100 on the final exam in the same course. Paul Burns and I were the instructors and Jeff Blomgren helped us get started. Thanks to both. Our next ABS course will be on July 14. Please let me know if you are willing to help teach this course.

At the end of each course we ask the students to complete a course evaluation form. For some reason almost all students say they would like training on Navigation. I am considering teaching the Auxiliary's "Weekend Navigator" course. Please let me know if you would like to help teach it sometime this Fall or Winter.

*Bob Strong, FSO-PE*

## **PROGRAM VISITATION – MARLENE KOEHL**



The Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program (RBS-VP) is going strong. By the end of the second quarter we have more than doubled the number of partner visits reported compared to all of 2011. A large part of this is due to the time and effort of John Hadley who is leading the program visitor team with more than 200 contacts. John visits many locations on a weekly basis. Currently, our five member team is supporting 42 partner locations including nine new partners added in the first six months of 2012.

Partner locations are not limited to marinas and the marine based industry. We provided boating safety literature to a variety of locations including, libraries, insurance agencies, tax collector offices and local business and service locations that have customer waiting areas. Offering the public more access to boating safety information increases safety awareness and may in fact save someone's life. If you know of a potential location to add to our partner list or are interested in becoming part of the RBS-VP mission, please contact John Hadley, FSO-MT, at [john.hadley83@yahoo.com](mailto:john.hadley83@yahoo.com) or Marlene Koehl, FSO-PV, at [mekoehl@gmail.com](mailto:mekoehl@gmail.com) to get started.

*Marlene Koehl, FSO-PV*

## **VESSEL EXAMINER – CHARLES SMITH**



With the approval of the Flotilla Commander John Hadley has graciously consented to act as FSO-VE for the next several months. I sincerely expect to be able to resume my duties by the end of September.

As of this input 93 Vessel Safety Checks have been conducted by the flotilla. I'm sure John will arrange a couple more organized events before the end of summer. Regardless, I encourage all examiners to independently allot some time to individual efforts. We will have several new members who wish to qualify as VEs and they can perform in our team effort as soon as they receive their membership numbers.

*Charlie Smith, FSO-VE*

## **FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - RESPONSE**

### **OPERATIONS – WHIT VICK**



My Auxiliary facility, *Carlie II*, has been temporarily taken up to St Simons, GA and I will bring it back if it ever stops raining on the weekends.

I did a patrol in Welaka June 3, 2012 with Steve Parsons from Flotilla 14-7 on his facility, a 22 foot cuddy cabin. We first went to Lake George and Silver Glen Springs where the usual expected gaggle of boats and revelers was encountered. We then proceeded south out of Lake George, past Astor, to Lake Dexter, which is a shallow lake and we stayed strictly in the channel there.

The Saint Johns River there looks like something out of the 1950s or '60s, with mostly small houses and a few palaces sprinkled about.

On the return trip, we spotted what we thought at first might be a manatee at the water's surface. We approached slowly to investigate and realized it was not moving. Probing the structure with a boat hook revealed a rock hard immovable object, possibly a rock or conceivably a very hard piling. This was awash near the edge of the narrow channel and would definitely damage any boat unfortunate enough to encounter it. It would likely not be seen at night and is subtle in daylight. We photographed it, noted its position, and relayed this information to Ted Schneider ADSO-NS, Chuck Farmer SO-NS 14 and our AUXLO Eric Wieczorek. Eric sent the information to the Jacksonville ANT (aids to navigation) group to get this into the local notice to mariners.

*OP Report continued on page 9*

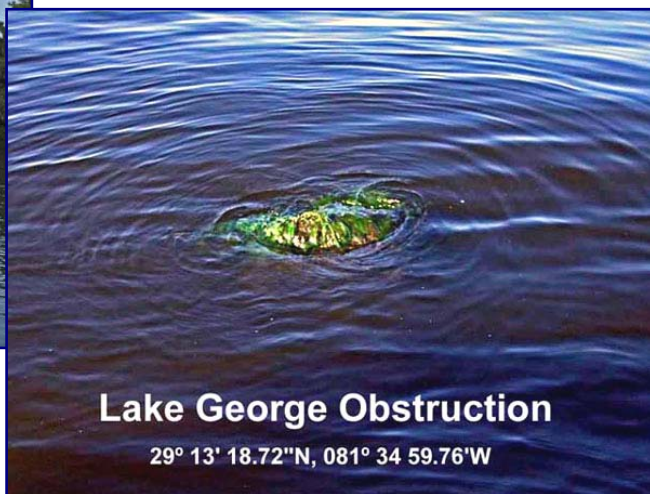
*OP Report continued...*

Chuck Farmer sent the information to Mike Kanis who is in charge of chart updating for District 7. Mike and Chuck helped me fill out the NOAA chart updating form which Mike has forwarded to NOAA so this can be included as a dangerous obstruction on the chart of Lake George (chart #114965). All this was new for me, and thanks go to Chuck Farmer and Mike Kanis for their help.

*Whit Vick, FSO-OP*



**"Gaggle of boats and revelers" on Lake George**



**The "Rock"**

*Photos by Whit Vick*

---

# FLOTILLA 14-8 PHOTO ALBUM

**Flotilla Meeting 5 June 2012**



---

**LT Bill Leeper, Florida Highway Patrol (ret.) spoke at our June meeting on the difference our volunteer efforts make in our community and presented a slide show on the importance of safe driving, getting the point across with pictures of actual highway crashes in our area.**

*Photo by Carolyn Strong*

---

---

# Congratulations

**Flotilla Meeting 5 June 2012**



**Paul Tynda received an Administrative Procedures Course Completion Certificate**



**Becky Habermas passed the Finger Print Exam**



**Charles White received congratulations from Whit Vick, FC and received his New Member Certificate and About Boating Safely Certificate**



**Charles White took the Oath of Membership, becoming the newest member of 14-8**

*Meeting photos by C. Strong*

---

## Mandarin Newsline – July Edition

---



### **United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Update High Risk – Kayak, Canoes, Jon Boats**

By Contributing Writer Ralph Little, Flotilla 14-8

---

Orange County, Apr. 12, 2012

The victim was fishing alone in a small Jon boat. .

Brevard County, Apr. 26, 2012

The victim was kayaking alone when he began experiencing breathing problems. The victim called 911 from his vessel. He then exited the kayak and began walking to shore dragging his kayak. While on the telephone with 911 he collapsed and fell forward. First responders located the victim face down in the water wearing a lifejacket.

These recent fatalities point out why U. S. Coast Guard and Florida boating authorities consider the class of small boats to be “high risk”. Boats such as canoes, kayaks, Jon boats and Personal Water Craft (jet skis) get special attention because of their accident rate. Capsizings, sinkings, or falls overboard from small boats account for 70 percent of all boating fatalities. I’ll discuss PWCs in another article.

It’s a matter of attitude for anglers, paddlers and hunters to protect their safety while using these craft in pursuit of their sport. While boating alone in such craft is not recommended, the reality is that many are sized for one person. Also, finding a partner for a trip may not be feasible and for some, being alone is part of the sport. If you’re in those situations, there is a premium on preparing well. Getting a safety exam will help maximize your safety and review things you might do better.

The Brevard kayaker did right by wearing his life jacket. We don’t know whether he would have survived if the jacket was a better choice. Choosing a Type I or II instead of the kayaker Type III he likely wore, would likely have turned the unconscious paddler face up and such a concern is something for a solitary sportsman to consider.

Vessel Safety Examiners have a special form for checking paddle craft, including row boats, paddleboards and sculls. Operators can have an exam and receive a decal even if their boats aren’t registered. As part of the free exam, the examiner will discuss the operator’s life jacket, sound and visible signaling devices, vessel condition (lines, flotation, covers, oars, hull and hardware), and whether navigation lights are needed. The session will also discuss recommendations, such as for bailing, visibility, emergency kits and spares.

Paddle craft or any boat operator can call Charles Smith at 904-541-1660 or use our website, [www.SafeBoatingJax.com](http://www.SafeBoatingJax.com) to set up a Vessel Safety check. You also may want to call Bob Strong at 904-721-1346 for specifics on the July 14th boating safety course or other dates.

---

---

# Guest Speakers at July 3rd Meeting

---



## Chief Chip Drysdale

As Chief of the Operations Division, Charles "Chip" Drysdale commands the largest function within the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD). He directs more than 900 personnel who staff the department's fire suppression apparatus, hazardous materials team, ocean lifeguards, 9-1-1 fire and rescue communications center and special operations team.

He will be accompanied by Captain Scott Turnbull who is skipper of Marine One, based at Marine One (yes, the same name) on Trout River. This is the 70-footer. He has been with JFRD for 16 years. Also attending will be John Bracey, Community Affairs Officer for JFRD.

Their talk will cover an overview of the Marine Section, its Assets, the type of calls they make, how their capabilities differ from the activities the USCG and USCGAUX can and do perform, as well as the operational protocols they follow in mission accomplishment.

As before, this will be the first item on the meeting agenda, starting at 1930 after refreshments and fellowship.

Another item on the agenda will be a brief (8 minute) slide show with video of the June 8th Sector Jacksonville Change of Command, for the benefit those of you who missed the event.

---

## Division 14 News

---

### Station Mayport radio watchstanders

Please mention to your membership Station Mayport could use one or two more Auxiliary radio watchstanders. If they are interested they can contact bm1 Eric Wieczorek 904-564-7592 for an appointment. Also they need to read the attached to understand the policies and requirements of watch standing. I have the 2012 Auxiliary watchstander schedule; this indicates the times that could be available to new watchstanders. I can be contacted at [scottdebrauwere@bellsouth.net](mailto:scottdebrauwere@bellsouth.net).

*Scott de Brauwere, FC Flotilla 14-1*

---

### Blood Alliance Account

Please ask your flotilla-mates to consider donating blood to the Blood Alliance, credited to our division account, 2601. Once we attain units equating to 25 percent of our strength, all of our members as well as members of their immediate "Tax family" are covered. We need a balance of about 100 units.

*Chuck Farmer, Flotilla 14-2*

---

---

# United States Coast Guard

## Sector Jacksonville

### Change of Command



*June 8, 2012*

*Naval Station Mayport*



Members of the Division 14 Honor Guard  
take part in the Change of Command  
Ceremony for Coast Guard Sector  
Jacksonville at Naval Station Mayport

*U.S. Coast Guard photo by  
Petty Officer 3rd Class Jessica Potter*



Music was provided by the US Navy Band

*Photo by C. Strong*

---

---

Coast Guard Capt. Thomas G. Allan relieved Capt. Andy Blomme during a time honored tradition to formally transfer command.



---

---

Capt. Blomme and Capt. Allan inspect the Honor Platoon before the Change of Command ceremony begins at Naval Station Mayport.

*Photo by C. Strong*

---

---

---

---

Coast Guard Rear Adm. William Baumgartner, Commander Seventh Coast Guard District, pins the Meritorious Service Medal on Capt. Andy Blomme during the change of command ceremony for Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville. Capt. Blomme received the award for outstanding duties performed during his command at Sector Jacksonville from 2009-2012.

*U.S. Coast Guard photo by  
Petty Officer 3rd Class Jessica Potter*

---

---





Coast Guard Capt. Andy Blomme, Rear Adm. William D. Baumgartner and Capt. Thomas G. Allan

*U.S. Coast Guard photo by*

*Petty Officer 3rd Class Jessica Potter*



Division 14 Honor Guard retires the Colors

*Photo by Carolyn Strong*

---

---

---

---

Coast Guard Capt. Andy Blomme  
with RADM Kurt Tidd, US Navy  
(right)



Coast Guard Capt. Andy Blomme (left)



RADM William Baumgartner,  
Commander Seventh Coast Guard  
District (right)



*Photos by Carolyn Strong*

---

---



Captain Andy Blomme with wife Peg and son Matthew.

Captain Blomme will be reporting to Coast Guard Headquarters as Chief of Congressional Affairs in Washington D.C. – We will miss you!



Bob and Carolyn Strong with Capt. Blomme (left)



Bob Strong and Jeff Blomgren, 14-8 (right)

*Photos by Carolyn Strong*

# Introducing: Captain Thomas Allan, Commander, Sector Jacksonville



Monday, 11 June 2012

Shipmates,

Thanks for the warm welcome I have received this past week - I am really looking forward to this tour and getting to work with each of you.

I wanted to provide all of you with the Guiding Principles I will use as I move through my time as Sector Commander. Please take the time to read them and let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss any particular part. I hope these Guiding Principles will give you insight into my expectations as we all work together to juggle a variety of activities and carryout Coast Guard missions.

v/r-

CAPT Tom Allan

Commander, Sector Jacksonville

---

Flotilla 14-8 says “welcome to Jacksonville” to Captain Allan, his wife Kim and their four children: Tyler, Amanda, Connor and Ryan. We look forward to getting to know you.

---



## SECTOR JACKSONVILLE COMMANDER'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES



**Take care of your Family and Shipmates.** Our strength is our people; we must all take care of

### **Core Values**

- Honor
- Respect
- Devotion to Duty

our fellow Shipmates, reaching down to pull others up to ensure their continued personal and professional development. Our families and communities allow us to carry out our missions knowing all is well at home – prepare and reach out to your family and community, so they will be there to support you. Always adhere to our Coast Guard core values – they will guide you.

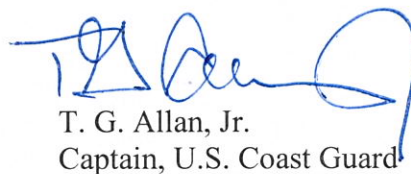
**Master your craft.** Take pride in your job, strive for proficiency and work together as a team. Together we can combine our collective talents, guided by our principals of operations, striving for operational excellence and providing the impact of many agencies in one. The Nation expects the Coast Guard to protect those on the sea, protect the Nation from threats delivered by the sea, and to protect the sea itself. Coast Guard men and women - Active Duty, Reserve, Civilian and Auxiliary - get the job done in the most demanding environments. We are a unique, effective and efficient instrument of national security. No one else can do all that we do, but it is only possible when each Coast Guardsman is able to fulfill their individual responsibility.

### **Principals of Coast Guard Operations**

- Clear Objective
- Effective Presence
- Unity of Effort
- On-Scene Initiative
- Flexibility
- Managed Risk
- Restraint

**Foster partnerships at all levels.** We are unique in our ability to bring together local, state, federal, military, tribal, and private sector agencies, maritime industry and non-governmental organizations to advance mutual interests and enhance effectiveness. You have a direct link with our partners and customers no matter what your rank or position. Make sure each interaction leaves them with a positive view of you and the Coast Guard. While we cannot do everything, we can be leaders in our communities to accomplish much more than would be possible as individuals.

**Have fun!** You now share in the proud tradition of the Coast Guard men and women who came before us. You are part of a team of very talented men and women doing exciting and rewarding work. Take pride in your accomplishments and enjoy the service you provide to the Nation.



T. G. Allan, Jr.  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commander, Sector Jacksonville

---

# National Events

## US Coast Guard Auxiliary celebrates 73 years helping keep America safe

**WASHINGTON** - The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary celebrates its 73rd anniversary of service to America June 23, 2012. As the uniformed, volunteer component of the Coast Guard, Auxiliary members dedicate countless hours each year toward supporting the Coast Guard in nearly all of the service's mission areas.

In the 1930's, rowing and yachting races were among the most popular spectator sports in America. With WWII on the horizon and more than 300,000 boats operating in U.S. waters, Congress passed legislation on June 23, 1939 forming the Coast Guard Reserve -- a civilian organization with the primary purpose of providing boats and support to the Coast Guard during times of need.

On Dec. 7, 1941, Lt. Cmdr. Frank D. Higbee ordered the Auxiliary to duty in the 11th Naval District (Calif.) and told them in effect: "Come back with your shield, or on it!" Recruits flooded into Coast Guard Reserve (Auxiliary) flotillas in a burst of patriotic fever. The organization's membership soared to over 50,000 as these new members worked performing coastal defense and search and rescue duties -- including firefighting and anti-submarine operations.

**Congress officially changed the organization's name from the Coast Guard Reserve to the Coast Guard Auxiliary on February 19, 1942.** A formal Coast Guard Reserve was then established in which enrollees were subject to military law and the Articles of War.

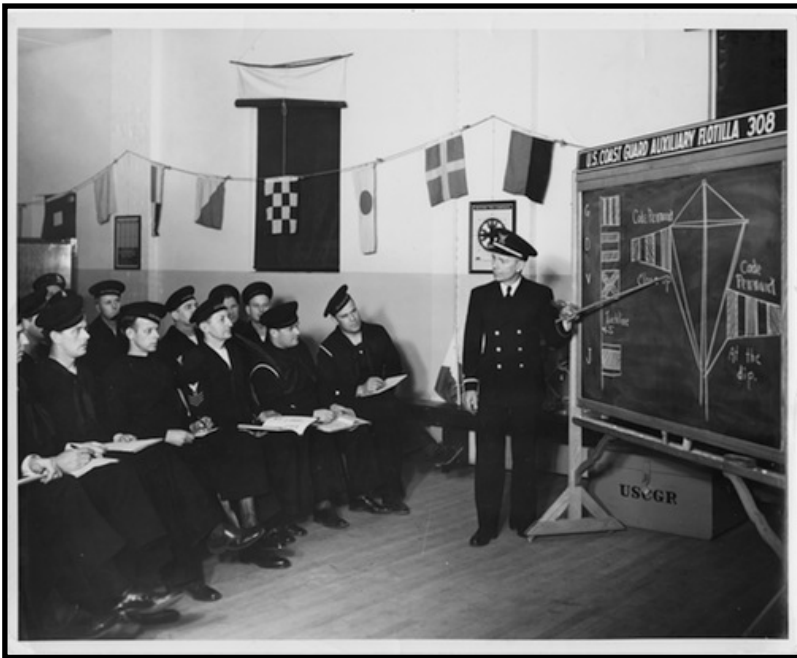
Following the war, the "four cornerstone" missions of the Coast Guard Auxiliary; member services, recreational boating safety, operations and marine safety, and fellowship, were formulated in the 1950s. Vessel Safety Checks and public education became key activities performed by Auxiliary members as the organization shifted its focus to promoting recreational boating safety.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary has had its share of famous members. Actor Lloyd Bridges and CBS News anchor Walter Cronkite were both honorary commodores, helping to promote the Coast Guard Auxiliary and its missions. The tradition of celebrities working with the Coast Guard Auxiliary continues today with notable personalities such as Dan Marino, Don Shula, Arnold Palmer, David Hasselhoff, Charlie Daniels, Roy Clark, and many others.

Today, more than 30,000 Coast Guard Auxiliary members continue to provide support to Coast Guard units across the U.S. and its territories. On average, the Coast Guard Auxiliary saves one life, assists 28 people, conducts over 50 safety patrols, performs more than 250 Vessel Safety Checks, educates over 270 people on boating safety, participates in over 100 Coast Guard operational support missions, and works with a wide variety of local partners and government entities every day.

"Our all-volunteer Auxiliary is an essential component of the U.S. Coast Guard," said Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Bob Papp. "For 73 years, they have actively promoted boating safety through a variety of educational and inspection programs, and helped perform Coast Guard operations alongside their active, reserve, and civilian counterparts. We could not meet the demands for our unique services without them."

Membership in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is open to citizens age 17 and older who meet the prescribed requirements. To learn how you can join the Coast Guard Auxiliary, [visit join.cgaux.org](http://www.cgaux.org). For more information on Coast Guard Auxiliary history, visit: [http://www.uscg.mil/history/CG\\_Auxiliary\\_Index.asp](http://www.uscg.mil/history/CG_Auxiliary_Index.asp)



In the 1940s, Coast Guard Reserve (Auxiliary) flotillas augmented U.S. WWII coastal defenses helping protect the homeland from possible enemy attack.

*U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Records Photo (Collection #559), Special Collections Department, J.Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University*

A number of public figures have traditionally supported the efforts of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Here, Honorary Commodore Lloyd Bridges and his "helpers" promote boating safety course enrollment.

*U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Records Photo (Collection #559), Special Collections Department, J.Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University*



"Commodore" Lloyd Bridges of the Coast Guard Auxiliary invites all boaters to take a course before taking to the water. According to Bridges and his "helpers", they're fun, they're free and they can save in more ways than one. Completion of a course from the Auxiliary, the U. S. Power Squadron or the American Red Cross can save on the cost of boat insurance. The "Commodore" states that these courses can also insure that safe boating is no accident. For more information contact any any of the above organizations or the U. S. Coast Guard.

---

**CAPE MAY, N.J.** - U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Examiner Richard Weiss inspects a life jacket during a Vessel Safety Check at Bree-Zee-Lee Yacht Basin. Each year, the Coast Guard Auxiliary conducts thousands of complementary Vessel Safety Check inspections for recreational boat owners across the nation.  
*U.S. Coast Guard Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Jonathan Lindberg*



**SAN ANTONIO** - The Coast Guard Auxiliary will hold its 2012 National Conference (NACON) August 22-26 at the Hyatt Regency Riverwalk hotel. Coast Guard Auxiliary members from throughout the nation will converge for national elections, training workshops, business meetings, and social functions.

"We invite all Coast Guard Auxiliary members to attend NACON," said Ernie Davenport, Conference Administrator for the organization. "NACON is a great opportunity for Auxiliary members to meet and interact with senior leaders and other members from throughout the organization."

This year's NACON workshop schedule features training opportunities on a wide variety of subjects including stand up paddle boarding, diversity, working with Sea Scouts, commercial vessel examinations, and much more.

One of the greatest benefits of NACON is the abundant fellowship opportunities available to attending members. This year's schedule includes sightseeing tours of the host city, a special Friday "Fiesta" themed fun night, and the national commodore's banquet on Saturday evening.

NACON is hosted by the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc. (CGAuxA), a non-profit organization based in St. Louis that provides business management and training support for the Coast Guard Auxiliary. All Coast Guard Auxiliary members are also members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc. NACON is a great opportunity to learn more about the CGAuxA and the valuable assistance they provide to the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Hotel space is limited, so members who plan on attending NACON are encouraged to reserve their rooms while space is still available at the special \$106 per night conference rate.

For additional information on NACON 2012, please visit: <http://cgauxa.org/nacon>

Christopher Todd  
Deputy Director | Government & Public Affairs  
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

***There will be national elections, training workshops, informative business sessions, social functions and interesting exhibits to visit, along with the opportunity to see the sights in and around San Antonio.***

---



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

**America's  
Volunteer  
Guardians**  
Since 1939

## FLOTILLA 14-8 MEETING

**Tuesday 3 July 2012**

**Fellowship & Refreshments 1900, Speaker at 1930**

**Regular Meeting to follow Guest Speaker**

**Florida Tackle and Gun Club**

### **GUEST SPEAKERS AT JULY FLOTILLA MEETING**

**Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department Operations Division**

**Chief Chip Drysdale, Capt Scott Turnbull, John Bracey**

\*\*\* \*\*

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

- |             |              |  |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| <b>JULY</b> | <b>03</b>    | <b>Flotilla Meeting – 1900 - Florida Tackle &amp; Gun Club</b> |
|             | <b>04</b>    | <b>Independence Day – Downtown Fireworks!</b>                  |
|             | <b>07</b>    | <b>June 7029 Reports due to FSO-IS</b>                         |
|             | <b>14</b>    | <b>ABS Class – 0730 to 1700 – Stellar Building</b>             |
|             | <b>15</b>    | <b>Division Staff Officers' Reports due to VCDR 14</b>         |
|             | <b>16-21</b> | <b>Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament</b>                |
|             | <b>20</b>    | <b>Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to VFC &amp; FSO-PB</b>   |
|             | <b>21</b>    | <b>Division 14 Quarterly Meeting – 0900 - Stellar Building</b> |
|             |              | <b>Host: Green Cove Springs Flotilla 14-5</b>                  |
| <b>AUG</b>  | <b>07</b>    | <b>Flotilla Meeting – 1900 - Florida Tackle &amp; Gun Club</b> |
|             | <b>07</b>    | <b>July 7029 Reports due to FSO-IS</b>                         |
|             | <b>11</b>    | <b>ABS Class – 0730 to 1700 – Stellar Building</b>             |
|             | <b>20</b>    | <b>Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to VFC &amp; FSO-PB</b>   |



## **8 IS GREAT !**

Visit our award winning website at [www.SafeBoatingJax.com](http://www.SafeBoatingJax.com)



*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:** The Privacy Act of 1974 protects names, addresses, telephone/fax numbers and e-mail addresses of Flotilla 14-8 members which may appear in this or other USCGAUX publications. As a matter of policy, information described above is not made available to the general public or outside groups without that member's expressed and/or written consent. When such information appears, its privacy shall be safeguarded and the information will be clearly labeled. Publication of this information by the general public and/or outside groups is prohibited by the Privacy Act.*