
EIGHT



BELLS

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

Volume XLII No. 4

June 2016

FLOTILLA COMMANDER

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FROM YOUR FLOTILLA COMMANDER



Shipmates,

We have had a busy few weeks with boater education classes and NSBW vessel blitzes at Mandarin Park and the John T Lowe boat ramp.

We also had a flare demonstration at Epping Forest Yacht Club headed up by Chuck Hayes from 14-4.

As we enter into summer, promoting boating safety and keeping boaters safe, are the most important task we are faced with. Please keep up the good work and let's focus on June and July. As always thank you to those Flotilla members who carry the load for 14-8.

For those of you who miss our social dinners, you may not want to miss our next social dinner. More news to follow.

Whatley Law, FC 14-8 2016

FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT



The 2016 Hurricane Season is here. In the event of a local emergency we rely on our FEMA ICS 100 and ICS 700 courses to understand how different government agencies work together and how we in the Auxiliary are expected to work with them. If you have not taken these two mandated training courses, now would be the perfect time to take them. We take these courses from FEMA rather than the Auxiliary.

To take these courses, you go to the FEMA training web page

<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-100.b>

<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-700.a>

Paul Thomas, VFC 14-8 2016

IMMEDIATE PAST FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S REPORT



A Postive Outlook for Membership Milestones

There have been some changes in new member policies that we must be aware of. AND some encouraging activity concerning completing the Personal Security Investigation and passing from AP Status to BQ.

They are finally catching up on the PSIs. **Congratualtions to David Howells, Juan Steward, and Andrew Schlosser** who have all recently had their PSIs completed. Because each of these members had finished their Mandated Training. They are now BQ members. If they don't get their ID cards at this upcoming meeting. I'm sure they will by the next meeting. We have other members who have completed PSIs, but have not completed MT. Those members are still in AP status, and they will remain in that status until they complete MT.

The Coast Guard has recently issued policy that New Members without MANTR certification AND without an ID card issued, are not authorized to wear Auxiliary Uniforms. With that in mind, we need to make a goal for all new members to complete the Mandated Training within 90 days of receiving their member number. This allows them to become "Provisional Members" and have an Auxiliary ID card Issued, which allows them to be able to wear the Auxiliary Uniform and participate in our programs.

The Coast Guard has made a commitment to speed up the Auxiliary application process, but they are requiring us to comply in kind. We need to actively support our new recruits and help them reach that goal.

Below is a list of our flotilla members still in AP status, the reason for that status and number of days they have been waiting.

MEMBER NAME	PSI Status	MANTR Status	Enroll Date	Days Waiting	
KEVIN JOHN KALIL			6/3/2016	4/21/2015	409
ZACHARY STEVEN KELLY		YES	6/3/2016	2/3/2016	121
NATHANIEL FRANCIS MANELLA			6/3/2016	11/13/2014	568
CHRISTIAN BRYAN MCLAUGHLIN	OS		6/3/2016	8/7/2014	666
MICHAEL JOSEPH MUELLER			6/3/2016	5/17/2016	17
FLORA EVELYN RANDOLPH			6/3/2016	9/3/2015	274
JAMES LEE SMALL II	OS		6/3/2016	7/8/2014	696
LOGAN JAMES SMALL	OS		6/3/2016	7/8/2014	696

I'm impressed to see the activity among some of our new members, with Andrew Schosser, Kevin Kalil and Zachary Kelly getting involved with Vessel Examinaiton, PA events and with our Public Educaiton Program.

Deserving of special recognition, Zach Kelly has been chosen to be the Student Commander of his Junior ROTC unit at Bartram Trail High School for his Senior year in 2016/2017. Obviously his leadership qualities are widely recognized.

So the next time you see him throw him a big pat on the back.



Paul Burns, IPFC 14-8 2016

Zachary Kelly, Photo by Paul Burns

National Safe Boating Week 2016

SAFE KIDS WATER SAFETY FAIR, at the Jacksonville Zoo. David Howells, Bob Strong and Zach Kelly manned the PA Booth, which featured a display on how long it takes various garbage and trash items to dissipate in the environment.

Over 1800 children attended the event.

Did you know that it takes 600 years for monofilament fishing line to break down and disappear?



Bob Strong, David Howells and Zach Kelly at the Jacksonville Zoo Safe Kids and Water Safety Fair

National Safe Boating Week Also included our monthly About Boating Safely Public Education class which was attended by 10 students.

Instructors included Bob Strong, Dan Hess and Paul Burns, with assistance from Mike Mueller and Kevin Kalil.



Top: Eric Linda doing a Vessel Exam at the John T. Lowe Boat Ramp. *Photo By Marion Linda*

Left: Dan Hess teaching "About Boating Safely" at the Florida Tackle and Gun Club

Photo By Paul Burns

FLOTILLA STAFF OFFICER'S REPORTS

COMMUNICATIONS – KEVIN KALIL



TIME TO PREPARE.....

As you know, June 1st begins the six-month hurricane season. We have tested Everbridge, our calling trees, and the Auxiliary Contingency Support Plan. Fast response teams have been identified, and we know what assistance the Coast Guard may need in case of an emergency.

But, have you prepared yourself and your family for an unknown destructive storm? Please follow these simple steps to prepare for this hurricane season in case you have to evacuate or there is no electricity or water for an extended period of time.

1. **Stay Informed.** Weather the storm in a safe place. Find and sign up for all relevant text alerts and warnings.
2. **Make a Plan.** Develop a communications plan for your family. You may not be with your loved ones when disaster strikes, so it is important to discuss how you will communicate and where you will meet. Decide where you will go if forced to evacuate and how you will get there.
3. **Build an Emergency Supply Bag.** It should contain non-perishable foods, water, medications, cash, copies of important legal documents and personal identification. If needed, you can then quickly grab the bag and go. Don't forget to prepare one for your pet(s) too.

RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.fema.gov (for a FEMA mobile app = www.fema.gov/mobile-app)
www.redcross.org/prepare (you can add to the address = /mobile-apps)
www.weather.com

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards or NWR

Your local jurisdiction emergency notification systems

Our SafeBoatingJax.com website has many useful weather update and tracking links. It can be a valuable tool in your hurricane planning.

Be prepared and stay safe!

Kevin Kalil, FSO-PM 2016

FINANCE – BOB STRONG



Well here it is June, 2016 already. Time to collect dues for 2017. Right now, the flotilla dues for 2017 remain the same as for 2016, at \$40.00. Please bring your check to the flotilla meeting on “Flag Day” June 14 or mail to my home address: 923 Parkridge Circle East, Jacksonville, FL. 32211. Check payable to: “USCG Auxiliary 14-8” for \$40.00. The flotilla is required to maintain a commercial account that charges a \$20.00 fee for a check that is returned for insufficient funds so please make sure that doesn't happen or your dues could cost you \$60.00 for 2017.

Bob Strong, FSO-FN 2016

INFORMATION SYSTEMS – MARION LINDA



As FSO-IS, I get a newsletter every month from Sue Hastings, DSO-IS. Most of the information does not affect AUX members, just me. But when there is something in the letter by which a member can benefit, I like to pass on the information.

This month she writes about an additional way in which a member can record their mandated course. Please read below:

“Mandated Courses: National has added an additional way for members to record their mandated courses without having to send to FSO-IS for entry. The member can go to the NTC (National Training Center) site, log on with Member ID and Password (same as one for AuxDirectory), find the Mandated course and complete the Self-Attestation form. NTC will send feed to

AUXDATA to update (can take up to two weeks for this to show in AUXDATA.)”

And don’t forget to please turn in your hours and look for your confirmation email from me. This month, Eric (my husband) submitted a 7038, had a receipt, and I never received the email. Everything about his receipt looked correct yet I never received the report. Do you think it’s “gremlins”?

Marion Linda, FSO-IS 2016

HUMAN RESOURCES – PAUL BURNS



Mike Mueller is now an official member of flotilla 14-8. We look forward to him applying his prior Coast Guard experience as an Auxiliary Volunteer.

We had one new member candidate attend our Safe Boating Class this month, and we hopefully will have 2 or 3 new member candidates attending our meeting this month.

Currently we have about 7 individuals that we have in our recruitment system. Hopefully I will be submitting new application packages soon.

Paul Burns, FSO-HR 2016

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - DAVID HOWELS



SAFE KIDS WATER SAFETY FAIR

We had another successful Children's Safety Fair at the Jacksonville Zoo for 2016! A much larger crowd this year and the 14-8 was well represented with Bob Strong, Zack Kelly, and David Howells in attendance. The Koehl's decomposition game was a big hit with the kids as in previous years. Hopefully, with our conversations, personal contacts, and safety literature, a seed has been planted to make safety the first consideration in water recreation.

David Howells, FSO-PA 2016

PUBLIC EDUCATION – BOB STRONG



Attendance at our Public Education courses has been on a steady decline since 2013 when we had 163 students attend and pass our once popular About Boating Safely (ABS) Course. In 2014 we had 129 attend and last year, 2015 we had 82 graduates. After 4 courses in 2016 we have had 44 students take and pass the course. If we hold all Six of the remaining courses scheduled for this year we should exceed 2015's total of 82.

Paul Burns and Bob Strong receive the Public Education Performance Award.
This is Paul's 5th PE Performance Award and Bob's 14th



Photos by David Howells



Bob Strong presents a Safe Boating Course Certificate to our newest flotilla member Mike Mueller at the May Boating Class.

Photo by Paul Burns

VESSEL EXAMINATION –DAN HESS



My VE report for May is that the Flotilla did a total of 14 Vessel Safety Checks during the month with 10 safety "decals" being awarded.

13 of the VSCs were done during National Safe Boating Week and one earlier in the month. The VEs who participated were:

- Kevin Koehl (did 7 VSCs with 5 decals issued);
- Ralph Little (did 3 VSCs with 1 decal issued);
- Eric Linda (did 3 VSCs with 3 decals issued);
- Bob Strong (1 VSC with 1 decal issued).

George Law assisted the VEs on the first day of NSBW. The vessel safety checks were performed at both the John T. Lowe and Mandarin Park boat ramps. Thanks to all who participated.

The next VE blitz is TBD.

Through the end on May, we have performed a total of 79 Vessel Safety Checks, however, they are not all showing up in Auxdata. Please make sure you have completed AND FILED all your 7038 forms with Marion Linda, FSO-IS so we can get the proper amount of VSCs filed into Auxdata. If you have sent Marion your 7038s and do not get an acknowledgement back from her, then she probably did NOT receive them and you need to contact her immediately. We need to get our VSC count correct.

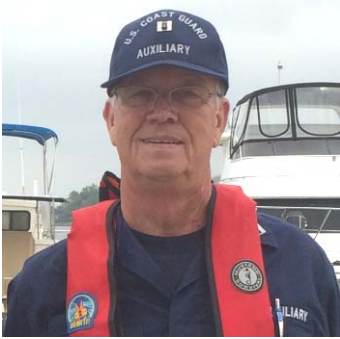
I will be out of town from June 10th through June 25th and was hoping that each one of you could do a few vessel safety checks either on June 11th, June 18th and/or June 25th at either Mandarin Park boat ramp or John T. Lowe boat ramp (or any other local boat location you desire for that matter) so we can keep increasing our number of VSCs. Since I will be gone for half of this month, I went out and completed 7 VSCs this past weekend and filed my 7038 with Marion today. I will try and do a few more this month if I can, but am hoping that among all of us we can do about 20+ total for the month. I am officially assigning all of you to VE duty this month (June) while I am away. If you have any questions, you can reach me by email or phone, OR, you can contact Whatley for assistance.



*** Also, one of our Flotilla members, Zachary Kelly, just took and passed his VE on-line course and test and now needs to do 5 vessel safety checks (as "Trainee") with one of our VEs so he can get his final VE certification. I would appreciate it if anyone going out to do vessel exams would contact Zach and give him the opportunity to get his 5 VSCs done under your watchful eye. You as the "lead" examiner will get credit for any of the first 5 VSCs Zach does and he will get the "trainee" credits he needs. Just make sure that when you file your 7038 form that you list Zachary as the "Trainee" on the form.

Dan Hess, FSO-VE 2016

MATERIALS – PAUL THOMAS



I have ordered supplies for David Howells and myself to PV and for PA events, if any one needs supplies please let me know. I issued Dan Hess a type 5 life vest for doing VE's.

If any is needing supplies, please let me know ASAP. I have contacted the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commision and order a case of the Florida recreational boating requirements and hopefully it will be here shortly.

Paul Thomas, FSO-MA 2016

OPERATIONS – CRIS VONDERHEIDE



After completing the Division 14 Boat Crew Academy and passing his on the water qualifications, David Howells has completed his Boat Crew Qualification, with the help of flotilla 14-1 and their facilities.

Congratulations David!

Cris Vonderheide, FSO-OP 2016

David Howells receives his Boat Crew Certificate Photo by Paul Burns



Flotilla 14-1 Facility "Brogan" training with USCG Facility.



Photos by David Howells

Flotilla Monthly Social Dinner

June 21st we are promised a gourmet dinner at a more than reasonable price:
at J William Culinary 4260 Herschel Street. Jacksonville, FL 32210 in Riverside.



Executive Chef
James Phelan



Although specializing in prepackaged gourmet meals for the fitness industry, J William Culinary will cater our dinner in one of their dining rooms.

Our member Kevin Kalil, who is employed there, promises a "4 Star dining experience."

Perusing their menu, you will find Pork Briskit and Chorizo, Salmon with Truffled Quinoa, Sweet Chili Tip Steak, Chicken and Andouille Creole, Roasted Turkey Breast with Spiced Butternut Squash and Corn Black Bean Salsa just to name a few items.

People on gluten-free, vegetarian, vegan, or even low carb diets will find that J William Culinary specializes in foods that fit their lifestyle.



Our May social dinner at Clarks Fish Camp was a lot of fun! Don't miss the next one.



Flotilla 14-8 at Clark Fish Camp Photos by Paul Burns



Sorry to report that Dan Hess was mauled by a rare white tiger and will not be attending our next meeting.



Jolene Richardson Receives ID Card.
Photo by David Howells



Paul Burns Receives 6th Sustained Service Award
Photo by David Howells



Zachary Kelly takes the Coast Guard Auxiliary Membership Oath and receives his Auxiliary Membership Certificate
Photo By David Howells





Mandarin News United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Update

Getting and Giving

By Contributing Writer Ralph Little, Flotilla 14-8

The keys to get help on the water or to notify responders are the phone numbers, radio channels and apps that take you to them. The services you need may come from local police or fire departments, the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission (FWC) or U.S. Coast Guard 24-hour Watch Station. Frequently, local Auxiliarists augment those Watches, and man the responding patrol craft. I'll cover the key connections and when to use them.

Perhaps most important, are the connections by which to call for help or rescue. The new Sector Jacksonville command center search and rescue emergency phone number is **(904) 714-7558**. Emergencies can also be reported via VHF radio on Channel 16. Remember, cell phones have 10% the power of VHF, won't connect with rescue craft and will have to connect to the right desk. Cell service is iffy past two miles offshore and the river has dead zones and no service in southern reaches. The Coast Guard isn't linked to 911 but calling that number may get you the county emergency response nearest the cell tower that is used, whether that is Duval, Clay or St. Johns.



For accidents or law enforcement, the Florida FWC is at **386-758-0525**. The Coast Guard may direct responses to FWC or the nearest police/fire unit, depending on where the incident is located.

To report other emergencies, such as: pollution, suspicious activity, waterway issues, and any other maritime concerns the local number is **(904)714-7557**. The same information can be provided to the national contact. America's Waterway Watch (AWW) is the program administered by the Coast Guard that enlists the public's assistance, asking anyone who sees something suspicious or any hazard, such as an oil spill on the nation's waterways to notify the authorities by calling **877-24WATCH**. An AWW application has been added to the Coast Guard mobile app at <http://www.uscg.mil/mobile/> The Auxiliary acts as liaison with the Coast Guard and serves as an interface with the public.

Our live, one-day Boating Safely classes this year are on the second Saturday of each month. The June 11th class is at the Florida Gun & Tackle Club on Goodby's Creek at San Jose Blvd. Contact us through our website, <http://www.SafeBoatingJacksonville.com> or call Bob at **904-721-1346** for class information.

877-24 WATCH



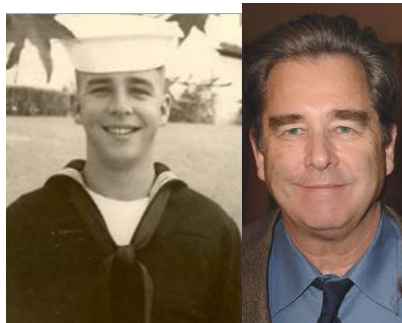
Don't Forget our Flotilla Meeting Tuesday, June 14th, Fellowship - 7:00pm

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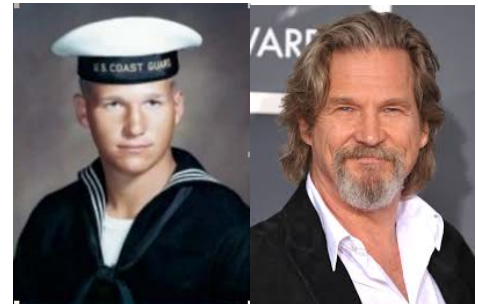
UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| JUN 14 | Regular Flotilla Meeting – 1900 – Florida Tackle and Gun Club |
| JUN 21 | Social Dinner at J. William Culinary, 4260 Herschel Street, Riverside |
| JUN 26 | <i>Eight Bells</i> Newsletter Deadline for Staff Reports, Pictures, and Articles |
| JUL 12 | Regular Flotilla Meeting – 1900 – Florida Tackle and Gun Club |

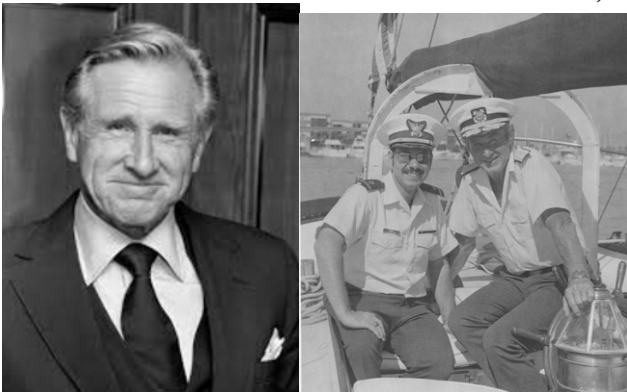
Celebrity Coast Guard / Coast Guard Reserve / Coast Guard Auxiliary



Beau Bridges — Actor
(Served from 1959 to 1967 in the Reserves)



Jeff Bridges — Actor (Served from 1967 to 1975 in the Reserves)



Commodore Lloyd Bridges — Actor

He was a member of Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Lloyd did a number of public service announcements for the Coast Guard and was a popular supporter of Coast Guard Auxiliary's Safe Boating Programs.

8 IS GREAT !



Visit our award winning website at
<http://www.safeboatingjax.com/>

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