

D-7 Connection



Human Resources - Spring Issue 2014 Issue 25 Editor: Angela Pomaro

The Pledge

The pledge you are about to take is your commitment to support the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, an organization dedicated to the promotion of boating safety and providing assistance to the United States Coast Guard in the fulfillment of its civil functions. You accept this membership as a volunteer, and as a member you are charged with certain responsibilities and obligations. These include your willingness to support the Coast Guard Auxiliary and its purposes, to faithfully execute your duties and to participate in its authorized programs to the best of your ability and to the extent that time and circumstances permit.

As an Auxiliary, you enjoy certain honors and privileges, among them, wearing the Auxiliary uniform and flying the Auxiliary flag. Wear the uniform neatly and correctly and fly the Blue Ensign proudly. Remember that your conduct reflects directly upon the image of both the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary.

The satisfaction you derive from your Auxiliary membership will be in proportion to your level of participation in the organization's activities. The success of the Coast Guard Auxiliary will depend upon the extent of your participation and upon the quality of the Auxiliary leaders that you, the member, select.

If you feel that you can be an active and productive member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, please raise your right hand and repeat after me:

"I, (your name), solemnly and sincerely pledge myself to support the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary and its purposes, to faithfully execute my duties and to abide by the governing policies established by the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard."

Semper Paratus

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25th

Edition

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An Old Member

Donald L. Frasch

"It is What It Is"



USCG Auxiliary

District 7



District Commodore
Commodore John Tyson



District Chief of Staff
Robert A. Weskerna, DCOS



Celebrating The 25th Issue of D7 Connection!

By Bob Weskerna, DCOS-7

On the occasion of celebrating this twenty-fifth issue of our HR Newsletter, the *D7 Connection*, I took some time to go back and re-read each issue. Rather than put my thoughts down in prose, I offer a few highlights of my impressions:

- Someone should take the time to pull all of (DSO-IS) **Sue Hastings'** articles together, "*Paperwork Paperwork*," and publish them. Every member could benefit from reading her consistently excellent work. This work would make a great basis for a workshop.
- I believe **Paulette Parent** (ADSO-HR/AuxFS) is without peer in writing about her Auxiliary Food Service activities. She first appears in Volume 13 in the summer of 2011. However, Paulette wasn't the first ADSO for food services. **Bill Giers** (Division 17) introduced this program in the winter of 2010. He wrote, "Grumbling stomachs and hunger pains are the siren they [the food service crews] don't have to hear as they know the crew will be there to partake of their daily gastronomic creative engineering efforts."
- Who knew that **Connie Irwin** (DSO-PA) was such a great writer? I loved her article in the summer of 2012 on why members become bored and drop out. She mentions the obvious reasons we've most likely heard: poor leadership, no one cared, cost too much, took too long to get an ID card, too many cliques. But she went on to say that the most important element in involving a new member is... getting a uniform and fitting in. Of course, mentorship is right up there, too, which leads me to...
- **Richard Steinbach** (ADSO-HR/Mentoring South). Rich's articles are entitled "The Retention Guru." Retention is a key element in our HR program, and his articles are terrific. I recall he wrote that the standard for a mentor in the Auxiliary is...just having a desire to be a mentor. There probably were a few other useful qualities that a mentor could have, but he also wrote that a mentor's term should last at least 6 months, but no longer than a year. His articles are a must read for any FC.
- **Tom O'Conner** (ADSO-HR/Mentoring North) Tom bills himself as The Retention Guru. You may find that Richard (above) and Tom like the Guru moniker, and you could find the terms Mentoring and Retention blended a bit. No problem, they're related. Tom's article in the summer of 2013 Volume. 22 titled "The Rubik's Cube" is very good. His thesis is that it's hard to get all members, chain of leadership, etc., aligned and moving in a positive direction. Pretty clever.
- **Karen Miller** (current DCDR 11, but wrote earlier as an ADSO-PB for the west) Karen's contributed many articles to the 'Connection,' but my favorite appeared in the fall of 2010 in Volume 10. Karen wrote a very introspective article about herself entitled "With a Little Help From My Friends." In this article Karen writes about her former life (life before the Auxiliary) and some of her history after she joined. If you know Karen you'll enjoy this article. I know I did.
- **Tom Loughlin** (DSO-PA before Connie Irwin) "Tom's Corner" appeared in many issues. I thought his article in the fall of 2011 Volume 14 on "How Do You Write Numbers" should be a must read for many newer members. Check it out on page 10.
- **David Hastings** (DSO-CS) has written extensively, and had a great article on WOW websites. You'll find this in the Winter Issue 2012. He's easy to understand folks!
- The genius behind this gift is our Editor-in-Chief, **Angela Pomaro**. Her face graces all the issues from the beginning, and her personality shines through each of her articles. My favorite appeared just recently in the Winter 2013 Volume 24 issue. "Sometimes We Do Get Big Bonus Checks" will go down as a classic. Angela writes about her induction into her high school's Hall of Fame for her work in the Auxiliary. That's not her point. The point was that her 14 year old grandson made the introduction at the ceremony, and what and how he made this got to Angela, as it will you.

My apologies to all of you who've written and were not mentioned above. I've read all your articles and appreciate your efforts. For example, I can't wait to read more about Otto and the Manatees or turtles. How about the members of the D-7 Golden Anniversary Club? Fantastic.



Seven Years of Change

By James E Dennen, DDC-L

It seems like yesterday, when Angela Pomaro, ADSO-PS came up with idea to start the *D7 Connection*. It's hard to believe that we are already at twenty five issues! There were naysayers that said that it wouldn't work and it wouldn't last. Angela has proven them all wrong by providing a place where everyone had a voice.

My original focus on this article was to find significant events that affected the time frame between 2008, when the D7 Connection began and the first half of 2014. There were many: We elected our first African American President, we had monumental changes up and down of the financial market, we lost our first B2 Bomber (1.2 billion dollars) fortunately without loss of life, the war in Afghanistan continues and the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) went into effect. The more that I read about the high and lows of the past seven years, the more I realized that, from a day to day standpoint, not much had changed. The thing that was noticeable to me, were trends. I feel that, at least in the case of the Auxiliary, we can make small changes that in the long run can have a very positive effect. Right now we seem to be trending in the wrong direction. When we measure them each year, the numbers seem small. These changes, however are relentless, and like inflation, over time they can have a major effect on our organization. Small individual improvements, such as the number of VEs, patrols, PE classes and missions in general, will have a significant and noticeable effect over the long haul. It will take more than a few "Superstars", it will take everyone to do this.

On that note, my boss, Chief of Staff, Bob Weskerna has been teasing me because my picture hasn't changed in the last 25 editions. He likened it to the "Picture of Dorian Gray" the Oscar Wilde novel, Dorian's picture changed to reflect his deeds instead of he himself. I have changed my picture to reflect what the seven years have done to me.



Seven Years of Change



Happy 100th Birthday to Professor Irwin Corey "The Worlds Foremost Authority" July 29, 1914



Logistics Directorate



James E. Dennen, DDC-L
Directorate Chief

The DSO-HR Team



Angela Pomaro DSO-HR
Human Resources Department



Harvey Niblack, ADSO-HR
Special Projects—Acting



Paulette Parent, ADSO-HR
AUXCHEF



Tom O'Connor, ADSO-HR
Mentor—North



Rich Steinbach, ADSO-HR
Mentor—East



Gil Thomas, ADSO-HR
E-Responder Program

**South
Carolina**

Georgia

**The
District 7
SO-HR Team**



John Owen 12



Tom O'Connor 10



Larry Cook 2



Rebecca Habermas 14



Bruce McAllister 15

Florida



Jesse Scott 11



Sharon Brece 17



Bill Griswold 4



Judith Clapp 7



Rich Steinbach 5



John De Stefano 8



Arnold Greenhouse 3



Lou Conti 9



Ernesto Roche 6



Dorothy Cain 13



Wilson Iziarry-dehoyos 1



David Richardson 16

Puerto Rico

Virgin Islands



Thank You



A special thanks is extended to the following SO-HR Officers for their dedication and service in promoting the growth of District 7.

Good luck in your future endeavors in the USCG Auxiliary.



**Amy Estrela, ADSO-HR
Special Projects**



**Kyle Wallace, SO-HR
Division 8**



**Harvey Prior, SO-HR
Division 11**



**Manny Estrela, SO-HR
Division 6**



**Bill Sekeres, SO-HR
Division 14**

Welcome

New Human Resources Officers—2014



**Harvey Niblack,
(Acting) ADSO-HR
Special Projects**

At present, Harvey is the Acting ADSO-HR Officer for Special Projects. It is hoped that he will decide to join the HR Department in a month. He is a member of Flotilla 56 and presently holds the following offices: SO-MT and FSO-OP. He is a certified Aid to Navigation Verifier, AUXSCE Instructor, Boat Crew Coxswain, Certified CPR Provider, Instructor, Recreational Boating Safety Visitor and Vessel Examiner and holds the status of AX.



**Ernest Roche, SO-HR
Division 6**

Ernie is a fairly new member of Flotilla 61 and has been quite active in the Auxiliary. Along with being SO-HR for Division 6, he is also the FSO-HR for Flotilla 61. He is a certified Fingerprint Tech, an Instructor, Vessel Examiner and a Recreational Boating Safety Visitor.



**John De Stefano, SO-HR
Division 8**

John joined Flotilla 82 just last year, and has been quite active in the Auxiliary. He presently holds the following offices -SO-HR and FSO-MT. His certifications include Boat Crew, Instructor, Telecommunications Operator, Vessel Examiner and hold the status of AX2. His accomplishments in just a year are noteworthy.



**Jesse Scott, SO-HR
Division 11**

Jesse is a member of Flotilla 11-1 and also quite an active member. Along with holding the office of SO-HR for Division 11, he also holds the following certifications: Boat Crew, Certified CPR Provider, Certified First Aid Provider and Finger Print Tech.



**Becky Habermas, SO-HR
Division 14**

Becky is a member of Flotilla 14-8 and was very helpful in assisting the previous SO-HR Officer. Along with becoming SO-HR, she has been an FSO-HR Officer for her flotilla



This issue of the D-7 Connection Publication is dedicated to all the SO-PS/HR Officers (living and deceased) in District 7 who have served from 2008 to the present day.

Without their service and dedication, District 7 would not have flourished with new members. Each of them have contributed and supported the HR Department. Each Division should be proud of all their PS/HR Officers. They have represented them with utmost professionalism.

District 7 is proud and honored to have had them represent this District. Thanks to all of you.



Rhonda Hebert,
DSO-PS—2008

DSO-PS/HR Officers



Angela Pomaro,
DSO-PS /HR
2009—Present

ADSO-PS/HR Officers



Como Guy Markley,
ADSO-PS
Retention—2008



Wendy Ortega
ADSO-PS
PR/VI—2008



Gil Thomas, ADSO-PS/HR
-E-responders
2009—Present



Bill Giers,
ADSO-HR-AUXCHEF
2011



Amy Estrela, ADSO-HR
Special Projects
2012—2013



Paulette Parent,
ADSO-HR-FS
2012—Present



Rich Steinbach, ADSO-HR
Mentoring-East
2012—Present



Tom O'Connor, ADSO-HR
Mentoring-North
2013—Present



Harvey Niblack,
ADSO-HR-(A)
Special Projects—Present



SO-PS/HR Officers



Division 1



Rafael Martinez
2008—2010



Alejandro Alvelo
2010



Edna Ocasio
2011



Wilson Irizarry_dehoyos
2012—Present

Division 2



Matt Cooper
2008



Rene Rice
2009



Bruce Lindsey
2010



Gene Hall
2011



Larry Cook
2012—Present

Division 3



Arnold Greenhouse is the only PS/HR Officer to serve from 2008— Present

Division 4



Bob Richmond
2008—2009
Deceased



Edith Hill
2010



Bill Griswold
2011—Present

Division 5



Mel Schumacher
2008—2009



Dan Moore
2010



Joe Lambert
2011



Rich Steinbach
2012— Present



SO-PS/HR Officers



Division 6



Joel Aberbach
2008—2009



Rafael Martinez
2009—2013



Ernie Roche
Present

Division 7



Gil Thomas
2008—2009



Heleyde Aponte
2010—2011



Marla Short
2012



Judith Clapp
2013—Present

Division 8



Thomas Johnson
2008



Allegria Bouquet
2009



Greg Masonick
2010—2011



Kyle Wallace
2012-2013



John De Stefano
Present

Division 9



Max Lefevre
2008—2012



Lou Conti
2013—Present

Division 10



Ted Philips
2008—2012

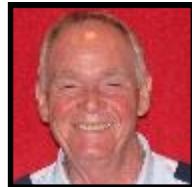


Tom O'Connor
2013—Present

Division 11



Greg Gamache
2008—2009



Max Garrison
2010



Ed Kasper
2011—2012



Harvey Prior
2013



Jesse Scott
Present



SO-PS/HR Officers



Division 12



Charlie McCarty
2008—2009



Jack Connelly
2010



John Owen
2011—Present

Division 13



Jim Mahoney
2008—2009



Don Kittsmiller
2010



Dorothy Cain
2011—Present

Division 14



Bob Lehman
2008—2009
Deceased



Don Mooers
2010—2012



Paul Thomas
2013



Bill Sekeres
2014



Rebecca Habermas
Present

Division 15



Cecil Spencer
2008



Ned Barry
2009—2010



Bruce McAllister
2011—Present

Division 16



Bob Marcy
2008—2009
Deceased



Klaus Willems
2010



David Richardson
2011—Present

Division 17



Cindy Coltrane
2010



Sharon Breece
2011—Present

Farewell, Friend



**Submitted by Karen Miller,
Division 11 Commander**

COMO Don Frascch

On March 18th, in four-foot seas and 15-20 knot winds, family and friends (civilians and Auxiliarists) committed COMO Don Frascch's ashes to the sea. Flanked by Auxiliary facilities *The Sentinel* and *M&M*, two boats from the Gulf Harbors Yacht Club carried precious cargo into the Gulf of Mexico – the urn with Don's remains.



While Don started his Auxiliary career in New York State, it wasn't until he came to Florida and District 7 that he really blossomed. Rapidly moving from Division Commander to District Chief of Staff (skipping District Captain West – called Rear Commodore then) to District Commodore, Don served the entire district with the welfare of the members as his prime objective. He took a lot of his business experience and applied those principals to his leadership style. Following his two year term, Don continued to move up through the Auxiliary management process, ultimately representing the entire Atlantic East for National.

The members who attended the burial at sea covered a cross section of Division 11. They included: Manny Sosa, Clearwater Flotilla

Commander, Peter Palmieri, Division 11 Vice Commander, Sam Walker, New Port Richey Flotilla Commander, Tom Loughlin, Division 11 Public Affairs Officer (and District Staff Officer for Public Affairs under Don), Bill Clark, Division 11 Operations Officer, Bill Kelly, Hudson Flotilla's Immediate Past Flotilla Commander (Don's flotilla) and Karen Miller, Division 11 Commander.

Every one of these members braved the foul seas because they held Don in such regard. Peter Palmieri explained why he signed up, by remembering how Don and Sandy (Don's widow) attended all the events he and his teammates competed in when they represented District 7 at the Area Search and Rescue competition in Yorktown. Don cared about his people.



Once the ceremony was over, after the deacon led the prayers and Sandy placed the gorgeous salt urn with Don's ashes into the Gulf of Mexico, the family laid a wreath on the water to mark the spot. Then, the four boats proceeded to Gulf Harbors Yacht Club. Right before entering the channel into Gulf Harbors, *M&M's* crew came to an all stop, faced the boat with Don's family and the deacon onboard and saluted until they passed. There wasn't a dry eye left on any of the boats.



"Connie's Comments"

Remember When?

**Submitted by Connie Irvin,
DSO-PA**

"Remember when?" is an interesting phrase. When we hear that, many of us can envision family and friends sitting around together talking and someone using that phrase. And then, the subsequent remembrances take us back to another time and perhaps another place. We smile.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Affairs Department throughout the District could use that phrase and it would have meaning and sometimes not happy remembrances. Remember when the Flotilla Commander simply asked, "Who wants to be the FSO-PA?" and no one answered. What usually followed was, "Hey, Joe. You can do it. It's easy." In some areas, the Flotilla Public Affairs Office is still filled that way. But that remembrance doesn't make me smile and it shouldn't.

Public Affairs is too important to be taken lightly and handed off to some unsuspecting Auxiliarist who is not equipped to handle the fast changing face of Public Affairs and the Marketing of the Auxiliary. As the years have passed since our beginning in 1939, the qualifications for all aspects of Auxiliary missions have changed. We truly are becoming an organization which has developed and continues to develop into a professionally trained volunteer Coast Guard component.

Today's Public Affairs Officer must meet the challenges of dealing with the media on all levels, not just submitting the occasional schedule for public education classes or vessel exam blitzes. The National Public Affairs Department is currently developing competency mandates for what is called the "Entry-Level PA Officer". No one is going to be thrust into the PA position who has not taken entry level courses for dealing with Public Affairs within the Auxiliary. Too much is at stake. Our image in the public's eye must be a professional image because we are Team Coast Guard.

Every article and every photo that goes out to the public must be written and presented in a professional manner. There are no exceptions. A simple photo with Auxiliarists on patrol with lifejackets unzipped or silver sunglasses flashing in the sunlight makes us look unprofessional. The photo snapped by someone with an iPad which ends up on Facebook or YouTube that shows an Auxiliarist in uniform with a cigarette dangling from a hand will do more to damage our image than one can imagine.

Trained Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Affairs Officers can help their shipmates present the best possible image to the public. In doing so, those officers are marketing the Coast Guard Auxiliary not only to the public as the premier volunteer organization in the world, but they are recruiting others to join us.

This is what I want to remember. "Remember when all Auxiliary PA officers were trained for their job?" Now that makes me smile.



The Mentoring Gurus



Division 5 Embraces the D7 Mentor Recruitment and Training Plan

Submitted by Rich Steinbach,
ADSO-Mentoring, East/West

Several flotillas in Division 5 have implemented the D7 Mentor Recruitment and Training plan and are already enjoying the benefits:

Flotilla 56, Vero Beach/Sebastian now has 11 Certified Mentors. Four Mentors are currently working with five new members on a regular basis teaching them the ins and outs of the Auxiliary and the US Coast Guard.

Flotilla 54, Delray Boynton has completed Mentor Training and currently has several Mentors assigned to new members.

Flotilla 59, Stuart has completed the Mentor recruitment process and has started the Mentor training plan.

Flotilla 52, Jupiter is starting the Mentor recruitment process and when complete will start Mentor training.

A special thanks to the Flotilla Commanders and the Division 5 leadership team, Greg Barth, DCDR and Joe Walsh, VCDR for their support of this important program.

We encourage all division and flotillas to consider implementing the D7 Mentor Recruitment and Training Plan and look forward to assisting you any way we can. All the Plan materials and training modules are posted on the District 7 Web Site for your review. Go to "The HR Corner" scroll down to "Mentor Training Materials" and you will find everything you need to start a Mentoring Program in your unit.

For assistance please contact:

ADSO-HR, Tom O'Connor tomofssi@gmail.com, Divisions 2-10-12 and 14

ADSO-HR Rich Steinbach caneman20@comcast.net Divisions 1-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-11-13-15-16-17





The Retention Guru



First Impressions

Submitted by Gil Thomas
ADSO-Recruiting

I worked in the refrigeration and appliances repair business for thirty eight years. An average day consisted of seeing six to ten customers in their homes. At one company I was working for the owner brought a new truck for me as a gift in appreciation for my work. It was a Ford Ranger with bucket seats, air conditioning, stereo and a custom paint job. One thing I learned is that when my customer looked at that truck they formed an opinion based on appearance. If they felt it needed to be washed, I heard about. It was easier to wash the truck every day than to answer questions as to why I let the truck get dirty.

My truck made a first impression in the customer mind about me before I got to their door. A dirty truck gave them a negative impression about the kind of work I did. A clean truck sent a message that I took pride in my truck and that I would make sure to leave the appliance I was working on in good condition and clean.

It takes just three seconds for someone to form an impression of you or me. First impressions can be based on your appearance, demeanor, mannerisms and how you wear your uniform. The question is what message are you sending about the Coast Guard Auxiliary and yourself. Is your uniform clean, shoes shined, haircut and beard groomed, and do you have the proper ribbons and devices on your uniform?

Whether we like it or not, every time we meet someone they are evaluating you and me and an impression is formed. It has been said, "That a first impression is a lasting one". First impressions are hard to reverse or undo. First impression can set the tone for future relations. Make the first one your best.





HR Tributes

In the not so distant past, my flotilla could only be classified as moribund. One of our past FCs was our Division Commander and he had an opportunity to speak with another Division Commander who had gained the reputation for rejuvenating dormant flotillas. To the question, "How did you turn things around?" the answer was, "There is only one way and it is simple – new members." I can state that this works without question. Now, "simple" does not mean "easy." But, it is THE answer for dormant and dysfunctional flotillas. That is why I am committed to HR.

**Submitted by Tom O'Connor,
ADSO-Mentoring, North**



When I was approached by my Flotilla Commander Mike Massimini and Flotilla Vice Commander John McLoughlin about serving as Flotilla 79's Staff Officer for Human Resources, I initially thought they were crazy. Their confidence in me was, and still is, incredible. Although I knew upon joining the Auxiliary I wanted to take on a leadership role, I just did not know in which form.

To give a better background of who I am, I would like to share a little about myself... As a South Tampa native, I grew up near the water and in the air. Hence my passions in maritime observation missions as a Trainee and pursuing the Air Observer program run long and deep. Personally I think my father would be amazed at how much I became like him in those respects

When it comes to the Auxiliary, I feel very passionate about giving it my all. By being involved in human resources, it gives me the opportunity to assist others in finding ways to channel their interests and energies. I consider myself to be a member of a great organization which has wonderful people who share the vision of supporting each other in working with each other and the Gold Side to enrich our community.

As the Flotilla Staff Officer for human resources of 79, I would like to close this and share this thought my Flotilla Vice Commander, John McLoughlin, imparted upon me: "As 2014 unfolds, it is important to bear this in mind... I don't see 79, 72, 74, 75, 78, or 7-16, I see blue".

Please stay safe everyone and *Semper Paratus* in everything you do!

**Submitted by Jennifer Logan-Porter,
FSO-HR Flotilla 79**



A special thanks to Karen Miller who proofs all issues and all who have submitted articles and photos in this special issue.

**Articles/photos for the Summer Issue will graciously be accepted at:
d7happyrecruiter@gmail.com**



THE AUXCHEF



AUX Food Services Class—Clearwater, Fl.

Submitted by Paulette Parent
ADSO-HR/AUXFS

AUXFS class held at Air Station Clearwater on Mar. 21-23, 2014. There were seventeen students in the class conducted by Paulette Parent ADSO-HR/AUXFS and Toni Borman AUXFS Instructor. After two days of classroom instruction, the students worked in the galley prepping for lunch. They made about 300 hand rolled bread rolls, plus Philly cheesesteaks with peppers and onions and awesome oatmeal raisin cookies - from scratch! Students also staffed the serving line and received positive feedback from the Coast Guard personnel as well as the retirees who had lunch.

All the students were enthusiastic about the AUXFS Program and looking forward to working at their local Coast Guard units. Students traveled from many areas of District 7 to attend the course including Miami, Gainesville and St. Augustine as well as local divisions.

Students were treated to a ride in a USCG C130. Everyone agreed that was the highlight of the day.

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Paperwork!

Paperwork!



Submitted by Sue Hastings, DSO-IS

It seems like yesterday when I was asked to write my first article for the *D7 Connection* on Paperwork. It was a relevant subject then and it is still very much a relevant subject today.

Some members say that their hours are not important, they hate paperwork, do not submit time unless pushed into doing so or to keep their certifications. You may think that your hours don't count but when we add together all the hours from all the members, it does add up to a substantial amount of time. For example District 7 had a total of 930,147 hours including 99 hours for 2013!

We need to keep track of our time for several reasons. Your hours, exams, visits, etc. help the Coast Guard and Auxiliary leadership know where our time is being spent and on what programs. It helps them in planning and training members. It also is used by the Coast Guard to ask for funding from the Congress to continue the Auxiliary programs.

The on-line forms have made the turnaround time of doing the mission and having the hours show in AUXDATA and AuxInfo much quicker. We no longer need to "snail" mail the forms to the IS Officer for input. It saves the member time and saves the Auxiliary money for the postage. With the use of electronic forms and the use of inputters at the flotilla level, a mission can be entered within a week. In fact, the IS Officer does not even need to print the forms but can use a split screen to enter the data into AUXDATA and store the forms electronically, thus saving printing and paper costs.

We request that you turn your missions in to your FSO-IS in a timely manner. Our guideline is to have your ANSC 7030/7039s in within 30 days of the mission and your ANSC 7029/7038/7049s in on a monthly basis at the end of the month. Please don't wait until the end of the year to submit them as it causes a backlog for the IS inputter and skews the numbers for your flotilla on the District 7 Dashboard graphs which are updated each quarter.

As important as getting the forms into AUXDATA in a timely manner, is completing the forms correctly. We see several errors that have caused problems this year. Here are a few of the most common ones:

ANSC 7028 Webform - Change of Member Information

- Address needs to be in USPS standardized format – this is a big problem for Puerto Rico and we sometimes can't clear this form in the system because the address is not normalized.
- Skills and Occupation are not updated.

ANSC 7029 Webform - Member Activity Log

- Hours that should be on a ANSC 7030 form are put on ANSC 7029 or put in twice once on ANSC 7030 and once on ANSC 7029
- Dollar Amount includes gas costs which should not be included as it is covered by mileage number

ANSC 7030 Form – Member Activity

- Improper code used. If you are not sure what code should be used check with your FSO-IS or staff officer for the type of mission being done.
- Public Education Missions
 - ◇ more than ONE Trainee listed for Certification or REYR; One Trainee who is actually teaching the class is entered. Other time goes in as Non-Lead if an Aide
 - ◇ Course is lumped into one mission – need to be broken out by LEAD Instructors

Paperwork!

Paperwork!



- ◇ Too many Aides (Non-Lead) are entered for class – the number of Aides should be proportional to the size of class (Guideline is 1 Aide per 5 students) and should actually be aiding the LEAD Instructor for that class, not just sitting in the back of the room. Others can use 99B for their time
- ◇ No EOC (End of Course) is entered – cannot certify Trainee without an EOC for course with number of students
- Public Affairs Mission – number of attendees is not listed for boat shows; wrong code used for Community events – 10J COMREL is correct code.
- Coast Guard missions such as 07/20/26/08 do not have OPCON for Station or Sector

ANSC 7038 Form – Vessel Exam

- Travel time put in – only time it takes to do the exam should be entered; Travel/Prep should be put in on ANSC 7029 99B code.
- More than ONE Trainee for Certification or REYR – only One LEAD and One Trainee on this form – trainee can only be listed if doing the actual exam. Other time would be on 99D if training.
- VSCs are lumped together for Certification - FC sends in one date for Exams but does not match date in AUXDATA because form does not allow breakdown of dates and times. FSO-IS should make sure that FC knows the date that shows in AUXDATA for certifications to avoid confusion.

ANSC 7039 Form – Workshop Attendance

- Training such as Crew/Coxswain is listed as a Workshop – Only Nationally Approved Workshops are allowed such as 1 Hr TCT, VE Workshop, OPS, which are taught using the National guidelines for that workshop. If training is not a workshop, LEAD puts in time on ANSC 7030 Code 06A/B/C and Trainees put in their time on their ANSC 7029 form as 99D.
- Non-Lead position put in for Attendees – should have LEAD, 1-2 Non-Lead Aides, all others listed as Trainees

ANSC 7046 – RBS Program Visits Form

- Travel time put in – only time it takes to do the visit should be entered; Travel/Prep should be put in on 7029 99B code.
- If multiple visits in one day, hours should be lumped together and put in on last visit

One error we are not seeing as much is excessive hours for patrols. The AOM (AUXDATA Order Management) system has reduced this problem. There are still some Radio missions which EOM (End of Mission) codes have been missing but this problem has been greatly reduced. Also there is a problem with the submission of forms using msn/Hotmail/outlook/live email servers. IS Officers that are using one of these servers will not receive the electronic forms. If your IS officer uses one of these servers, either they will have to open an account with another server and record in AUXDATA to receive forms or you will have to send them a scanned copy of the form.

What can you do to help eliminate problems with paperwork?

- Submit the proper form for the activity done
- Submit it in a timely manner for 7030's and 7039's or monthly for 7029's, 7038's, or 7046's.
- Send electronically (we will still accept hard copies of forms for those of you who are not up to speed)
- Make sure your IS inputter sends back an acknowledgement of form received or that form is entered into AUXDATA
- Check the D7 Quick Access AuxInfo reports to make sure that your time was entered into AUXDATA and is accurate. These are updated once a week usually on Mondays.



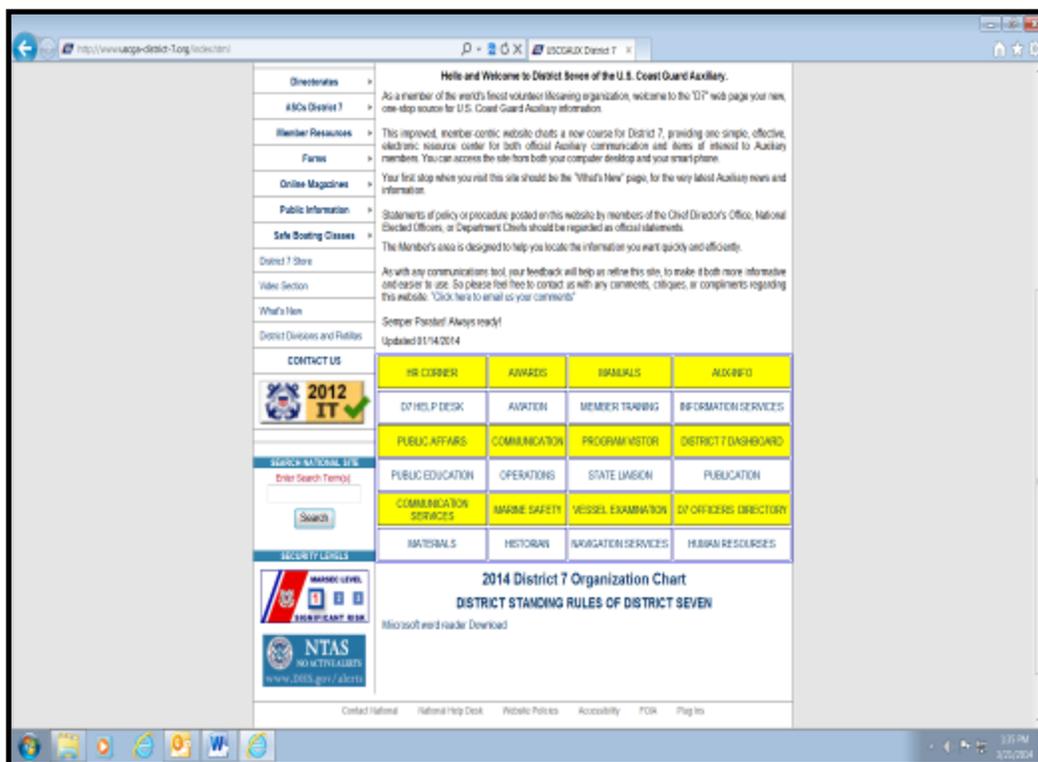
The Webmaster

Communications Services

Submitted by Dave Hastings, DSO-CS

Have you looked at the District website or your division or flotilla websites? The URL for the D7 website is: <http://uscga-district-7.org/>. Take some time and check out the changes made to the Home page. Each year updates and changes are made at the request of District Leadership, staff officers, or members.

This year an update was made to the Home Page to have a quick link to popular webpages on the bottom of the Home page. One click and you are at the page you need. The D7 Help Page, HR Corner, D7 Dashboards, AuxInfo Reports, and Operations are some of the quick links.



The D7 website meets the National Approved Standards for Auxiliary websites. This template or WOW II software are recommended for use to meet these National Standards.

Does your division and/or flotilla have a website? Most of the divisions and many flotillas have approved website. If your unit does not have a site, it is easy to set up a new site using the WOW II software. You do not need special software development programs or programming skills to set up a basic site.

It is also important that the information on your websites is up to date. The websites are sometimes the first impression that the public has of the Auxiliary. Please make sure that you supply your webmasters with relevant up to date information and pictures to load on your website. A good looking and informative website will catch the eye of potential members or boating public looking for information on safe boating.

News From Otto's World



IT'S TURTLE NESTING SEASON

Otto Spielbichler, Flotilla 54

For thousands of years, March has been the unofficial beginning of an event that takes place, only on local beaches, in the continental United States. The event ends about five months later, as quietly as it began. The unique event is turtle nesting.

Female turtles usually come ashore, beginning in March, after sunset when beaches are deserted and dig a nest in the sand. They lay eggs, cover and disguise the nest site then return to the ocean before sun rise. Weeks later, and mostly at night in August, hatchlings dig their way out of the nest and disappear into the ocean.



Four species of turtles nest on South Florida beaches between March and August. Loggerhead turtles dig the greatest number of nests. Green turtles and Hawksbill turtles also nest on local beaches but are a distant second in the number of nest sites. Leatherback turtles nest but only occasionally. Regardless of the species, the nesting process begins when females mate with males in off shore waters.

Only the females come ashore and dig nests. Generally, they return to a beach in the area where they were hatched twenty to thirty years earlier. Females are particular about where they dig a nest. As the female emerges from the sea and onto a beach, she periodically tests the moisture content of the sand as well as its temperature and texture.

Generally, nests are located in the dryer sand found above the high tide line. The average temperature of the sand, which has an effect on the sex of the nestlings, is in the lower range of

the 80s. Cooler nest temperatures produce more males. Warmer temperatures produce more females. Females will not lay eggs on a beach that does not have the right conditions or if she senses danger. However, once she begins to lay eggs she will continue to do so until all her eggs are in the nest.



When the female is satisfied with a nest site, she digs a body pit by leveling the sand under her shell. Then she begins to dig a nest with her hind flippers. One flipper removes the sand and the other piles it at the edge of the hole. The length of the flippers determine the depth of the nest. Next, she begins to deposit eggs.



The number of times a female nests each season and the number of eggs deposited in a nest varies by species. Generally, a female deposits about one hundred eggs in a nest. She then covers the eggs with sand and disguises the nest site by scattering sand around. Sixty to ninety days later, nestlings hatch, dig their way out of the nest and head for the ocean. Birds, animals and sometime humans are threats to hatchlings crossing the sand. Fish, crabs and creatures living in the water consume more hatchlings. More hatchling perish as they swim until they find a grass line and find food and shelter in the Gulf Stream. Scientists estimate that on average, one hatchling in five thousand survives the next twenty years and reaches

News From Otto's World



adulthood. This is but one reason some species of turtles are listed as threatened or endangered

It is possible to watch a turtle on a nest site. The best way to observe nesting and to avoid interrupting a female in an active nest site is to contact Gumbo Limbo Nature Center (561 544 8605) in Boca Raton or the Loggerhead Marine Life Center (561 627 8280) in Juno Beach. Trained personnel will educate you about turtle nesting while you wait for a turtle to come ashore and begin nesting. When a turtle is located, you will join a group of others also interested in turtle nesting and be taken to a nest site. Seeing a turtle nest is a bit of a gamble. A turtle may not come ashore on the night you are present or may come ashore at a late hour. Endangered species are protected which means they cannot be observed by the general public. These same nature centers also

operate during the season when hatchlings leave the nest. With a little bit of luck and a great deal of patience, you can see both nesting and hatchlings leaving a nest.

You can also learn a great deal about turtles by visiting a nature center or by going to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission web site at myfwc.com. or by simply entering "turtles" and doing a search on the web. Pictures of turtles, egg-laying, turtle nesting and hatchlings can be found by doing a search or visiting the National Geographic web site. The pictures in this article were taken from the National Geographic web site.

Observing a turtle nest or seeing hatchlings scurry to the ocean one time may be sufficient for most people but it will result in a memory that lasts a life time. Try it. You will like it!

www.sunny.org/beaches/sea-turtles



Loggerhead Turtle



Green Turtle



Hawksbill Turtle



Division 1



Coast Guard Honors Auxiliary Air At Aviation Safety Workshop

**Submitted by Robert Fabich,
Sr., PA Specialist**

The Coast Guard recognized Auxiliary Air (AUXAIR) pilots and aircrew from the 7th Coast Guard District during the annual Auxiliary Aviation Safety Workshop held at Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico March 1, 2014.

Addressing members from AUXAIR and the Dominican Naval Auxiliaries, Coast Guard Capt. Drew W. Pearson, Sector San Juan commander and Captain Patricia A. McFetridge, Air Station Borinquen commanding officer presented the Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal awarded by Rear Admiral John H. Korn, USCG, Commander, 7th Coast Guard District to an Auxiliary pilot. This significant Coast Guard honor is rarely bestowed upon an Auxiliary member by an active duty commander. Three AUXAIR Borinquen members were also honored by the commanders with the Auxiliary Medal Of Operational Merit.

"You can't measure the value of the Coast Guard Auxiliary here in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and across the nation," said Captain Pearson. "The return on investment is astronomical. It is an amazing group of volunteers dedicated to the service of our nation, and I can't get my job done without them. I rely on them each and every day."

"The Auxiliary has changed since I have been here in Puerto Rico," said Captain McFetridge. "During my first tour, we had a fledgling Auxiliary air program. Since I returned, I believe I now have the best Auxiliary flight program in the entire nation, and certainly in the Seventh District."

"This is huge and we are starting with the best," stated Commander Roberto H. Torres, Air Station Borinquen Operation Officer and master of the award ceremony, as he called upon Charles "Chuck" Fischer, AUXAIR Borinquen aviation coordinator and Flotilla 16-1 St. Croix member to accept the Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal.

Fischer's Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal was awarded for his superior leadership while overseeing 10 Auxiliary aircraft and 45 members who collectively logged over 2,500 flight hours with 50 search and rescue missions that saved or assisted 10 lives from 2010 thru 2013.

He forged partnerships with federal agencies and conducted 300 maritime observation missions and flew 361 hours in 2012, the highest number of AUXAIR hours in the Seventh District and second only to one active duty aviator. Mr. Fischer developed a detailed matrix to mitigate all aspects of risk which proved effective during several tropical storms and hurricanes, and managed a one hundred fifty thousand dollar budget during one of the most difficult fiscal climates in Coast Guard history.

"AUXAIR Borinquen continues to grow and record an ever increasing number of flight hours for the Coast Guard, which significantly contribute to the safety and security of our country," said Fischer "We are fortunate to have some of the most competent and dedicated aviators in the nation flying with us. Their achievements are nothing short of remarkable. I applaud each and every one of them for their hard work and commitment."

Recipients of the Auxiliary Medal Of Operational Merit were Lee Bertman, AUXAIR Borinquen aircraft commander, for development of recruitment, training and high resolution photography programs that were adopted by AUXAIR during 2008-2013; Carlos E. Matos, AUXAIR Borinquen aircraft commander, received the medal for reporting post hurricane damage of waterfront facilities and navigational aids, and coordinating efforts with Coast Guard response vessels during 2012 and 2013; and Duane R. Minton, AUXAIR Borinquen assistant aviation coordinator and aircrew, received the decoration for his support of Coast Guard air operations in the Caribbean.

The Auxiliary Achievement Medal was awarded to Douglas L. Armstrong, AUXAIR Borinquen assistant district staff officer and aircraft commander while serving as the Assistant Aviation Technology Officer during 2013. Mr. Armstrong charted and evaluated emerging technical developments for application to AUXAIR missions. Pursuing these critical initiatives, he designed and constructed audio interfaces resolving integrated radio problems. He enhanced efficiency by developing an iPad mission summary and risk assessment tool that can be emailed to Coast Guard sectors. Mr. Armstrong, with the support of U.S. Customs



Division 1



Coast Guard Honors Auxiliary Air At Aviation Safety Workshop

**Submitted by Robert Fabich,
Sr., PA Specialist Photos taken
by Robert Fabich**

and Border Patrol, arranged for testing of hand held imaging infrared sensors for application in the Caribbean. His accomplishments enhanced the District technological capabilities.

Two Auxiliary Letters Of Commendation were granted: Juan H. Vazquez, AUXAIR Borinquen aircrew, for his part as a trainee during 2013, and for his inspirational mentoring of junior members, and Gregory A. Worrell II, AUXAIR Borinquen air observer, from 2007 thru 2013 for his observation skills and for his devoted and timely assistance with the organization of six consecutive AUXAIR workshops which earned him the title of the "Go-To-Person."

New AUXAIR position levels reached included two members advancing to aircraft commander, one to air crew and two to air observer. Members obtaining flight hours during 2013 were also recognized by group. In the over 30 hours group were 10 members, in the over 100 hours group were three members, and reaching over 250 hours were three members.

Milestone awards included five members with 100 mission hours, one member with 250 hours, two members with 500 hours, one member with 750 hours and two members with 1000 hours. Fischer and Bertman, Seventh Coast Guard District Auxiliary pilots, were also recognized and included in a special perpetual plaque that was introduced, and will be permanently mounted in the Air Station Borinquen hangar, recognizing AUXAIR members exceeding 1000 mission hours.

The two-day annual Aviation Safety Workshop is a time for AUXAIR Borinquen, active duty Coast Guard, partners and trainees to focus on member competencies, new and innovative technology, qualification skills, equipment testing, planning and procedures. "Our AUXAIR safety workshops have become an opportunity to both enhance our training and our relationships with active duty leadership," said Armstrong. "It is really great to have two commanding officers spend the entire day with the team



Capt. Patricia A. McFetridge, (left) Air Station Borinquen commanding officer and Capt. Drew W. Pearson, (right) U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Juan commander, present Charles "Chuck" Fischer, AUXAIR Borinquen aviation coordinator, with the Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal at Air Station Borinquen March 1, 2014. The award was presented during a recognition ceremony at Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico as part of the annual Auxiliary Aviation Safety Workshop.



Captain Patricia A. McFetridge, (left) Air Station Borinquen Commanding Officer and Captain Drew W. Pearson, (right) U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Juan Commander, congratulate Lee Bertman and Charles "Chuck" Fischer, (center left to right) Auxiliary aircraft commanders, as the first Coast Guard Auxiliarists to achieve 1000 mission hours flown at Air Station Borinquen March 1, 2014. The perpetual plaque will be displayed in the Air Station Borinquen hangar.



Division 3



March Madness - VE/PA Day at Hollywood

**Submitted by Rona Trachtenberg,
SO-PA, SO-PB—Flotilla 65 1NR**

It is amazing what can happen when two creative and determined Auxiliarists combine their strengths to complete a mission.

Barbara Dombrowki, FSO-HR of Flotilla 31, had a new Public Affairs tent that she wanted to put to good use. She knew that there was a VE Day coming up on Saturday, March 22 and she thought it would be a great idea to use the tent. The only problem was that the tent had no markings to identify it as Auxiliary property. It became her number one priority making letters and adding the Auxiliary logos.

It took Barbara and I over ten tedious hours to hand-paint the letters onto the tent. When it was finally done, we stood back and admired our work.



The morning of March 22 dawned cloudy and rainy. But that didn't damper our spirits. When Vessel Inspectors, Gary Krantz and Phil Castoro arrived, we opened the tent and placed the literature out on the table.

Within the first hour, Gary and Phil had already completed five successful VSCs. Barbara and I handed out safe boating literature to the boating passengers.

A sailboat was driven into the marina. Neither VE had ever done a vessel exam on a sailboat. While I am not VE qualified, I am a sailor, so I walked over to see if I could assist. What I saw would've knocked your socks off.

First, the boat owner couldn't figure how to get the boat off his trailer. This was a very bad sign. He admitted this was the first time he was launching this boat or any boat, for that matter. Second, upon quick observation, I saw that his Com-Pac 20 trailerable boat didn't have stanchions or lifelines. Aaarrggghhh. This was an accident waiting to happen. Third, once we got his boat off the trailer and approaching the dock, he didn't know how to put the fenders out or how to tie them on. Once I explained how to do this, he didn't know how to properly tie up the boat to the cleats on the dock. I quiver to think what would've happened had I not decided to walk over and introduce myself.

When I asked to see his lifejackets, the owner brought out very moldy and dirty vest-type PFDs that I don't think anyone in his party would have worn. Phil started to go through his VSC checklist inquiring about the flares, fire extinguisher, and navigational lights, but at that exact moment, the skies opened up and the rain started to drench all of us standing at the dock.

The boat owner and his two female companions took cover in their car. Phil and I joined Gary and Barbara under our beautiful new tent, whose waterproof hand-painted letters started to drip like mascara on a crying lady. Our hearts sank. After all those hours of work, our masterpiece was ruined.

However, if there is a silver lining to this story, the sailboat owner prudently decided to scrap his maiden voyage and go shopping for the necessary safety gear that we recommended.

So, while Mother Nature messed up our tent, She sent some rain that probably saved the lives of those three novice sailors and prevented an SAR rescue situation from taking place.

The three Auxiliarists and myself packed up the wet literature and our dripping tent and considered eight out of ten successful VSCs, within three hours, a mission well-planned and well-executed.

I am an SO-PA and SO-PB from Flotilla 65, District 1NR in New Bedford, Mass. I am wintering in Aventura, FL. I consider myself very fortunate that Barbara's Flotilla 31 has adopted me.



Division 4



Florida Public Boat Ramp Finder

Submitted by **Bill Griswold, SO-HR,**
District Staff Officer-SLO7

Hey Trailer Boaters – CHECK THIS OUT

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission has a great web site listing all the boat ramps in the state. There are several categories listed, so you can find a ramp, located on the left side of the page. Here are some notes from those categories:

Map A County – This is a map of Florida with all the counties defined. Select a county and click – you're there with all the ramps shown on a map of the county.

List by County – Type in your desired county, and presto, a list of the ramps is shown. Click on the ramp and you get to a full description of that ramp.

Search by Proximity – Enter this category by address or Latitude/Longitude or you can use a ZIP code and select a radius of that place.

Multiple Search – Enter here with the ramp's name, nearest city, disabled accommodations, region of Florida, type of water served, water body name, or Florida city.

Fresh water Ramps – 1158 listed, click on your ramp, and up pops a Google map showing where it is in reference to nearby streets, or roads. Some even show photographs of the ramp area.

Marine Ramps – 619 of these are shown as above.

When you select a ramp, it will tell you the construction of the ramp, condition of the ramp, capacity – like how many lanes it has, parking capacity for both vehicles/trailers or just vehicles, dock facility, toilet facilities, fees (if any), hours of operation, and access. It also has a section for notes and recent comments. FWC does request comments to update these sites and info for that is posted on the Ramp Finder page.

This is a terrific feature and service provided by your State Fish & Wildlife Commission. It might help you plan a trip to some far off county and take your boat, knowing that there's a good boat ramp right where you will be.

<https://public.myfwc.com/LE/boatramp/public/default.aspx>





Division 4



If it *ain't* in AUXDATA, IT DIDN'T HAPPEN

Submitted by **Bill Griswold,**
SO-HR, FSO-IS

In this issue, I'd like to discuss the best way to submit your activity, so it gets in the data base in AUXDATA, and then you will receive your ridiculous pay (CREDIT). If it ain't in AUXDATA, IT DIDN'T HAPPEN. This is really important if you're doing stuff for annual requirements, like Vessel Safety Checks, Program Visitor Visits, Public Education – teaching, Boat Crew hours, and lots of other categories. You do the work; you want to get credit and recognition – right? OK, let's start with – how do I get the forms?

Best way is to go to the District 7 Website - www.uscga-district-7.org/. Across the top, there are buttons to connect you to lots of places. Click on "AUX MEMBERS" a drop down menu opens and then click on "FORMS WAREHOUSE". This sends you to the National web site where the forms are, also found at - <http://forms.cgaux.org/>

OK, now you see PDF forms – this has every form needed, in PDF format. If you have just the PDF reader, you can only fill the form out on line, print it and mail it to your IS Officer. These forms have all the instructions if you need to know on how to do it.

Just below that it has E FORMS. This is what you want, makes reporting easy. Choose the form for the activity you're reporting, by clicking on the PDF icon to the right. Up pops the form. Fill it out, print a copy if you wish, and hit the SUBMIT button in RED at the bottom of the form. You should have typed in the FSO-IS Officer's email address as the receiver, and presto, it goes to your FSO-IS Officer. Once the FSO-IS Officer enters it into AUXDATA, your activity is immediately saved and recorded. This works for VE, PE, PA, PV, Radio watch, and for the ANSC 7029 – which is used for anything you can't report on the activity form.

Now, if you're on a patrol, you don't use this. The owner/operator fills out another form and enters the patrol request in AOM – a whole different data base. When the patrol is completed, the claim goes in when it hits the Finance Center and the AUXDATA information is automatically sent in. Yeah, it's complicated, but so is the government.

If you have any questions about how to do this, please just ask your FSO-IS Officer– that's his or her job, keeping y'all informed, and your work entered for credit. You should send in your activity quickly, soon after it takes place. however, the ANSC 7029 activity can be submitted monthly. There's a whole system of how to do the ANSC 7029, logging in your activity, miles driven and expenses not reimbursed. Click on the ANSC 7029 icon, and a whole explanation and procedure opens up. Note – you should have an ID and password to access stuff in the Auxiliary web sites. On the 7029 WEB-FORM page, there's a button at the top, GET PASSWORD. That opens the instruction how to do this. Your ID will be your member number, and once you have established a password, lots of doors open for you.

Here's another bonus you can do with your ID and password.

Try going to <https://auxofficer.cgaux.org/auxoff/unitstaff.php>. Here you can find anyone in the Auxiliary, including yourself. Enter the last name, or your last name, and presto, every one of your cousins pops up. You can narrow this down by typing in the unit just below where the name goes. Click on SEARCH at the top and there you are. Click on your name and a page titled MEMBER DETAIL pops up, with all your info. You can change mistakes by scrolling down just under the red box and changing the info. Update email, phone number, and spouses, whatever.

Have Fun out there



Division 11



Coast Guard Auxiliary Cleans Up Bay Park

Submitted by Deb Mallory, SO-FN Div II
FSO-FN Flotilla 11-1

“Would the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary be able to assist the community by cleaning up the waterway surrounding the park and the mangroves?” The plea came in an e-mail from a Sand Key resident, referring to Bay Park, on the Intracoastal side of Sand Key. A very dense mangrove thicket lined the shoreline, trapping years of debris from incoming tides. Members of the Clearwater Flotilla, 11-1, immediately went into “coastal cleanup mode” and descended upon the park Sunday morning with gloves, bags and grabbers. Over 600 pounds of trash was collected, filling up the beds of three pickup trucks. The trash included lots of old wooden planks--no doubt storm debris from long ago damaged docks. Plus typical items such as beer bottles, beer cans, cigarette lighters, six-pack rings, fishing line, shoes, ball caps, and clothing items that had been there so long that mangrove roots were poking through them. Other items included golf and tennis balls, PVC pipe, dock bumpers, chair cushions, a seine net, a hard hat, a pair of bolt cutters, and a Mylar balloon.

During the cleanup residents of the neighboring condos stopped by and expressed their appreciation for seeing a long neglected chore get some attention. Marine environmental protection is one of several activities performed by the Coast Guard Auxiliary, to provide a safe and pleasant experience on and along our waterways.



From left to right: Jesse Scott, Deb Mallory, Peter Palmieri, Karen Miller, Manny Sosa (kneeling), Harry Bickford, Teresa Kasper, SiSi Little, Ed Kasper, Dick Erwin. Photo taken by Deb Mallory



Division 14



Christopher Landry, Flotilla 14-2

Where can I start my story!

My name Christopher Landry, I'm 41 years of age and a veteran of the US Navy. I had the opportunity to join US. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 14-2. This opportunity has lead me on the road to one of the greatest adventures. My first was being part of the Boat Crew Academy. It was a sixth-month period of gaining a ton of knowledge that would later lead me to the USCG Cutter Kingfisher. Once I reported to the Kingfisher, I was welcomed as if I was one of the crew reporting to a new command.



I immediately started my transition to becoming a cutter man and working towards earning my Cutterman Insignia which will take me on a two year journey of knowledge, fellowship, and becoming a permanent part of the Cutter Man Legacy.

Once I was underway with my PQS training, I learned all the fundamentals of being part of a great team. The countless hours I have put in to my training has been met with the eagerness of all the

Kingfisher's crew to help me grow and meet all the steps in my first portion of my training. I am proud to say that after six months of hard work on both my part and the entire crew I have mastered all the steps in becoming an (OOD) Watch stander. It has really been a great and very exciting journey. I have a lot of respect for the men and women of the US Coast Guard and I'm equally proud of being part of this team.



I'm looking forward to starting the next phase of my Cutterman training which will involve me actually getting underway with the crew of the Kingfisher. This phase is called (SEOPS) Special and Emergency Operations and Procedures Training. This part of my training will teach me about all the fundamentals of what it takes to perform while under way. Such fundamentals as Damage Control, Navigation, and all important aspects of a successful patrol.

I would like to thank the CO and the XPO of the Kingfisher for giving me an opportunity of a lifetime and I also have a message to anyone in the USCG Auxiliary — if you have the opportunity to partake in the Cutterman program it will leave a forever lasting impression on you and your life.



Division 15



Spotlight on George & Patricia Dooris



U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary members, Patricia and George Dooris of Homosassa Flotilla 15-4, were recently honored for their many years of dedicated service to both Flotilla 15-4 and to U.S. Coast Guard Station Yankeetown.

During their fifteen years of service, each has served as a past Flotilla Commander of Homosassa Flotilla 15-4. They continue to serve flotilla 15-4 as coxswains on board Flotilla 15-4 patrol vessels. In addition, both "Tricia" and George continue to give freely of their time as instructors, teaching numerous safe boating courses for the boating public as well as preparing and providing in-service training programs for Flotilla 15-4 personnel.

On weekends when they are not on the water participating in patrol or search and rescue missions, you will find them volunteering their time as Communications Specialists at Station Yankeetown, operating the radios at that facility. They have been doing this for the past thirteen years, and both have said they enjoy working with these dedicated men and women of the Coast Guard. George and Tricia admitted that they sometimes serve in the capacity of advisors and surrogate grandparents to some of the younger servicemen and women at the station who are there serving their country.

Being a part of the "Coast Guard Family" is taken literally by Tricia and George as their son, Mathew, (who is also a long-time member of Flotilla 15-4), has been serving on active duty with the Coast Guard for the past 13 years. With the rank of Lieutenant Commander (LCDR), Matt is currently stationed in San Pedro, California, serving as the Safety and Environmental Health Officer for Coast Guard District 11 (South).

When Tricia and George were asked what being a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary has meant to them, both agreed that although it has been time-consuming, it has been educational as well. They summed up their feelings about their service by saying, "It has indeed been a very enjoyable experience, and we would not have missed it for the world!"

Rusty Hays, Flotilla 15-4 Commander, said, "We are fortunate to have Tricia and George as members of our flotilla, and we thank them for their many years of service, not only to Flotilla 15-4, but to the U.S. Coast Guard and to their country as well. We look forward to their continued service for many years to come.

Taken from Division 15 "Charlie Noble" Winter Issue by Wilbur 'Scotty' Scott - Photo by Wilbur Scott



Division 16



Coast Guard Resident Inspection Office, Boat Forces in St. Croix move to Christiansted

ST. CROIX, U.S. Virgin Islands - The Coast Guard officially announced the change of location for the Coast Guard Resident Inspection Office (RIO) and Boat Forces Detachment in St. Croix to 5090 Estate Solitude in Christiansted, during an Open House and Ribbon Cutting January 24, 2014, inaugurating a newly leased facility where the units will be managing and supporting Coast Guard and Auxiliary operations on the island.

Captain Drew W. Pearson, Commander U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Juan, Puerto Rico proclaimed the official opening with remarks from Donna Christensen, U.S. Virgin Islands' Delegate to Congress, who served as the honorary guest speaker and ribbon cutter for the event.

Having our Coast Guard forces co-located in St. Croix allows us greater access to better serve and answer the needs of mariners, boaters and our partners on the island," said Capt. Pearson. "This new location reduces Coast Guard response times to Search and Rescue (SAR) and Law Enforcement (LE) cases and expands our ability to execute other Coast Guard missions in the area as we continue our collective efforts to protect the safety and security of citizens in St. Croix and the Virgin Islands."



Lieutenant Roger Bogert (left), Supervisor U.S. Coast Guard Resident Inspection Office St. Croix and Captain Drew W. Pearson (right), Commander U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Juan, Puerto Rico, proclaim the official opening of the newly leased Coast Guard facility in Estate Solitude January 24, 2014. Raymond Williams, Chief of Staff U.S Virgin Islands' Lt. Governor's Office and Donna Christensen, U.S. Virgin Islands' Delegate to Congress, served as the honorary guest speakers and ribbon cutters for the event.

"I welcome this facility on behalf of the people of St. Croix. Many times people say we don't see the Coast Guard, but I have been in contact with the Coast Guard in Florida and they have responded to the need for surveillance here," said Donna Christensen addressing Coast Guard and Auxiliary personnel, government dignitaries and citizens. "This increased boat safety, SAR operations and ability to interdict contraband on its way to St. Croix is important to us, but also important is the increased visibility of the Coast Guard in the community. I thank Capt. Pearson and the entire Seventh Coast Guard District for responding to our request for increased assets in the Virgin Islands Their presence has already begun to pay off."

RIO and Boat Forces personnel relocated into the 5,000 square-foot facility comprised of personnel workspaces, a boat maintenance shop, armory, pyrotechnics storage space, Auxiliary member work station and parking for customers. The governmental lease also makes available pier docking for the two 29-foot Response Small II generation boats at Green Cay Marina.

Response time will definitely be improved," stated Chief Warrant Officer Alan Dooley, Supervisor of boat forces. "This northern location allows for our boats to be launched easier and having quicker access to the waterways." Boat Forces serve as a detachment of Coast Guard Station San Juan, Puerto Rico. The unit conducts SAR, Homeland Security initiatives and LE operations, which include drug and migrant interdiction, fisheries enforcement, recreational boating safety education and interactions with Auxiliary surface and air missions. Sector San Juan also conducts escorts of cruise ships and high interest commercial cargo vessels entering and departing St. Croix.

Contact: Ricardo Castrodad
Public Affairs Specialist
USCG Sector San Juan, Puerto Rico

Photo and Contributing writer:
Robert A. Fabich, Sr.
Public Affairs Specialist III
Flotilla 16-1 Christiansted, USVI



Welcome



January 1 to March 31, 2014

Division 1

Catinchi_Rinaldi, Karla

Division 2

Drake, Zachary M.
Hughes, Patrick
Pike, Jonathan
Sellstrom, Nancy A.
Tyler, Timothy C.

Division 3

Alls, Jackie
Canatsey, Sarah
Charles, Hannah R.
Gorgoski, Slavijan
Grosu, Edmond
Gupta, Satya
Hopkins, Terry
Milledge, David
Romero, Jim
Sager, Steven
Ulloa, Mauricio
Velazquez, Dedrea

Division 4

Fisher, Paul N.
Fodera, Anthony
Mariande, Guy
Pirtle, Randolph H.
Ragland, Robert
Truthan, Kristine

Division 5

Finn, Mary
Haarer, Donna E.
Herr, Thomas
Lairson, David
Leischen, Nicholas
Snyder, Eric J.
Wright, Gary

Division 6

Ausch, Joseph
Fernandez, Manuel
Mejia, David
Passariello, Antonio
Sanchez, Antonio
Segurola, Daniel
Torres, Edwin

Division 7

Corner, David
Dajani, Hani
Hunt, Cameron S.
Jones, Jeffrey
Sousek, Stephanie
Vansciver, Bridget
Vansciver, Daniel

Division 8

Almeida, Alcino
Belcastro, Joshua
Bender, Wayne
Dickinson, Herbert
Ferrigno, Alan L.
Folmer, Sven
Guilmette, Paul
Jay, Kay
Mutz, Ronald
Yoder, Dennis

Division 9

Batties, Samuel
Bruno, Thomas
Decesare, Ralph
Harvey, Kenneth
Heer, Stephen
Moore, Carl D.
Owen, Nicholas
Ledesma, Santiago
Malinowski, Michael
Mc Carn, Nancy L.
Pellegrino, Richard A.
Qureshi, Abdul
Smith, Donald
Stuart, Harry
Toussaint, Ronald
Williamson, Kathy A.
Wilson, Theodore
Wood, Robert

Division 10

Footen, Joseph
Newhouse, Mary K.
Newhouse, Michael
Pearson, Peter
Riley, Harry
Vivani, Philip



Welcome



Division 11

**Brown, Gisela
Dickinson, Dean
Erwin, Richard
Gohn, Thomas
Leonardi, Raymond
Shebanek, Ronald B.
Urschel, David
Zazulak, Eugene**

Division 12

**Egan, Brenda
Hastings, Donald
Lenmaster, Steven R**

Division 13

**Gervasi, Gerald
Hanson, Tanya
Hoffman, Carole
Kumar, Atul
Mcswire, Thomas A.
Nemura, Ray
Steele, Bernard**

Division 14

**Delaney, Gregory
Fray_Savage, Prudencia
Kozee, Darryl
Parker, Carly**

Division 15

**Brunot, Frank A.
Bystry_Wells, Vera
Eitel, Charla R.
Eitel, Rolland D., Jr.
Lippincott, Roger
McGregor, Kevin
Nastelli, James E.
Ristich, Bruce
Skonecki, Karen
Weiss, Josef**

Division 17

**Bitzer_Jaffe, Christine
Colon, Joshua
Ferguson, Edith
Gabay, William**





2014 Retirees

January 1 to March 31, 2014

**Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard**

Takes pleasure in conferring

<u>Member</u>	<u>Flotilla</u>	<u>Service Year</u>
Low, William	13-4	25
Farmer, Laura	14-2	23
Balazs, John	11-6	22
Mayer, Paul J., Jr.	72	22
Radosh, Burnett	37	21
Mills, Thomas	10-10	16
Summer, George	12-3	16

RETIRED STATUS

*in the
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary*

*In recognition of significant contributions and devoted service to the organization and
its boating safety programs.*

Crossing the Bar

January 1 to March 31, 2014



Julian "Joe" Morrison
Division 4



Martha Mitchell
Division 8



Sheldon Thompson
Division 8



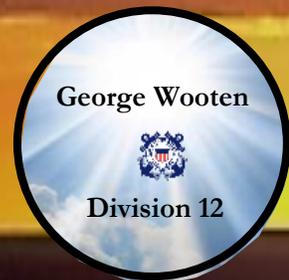
Clarice Forbes
Division 98



Carl J. Cole
Division 11



George Korch
Division 11



George Wooten
Division 12



Edward Coady
Division 13



Clifford Nelson
Division 13



Joseph Manning
Division 15



Edward Smith
Division 15



Annie Richmond

*Sunset and evening star
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,*

*But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the
boundless deep*

*Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;*

*For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.*

By Alfred Lord Tennyson



Please submit photos for the
"Crossing of the Bar" Ceremony to
d7happyrecruiter@gmail.com

Picture Page



Truth or Fiction? Trivia

1. Antarctica is the only land on our planet that is not owned by any country.

2. The deepest hole ever drilled by man is the Kola Super deep Borehole, in Russia. It reached a depth of 12,261 meters (about 40,226 feet or 7.62 miles.)



3. The first city to reach a population of 1 million people was Rome, Italy (in 133 B.C.). There is a city called Rome on every continent.

4. There are no natural lakes in the state of Ohio . . .every one is man-made

5. The term 'The Big Apple' was coined by touring jazz musicians of the 1930's who used the slang expression 'apple' for any town or city. Therefore, to play New York City is to play the big time - The Big Apple



6. There are more Irish in New York City than in Dublin, Ireland; more Italians in New York City than in Rome, Italy; And more Jews in New York City than in Tel Aviv, Israel.

7. Istanbul, Turkey is the only city in the world located on two continents.



8. Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world combined. Canada is an Indian word meaning 'Big Village'.

9. A rat can last longer without water than a camel can.

10. The female lion does more than 90% of the hunting while the male simply prefers to rest. !!

11. "Go." is the shortest complete sentence in the English language

12. The full name of Los Angeles is: El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de Los Angeles de Porciuncula. It can be abbreviated to 3.6% of its size: L. A.



13. Next to Warsaw, Chicago has the largest Polish population in the world.

14. The vocabulary of the average person consists of 5,000 to 6,000 words.

15. The word "racecar", "kayak", and "radar" are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left.

16. "a man a plan a canal panama" spelled backwards is still "a man a plan a canal panama"

Link of the Day: [U.S. Coast Guard](#)