

THE OTO CHRONICLE



Hero of this Edition – BM1 Bernard Webber

On February 18 1952, the SS Pendleton was on her way to Boston when she broke in two in a gale south of Cape Cod. CG 36500 with Coxswain Bernard Webber and his crew of three received the call to get underway. While crossing the sandbar out of the harbor the boat suffered some damaged, leaving the crew to navigate without a compass. Still, CG 36500 was able to locate the stern section of the SS Pendleton temporarily grounded on a sandbar. BM1 Webber positioned the CG 36500 under the listing hull, while timing each swell with expert station keeping, the crew of the SS Pendleton climbed down the Jacobs ladder on board. All but nine of the SS Pendleton's 41 crew had been rescued that stormy night.

This is considered to be one of the most heroic and daring rescues in Coast Guard history. All four members on board the CG 36500 were awarded the Coast Guards Gold Lifesaving Medal for their efforts. The stern of the SS Pendleton still lies underwater off Monomoy Island south of Chatham and the CG 36500 is now a museum boat at Rock Harbor in Orleans, MA

THE OTO CHRONICLE

DISCUSSION TOPICS

- From the OTO
- Rescue and Survival Gear
 - AUXDATA II
- Blood Borne Pathogens
- Assignment to Duty Requests
- Operations/Proposed OPTREX Dates

Greetings Friends,

It has been a minute since I decided to publish another edition of the OTO Chronicle, mainly due to the challenges that 2020 gifted us. In hopes that things slowly start to get back to normal, there has been a good bit happening behind the scenes that I fell is noteworthy, may help some folks out, or at least clear some things up.

We have our first mini-OPTREX planned with Jim Losi's KRAKEN Bubble and Terry Blanchard's Nudibranch Bubble. Each bubble has a QE in it and has the ability to knock out a few certifications. As long as bubbles are comfortable with two-boat training crews wear masks when in close proximity and minimize the duration that the facilities are in close proximity, it's allowed. I am available to join a bubble for QE purposes, the downfall is the bubble will be locked for 21 days and I would not be able to join a bubble until I self-isolate for 10 days. I don't mind, but I also don't want to lock a bubble for 21 days either and the same rules apply for all willing QE's as well. We are still awaiting CG guidance on newly published CDC guidance for vaccinated personnel. In preparation for a busy boating season and upcoming checkrides/certifications be sure were staying sharp with our skills, all qualified folks (Coxn's and Crew) should be able to tie all required knots before leaving the pier. If you have electronic navigation equipment on board you are expected to be able to operate it. For example, if a QE provides you with Lat/Long coordinates; you should be able to safely navigate to that position with an estimated ETA. These are skills we often overlook but they can saves lives.

I have reached out to the OIA's and communications centers to notify them the Aux are out, operating, and willing to help. Once I receive additional info, I will forward the message to the stations. Lastly, the annual TCT refresher will not be waived. Please ensure you are seeking out opportunities to take virtual classes.

STAY FROSTY!

THE OTO CHRONICLE

- **Rescue and Survival Gear**

- Mike Brown is back in the office and is diligently working to ensure all requests are filled.
- Personal Locator Beacons (PLB's) have been ordered and we will soon have a healthy stock again. If you or your members need a PLB please do not hesitate to reach out. Please send expired PLB's to the DIRAUX office for proper disposal. If you or your members need replacement gear, let us get those items replaced sooner rather than later.
- If gear is returned to the office please ensure there is paperwork (AF-538) attached to it, it makes things easier on our end.
- Questions or concerns: Dustin.F.Finkelson@uscg.mil or M.Brown.USCGAUX@gmail.com.

- **AUXDATA II**

- I have received a ton of opinions in regards to AUXDATA II (AD2) most are favorable, and the current system is here for the long run.
- Requests:
 - Home page – more tab – files – libraries – “USCG Auxiliary Guides”
 - The second option is “AUXDATA User Guide – Aux Patrol Orders”
 - This will walk you through the request process.
- After you have an Approved Patrol and you complete the mission, do not forget to go back in and close your patrol for payment.
- I have received a number of Facility Inspection (FI) requests and folks are doing well with this. I do not receive a notification when a FI is submitted, please ensure you send me an email so I can log in, verify, and approve these.
- Do not forget to upload documents with your FI's, I can walk you through it or feel free to email them my way. Phone pictures will suffice too.
- IS Officers should log in weekly (or bi-monthly) to approve activities. This ensures the members receive credit for the hours they have logged.
- Any training documents can be forwarded for entry to the Flotilla IS Officer, if it needs DIRAX attention please send to D11AUXNorthern@uscg.mil and Tina or myself will take action.
- **Upcoming Page Layout Changes:**
 - **Better visibility of the Crew, Activities, Files, and Patrol Order History objects on the right side of the page**

THE OTO CHRONICLE

- Removed the Date Applied/Date Decided fields on the Crew record entries.
- Moved Chatter from a tab to the actual page (will be located on the right side of the page, below Patrol Order History)
- Display of Mission End Time in the Activities List View, to help with determining the Mission Start time of subsequent Activities
- **Patrol Request Changes:**
 - Facility Owners/Operators and anyone initiating patrol requests will follow this process after 15 March 2021 @ 12:00pm EST:
 - From the Home Page, select More
 - Select Patrol Orders
 - Select New (upper right side of the screen)
 - Select Patrol Request (Note: Do not select the Patrol Order option here or you will experience errors)
 - Fill out all required fields as you did before. Save.
 - Click the Assign Locations bar, select your patrol location and sub-unit as appropriate. Fill out the Patrol Area and Description fields as required by your OIA. Save.
 - Change the status from New to Requested. Save. This will send a notification to the OIA indicating that a patrol request is pending.
 - If the patrol request is approved, an approved patrol order will be created. Follow the existing patrol order completion process upon completion of the patrol.
- **Reports:** I am in the process of creating a handful of reports to help with tracking Training, Patrol Schedules, REYR, Awards, etc. for our AOR. If there is any sort of report you would like to see shoot me an email and I can create one. These reports will be stored in the D11NR folder.
- **Blood Borne Pathogens**
 - The training is available in AUXLMS again. This is required only when under patrol orders.
- **Assignment To Duty/Bubble Requests**
 - First steps, submit your High Risk Assessment Form



Updated HRAF Feb
2021.pdf

THE OTO CHRONICLE

- If you plan to be under orders (underway on the water or air), submit proof of completion of your Blood Borne Pathogens if not already in AD2.
- Submit your Bubble Formation Requests
<https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/dbbV1669i5TYw4>
- Once all members are verified and the bubble is approved, the bubble liaison/POC will submit a request for duty
<https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/apq47kOroc571fb> followed by a request in AD2.
- Please do your best to give the OIA and myself advanced notice, the OIA requests at least a seven-day window.
 - AIRSTA OIA is LT Mitchell Dow
 - SECTOR San Francisco OIA is BOSN2 Joe Holt
 - SECTOR Humboldt Bay OIA is BOSN4 Rob Canepa

- **DSO-OPS**
 - As most of you know, Virginia Luchetti has done amazing work during her tenure as DSO OPS and her successor Wally Smith has continued this trend.
 - All the OPS monthly reports can be found at
<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=113&category=surface-operations>
 - There is a tentative schedule for OPTREX's available on the District Calendar, hopefully these will come to fruition.
<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=113&category=CALENDAR>
 - Captain Paul Verveniotis has done outstanding work and has published some great training tips found on
https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A_uscgaux.bayvessel.com_&d=DwICAg&c=tnPw9yRHa20_HV5YVoVFtg&r=qO13vOFkEm5Qr24ScbyVJpXpWpFcesDEAlqrY0xQET4&m=F3pvLyKYRcweQy7ijwrMYiPt7WoLuuK3StZk-9VTE80&s=8jppX4v6DIQIUM-Bra0jPjtVe_NTuDSZbb2I21z6qE&

- Lastly, THANK YOU from the entire DIRAUX staff. I know this past year has not been fun or easy for anyone; your patience and adaptability are to be emulated. I hope to see yall in person and back on the water soon.

BOSN Dustin Finkelson