

The Quarterly Newsletter of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary District 11, Northern Region

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Returning

Service

Safely

GUNZALEZ

Why I Joined the Auxiliary

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Contributors to this Issue: Roger Bazeley, OTO Dustin Finkelson, Gail D. M. Giacomini, Michele Gibson, Peter Graham, COMO Mary Kirkwood, James Losi, Wade MacAdam, Doug Manifold, Alan Stanton, and Greg Schaefer

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The Editor of *Northwind* is Greg Schaefer; he can be reached at <u>gregschaefer.uscgaux@gmail.com</u>.

From the Editor:

For a group of people who like to serve, the months of March, April, May, June, and July were pretty rough! When our period of stand down began on 19 March, little did we know how long we would be in that posture. In the words of Commodore Kirkwood, "boating season started without us" . . . and there were consequences to that. But, thanks to the leadership of many, on many levels, we have finally able to inch back into the work that drew many of us to the Auxiliary in the first place. In this issue of Northwind, you will find articles related to our Returning to Service Safely. The variety of ways we've been able to do this is wide, some returning to missions in the field, masked and one fathom apart (I don't know why everyone keeps calling it "six feet") and others doing their work from home; as you return to missions in whatever way you are able, recall the reasons that you got into this work to begin with. Consider the lives that are helped and/or saved by our work. Be gracious with those (including yourself) who may not be ready to return to duty in public just yet. Reach out to those whose service as our District leadership is coming to an end and those whose is starting/changing. And, remember those across our district (and beyond) with whose partnership we undertake our work with honor, respect, devotion to duty.

Peace to you,

The Rev. Gregory O. Schaefer NORTHWIND editor (FL 46, Redwood City)



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From the District Commodore

Reflecting on the past six months, and ready for the future!

There is little denying that, if 2020 were a musical score, it would look like this one. It will be remembered as one of ups and downs, disappointments stacked on disappointments, even as the year to be forgotten. None of us used our 2020 planners; there wasn't anything to put in them.

It's easy to reflect on all the activities that didn't occur these past 6 months: D-Train, OPTREXs, Flotilla meetings, boating safety classes, National Safe Boating Week, fellowship activities. Our air fleet has been grounded and our boats remain tied up at docks. The first weekend of October would have been one of our busiest of the year: the San Francisco Fleet Week. While we can reflect on what "coulda/shoulda" been (and it woulda been great!), it's time to find a way to adjust our lives to a

new set of standards, to figure out how to get back to business under a continued threat of COVID.

One of the best things to come out of our *stand down* time has been the creation of online classes for our members. Many of our members took advantage of this training, gaining new knowledge, additional certifications, and competencies. This program will continue to be part of D11N, long after we have forgotten our COVID days. *Thank you* to our DSOMT, Ann Zocchi, and our incredible instructors for sharing their knowledge and expertise. We are ready to go when we get the green light to go!

In July our new D11 Commander arrived. RADM Penoyer has an extensive history of working with the Auxiliary and is encouraging us to think outside the box when identifying areas where the AUX can support the active duty and their missions. On a recent call, the ADM told us "Everything is on the table, except DOD and law enforcement." He is very

interested in getting us back to missions, in a low-COVID-risk way, and encourages us to decrease our personal risk by following local guidelines, wearing masks, and

masks, and District Commodore, Mary Kirkwood

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maintaining social distancing. We must extend the on-duty restrictions to our off-duty behavior to protect our members and their families and to maintain operational excellence.

In July we rolled out Phase I of the Auxiliary "reconstitution" plan for D11, enabling us to return to some of our most basic RBS missions, including Program Visits and Vessel Safety Exams. In Phase II, we expect to return to most missions, adhering to strict risk-mitigation practices.

None of us will ever forget 2020,

but we can't let the last six months define who we are. The Coast Guard Auxiliary continues to be the greatest volunteer organization in the world. While we are a crucial intersection in our organization, we need to determine what our new norm will be for the next year and how we can continue our important missions while staying within those norms. As we plan to roll out Phase II of the "reconstitution plan," I encourage you to be as active as you feel comfortable within our new safety guidelines.

I know 2021 will be a better year. We have a great new team of leadership starting in January, and I

know they will lead us into greater journeys than we can imagine. I look forward to when we can all meet together again...

AT SUAL ASSES

Semper Gumby!



From the Operations Training Officer

As long as you are working to keep yourself and your families safe, and practicing your skills to the extent possible, you are making a difference!

I sincerely hope that all of our members and their families are staying safe and maintaining their sanity through this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.

As we work to bring back our Auxiliary workforce, District Eleven Auxiliary as a whole is on a limited "stay at home" order. Any activities involving leaving your home that are not authorized per the D11 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) - D11 Auxiliary Awareness and Guidance approved by the District 11 Commander on July 10, 2020 require a waiver from the District Commander via SECTOR OIAs and the DIRAUX Office.

There are opportunities to partake in online training and to do the Surface Operations Workshop. Get caught up on your core training and any courses that you have been meaning to do when you had time. Take advantage of our Virtual RM/TCT training. Grab a piece of line and practice tying knots. Go through all of your PPE and do a self-inspection, using the MRC cards so that you know it will pass when it is time to get back into it.

Entering the second year of my tenure as OTO, I want to continue to focus on our training and getting members qualified. We all signed have up/volunteered to be servants to the public and the public deserves a quality product. This starts with quality training. Once we can get back on the water, we should be actively training. Do not let bare minimums be your goal, seek to improve your existing skills and learn some new ones. To the greatest extent possible, do not wait until the end of the year to get your underway hours. Let us strive to do away with the "12 hour club."

While in this downtime, each Crewperson, PWC Operator, operational Trainee, and Coxswain should



BOSN2 Dustin Finkelson, OTO

evaluate their fitness for duty in the boat crew program. If you have a situation which limits your

ability to fully function as a crew member (lifting, moving safely around the boat, limited vision, hearing and responding to commands, etc), please consider whether you may be better suited to serving as a shore-based boat crew mentor to share your expertise, or perhaps volunteer in other essential programs. If you choose to withdraw from the boat crew program, please notify your FSO-OP via email.

REYR – The District understands that we will inevitably have members that fall into REYR due to the COVID-19 standown. This will be a nationwide issue. Please trust that we will be working with National on a plan to fix all crew members REYR due to Covid19.

Facility Owners – If you have the luxury of having your vessels in your backyard (or other access not involving violating any social distancing guidelines), take this opportunity to review your paperwork. Is your inspection current? Go over your checklist and check all of your gear to make sure all is available and serviceable. Check the material condition of your vessel. Does anything need repairs? Does it run properly and reliably? If the answer to any of these questions is no, take note and arrange to have the discrepancies corrected when ok to do so.

Thank you for your service! I cannot wait to get back out in the community and on the water! As long as you are working to keep yourself and your families safe, and practicing your skills to the extent possible, you are making a difference!

Helpful Links from Division Five

by Wade MacAdam

It's one thing to be creative. But, it's different kind of genius who knows what to borrow from other people! On this page, Wade MacAdam highlights some good work that the Flotillas in his Division have done including links that could be helpful for the rest of us, looking to borrow ideas! (The use of html hyperlinks below rather than anchor text is to broaden accessibility.)

Flotilla 53,
North Solano Co.,
got a grant from the
California State Parks
Division of Boating and
Waterways to create three
Life Jacket Loaner stations,
with 25 jackets at each station,
ranging in sizes from infant all
the way to extra-large. See more:
https://www.facebook.com/USCGAUX.SolanoCoun

Flotilla 51, Vallejo, added the updated 2020 uniform regulations to their website; Check it out if you'd like to model their content and format: http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=113-05-01&category=UNIFORMS

Flotilla 55, Sonoma County, added a Facebook link to their landing page, set up PayPal for their events, and created trouble-shooting tips for conducting Zoom meetings.

https://www.facebook.com/USCG-Auxiliary-Flotilla-113-05-05-Sonoma-CA-

Flotilla 52, Napa, added a *Diversity* heading to their website. The very first post on the page is *Diversity in the U.S. Coast Guard: A Brief History*.

Flotilla 57, Diablo, has a webpage for Abandoned and Derelict Boats, as well as the form for reporting the vessels.

http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=113 05-07&category=operations Wade MacAdam is a member of FL 53, North Solano County, and serves his Division as SO-PB.





Why I Joined the Auxiliary

by Gail D. M. Giacomini

In my experience, there are at least two groups of boaters.

Why did I join the

Auxiliary? Simply

said, I was invited!

It's been one of the

most enjoyable

decisions I have

ever made!

One group has grown up "messing about in boats" as Ratty says in Kenneth Grahame's, Wind in the

Willows. The other group, of which I am a member, discovers this enjoyable pastime later in life. Boating was really not a part of my childhood.

All that changed, when I took two courses of dinghy sailing – one on a whim – with tubby El Toros on San Francisco's Lake Merced, and another with speedy but tippy Lasers on Novato's Bahia Lagoon. The first course was hard work; the second one gave me lots of time in the water (Lasers are extremely tender). Both experiences ignited a love of sailing!

Boat ownership and charter sailing necessitated learning everything I could

about boat handling, boat systems, weather, marine laws, and especially navigation. Three courses from the Coast Guard Auxiliary assisted in my acquiring sailing certifications that allowed crewing on single and multi-hull sailboats on the California coast, Mexico, Belize, and in the Caribbean, Asia, and Europe. The most memorable trip was on a 3-masted, 56-meter Barkentine, the *BarkEuropa*, to Antarctica's southern-most research stations & back!

My one experience of interaction with the Coast Guard, as a sailor, not long after I became an Auxiliary member, was a "trade for a tow" with a Coast Guard BIF 29' crew out of CG Lifeboat Station Golden Gate. I and a young female Auxiliary companion were charter-sailing a 24' Santana up the Sausalito channel. Having taken down the sails in the late afternoon, we were motoring against the ebb current when the engine died! It was going to take

several hours to tack back to the marina, so my companion asked if she could flag down a CG Patrol

MSST RB-S facility that was crossing our bow. When the patrol came to our aid, we readily agreed to a practice boarding in exchange for a tow. It was interesting to hear the questions asked and to observe the professionalism and courtesy of the young USCG crew members. They were excellent seamen, too, as we were swung smartly into our spot in the marina!

At the conclusion of Flotilla Central Marin's Navigation course, the lead instructor explained the organization's main missions of saving lives through boating and marine safety, comradery, and support of the Coast Guard; and then asked the class to join the

Auxiliary. As a long-time volunteer, I thought, "What better opportunity to use my skills in service of an organization that supports my interests of family safety and environmental protection?" So, in 2002, I became a member.

As a result of that decision, each year I have been able to put to use past seamanship and new knowledge: boat crew, free vessel exams, various public affairs positions, and sharing information about the missions of the Auxiliary. Today, adjusting to current circumstances, I'm spending more time "desk-side," to support boating and marine safety by proof-reading, assistant editing, and writing for Auxiliary publications; proving that the Auxiliary is one of the most inclusive of "Team Coast Guard."

Gail D. M. Giacomini, of FL 14, Central Marin, serves the District as DDSO-PA.



Editor's Note: Is there is someone you would like to encourage to consider joining the Auxiliary? A good place for you to start is join.cgaux.org, where you will find some helpful resources. – GS



National and District Election Results







Congratulations to all who were elected!

Bravo Zulu to all who were willing to serve!



Expressing Gratitude and Appreciation

by James Losi

I have always been confused about the difference between gratitude and appreciation. Gratitude and appreciation are both choices – choices that can bring positivity and healing. I've learned that gratitude and appreciation, although related, are two

different things. The first is being thankful for something or someone, and the second is seeing the good qualities in something or someone. Gaining that clarity crystalized what I want to communicate in this article: gratitude and appreciation.

In February 2020, before the COVID pandemic really made its presence felt,

an orthopedic surgeon discovered I had two herniated discs in my neck. In June, I would have an Anterior Cervical Discectomy and Fusion. (We in the Auxiliary love acronyms; let's call it ACDF!) While going through the pre-op, the medical professional would refer to my "procedure" as "serious" or "involved." It wasn't until the three days before the surgery that he used the words "major surgery and very invasive." At that point, I stopped listening and grew fearful. Actually, the proper word is "panic." I did my due diligence — researching online and watching YouTube video of the same operation — and the reality of what was to come really sank in.

I had little recollection of the days in the hospital. What I do have great recollection of was returning to my home from my hospital stay and seeing the extensive list of Auxiliarists who had called Beverly,

my wife, to see how we were both doing. I enjoy a reputation that is the direct opposite of expressing emotions. But my eyes welled up and Beverly, a look of concern on her face, asked if I was in pain. *No*, I responded, *just the opposite*.



My bedside table with cards and letters from Auxiliar members. I read a few each evening before retiring.

That was just the beginning. Every week for the next three months, I received telephone calls, text messages, emails, and a beautiful array of get-well cards and even some flowers and candy from Auxiliarists and Active Duty members. Despite there being many a dark day, there was great reason for gratitude and hope.

With the pain high and my spirits low, I found myself reading and rereading all of the texts, emails, and getwell cards.

So, I am writing to express my gratitude for all of you in my life, gratitude that I belong to such a remarkable organization, and gratitude to those of you who covered for me, like Dean McFarren, while I was healing. And, I appreciate you for the people you are and the values you live by. To be Auxiliarist is a wonderful thing. To receive the care and kindness of fellow Auxiliarists is a gift. Thank you all for your caring and kindness. I leave you with this final thought: expressing gratitude and appreciate may be one of the simplest ways to feel better without a prescription. Thank you.

Jim Losi serves as DCAPT for Support and is a member of Flotilla 12-91, San Ramon Valley.

Editor's Note: Thanks to Jim for sharing this personal account of the restorative power of people's kindness and the therapeutic power of our own gratitude and appreciation. I encourage you to remember that not all ailments show up on an x-ray. If there is someone you are concerned about, who may be dealing with a lot this season, consider reaching out to express your concern, show your solidarity, and/or offer your support. A small act (an email, a phone call, a text, a card) can make a huge difference. – GS



Cooking-in-Place (Back by Popular Demand)

by Michele Gibson

I've been cooking up a storm while social distancing at home and, with these recipes, I hope to inspire both new and seasoned home cooks. Take advantage of fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables and enjoy!

| HASTV | HOTS | / Nn | appetizer) |
|--------|-------|------|------------|
| TICOLI | TIOID | (AII | appetizer |

Serves 12

Heat broiler.

Split 1 slender baguette (8 oz.)

Halve pieces crosswise, put cut side up on 12x15 baking sheet.

Broil about 2-3 minutes.

In a bowl mix $\frac{1}{2}$ C thinly sliced green onion, $\frac{1}{2}$ C mayo, and $\frac{1}{2}$ C grated parmesan.

Sprinkle red chili flakes.

Spread mixture on bread. Broil until lightly browned, about 1.5 minutes.

Let cool about 2 min. to crisp.

Present, uncut on a board, with a knife.

NAPA CABBAGE SALAD - FROM THE 1950s

- 1 package of chopped Napa and Red cabbage
- 1 small package slivered almonds
- 2 tsp. Sesame seeds
- 1 package of top ramen noodles

For the dressing:
3 tbsp. white vinegar
1/2 tsp. black pepper

1/2 cup olive oil 2 tbsp. sugar Packet from ramen

Crumple noodles, toast in oven, 350 for 9 min. Toast almonds to light brown. (They burn quickly!) When cool, add noodles and almonds to salad.

Add the dressing and toss.

FRENCH FRUIT COBBLER

- 3 cups seasonally fresh fruit
- 2 tbsp. granulated sugar
- 6 tbsp. unsalted butter, melted
- 1 cup half & half
- 3 eggs
- 2/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 2 tsp. minced lemon zest
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 tsp. almond extract
- 1/2 tsp. table salt

Powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 400 degrees

Combine 3C of and 2 T granulated sugar; let macerate for 15-20 minutes.

Brush 9-inch deep-dish pie plate with 1 tbsp. melted butter; heat in oven.

Blend 5 tbsp. melted butter, half & half, eggs, flour, sugar, zest, vanilla, almond extract, and salt in a blender until batter is smooth and frothy.

Pour half the batter into heated pie plate. Place fruit in a single layer over batter; top with remaining batter.

Bake: until center is set and slightly browned, 25-30 minutes. Let sit at least 15 minutes; sift powdered sugar over top before serving.

Note suggested seasonal fruits: peaches, blackberries, blueberries, or pears. Combine for a more complex flavor.

Michele Gibson, Div. 4 SO-FS, is a member of FL 46, Redwood City.





Illusive Leadership

by Roger Bazeley

What is leadership? Who exemplifies its motivational qualities and humanitarian values? Is the art and craft of leadership acquired from within, from collected experiences picked-up like stones on a beach? Can the concept of leadership be learned and then - Eureka! - a leader is produced?

A classic definition of leadership is "a process whereby someone influences others to achieve a common goal." Winston & Patterson add that a leader selects, equips, trains, and influences followers with diverse gifts, abilities, and skills and focuses them to the organization's mission/objectives causing them to enthusiastically expend spiritual, emotional, and physical energy to achieve the mission and objectives. The concept of leadership encompasses all of the above but effective, inspirational leadership comes from one's core values, acquired life perspective from deep within, respecting the values of setting the welfare and safety of the team before oneself.

Many leaders within the Coast Guard Auxiliary leadership may have begun as mission specialists or as members of a team. Not seekers of recognition or power, they step up to answer a call for visionary, focused leadership with an understanding of the membership and the mission goals. Once recognized as an Auxiliary leader, with the ability to direct and exact sweeping changes, how are the goals and desired results achieved? How critical is the team's view of the leader's style and definition of leadership in the final outcome of the project or team mission?

True leadership qualities do not come from rank; they come from answering the call in time of need. Winston Churchill said of the Common Man in War, "Thus when all the trumpets sounded, every class and rank had something to give Some gave their science and some their wealth, some gave their business energy and drive, and some wonderful personal prowess, and some their patient weakness. But none gave more, or gave more readily, than the common man or woman who had nothing but a precarious week's wages between them and poverty, and owned little more.... Their love and pride of country, their loyalty to the symbols of which they were familiar, their keen sense of right, and wrong as they saw it, led them to outface and endure perils the like of which men had not known on earth."

Inspirational leadership respects humanity and its diversity, with a team-approach of inclusion and equality. The best leadership informs honestly and transparently, educates and trains members, motivates and inspires them to greater performance, and mentors inspirationally. As in risk management, leaders need to assess the wellness of each team member and inquire, during off mission hours, "How are you really doing?" A healthy mind and spirt are as important as training and preparedness to the mission's safe success, and members' development, satisfaction, and retention.

Successful mission outcomes require individual and organizational leadership to be honest, transparent, and accountable, and to respect the policy and protocols of diversity and inclusion. Encompassing the role of effective leadership are unpredictable risks, taken in an increasingly complicated, regulated, and political/policy driven environment that challenge and may compromise and diminish the effectiveness of leadership. Mentoring and conflict management become pivotal in mission readiness through team training preparation. Team cohesiveness is strengthened through honoring the Auxiliary ethos of working together for the common good.

Ask, "What kind of a leader am I?" Did you answer the call of leadership to become an effective and inspirational leader? Are you a leader that reevaluates and self-assesses in order to further your development? Do you adhere to the principals of doing the "right thing," believing in integrity and service for the benefit of the public and the Auxiliary? History will judge one's leadership, public works, impact, and benefit to society. To be a truly great and inspirational leader, one must have etched in the soul the principles of "doing the right thing" in taking ultimate responsibility for vision, actions, and ethics.

Roger Bazeley serves the District as ADSO-PB and is a member of Flotilla 17, Point Bonita.





Paddlecraft Safety

New Paddlecraft Safety Effort Starts at the Water's Edge



Canoeists and kayakers may soon see a red safety sign posted at launch ramps and other water access areas across the country. The new safety sign is part of an ongoing effort to reduce the number of paddle sport fatalities. USCG Recreational Boating Statistics show that, between 2013 and 2018, an average of 133 paddlers died each year – nearly a quarter of all boating deaths. The vast majority of these paddlers were not wearing a lifejacket and drowned.

The sign resembles a stop sign and carries a simple message - *Stop. Always Wear Your Life Jacket*. "The purpose of this program is to remind paddlers that the single most important factor in preventing drowning is to wear an appropriate life jacket," said Robert E. Kumpf, of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary, the National Safe Boating Council, the Water Sports Foundation, and regional paddling organizations have worked together to promote paddlecraft safety.

For more information about the Coast Guard Auxiliary's paddlecraft safety programs please visit the
Recreational Boating Safety Outreach Directorate's website.



Aux. Leadership Development Pgm. Formatted from an article by Peter Graham

ALDP provides methods for current & future leaders to gain...competency.

Leadership competencies are the knowledge, skills, and expertise the Coast Guard and Auxiliary expect of their leaders. While there is some overlap in these competencies, they generally fall within four broad categories: Leading self, Leading others, Leading performance and change, and Leading the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Together, these four leadership categories and their elements are instrumental to career success. Developing them in all members of the Coast Guard team will result in the continuous improvement necessary for us to remain *Semper Paratus*.

Leading the Coast Guard Auxiliary: As leaders gain experience in the Coast Guard Auxiliary, they must understand how it fits into a broader structure of the Coast Guard, government, and the nation as a whole. At

a local level, leaders often develop partnerships with public and private sector organizations to accomplish the mission. Leaders must develop coalitions and partnerships with allies inside and outside the Auxiliary.

Leading Performance and Change: To meet challenges, leaders must apply performance competencies to their daily duties, including developing a vision, managing conflict, quality and daily management of projects, appraising performance, problem solving, creativity, innovation,

decision making, and customer focus. Having these competencies enables each leader — and the Service — to perform to the utmost in any situation.

Leading Self: Fundamental to successful development as a leader is understanding self and one's abilities, including one's personality, values, and preferences, while simultaneously recognizing one's potential. Personal conduct, health and well-being, character, technical pro-

ficiency, lifelong learning, followership, and organizational commitment are elements to consider when setting short and long-term goals focused upon the leadership development of "self."

Leading **Others:** Leadership involves working influencing others to achieve common goals and foster a positive workplace climate. Positive professional relationships provide a foundation for the success of our Service. Showing respect for others, using effective communications, influencing others, working in teams,

and taking care of one's people are elements to consider when evaluating one's capacity to lead. Developing these qualities increase capacity to serve.



The word leadership should not scare off members who are not in a leadership position now. There are five levels within the program; think of it as a steppingstone to gaining expertise in leadership. Level 1 is within the grasp of every member today. Why? It is value added basic grounding to aid in development toward the next step in the chain of leadership and it provides personal insight into why leadership is important to the success of the Auxiliary. The Leadership Development page has all available readings and requirements. Start with Level 1 and move onward as personal development within the Auxiliary progresses.

Peter Graham serves as DVC-TS and is a member of FL 095-45-09, South Central (WI).



Reading-in-Place

District Board and Staff were asked what they are reading while in stand-down; here's what they said.

| Digr | nan, Aaron | |
|----------------|-----------------|--|
| Author Brav | re New Work | |
| Title | | |
| Date Due | Borrower's Name | |

Alan Stanton, DCDR, Div 4

While books on management and leadership can be a difficult read, this book is hard to put down. Recommended for anyone in a management or leadership role.

Nestor, James Author Breath: The New TitleScience of a Lost Art Date Due Borrower's Name

| It is really very |
|----------------------|
| interesting although |
| very dense at times. |
| |

Jim Losi, DCAPT-S

| Slade | e, Ra | achel | |
|----------------|-------|--------|-----|
| Author Into | the | Raging | Sea |
| Title | | | |

Date Due Borrower's Name

| Jim Losi, DCAPT-S |
|---|
| This is a really interesting and dramatic read of the sinking of the Faro. This is a page turner. |

Kolbert, Elizabeth

The Sixth Extinction

| Date Due | Borrower's Name | | |
|----------|-----------------------|--|--|
| | Doug Manifold, DSO-PA | | |
| | Five hundred million | | |
| | years of Earth's | | |
| | natural history | | |

White, Jonathan

Author Tides: The Science and Title Spirit of the Ocean

| Date Due | Borrower's Name |
|----------|--|
| | Greg Schaefer, DSO-PB |
| | I came across this book in the bookshop |
| | at Muir Woods and found it to be a really wonderful reflection on science, mystery, and water. |
| | and water. |
| | |

Dash, Mike

Author

Batavia's Graveyard

| Date Due | Borrower's Name | |
|----------|---|--|
| | Doug Manifold, DSO-PA | |
| | Dutch sailing history | |
| | and a documented mutiny on the high- | |
| | seas in the 1600's; the details recorded | |
| | are amazing. | |



The AUXOP Program

Adapted by the Editor from an article by Peter Graham

One of the primary goals of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is to augment the mission, service, and people needs of the Coast Guard. The Operational Auxiliarist Program

(AUXOP) is an advanced training program available to all members who wish to increase their practical <u>Relevance</u> to Coast Guard missions, and better assist the Coast Guard to fulfill needed skill sets. (<u>Ready and Responsive</u>). The AUXOP program, sometimes called the "PhD of the Auxiliary," calls for a higher level of knowledge across several areas and a broad spectrum of skillsets. Members who attain AUXOP status should be justly proud of their accomplishment, their increased utility to the Auxiliary and to the Coast Guard, and their ability to serve as role models. To qualify as an Operational Auxiliarist, the member must successfully obtain seven credits from three categories of courses:

There are 3 core courses:

each required, each worth 1 credit.

- Weather (AUXWEA)
- Seamanship AUXSEA)
- Communications (AUXCOM)

Each course is available from the Training Directorate website; select *AUXOP Courses* from the left side.

Each course requires an exam to be taken from the National Test Center. (Select *Online Learning /Testing* on the same menu.)

Recent changes to requirements state that these exams no longer require a proctor. Due to the higher level of excellence expected. The requirement is to achieve 90% within a 120-minute test period.

There are 5 Leadership Courses; credit only for one course (1 credit).

- Flotilla Leadership Course
- Leadership & Management (A & B)
- Mid-Level Officer Course
- Upper-Level Officer Course
- Senior Officer Course

A new AFLC course is available either online or in classroom, and an online test at the NTC.

The other Leadership Courses are C Schools. They are usually 2-5 days long and deal with specific subject matter (e.g., distance education technology, information systems, spatial disorientation).

The courses in this category are also elements in the Auxiliary Leadership Development Program.

There are many Elective Courses;

the remaining 3 credits are electives.

- Search Coordination/Execution (2)
- Auxiliary Navigation, A & B (2)
- Intro to Marine Safety (2)
- Auxiliary Patrol (1)
- ATON/Chart Updating C-school (1)
- NIMS-compliant ICS 300 & 400 (1)
- Air Coordinator C-school (1)
- Specialty ICS Courses (1 or 2)
 - o Certain ICS courses earn 1 credit for the class, and 1 for the PQS.
 - If an in-class course is not available, its PQS may be completed (and signed off by NIMS-compliant ICS verifying officer) for 1 credit.
 - o AUXSAR and AUXADM may be electives, 1 credit each.
 - o Completion of all required elements for ICS Type 3 courses earns 2 credits.

Members who successfully complete all AUXOP requirements wear the AUXOP Device shown above.

Members who have completed one or more of the specialty courses above are permitted to wear the Auxiliary Specialty Ribbon, right, with one or more 3/16" Bronze or Silver Stars indicating the successful completion of another course. (When the device is attained, the ribbon is no longer worn.)





Float Plan Central

Be a smart boater, kayaker or paddler and always plan ahead



- Easy to prepare and update.
- Create & save plans on your computer or mobile device.
- Submit your plan to anyone you choose.
- Tell the person holding your plan exactly what to do if you don't check-in or return as planned.
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Spotlight Question

Greg Schaefer

The spotlight question encourages you to explore Auxiliary websites. The first three people with the correct answer each quarter will be spotlighted here in the next issue of Northwind. Good luck!

Last quarter's question, answer, and winners: According to an official US Coast Guard Auxiliary website, 1) who was the "officer most responsible for the Auxiliary's establishment," 2) what can you tell us about that person, and 3) where did you find this information? Several of you discovered that USCG Commandant Adm. Russell Waesche's backing of the 1939 legislation establishing what would become the Auxiliary makes him the officer most responsible for our establishment to "promote boating safety and to facilitate the operations of the Coast Guard." This information was found on this website. Congratulations to the first three people to submit their answers:

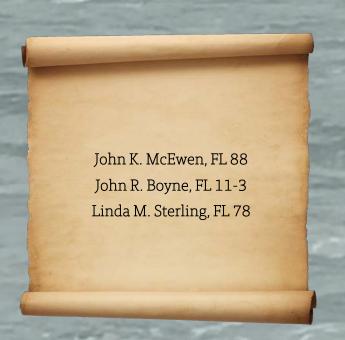


This quarter's question: 1) According to Robert Shafer, Assistant National Commodore - Recreational Boating Safety, what are the four "biggest causes of boating accidents and deaths," 2) what are the remedies that the Auxiliary offers for each of them, and 3) where did you find this information? Email gregschaefer.uscgaux@gmail.com with your answer.



Those Who Have Crost the Bar

June 1 through August 31, 2020



"Crossing the Bar" by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

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 Turns again home. 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 crost the bar.

Rest easy, shipmates; we've got the watch.

The annual District Memorial Service will be on 21 October at 1900 hrs. For more information, contact Judy Esteban at jse7@msn.com.

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