

# THE FRESH WATER NAVIGATOR

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 / VOL. 1

## National Safe Boating Week- "Bridge to Bridge" Event

By F.Speer

May 20th kicked off National Safe Boating Week in Sacramento. This event was covered by divisions 3,5 and 10 and provided both Public Affairs, Boating safety exhibit, Vessel Safety Checks and Paddle craft classes.



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## Member Spotlight

By F.Speer/K.Keller

As an Auxiliarist with only a year and a few months under my belt I have had the opportunity to meet several members that extends outside of my Flo-tilla. One in particular is within our division, has that "Can Do" attitude, always willing to extend a hand to his fellow shipmate and to be honest an all around great guy, that member is Karl Keller.

Karl, just like myself is a NAVY veteran and likes to chronicle his involvement with the Auxiliary and share his stories. After reading this piece he had emailed out I felt inclined to share it and shine the spotlight on this member.



Cont. on page 2

## National Safe Boating Week Event Cont.

In addition to the Auxiliary, participants included; West Sacramento Police, West Sacramento Fire, Yolo County Sheriff, D.A.R.T., Sacramento City and Metro Fire, California Fish and Wildlife, California Boating Waterways and AMR. This event covered multiple docks, which included; Broaderick (West Sac), Miller, Old Sacramento and Discovery Park which was led by our very own Michael Rafatti.

This event represented the true spirit and mission of the Auxiliary...Boater Safety!



***“Be Safe, Get the Job Done, and Have Fun”***

Admiral Castillo

*~Semper Paratus*

## Member Spotlight Cont.



“Good Day Shipmates,

So, as I sit down after a long patrol on the water, a hug and hello from my beautiful wife Janis, a cool drink in hand and time to visit our puppies. As we looked up, there was my facility on the news. In support of the Stockton Fire Dept in the Deep Water Channel. Yes, I can say this really made my day, knowing the hard work and training we all do as Auxiliarists to complete our missions and patrols. To be able to help other women and men reach their goals for higher levels of training. And who’s the winner, we all are! The training we supported yesterday will save lives in the future and the satisfaction I feel only grows with each and every patrol I complete. With hopes I have train hard enough, long enough and well enough to make a difference.

So let me tell you all about the patrol.

Fellow coxswain and Flotilla Commander of 10-02 Nick Patterson was crew aboard “Toots”. Yes the name of my boat is “Toots”. Station has had fun with the name, but it has been become a common name you hear across the radio and am sure the Coasties smile every time they hear the name. At 0800 I left my home on Toots and headed to River Front Marina, this is were the patrol would begin. Docking next to Nick’s boat, the Adventurer, Nick and I set Toots up for patrol by checking all systems and equipment aboard. *Cont. on page 3*

## Member Spotlight Cont.

We had a briefing with the Sheriff's Dept. after a GAR score was done, we open our orders and requested a waiver for PPE. The waiver wasn't granted station felt the temperatures were still to low. Which was fine and we dressed in our anti exposures suits. We were under way at 0924 and headed for Dad' points which was east of our launching point.

As we arrived at our patrol area, a small Stockton Fire Boat was trying to anchor in the channel near light 45. As we watched I realize the tackle they were using would not do the job. Their craft was a 12' zodiac with an outboard all black in color. We asked if they needed help, which they replied "please do".

The craft needed to hold station with helicopter rotor wash above it. So we lended them a second and larger anchor with 3/8 line with 120' of rode. This is no problem for my vessel because I have three anchors aboard Toots for patrol. We also marked there craft with a orange anchor ball and orange flag. This worked well thought out the day.

The rest of the patrol was a Safety Zone. Boat traffic was very quiet and was sure the weather was the issue. We had rain, wind, sun and clouds. If you wait a few minutes it would change again and again.

The training was done in two sessions with a break in between and even did a VE at the boat ramp. As a AUXCHEF I prepare a lunch for the crew, we enjoyed tuna salad on onion rolls, chicken corn chowder soup and apples. Yes, a full day with the patrol ended back at River Front Marina after getting our anchor and gear back. The Stockton Fire Dept thanked us for the assist and did a post patrol briefing crew and the Sheriff dept.

Closing orders at 1618 hrs.

Nick and I took the sign boards and flags down from Toots as she returned to her role as a private vessel. Pulling in the docking line and headed back to home on 14 mile slough. A wave "so long" to Nick, a good friend and great crew member. A calm came across the waters and sense of honor, respect and devotion of duty became clear. So join me on the next patrol in May."

Karl, thank you for all that you do!

## Reminder

Hello Shipmates, as a friendly reminder, this newsletter is compiled from news, photos and stories submitted. Division wide involvement is encouraged.

Please submit your stories, news and photos (please include caption with names) to: SO-PB Fred Speer: [fredspeer@yahoo.com](mailto:fredspeer@yahoo.com) for inclusion.

## Division 10 Roster

Division 10 Roster		
DCDR		<i>Billy Ray</i>
VDCDR		<i>Brian William Babcock</i>
IPDCDR		<i>Carrie A. Vandeboom</i>
Division Staff Officers		
SO-NS		<i>Monica Eaton</i>
SO-CM		<i>Michael A. Rafatti</i>
SO-CS		<i>Christopher W. Ince</i>
SO-DV		<i>Douglas T. Lazo</i>
SO-HR		<i>Thomas A. Witt</i>
SO-FN		<i>Kenneth L. Mc Sheehy</i>
SO-IS		<i>Kenneth L. Mc Sheehy</i>
SO-MA		<i>Brian William Babcock</i>
SO-MS		<i>Carrie A. Vandeboom</i>
SO-MT		<i>Joseph Raymond Chavoen</i>
SO-OP		<i>Michael A. Rafatti</i>
SO-PA		<i>Rebecca M. Obrienwitt</i>
SO-PB		<i>Fredrick Carl Speer</i>
SO-PE		<i>Thomas A. Witt</i>
SO-PV		<i>Douglas T. Lazo</i>
SO-SR		<i>Thomas James Hoisington</i>
SO-VE		<i>Nicholas Lesley Patterson</i>

## Commanders Corner

*by Billy Ray*



*Boating season is in full swing BE SAFE, HAVE FUN ENJOY YOURSELF*

*as you do the tasks for the Auxiliary*

*We are a team not just individuals out on the water, doing VEs ,RBS, and PA events Ask for help ideas can come from anywhere that will make things easier and better.*

*If you Flotilla has an event coming up Let the other flotilla's know so some of them may be able to attend Even though our Division covers a very large area as all of you know.*

*Stay Safe and have FUN  
S/P*

*Billy Ray DCDR10*

## Events & Announcements

Event	Date/Time	Event Location	Contact
Division 10 Meeting "Live" Face to Face	June 03 @10:00am	Doctors Medical Center Modesto	Billy Ray
OPTREX	August 26-27	Don Pedro Lake	TBD
PCA Fair	September 9-10	Coast Guard Island Alameda	TBD

## Division 10 Photos

