

NORTHWIND

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary District 11 North Quarterly Magazine, 1st Quarter, January-March 2024



SAN FRANCISCO — USCGC Healy (WAGB-20), the U.S. Coast Guard's largest and most technologically advanced icebreaker, heads towards the Golden Gate, on May 20, 2023. USCG Auxiliary photo by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1

Q1
2024

Featured Articles:

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Staff and Contributors

Roger Bazeley, DSO-PB, Editor-in-Chief, Design/Layout
Gail Giacomini, AUXPA3, ADSO-PB, Copy Editor
Tiffany Townsend, AUXPA3, ADSO-PB
Lou Sarto, ADSO-PB

Advisory and Review Staff Officers:

Commodore Curtis Han, DCO
Commander Christina Jones, USCG
William Hale, DCAPT

Article Contributors Q-1:

USCG Sector San Francisco Public Affairs
Commodore Curtis Han, DCO
James Losi, DCOS
Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1
Michael Hay, DSO-NS

Featured Photography Contributors Q-1:

Roger Bazeley AUXPA1
Commodore Curtis Han, DCO
Tiffany Townsend, AUXPA3

Cover Photo:

SAN FRANCISCO — USCGC Healy (WAGB-20), the U.S. Coast Guard's largest and most technologically advanced icebreaker heads out the Golden Gate. USCGAUX photo taken on May 20, 2023, by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1 .

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The **NORTHWIND** encourages you to **submit articles for consideration** for the Coast Guard Auxiliary District 11NR quarterly publication. Please consider timely and impactful content depicting Coast Guard Auxiliarists in action that would interest our members. Articles of 450 to 1200 words shall be submitted in 12-point font with 3 to 10 MB JPEG photo files. Provide caption information including who, what, where, when, why, and how. Include current ranks, positions, and qualifications. Content for consideration may be sent to: Roger Bazeley (roger.bazeley.usa@gmail.com). Submission deadline is **June 15, 2024**.



DISCLAIMER NOTICE: *NORTHWIND* reserves the right to proofread and edit all submissions. It takes no responsibility and accepts no liability for damages caused by errors left in the document. It cannot accept responsibility or the validity of websites that link to this publication. Articles published in the *NORTHWIND* must be consistent with U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary policies. The publication of rosters, addresses, telephone numbers, and Internet information is prohibited by the Privacy Act of 1974.

AUXILIARY PROGRAMS

The USCG Auxiliary has a wide variety of programs in which members may participate and make a real difference by serving, supporting, and augmenting the USCG as part of America's 'TEAM COAST GUARD.'



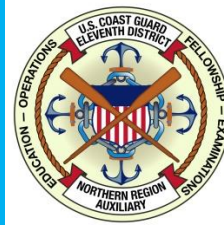
Below are some of our special programs:

- **MARINE SAFETY (MS) and ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY** Qualified Auxiliarists and their facilities assist with COAST GUARD marine safety and environmental protection.
- **PUBLIC AFFAIRS SUPPORT (PA)** Auxiliarists are authorized upon qualifying as a Public Affairs Specialists to support both Coast Guard and Auxiliary Public Affairs including publications.
- **PUBLIC EDUCATION (PE)** The Education Department's mission is twofold: to provide exceptional boating safety education to the recreational boating public to reduce loss of life, personal injury, and property damage and deliver the highest possible quality training, resources, and publications for our instructors.
- **RBS PROGRAM VISITATION (PV)** The Program Visitation program promotes recreational boating safety; providing marine-related businesses with information regarding boating safety classes, vessel examinations, and how to join the Auxiliary.
- **ADVANCED AUXILIARY TRAINING PROGRAM (AUXOP)** The AUXOP is an advanced Auxiliary training program for acquiring the skills to assist in critical Coast Guard Operational Missions. Upon completing qualifications, the Auxiliarist may wear the prestigious AUXOP insignia.
- **CULINARY ASSISTANCE (CA)** Auxiliarists augment and support active-duty food service personnel in galleys, aboard cutters, and during special events.
- **AVIATION PROGRAM (AUXAIR)** AUXAIR members participate as qualified Pilots, co-pilots, or Air Observers in Auxiliary-owned facilities, during Maritime Observation Patrols, Search and Rescue (SAR), logistical support, and Living Marine Resource (LMR) missions focusing on restricted marine sanctuaries and locating entangled whales.
- **RECRUITING PROGRAMS:**
 - Auxiliary's Coast Guard Recruiting Support Program (CGRS)** Auxiliarists may qualify and be assigned to duty as military recruiters to support USCG's recruiting program
 - The Coast Guard Academy Admissions Partners Program (APP)** involves Coast Guard alumni and qualified Auxiliarists to help recruit and screen CG Academy applicants.
 - The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary University Program (AUP)** allows college students to participate in the U.S. Coast Guard. AUP is the Auxiliary's official program for integration with higher-level educational institutions.
- **AUGMENTING THE USCG** There are many areas for augmenting the USCG, from Marine- Safety, aboard cutter deployment for Auxiliary Interpreters, and the AUXCA program to Public Affairs. Augmenting assignments are coordinated by your Auxiliary Sector Coordinator (ASC) or Auxiliary Unit Coordinator (AUC) to determine relevant qualifications.



Commodore's Corner

Commodore Curtis S. Han



Greetings, shipmates,

Looking back at 2023, we have accomplished so much. Members have logged over 132,500 hours, participating in many mission activities. Although we have had a net loss of membership since 2022, the activities of each mission category have increased by 10-20 percent. As of January 1, 2024, we have 935 members in District Eleven Northern Region. However, we hope to end the year with a net membership gain. District senior leaders will work diligently with their respective divisions and flotillas to implement the D11N recruitment, retention, and re-engagement strategies. Together, we will prevail and succeed. We thank all our professional volunteers in D11N for their commitment, dedication, and devotion to duty.

National meetings were held virtually during the weekend of March 2-3; as in-person meetings in St. Louis, MO, were canceled. On Saturday, March 2nd, the Operating Committee and Committee of the Whole meetings were held. The National Board Meeting was held on Sunday, March 3rd, along with a Q&A session with the Chief Director of Auxiliary. During the Operating Committee report, each National Directorate presented its accomplishments, plans, and milestones updates. During the National meeting, four recommendations were brought forth by the National Board. ALAUX 013/24 was released on March 29th, denoting the final actions by the Chief Director:

1. The Creation of Cybersecurity (Y) Directorate: Since the inception of the Auxiliary Cybersecurity Program, it has expanded from one Division to five to meet the growing demand to provide cybersecurity support to the Auxiliary and augment the U.S. Coast Guard. The recommendation is to transfer the Divisions from the current C-Directorate to the new Y-Directorate by creating the Director of Cybersecurity (DIR-Y). The board ADOPTED this transfer recommendation.
2. Sunset of New Member Exam (NME) – sunset of NME as part of new member enrollment, as the Basic Qualification Course II (BQC II) is required for all new members, rendering NME obsolete and redundant as BQC II covers more information. The Board approved. The Chief Director disapproved. The completion of the New Member exam as part of the enrollment process is a tangible and appropriate way to do so.
3. The Removal of BQC II and Administrative Procedure Course (APC) eligibility requirements for elected officer positions, as BQC II and APC courses are not leadership courses. An Amendment was made during the National Board to remove BQC II, but keep the APC as a required course for all elected leaders, as the information in the APC, Auxiliary Manual, and policies are relevant to elected officers. The Board approved it as amended. The Chief Director approved, effective December 31, 2024.
4. The removal of red 'A' from shoulder boards and metal insignias – to standardize the insignias to a silver 'A' on shoulder boards and sleeve devices and a blue 'A' on metal devices to avoid confusion and to standardize the uniform. Discussions were made amongst the District Commodores during the meeting, raising their concerns about the financial impacts of replacing the insignia and devices will have on members. Several DCOs reported receiving numerous negative feedback from their members, and most of us had not had a chance to discuss the issue with the leaders and members in our respective Districts. It was brought to DCOs attention that the recommendation could not be tabled until the NACON meeting in August; therefore, it was not approved. The Chief Director concurred and disapproved.

The 2024 District Training Conference (D-TRAIN) is confirmed! We just received the final confirmation from Base Alameda, securing our venue and the date for our D-TRAIN. Due to the high costs securing a venue (e.g., hotels and conference centers), is very difficult. The planning team explored the possibility of holding the event on Coast Guard Island. Thanks especially to Georgie Scheuerman and Nancy Marion; we have recently secured and confirmed our June 22nd date and venue.

The following is the tentative plan:

0800 Opening Ceremony
0900 Morning Training Sessions
1130 Fellowship Luncheon
1300 Awards Ceremony
1400 Afternoon Training Sessions
1700 Fellowship BBQ Dinner

Master Chief Thorton, USCG, his CS staff, and our AUX-CA staff will assemble a catered luncheon for the event. Our event coordinators, Randy McCormick and John-Michael Zimmerle (DSO-CA), are planning a special event menu for the luncheon. Master Chief Thorton is thrilled to work with us to provide excellent meal options for our luncheon event. The AUX-CA team will prepare a BBQ dinner that evening. Members will have access to the dining hall to eat or join others outside in the courtyard.

The D-TRAIN planning team will continue to meet throughout the next three months to develop class schedules, meal plans, awards ceremonies, and fellowship opportunities. In the meantime, please check our webpage for updates as they become available: [Mini DTRAIN 2024 \(uscgaux.info\)](http://uscgaux.info)

Again, the senior leadership would like to thank everyone for all you do for our District and the Auxiliary. Please “be safe, get the job done, and have fun” (RDML Joseph Castillo, USCG Retired).

Thank you for all you do.
Semper Paratus.

Commodore Curtis S. Han

District Commodore, D11N



The Auxiliary Culinary Assistance team provides a feast for U.S. Coast Guard Air Station San Francisco

Article and Photos by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1



The San Francisco Airport Louis A. Turpin Aviation Museum's exhibit and event interior view were photographed from the second floor balcony. The second floor houses the aviation history library, photo exhibits, historical items, and the museum administration offices. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1

USCG Air Station San Francisco's 2023 Annual Holiday Event was held at the San Francisco Airport Louis A. Turpin Aviation Museum's venue of historic exhibits. Two large-scale aircraft are suspended overhead from the vaulted 65-75 foot-interior ceiling of the SFO museum. This facility is the first cultural institution of its kind located within a major international airport. The 7,000-square-foot public exhibition area presents historic artifacts from the achievements in air transport that have shaped our world. The architectural design drawn from San Francisco's original 1930s air terminal captures the spirit of flight.

The Auxiliary Culinary Assistance (AUXCA) TEAM

From Left: Pat McSwain, Michelle Gibson, Wil Silva, Tommy Holtzman, Linda Haynes, U.S. Coast Guard LCDR Toni Zimmerle, and John-Michael Zimmerle.



Several weeks before the big event, the District 11 North AUX-Chefs and the AUXCA team worked on planning and logistics with the USCG Air Station members to coordinate the SFO location, layout, food preparation, and serving plan. The holiday meal was prepared by the Auxiliary Culinary Assistance team, under the leadership of John-Michael Zimmerle. The planning, preparation, and logistics were conducted in preparation for the event celebrating the service of ASSF aviators, flight crew, and technical team members.



Left: AUXCA team members Michele Gibson, John-Michael Zimmrele, Pat McSwain, and Linda Haynes are preparing food serving stations. **Right:** Linda Haynes and Pat McSwain are at their stations ready to serve the USCG Air Station San Francisco personnel and their guests. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary photos by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1

The entire menu of prepared and cooked entrees, vegetable sides, salads, and desserts, including beverage and food serving equipment, were transported to the Louis Turpin Aviation Museum's exhibit/250-seat capacity court dining area before the event opened its doors for dinner. A portable warming oven with food racks was set up to keep the food and Hors d'oeuvres at the proper temperature.



Left: AUXCA team: William Silva and John-Michael Zimmrele **Right:** Michele Gibson at their serving stations.

Auxiliary AUXCA'S staff prepared serving tables and food steamers buffet pans while checking the food-safe temperatures with infrared thermometers. Just before the guests were served, the AUXCA servers stood at attention at their serving station in their bright white AUXCA uniforms, caps, food-safe gloves, and wide beaming smiles as they started to serve the magnificent men and women serving at Air Station San Francisco.



Left: AUXCA team members: Michele Gibson and Tommy Holtzman, **Center:** Linda Hayes and Pat McSwain serving guests. **Right:** USCG Air station San Francisco Commander, CAPT Chris Huberty, USCG with his spouse. USCGAUX Photos by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1



The Event Venue: San Francisco Airport Louis A. Turpin Aviation Museum's interior.
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1

You could see the guest's mutual pleasure in being served with courtesy and treated like a USCG family member. Guests enjoyed the festivities in which the diverse AUXCA dishes and service were the night's highlights. The special aviation history venue enabled the attendees to wander around and look at the exhibits of aircraft, aviation history displays, and the extensive model plane collection exhibits.



AUXCA team: **Left:** Wil Silva, CA1 serving Auxiliary guest, **Right:** Linda Haynes, CA1 and Pat McSwain, CA1 serving guests.

The second floor contains more exhibits, a library of historic books and documents, offices, and meeting rooms. The multiple stucco surfaced arches and classical interior architecture create a large open two-story courtyard. Tables were adorned with white tablecloths and creative centerpieces in a courtyard with the interior walls washed with colorful up-lighting and highlighting two ceiling-suspended scaled models of a DC-3 passenger aircraft and the historic 1926-era Southern Cross Ford Tri-Motor aircraft.



Left: The museum's courtyard view from the upstairs library balcony. **Right:** Wil Silva, CA1 serves an Air Station San Francisco crewmember a holiday meal. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Photo by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1



Left: USCG members with guests pose by a Christmas tree. **Center:** Table Centerpiece **Right:** USCG station members with matching red sweaters. USCGAUX photos by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1

The AUXCA team's service at this holiday event met the program's goals of:

- Providing food service training and chef skills to Auxiliarists
- Providing Auxiliarists a means to contribute to and support the Coast Guard
- Assisting at Coast Guard and Auxiliary VIP events
- Improving the morale of Coast Guard personnel
- Demonstrating the diversity within the Auxiliary
- Increasing member recruitment and retention through specialist training



Left: Table wreath centerpiece; **Right:** a view of the Louis A. Turpin Aviation Museum's interior with USCG holiday event attendees dining and socializing. USCGAUX photos by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1

The food variety, including freshly baked desserts, cakes, cookies, and even homemade peppermint ice cream added to the night's desserts and menu finishing touches. "The food items were simply first-class in the variety of menu items, and consistency of AUXCA team preparation.

The desserts, including homemade peppermint ice cream and hot fudge sundaes, were worthy of the highest praise. At the end of the evening, San Francisco Air Station Commander Chris Huberty, USCG, brought out the entire AUXCA team and thanked them for their service and food, which was essential to the event's success.



Left: Two very fashionable event attendees with 'Nutcracker' and **right,** USCG Air Station members and guests in holiday sweaters. USCGAUX Photos by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1

Eleventh District Eleven Northern Region's Auxiliary Culinary Assistance team members exceeded mission goals and brought the Coast Guard Air Station San Francisco holiday event in for a perfect landing!



The Auxiliary Culinary Assistance (AUXCA) team from **Left:** Pat McSwain, Michelle Gibson, Wil Silva, Tommy Holtzman, Linda Haynes, U.S. Coast Guard LCDR Toni Zimmerle, and John-Michael Zimmerle. USCGAUX photo by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1

The depth and level of training required to be a Culinary Assistance leader are incredibly detailed and complex. AUXCA specialists who serve at Coast Guard stations, aboard Coast Guard cutters, and by catering at changes of command, retirement ceremonies, VIP receptions, and special events are greatly appreciated by the U.S. Coast Guard.



Left: Nancy Holtzman, former AUXCA and **right,** Michele Gibson, CA1, at Air Station San Francisco's 2019 Holiday event. USCGAUX 2019 archive photo by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1

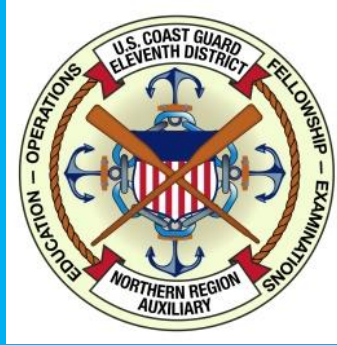
District 11NR, Past Commanders Association (PCA) Fair



Left-Right: Nancy Marion, Peter Gorenberg, Doug MacPherson, Kristen Verveniotis, Randy McCormick, William Hale, DCAPT; COMO Dean McFarren, IPDCO; CDR Christina Jones, USCG, DIRAUX-D11; COMO Curtis Han, DCO; Jim Losi, DCOS; Bill Hale, DCAPT; COMO Dale Fajardo, Michael Brown, DCAPT; John-Michael Zimmerle, and Michael Rafatti, DCDR.



Left-Right: D11N Board and Staff Roll Call at PCA with Kristen Verveniotis, Randy McCormick, DCAPT; William Hale, DCAPT; COMO Dean McFarren, IPDCO; CDR Christina Jones, USCG, DIRAUX-D11; COMO Curtis Han, DCO; Jim Losi, DCOS; COMO Dale Fajardo, DCAPT; Michael Brown, DCAPT; and John-Michael Zimmerle. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary photos by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA!



Top photos: **Left** The Multimedia Audio Visual team. **Right:** View of Board members with video streaming camera on tripod.
Bottom: Peter Gorenberg, Division CDR accepting the 2023 National Public Affairs Contest Public Affairs Event Award for organizing the joint agency USCG, 2023 Water Safety Fair standing with the presenters CDR Christina Jones, USCG, DIRAUX-D11, and COMO Curtis Han, DCO. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary photos by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1



Auxiliarist instructor, John-Michael Zimmrele presents the Auxiliary Culinary Assistance course on food health safety.



Left: Personal Protective Equipment inspection class instructors Alex Bennett center and John Fortner right with a participant.
Right: Stephen Busch takes a formal portrait of an Auxiliarist.



Left and Right: Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) inspection instruction class being taught by Instructors Fortner and Bennet.
 U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary photos by Roger Bazeley AUXPA1

Northwind Quarterly Editorial Team Awarded USCG Meritorious Team Commendation



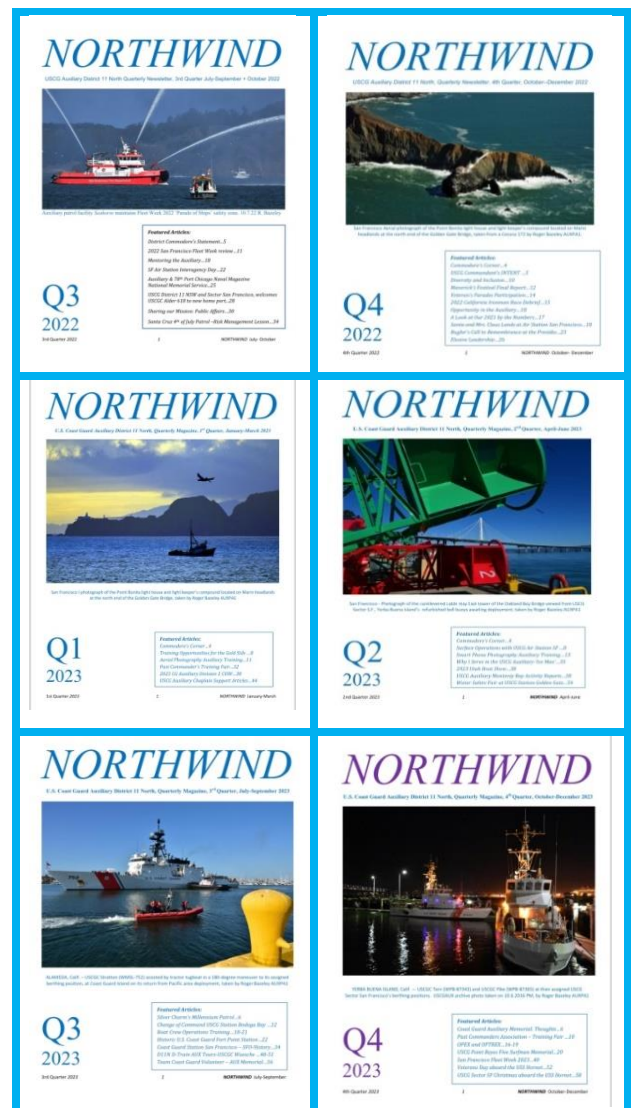
Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1, DSO-PB; Gail Giacomini, AUXPA3; Tiffany Townsend, AUXPA3, and Louis Sarto, PB-ADSO

CITATION HIGHLIGHTS:

From October 2022 to December 31, 2023 while serving on the District Eleven North's, NORTHWIND quarterly Editorial Publications team. They provided seamless story development, impeccable design and layout, and met rigorous distribution requirements while maintaining superior content and photo quality. The Northwind editorial staff insured timely review and editing of articles, photography, and photo captions throughout the redesigned NORTHWIND publication to create attractive content flow and dynamic structure.

The NORTHWIND Quarterly District 11N reached over 1,200 online views each quarter throughout the year. The NORTHWIND publications team produced six quarterly issues from October 2022-December 31, 2023.

The team not only produced consistent high quality work, they redesigned the appearance of the publication to incorporate new content, formatting, and design that helped inform the readership of Auxiliary programs such as culinary assistance, aviation, surface patrols and operations, boating safety, qualification guidelines, recruiting and retention initiatives, chaplain support, and the Auxiliary Sea Scout program.

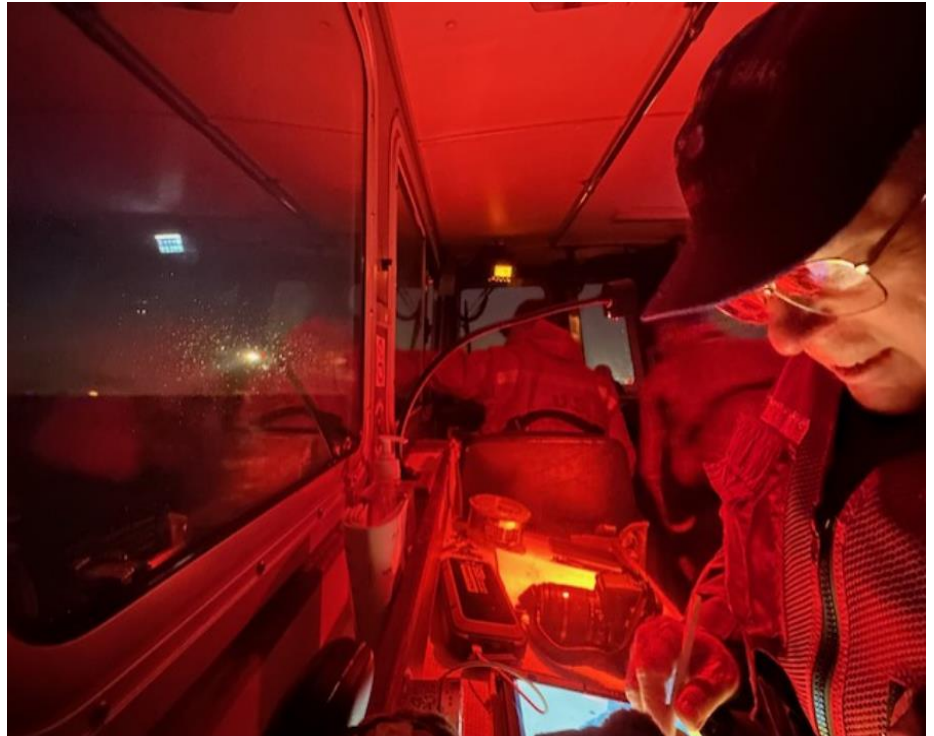


Bridge Surveys

By Michael Hay – DSO-NS District 11N

Let's Talk About Bridge Basics

Bridges must be factored in when planning a trip. Depending on where you cruise, you may depend on bridge openings; a particular bridge's schedule can often decide where you tie up for the evening or when you wake up and get underway the next day. While many are high (over 65 feet), and some usually remain open (such as railroad bridges), others are restricted for different hours in specific months, closed during rush hours, and open on the quarter-hour, half-hour, or even at 20 minutes and 40 minutes past the hour.



**PATON Night OPS aboard OPFAC
*Silver Charm*** – with Coxswain Terry
Blanchard recording Dumbarton
Bridge Survey information.
USCGAUX photo by Michael Hay,
DSO-NS

To add to the confusion, the restrictions are constantly changing. Just because a bridge opened on a certain schedule last season does not mean it is still on that same schedule. Changes are posted in the U.S. Coast Guard's "Local Notice to Mariners". It is also good to check locally to verify bridge schedules before your transit.

Measuring Vertical Clearance

Most bridges carry a tide board to register vertical clearance at "low steel" or the lowest point on the bridge. (Note: In the State of Florida waters, the tide board figure—and the one noted on the chart—is generally for a point five feet toward the channel from the bridge fender.) In the case of arched bridges, center channel clearance is frequently higher than the tide gauge registers. So check your chart and the tide boards, and unless it specifically notes that vertical clearance is given "at the center," you may be able to count on a little extra height at mid-channel, under the arch of the bridge. Some bridges may bear signs noting extra height at the center in feet.

Calling a Bridge

Most bridges monitor VHF Channel 13, designated by the Federal Communications Commission as the "bridge tender channel." In any waters, it is a good idea to monitor both the bridge channel and VHF Channel 16—one on your ship's radio and one on a handheld radio, if your main set doesn't have a dual-watch capability—to monitor oncoming commercial traffic and communications with the bridge tender.

When using VHF, always call bridges by name and identify your vessel by name and type (such as sailing vessel or trawler) and direction travel, north or south; use a horn signal if you cannot raise the bridge using a VHF radio.

Note that some bridges are not required to open in high winds. If you encounter a bridge that won't open for whatever reason, it is prudent to drop the hook in a safe spot until the situation is resolved.

Right: Swing Bridges have an opening section that pivots horizontally on a central hub, allowing boats to pass on one side or the other when open. Public Domain Photo provided by Michael Hay, DSO-NS



Left: Lift Bridges normally have two towers on each end of the opening section equipped with cables that vertically lift the road or railway into the air. Public Domain Photo provided by Michael Hay, DSO-NS



Left: Bascule Bridges are the most common type of opening bridges you will encounter. The opening section has one or two leaves that tilt vertically on hinge-like doors being opened skyward.

Right: Pontoon Bridges consist of an opening section that must be floated out of the way with a cable to allow boats to pass. Only proceed once the cables have had time to sink to the bottom. Public Domain Photos provided by Michael Hay, DSO-NS

Bridge Procedures

- First, decide if opening the drawbridge is necessary. Before starting, you must know your boat's clearance height above the waterline. Drawbridges have "clearance gauges" that show the closed vertical clearance with changing water levels. However, a bascule bridge typically has 3 to 5 feet more clearance than what is indicated on the gauge at the center of its arch at mean low tide. Bridge clearances are also shown on NOAA charts.
- Contact the bridge tender well in advance (even if you can't see the bridge around the bend) by VHF radio or phone. Alternatively, the proper horn signal for a bridge opening is one prolonged blast (four to six seconds) and one short blast (approximately one second). Bridge operators sound this signal when ready to open the bridge, and then usually the danger signal—five short blasts—when closing the bridge.
- The operator of each vessel is legally required to signal the bridge tender for an opening, even if another vessel has already signaled. Tugs with tows and U.S. government vessels may go through bridges anytime, usually signaling with five short blasts. A restricted bridge may open in an emergency with the same signal. Keep in mind bridge tenders will not know your intentions unless you tell them.
- If two or more vessels are in sight of one another, the bridge tender may elect to delay opening the bridge until all boats can go through together.
- Approach slowly and be prepared to wait, as the bridge cannot open until the traffic gates are closed. Many bridges, for example, are older, and the aged machinery functions slowly.
- Once the bridge is open, proceed at no-wake speed. Keep a safe distance between you and other craft, as currents and turbulence around bridge supports can be tricky.
- There is technically no legal right-of-way (except on the Mississippi and some other inland rivers), but boats running with the current should always be given the right-of-way out of courtesy. As always, if you are not sure, let the other boat go first.
- When making the same opening as a commercial craft, it is a good idea to contact the vessel's captain (usually on VHF Channel 13), ascertain his intentions, and state yours to avoid any misunderstanding in tight quarters.
- After passing through the bridge, maintain a no-wake speed until clear, and then resume normal speed.



**Save A Life.
Wear It!**



U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary National Water Safety Poster, design and USCGAUX photo by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1
Approved for distribution by NAVEX, USCG District 11NR for National Boating and Water Safety Week 2019-24

Auxiliary Operational Facility *Servant* supports the USCGC Tern in Towing Evolutions

By Jim Losi, DCOS

Patrol Date: December 14, 2023

Crew: Jim Losi, Coxswain; Stephen Busch, Boat Crew; Morgan Swiggett, Boat Crew; DCO Curtis Han, Official USCGC Tern boat crew member Chief Joe Gonzales, USCG.

This is a brief review of Operational Facility (OPFAC) *Servant*'s patrol supporting Tern in towing evolutions:

- DCO Curtis Han organized a joint patrol with USCGC Tern and OPFAC *Servant*. DCO Han currently serves aboard USCGC Tern while he works toward his USCG and USCG Auxiliary permanent Cutterman device.
- A special thank you to the leadership and crew of USCGC Tern for the opportunity, and to LTJG Nagle, USCG and, Chief Joe Gonzales, USCG.
- We initiated our patrol intending to engage in a towing evolution with USCGC Tern. We completed three stern tow evolutions with the USCGC Tern towing OPFAC *Servant*.
- Morgan Swiggett, a Coxswain in Training, did an exceptional job leading the patrol. He has made great progress towards preparing for his initial check ride, during our mini-OPTREX Operations Training Exercises).



Stephen Busch, Flotilla 12-91, on a steady helm-watch. USCGAUX photo by Jim Losi, DCOS



Left: USCGC Tern. USCGAUX photo by Jim Losi, DCOS, **Right:** USCGC Tern executing a stern tow with OPFAC *Servant*. USCGAUX photo by Stephen Busch Flotilla 12-91



Left: OPFAC *Servant*'s Morgan Swiggett receives a heaving line tossed from USCGC TERN in preparation for stern towing of OPFAC *Servant*. USCGAUX photo by DCO Curtis Han; **Right:** Stephen Busch and Morgan Swiggett of Flotilla 12-91 standing at an aft lookout. USCGAUX photo by Jim Losi, DCOS

“Sloppy Joe Day” aboard the USCGC Tern

Jim Losi, DCOS, Cutterman

Auxiliary member Darcy Kauer has stepped up to the challenge to serve on USCGC Tern (WPB-87343) as a CA1 to relieve CS2 Rivera, USCG, on leave. The images illustrate the immersive crew activities when one of our AUXCA members serves alongside our active duty partners. COMO Curtis Han, DCO, shared images, capturing the essence of our partnership. The reward of service to the USCG shipmates is evident by looking at Darcy Kauer’s smile in the well-deck of the Tern with Chief Petty Officer Joseph Gonzalez, USCG.



Right: USCGC Tern at slow speed. Left: USCGAUX DCO Curtis Han and Darcy Kauer, CA1 are on the bow of CGC Tern.



Left: USCGC Tern’s official seal. Right: USCGC Tern boat crew with USCGAUX Darcy Kauer aboard a response boat returning to USCGC Tern. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary photos



Top: On the well-deck of USCGC Tern, Darcy Kauer's reward for service to his Coast Guard shipmates is evident by their smiles, along with Chief Petty Officer Joseph Gonzalez, USCG. **Bottom:** Auxiliary Assistant (CA1), Darcy Kauer cooks breakfast eggs in the galley of the cutter Tern. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary photos by COMO Curtis Han, DCO



Darcy Kauer, AUXCA1, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, is preparing 'Sloppy Joes' aboard USCGC Tern.
USCGAUX photo by COMO Curtis Han, DCO



Photo: End of the Day aboard U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Tern at Sector San Francisco, Yerba Buena, Calif.
USCGAUX photo by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1


Auxiliary Division One Change of Watch

Flotillas 12, 14, 17, and 19

Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1 Photographer



The Auxiliary D11NR Division One, Change of Watch, was held for Flotillas 12, 14, 17, and 19 at the Berkeley Yacht Club, Berkeley, Calif.



Change of Watch

Division One

Senior Area

Flotilla 01-02
Sausalito-Tiburon

Flotilla 01-04
Central Marin

Flotilla 01-07
Point Bonita

Flotilla 01-09
Coyote Point

Eleventh District Northern Region
January 27, 2024
Berkeley Yacht Club
Berkeley, CA

Master of Ceremonies
Commodore Dale Fajardo
Immediate Past Division Commander
USCG Auxiliary, Division 1, D11N

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of Guests

Honored Guest Remarks
Captain Taylor Q. Lam, USCG
Sector Commander / Captain of the Port
USCG Sector San Francisco

Luncheon

Annual Unit Awards
Tiffany Townsend, Immediate Past Flotilla Commander 01-02
Lou Sarto, Flotilla Commander, 01-04
A J Desmond Thorsson, Flotilla Commander, 01-07
Arnold Gelb, Immediate Past Flotilla Commander, 01-09
Pete Gorenberg, Division Commander

Change of Watch Ceremony
Prologue & Pledge for Elected & Appointed Officers

Closing Remarks
Pete Gorenberg
Division Commander
USCG Auxiliary, Division 1, D11N



Left: COMO Dale Fajardo leading the Pledge of Allegiance. **Right:** VIP table guests include Jim Losi, DCOS, Sector San Francisco Commander CAPT Taylor Lam, USCG, Mrs. Lam; and Deputy Commander Sector San Francisco CAPT Jordan Balduenza, USCG.



From **Left:** COMO Dale Fajardo, and CAPT Taylor Lam, USCG speaking. **Right:** Robin Stewart receives a Flotilla 17 award from FC Desmond Thorsson, Flotilla 17, and Sue Fry receives a Flotilla 17 award.



Left: AUXCA team Lillian Ferguson, Mark Brady, and Linda Haynes. **Right:** AUXCA Lillian Ferguson serves a buffet lunch to U.S. Coast Guard Sector Commander CAPT Taylor Lam.



Left: Nancy Marion selects a potato au gratin side dish. **Right:** Alex Bennett is served by AUC Michael Grady.



Left: Nancy Marion presented by Lou Sarto FC and Love with the Flotilla 14 Herbert P. Golenpaul Award of Operational Merit and with the Unsung Hero Award. **Right:** FSO-IS Robert Aston is presented the Division One Exemplary Service Award for Outstanding Data and FSO-CM Carol Paz is presented with the Division One Exemplary Service Award for Outstanding Contributions to Telecommunications.



Left: Coast Guard Air Station San Francisco Auxiliary Unit Coordinator Terry Blanchard, AUC, receives an appreciation gift on behalf of OPFAC *Silver Charm* boat crew members from Alex Bennett. **Right:** Lou Sarto FC, Flotilla 14 and Auxiliarist Ken Louie FVC, Flotilla 14, present and accept the 2023 "Recreational Boating Safety Award" to Gail Giacomini of Flotilla 14 from Lou Sarto FC, Flotilla 14, and FVC Ken Louie, Flotilla 14. Photos: USCGAUX photos by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1



Left: Arnold Gelb Flotilla 19 Commander’s Award presented by COMO Dale Farajdo. **Right:** Auxiliary Division One boat crews recognize CWO2 Thomas C.D. Perez. USCGAUX photos by: Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1



Left: Terri Blanchard presented the Flotilla 19 “Commander’s Operation Trophy” and the “FC Bob Riker Memorial Coxswain Award” by FC Arnie Gelb, of Flotilla 19. **Right:** Gail Giacomini is presented with the “USCG Meritorious Team Commendation” for service on the editorial staff of the District 11NR NORTHWIND quarterly publication. USCGAUX photos by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1



Left: Roger Bazeley was presented with the USCG Meritorious Team Commendation for working on the maritime safety team’s *Pacific Coast Port Access Route Study (PACPARS)* by CAPT Lam, USCG Sector SF Commander, and CAPT Jordan Balduenza, Deputy Sector SF Commander with Jim Losi, DCOS. **Right:** The Oath of Office was given to the elected and appointed officers of Flotillas 12, 14, 17 and 19 for the calendar year of 2024. USCG Auxiliary photos



USCG Auxiliary vessel examiner, John Fortner, Flotilla 14, giving free annual vessel safety exam at the Corinthian Yacht Club, Belvedere, Calif.
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Roger Bazeley, AUXPA1