



**Homeland  
Security**

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
District 11 Northern Region**

*Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah*



Date: NOVEMBER 2012  
 To: COMO Angelo Perata, COS & District Board/Staff  
 From: D11N DSO-OP, Commodore Gail L. Ramsey  
 Subject: District OPS Report/ Respectfully Submitted

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

**END OF YEAR 2012**

**OTO CORNER**

**DIRAUX NEWS (IMPORTANT), NEW PROCEDURE**

**AUXILIARY UNIT CODINATORS (AUC)**

**NEW AUXDATA ORDER MANAGEMENT (REPLACING POMS) IS AROUND THE CORNER**

**BOATS BEING STOLEN IN THE DELTA AOR**

**REYR? WHAT DO I NEED?**

**PATROL REMINDER (WHEN CAN I PATROL)**

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR TRAINEES (PPE)**

**REALATIVE BEARING'S NEW TOOL**

**UNDERWAY HOURS 2012**

**OPERATIONAL CALENDAR**

**END OF YEAR:**

Thank you to all our hard working members for a fantastic year. The end of the year is now the time to enjoy our families and friends. This will be the last OPS report this year, but, as we all are well aware January 2013 is right around the corner. I hope all have meaningful, superb Holidays.

**OTO CORNER:**

**Cold Weather Operations**

Happy holidays shipmates! Now that fall is past and we've managed to navigate through Fleet Week, Halloween, and Election Day I know many of you have put your boats in storage and packed away your gear. Many of you are settling into your winter routines, maybe making some chowder and watching more football (that's how I roll). On the other hand, many of you hardy souls are keeping the boat in the water or ready on the trailer, preparing for winter patrols. I applaud those of you who operate year-round. I love cold weather ops. Here are a few action and thinking items to chew on as we roll into winter.

First and foremost, it's impossible to overstate the importance of cold weather PPE, not only to your safety on the water, but for your comfort and performance as well. Referring to the "50/50 Box" in the Rescue and Survival Systems Manual, you see that Dry Suits or MSD 900 is required nearly anytime the water temperature dips below 50F here. In addition to the Dry Suit/MSD 900, there's other equipment required:

- Balaclava
- Watch Cap
- Cold Weather Gloves
- Foul Weather Boots
- Thermal Socks
- Layer 1 synthetic thermals
- Layer 2 fleece (required with dry suit)
- Neoprene Hood

Take the time this month to lay out all this gear. Inspect each piece for cuts, tears, holes, or split seams. Check all the zippers for proper operation; make sure there's no missing teeth or corrosion. If you have not leak tested your dry suit yet this year, this would be the perfect time to do so. Remember, you trust your life to this

gear, don't assume that it's in the same condition it was when you put it away last spring. Coxswains, make sure your PLB functioning properly.

Operating in a cold environment presents the challenge of keeping warm while effectively carrying out the mission. Plan ahead for the conditions; if your Patrol Area allows for it, plan a mid-patrol coffee break somewhere that permits you to moor and warm up for a few minutes. Bring coffee and hand/toe warmers. In my younger days, I would just "suck it up" and be cold the whole time, but now I've figured out that's there's no shame in dropping a couple of toe warmers in my insulated boots and my dry suit pockets.

For those of you that operate in remote inland lakes, take extra precautions to ensure you have a proper radio guard with secondary and tertiary communications plans set up. Pay attention to icing while you're underway; a moderate amount of sea spray on a cold day can quickly lead to icing and some serious stability issues, manage your speed accordingly.

Lastly, remember to hydrate while underway. It is still quite possible to become dehydrated while underway.

CWO2 Matt James

Operations Training Officer

Eleventh Coast Guard District (dpa-n)

### **DIRAUX NEWS (IMPORTANT), NEW PROCEDURE:**

*I am repeating this info because many members are still sending important items to incorrect emails. FSO-OPS & FCs please make certain your members are aware.*

CWO2 Matthew James, our OTO, has brought an excellent tool to our office. How many times have you emailed a question or scanned paper work to DIRAUX to have it disappear into cyber space because the person you emailed it to has retired or transferred? This will no longer happen. *Send all your communications* to: [D11AUXNorthern@uscg.mil](mailto:D11AUXNorthern@uscg.mil). In the subject line, on the email, please put the name, member number and subject for the member you are inquiring about. If the subject is yourself please put in your information. These emails will be checked daily and should expedite your requested information. You can email all your Facility Exams to this email also, be certain to include a current photo of your facility and OPS-8s for other Coxswains of record.

### **AUXILIARY UNIT CODINATORS (AUC):**

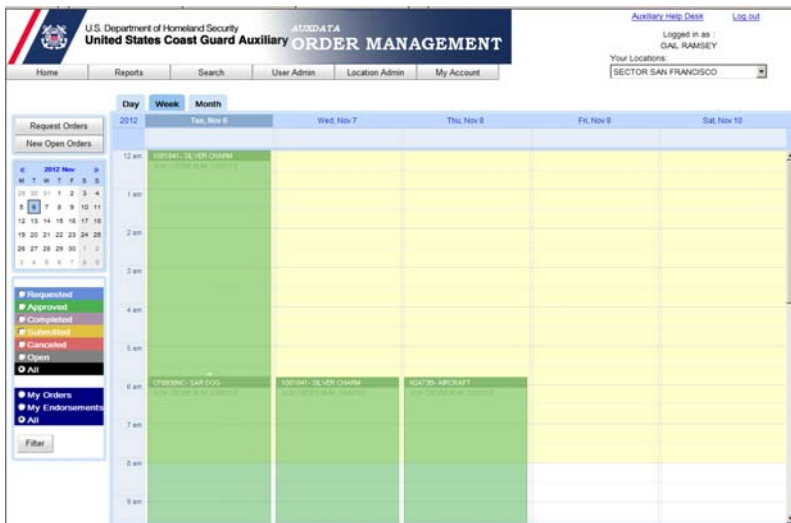
Our District is moving forward with another position for the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary Unit Coordinator (AUC) is an experienced Auxiliarist assigned by the District Commodore in consultation with the Director of Auxiliary and the Coast Guard unit commander to Coast Guard air, small boat Stations and Groups. The AUC works closely with the Coast Guard command to provide immediate input and response to requirements for Auxiliary support and facilitate Auxiliary service to the unit. Stay tuned for news on this position.

### **BOATS BEING STOLEN IN THE DELTA AOR:**

Since Oct 12 six boats have been stolen in the Bethel Island area. The Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department is urging boaters to provide for more security, such as alarms, and recording the serial numbers of all valuables on the vessels. Mark your items, and keep your eyes open for suspicious activity.

### **NEW AUXDATA ORDER MANAGEMENT (AOM) REPLACING POMS:**

Within the near future the new web-based AUXDATA ORDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM will be coming on line replacing POMS. The program is in the "trial test stage". I will keep you up to date as information is received. At least one District is using AOM now and the bugs should be worked out by the time we receive it. Just a heads up that we will need to be flexible. As with all new programs you can suggest changes that you feel important, contact me with your comments and suggestions. Remember all coxswains need to have a Direct Deposit to their bank set up with FINCEN. Do it now, if you have not already done so as it takes few weeks to complete the set up with FINCEN and your bank. Below is a sample of the appearance of what the new program will look like.



### **PATROL REMINDER (WHEN CAN I PATROL):**

From Memorial Day to Labor Day the AUX can do reimbursable patrols on Fridays thru Mondays as extended weekends in the summer, and do non-reimbursable patrols Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (or reimbursable for Coast Guard requests).

### **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR TRAINEES (PPE):**

The current policy for Trainees to obtain Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from DIRAUX is that a trainee needs a letter from their Flotilla Commander (FC) stating he/she is currently active in on-the-water training. Send all sizes needed along with the letter from the FC to DIRAUX. If coming into DIRAUX please call in advance and make an appointment (510-437-3950). The Flotilla Commander is responsible for the equipment until the trainee becomes a certified Crew Member and then the Flotilla Commander writes (email, fax or letter) that the member is now certified and the equipment needs to be transferred to his/her name. Perchance the trainee leaves the Auxiliary, for any reason, or is transferred to another district; the Flotilla Commander is responsible for the return of the PPE to DIRAUX.

### **REYR ?:**

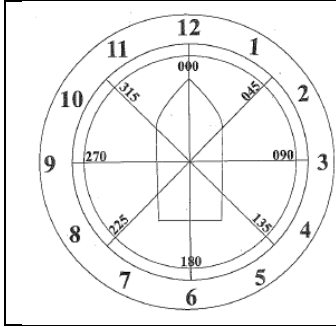
Are you going to be REYR December 31<sup>st</sup>? Possible reasons maybe that you did not : complete your Three Year Maintenance check ride; Were you able to get your required hours in, NAV Rules test, failed to do your 8 Hour TCT or if you were not due for the 8 Hour the 1 Hour Annual TCT class? Each Division has had one or more scheduled events where Qualification Examiners were available and all needed check rides should have been completed by November, the earlier in the year the better. Please verify who are due with your IS Officer and stay on top of any due dates. If in doubt please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be glad to check what you are due for and when. Send to DIRAUX the MT-3, Surface Operations Re-Certification form that is located at: <http://resource.d11nuscgaux.info/docs/forms/D11NR-MT3.pdf> so your needed tasks can be entered into AUXDATA.

### **QUALIFICATION EXAMINER CORNER:**

Very interesting year. Majority of all our initial Crew and Coxswains were extremely well prepared. What was surprising were the requalification check rides. Many candidates were weaker than in the past. Is it because we are not practicing, just being lazy, resting on our laurels or ? Interested in your thoughts on this subject, what can we do to improve our selves? Always remember to leave your ego at the dock, practice for your check rides as if it is your initial qualification check ride.

### **RELATIVE BEARING'S NEW TOOL:**

Wayne Farnholtz has taken his time, creativity and funds to produce a decal (two sizes) for our Facilities showing Relative Bearing to the bow of the boat.



These handy decals come in two sizes:

4 to a page or 2 to a page. Perfect for applying to your vessel and take the guess work out of a relative bearing vs. clock

For further information contact Wayne Farnholtz. There is a small charge to recover cost of handling and printing

### **OPERATIONS AWARD CRITERIA FOR 2013:**

For years many of us have felt the annual OPS Award Criteria is in need of updating. Below is the **current** policy, directly from the “*Eleventh Coast Guard District Northern Region Auxiliary Procedures Guide*”. Please send me your suggestions as to how to update and improve the award policy in a fairer manner for all. All changes will need to be passed by the District Board this year so the data collected in 2013 would apply for the Awards given out in 2014. Open to all immediate input. The proposal for changes will be given to the Board for a vote this coming meeting, Nov 17, 2012

### **OPERATIONS AWARDS**

- a. **General.** Operations awards are based on the total operational hours reported under Categories of Safety Patrols, Regatta Patrols, Chart Patrols, Coast Guard Operational Support, and SAR Callout Missions in AUXDATA as of 31 December of the award year. “In-Command” time and “Crew” time are to be considered separately in the computation of awards and are to be combined only when specifically stated in the awards criteria.
- b. **Outstanding Flotilla Trophy In Operations.** A perpetual trophy with a keeper award will be awarded. Criteria are as follows:
  - (1) All operational facilities must be currently inspected.
  - (2) The flotilla must have the highest number of operational hours.
  - (3) All Operational personnel in the Flotilla must have maintained the Region minimum performance standards for the awards year and attended any mandatory workshops for the award year.
  - (4) This award will be determined by the DSO-OP from the end-of year AUXDATA reports.
- c. **The Individual Overall Operations Trophy.** This award, a perpetual trophy with keeper award, recognizes the diversified person who performs in various Operational capacities. To be considered for this award, a person must perform a minimum of at least 40 hours each in at least three of the five operational designations. This award will be determined by the DSO-OP from the end-of-year AUXDATA reports. It will be awarded to the person having the most combined hours in the five operational designations:
  - (1) Crew,
  - (2) Coxswain,
  - (3) Air Observer or Air Crew,
  - (4) Co-Pilot, First Pilot, Aircraft Commander, and
  - (5) Communicator

## UNDERWAY HOURS 2012

[Cube last refreshed on Sunday, November 04, 2012.](#)

Mission Hours as values	11NR - Div 01	11NR - Div 03	11NR - Div 04	11NR - Div 05	11NR - Div 06	11NR - Div 07	11NR - Div 08	11NR - Div 10	11NR - Div 11	11NR - Div 12	Sector San Francisco
OPS	2,813.50	3,273.50	658.00	2,865.80	2,315.40	5,230.20	2,407.60	603.80	1,196.70	1,444.50	22,809.00
TRANSIT	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.50
TRNG	1.80	0.00	0.00	116.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	118.20
U/W - Underway	2,815.30	3,273.50	658.00	2,986.70	2,315.40	5,230.20	2,407.60	603.80	1,196.70	1,444.50	22,931.70

## *OPERATIONS EVENT CALENDAR*

AS OF: 7 NOVEMBER 2012

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT	POINT OF CONTACT
APR 7	DIV 4	OPTREX	REDWOOD CITY CONTACT DAVE NAUMANN
APR 25-28	FLT 39	OPTREX	ANTLERS RESORT CONTACT CARL PIERCE
MAY 4	DIV 1	OPTREX	BERKELEY MARINA CONTACT STEVE SALMON
AUG 3	DIV 11	OPTREX	LAKE TAHOE CONTACT DEE DEE KINCADE
SEPT 14	DIV 11	OPTREX	LAKE TAHOE CONTACT DEE DEE KINCADE
OCT 25, 26, 27	FLT 3-10	OPTREX	DELTA CONTACT DEAN LACHPELLE

Respectfully,

Gail Ramsey

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