
EIGHT



BELLS

Monthly Voice of USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 14-8 Jacksonville, Florida
Seventh Coast Guard District

Volume XXXIV No. 11

November 2008

Newly Elected District & Division Officers



*(L to R) COMO Donald L. Frasch, (Commodore-elect) District 7 with Division 14 Officers for 2009
Jesse Stevens, Division Commander-elect and G. David Greene, Division Vice Commander-elect*

FLOTILLA COMMANDER	jholler1408@bellsouth.net	John F. Holler
FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER	rivals2015@earthlink.net	Ralph V. Little
PUBLICATIONS OFFICER	cgstrong@comcast.net	Carolyn G. Strong

UPCOMING MEETINGS & OTHER ACTIVITIES

NOV	04	Flotilla Meeting – 1930 – Florida Tackle & Gun Club *Election of Officers*
	18	Flotilla Staff Officers Meeting – 1900 – The Stellar Building
	20	Eight Bells Deadline – Reports due to VFC & FSO-PB
	27	Happy Thanksgiving!
DEC	02	Flotilla Holiday Dinner Meeting - Mandarin Tree Steak House on San Jose Blvd
	06	ICS-210 Class – 0900-1400 - The Stellar Building
	16	Flotilla Staff Officers Meeting – 1900 – The Stellar Building
	20	Eight Bells Deadline – Reports due to VFC & FSO-PB
	25	Merry Christmas!
JAN	01	Happy New Year!
	06	Flotilla 14-8 Change of Watch – The Rudder Club – Details in December 8 Bells
	09	Division 14 Change of Watch – The Ocean Breeze at Mayport Navy Base

FROM THE FLOTILLA COMMANDER



Once again the division has called on Flotilla 14-8 for support. Debbie Inlow, FSO-PA answered the call by organizing Division 14's Booth at the NAS JAX Air Show which took place on October 25 and 26th. The "Silver Side" had an opportunity to work side-by-side with the Active Duty Coast Guard in manning their information booth at the air show. Thanks go to the Inlows, the Snows and Jeff Blomgren. Top Ingram, Charles Taylor and Whit Vick stood by ready to provide operational support on the water.

As America determines the next administration in Washington, elections for Flotilla Commander and Flotilla Vice Commander will be held at our next meeting on Tuesday, November 4th. Please come and cast your ballot. For this meeting Sandra Snow, FSO-MT and Ralph Little, VFC, have developed a program entitled, "Situational Awareness." The program addresses safety issues that Auxiliarists encounter during routine assignments. Presenters will be Top Ingram/water, Rusty Gardner/marina, Helen Russette/personal and Kieran Snow/communications.

The December flotilla meeting on Tuesday, December 2nd will be our traditional Holiday Dinner. This year the party will be held at the Mandarin Tree Steak House on San Jose Blvd and Mandarin Road. Look for details in this edition of Eight Bells.

Our flotilla Change of Watch will be held on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at the Rudder Club. This is a private club on the west side of the St. John's River overlooking the Buckman Bridge. Complete details will appear in December's Eight Bells.

Jack Holler, Flotilla Commander

A MESSAGE FROM THE VFC



I enjoyed convening October's flotilla meeting and thank all attendees for their patience with the full agenda. Highlights surely were the presentation on marine safety issues by Mark Lang, SO-MS and comments on our relationship with the active Coast Guard from CWO Jim DeVane of Station Mayport. We also benefited from Jesse Stevens, VCP's emphatic points concerning crew procedures at accident scenes. Claire Bailey, John Russette and I subsequently attended FC 14-1 Tom Hayden's Saturday session concerning Auxiliary staffing of County Emergency Operations Centers and an overview of the ICS-210 course for Incident Commanders. Flotilla 14-8's AOR includes parts of at least 6 different counties – Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Putnam, Baker, Bradford and Nassau. Claire and John are the division reps at the Clay County EOC and Bill Edgerton handles the Baker County EOC, while Duval is currently attended by the active Coast Guard. We aren't the principal unit in the other counties, or else we don't have members in their immediate areas.

Looking forward, we want as many members as possible to attend the November election meeting to set our course for next year. Also, at least a dozen members are intending to get their ICS-210 training on December 6th. We are checking that all ICS-210 students have completed ICS 100 and 700 as prerequisites. I am also anticipating the debut of our first boating safety DVD soon after it is approved for release.

Ralph Little, Flotilla Vice Commander

STAFF REPORTS

PERSONNEL SERVICES (PS):

The following are names of recent applicants to Flotilla 14-8 and their status:

- Amanda Reese: Application accepted and scheduled for submission 20 OCT.
- Michael Hagan: Initial interview conducted and application accepted.
- Kevin Atchison: Initial interview conducted and application accepted.

The interesting thing about these three applicants is that they are what's known as E-responders. In other words, all three made their interest known to Division 14 and were referred to me as the closest recruiter. The last applicant referred by a flotilla member was Jimmy Brooks back in July. He accepted an application, attended a flotilla meeting and has not submitted his application to me. Reason unknown! My point is that, as I have stated before, flotilla members need to become more active in the recruiting process. Everyone in the flotilla has to know at least one person that can be given to me as an interested possibility. Give me a name and telephone number and I will do the rest.

Charles Smith FSO-PS

PUBLIC AFFAIRS (PA):

Members of Flotilla 14-8, along with members of Arlington Flotilla 14-2 were on hand to meet the public and hand out boating safety information at the NAS JAX Air show on Saturday and Sunday, October 25 & 26. The backdrop for our booth was the 25 foot Defender Class USCG boat used for SARS and escorting ships into Mayport or any other assigned tasks. It weighs 9000 pounds fully loaded with eight crew and gear aboard. It travels about 40 knots and can turn on a dime. It is set up with gun stations fore and aft. Also on display was a USCG Helo from the HITRON unit at Cecil Field and a USCG HU-25 Falcon jet from Miami. It came from Miami in 35 minutes flight time!

Debbie Inlow, FSO-PA

MARINE SAFETY (MS):

Regulation News:

A new Blount Island Security Zone was posted in the September 12, 2008 Federal Register. All persons, vessels, and other craft are prohibited from entering, transiting, anchoring, or drifting within the area. In general, the area includes the Back River (Marine Corp Slipway) where the Marine Corps Support Facility is located and a 200 yd strip of water along the riverfront side of the port facility and across the inlet and outlet of the Back River. Details of the boundaries are available at:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-21739.pdf>. Enforcement is 24/7 by the Marine Corps. There will be warning signs posted.

Recreational boats will "not" be affected by the USCG raising the person weight standards. The Capacity Plates on boats under 20' will still reflect an average weight of 160lbs even though the national average is now 185lbs.

The USCG has proposed an additional 5 digits to the HIN number to assist in detection of fraud, theft and Homeland Security violations. The extra digits would provide info about length, hull material, main propulsion and a 5th check digit. The Boating Industry says cost will outweigh the benefits.

The new Surf and Turf Law (2010/2011) will reduce emissions from all types of gasoline engines. The Turf part includes lawn mowers, weed whackers and small lawn care engines. The Surf part includes Marine gas engines for inboards, outboards, I/Os and PWCs. A Catalytic Converter will meet these standards, but will add cost, size, and weight. www.epa.gov search surf and turf

New Products:

Check out www.yachtsofstuff.com for a variety of creative solutions to your boating problems.

Merrill Varn, FSO-MS

PROGRAM VISITOR / VESSEL EXAMINER (PV/VE):

Now that we are in the last couple of months of 2008 and the requests for vessel safety checks have gone down, you may feel that this is a good time to just sit back and relax for the holidays. However, there are always a few things that still can be done. So, if you find yourself bored and staring at the TV here are a few suggestions:

1. Boaters still need vessel checks. If you can show them what items they are missing they may add it to their Christmas wish list.
2. Take some time and browse the VSC website. <http://safetyseal.net/>
3. Organize all of your boating material. Order anything that you're low in.
4. Make a list of ideas of ways to increase the vessel checks for next year.
5. Turn in all of your forms and make sure all of the checks you have done are listed.
6. Review the Safety Check Manual
7. For a great Christmas gift, create a gift card for free Vessel Safety Checks.
8. Learn a new boating skill that you can share with other boaters
9. Spend time with your family. They miss you when you're busy with the CGAUX activities.
10. If all else fails....buy a boat :-).

Hope these ideas help get you through the winter months.

Rusty Gardner, FSO-PV/VE

14-8 PHOTO ALBUM
FLOTILLA MEETING 7 OCTOBER 2008



Ralph Little, VFC presented a Certificate to Sandra Snow for Completion of BAT-PAK...



Merrill Varn received a Certificate for Marine Safety



Karen Evans received her Certificate of Auxiliary Membership from Ralph after being sworn in



Our guests: Marc Lang, SO-MS; CWO Jim DeVane, Commanding Officer Station Mayport and Jesse Stevens, VCP 14

NAS JAX AIR SHOW OCTOBER 25 & 26



USCG DEFENDER Class boat used for SARs and other Assigned tasks by CG Sector Jacksonville



Jeff Blomgren standing by the HITRON Helo



USCG HU-25 FALCON Jet from Miami



Debbie Inlow, FSO-PA 14-8; Scott Thomas, FC 14-2; Donna Thomas and Mark Henricks of 14-2



USCG Helo from HITRON at Cecil Field



The World Famous US Navy BLUE ANGELS

Photos contributed by Debbie Inlow,
Sandra Snow & Jeff Blomgren

FLOTILLA HOLIDAY DINNER

Tuesday 2 December 2008

THE TREE STEAK HOUSE

11362-1 San Jose (at Mandarin Road)

Meet at the bar from 6 PM to 7 PM

Dinner will be served at 7 PM

Banquet Menu \$37.00 per person (includes tax & gratuity)

MENU

Choice of:

Prime Rib (9 – 10 oz)

Ribeye (9 – 10 oz)

Grilled Chicken Breast (10 oz)

Catch of the Day – Salmon

Included with Dinner:

Baked Potato

House Salad

Fresh Hot Bread

Unlimited Tea or Coffee

Dessert – Cheesecake or Walnut Cake

Members need to RSVP to Jack: JHoller1408@bellsouth.net and send a check payable to USCG Auxiliary 14-8 by November 28th to Jack Holler at 13338 Long Cypress Trail, Jacksonville 32223

OTHER EVENTS BEING PLANNED

(Details to follow in December Eight Bells)

FLOTILLA 14-8 CHANGE OF WATCH

Tuesday 6 January 2009

at

THE RUDDER CLUB

DIVISION 14 CHANGE OF WATCH

Friday 9 January 2009

At

OCEAN BREEZE AT MAYPORT NAVY BASE

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Public Affairs**



October 21, 2008

Contact: Anthony Turner
Chief, External Communications Division
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Not wearing a life jacket is like playing "Russian Roulette" with your life.

LOS ANGELES - This past weekend the Coast Guard and other rescuers searched the waters about 100 feet from a breakwater in southern California for a man who fell overboard from a small boat. The man was not wearing a lifejacket. Unfortunately stories like this are not that uncommon, boaters and their passengers unexpectedly find themselves in the water all too often. Some survive and unfortunately some do not. This man did not survive. Not wearing a life jacket while boating, including, canoeing, kayaking and stand-up paddle-boarding is like playing "Russian Roulette." The chances of a non-swimmer surviving a fall overboard if not wearing a lifejacket are remote if not rescued quickly.

Coast Guard personnel, including the Auxiliary are required to wear lifejackets at all times while underway on vessels under 65 feet in length. "Not to wear a lifejacket whether you are a swimmer or not is to take an unnecessary risk - you never know when you might end up in the water", said Senior Chief Richard Cheyney, the Officer in Charge of Coast Guard Station - Los Angeles/Long Beach.

There many excuses for not wearing a life jacket, such as "they are uncomfortable" or "too expensive." U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets range in price from as low as \$15.00 to about \$400.00 for the top of the line inflatable, although, even the most expensive life jacket is of no value if it is not worn.

It is undisputable a life jacket can and will save a life if properly worn - but what about preventing boating accidents in the first place. Since most boating accidents are caused by operator inattention, inexperience, and speeding resulting in collisions, remembering and following a few simple boating rules of the road, such as keeping a sharp lookout for other boat traffic, can help prevent collisions.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian component of the United States Coast Guard. Created by an Act of Congress in 1939, the Auxiliary directly supports the Coast Guard in all missions, except military and direct law enforcement actions.



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
America's Volunteer Lifesaverssm

FLOTILLA 14-8
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
Tuesday 4 November 2008 at 1930
FLORIDA TACKLE AND GUN CLUB
9010 San Jose Blvd

Election of Flotilla Officers for 2009

Don't miss this November "Election Night" Meeting

FLOTILLA HOLIDAY DINNER

Tuesday 2 December 2008
The Tree Steak House
San Jose at Mandarin Road
Fellowship from 1800 to 1900
Dinner at 1900



8 IS GREAT !

Visit our award winning website at <http://a0701408.uscgaux.info/>

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***PRIVACY ACT:** Telephone numbers and addresses of members are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. As a matter of policy, rosters of names, addresses and telephone numbers shall not be made available to the general public or any outside organization.*