
EIGHT



BELLS

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

Volume XXXVII No. 10

October 2011

FLOTILLA COMMANDER
FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER
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C. Whitley Vick
Michael S. Morgan
Carolyn G. Strong

Crew Training on the St. Johns River



Kevin Koehl, trainee, with Cris Vonderheide, coxswain – 24 September 2011

Photo courtesy of Whit Vick – see more on page 5



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

**America's
Volunteer
Guardians**
Since 1939

FROM YOUR FLOTILLA COMMANDER



Our strength as a flotilla comes from individual's efforts and talents which can lead to the synergy that makes an effective team. Some of the main components of an effective team are having common goals, integrity, relying on each other, and doing the right thing. While watching a show about 9/11, I heard a Navy admiral say something to the effect that his guiding principles for being a good leader and for having an effective team could be traced back to the Boy Scout's oath--which he recited. I agree and looked it up--here it is:

Scout's Oath or Promise: On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law. To help other people at all times. To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

The Scout Law: A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

If we can do or at least strive for these things, we can expect good things individually and as an Auxiliary team.

Whit Vick, Flotilla Commander

FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - LOGISTICS

HUMAN RESOURCES – CHARLES SMITH



My appeal last month for someone to mentor as my FSO assistant was answered by Rebecca Habermas. Becky will be invited to participate in all initial interviews and application submissions. Unfortunately, I only have one application pending and no interviews or e-responders on my calendar.

It should be noted that Kyle George was my previous assistant until his current job and work schedule interfered. Thanks Kyle and good luck to you.

For those FSOs who weren't as successful as myself, I suggest that they contact flotilla members and make a pitch for assistance. You don't know the answer until you ask.

Robin M. Herriff, a writer and producer of Rusty Gardner's Coast Guard videos, has submitted her application and is awaiting her membership number. Her contact information will be published for distribution as soon as her CGAUX number is received.

Charlie Smith, FSO-HR

INFORMATION SYSTEMS – MARLENE KOEHL



In the next couple weeks I will be sending out Individual Status Reports to all members to update each of you on your certification status. Please review the report to ascertain if you have met all the annual requirements or if not, what you need to do in order to maintain your certifications. Mission Reports were rather light this past month. Please take a few minutes each month to submit your 7029 reports. If you are still experiencing difficulty with the eForms, feel free to send PDF forms to me via email or USPS or bring them to the flotilla meeting. Thank you to those who consistently send in your hours for input into AUXDATA.

Marlene Koehl, FSO-IS

PUBLIC AFFAIRS – KEVIN KOEHL



Planning is underway for the NAS JAX Air Show on November 4, 5, and 6. Coast Guard Air Station Savannah will be providing an aircraft for static display and will conduct a search and rescue demonstration. The Auxiliary and active Coast Guard recruiters will share a canopy display for the show, located near the static Coast Guard aircraft on display. Friday is a practice day for the Blue Angels attended only by the Military. Saturday and Sunday are the public air show days. The Auxiliary will staff the canopy exhibit all three days. I have put a request in for “Coastie”, which is currently located in Fernandina. Literature for the show has been ordered. This is an event which all area flotillas are invited to participate. Show information and requests for participation have been sent to our flotilla as well as Fernandina, Arlington, Jacksonville Beach, Green Cove Springs, and St. Augustine flotillas. I am seeking creative ways to make our display more interesting to the public.

If you can participate for some or all of the show or have a creative idea for our display, send your information to me at kevinkoehl@gmail.com.

The 2011 NAS JAX Air Show has special significance this year as we are celebrating 100 years of NAVAL AVIATION. As a result, the Air Show normally scheduled for Jacksonville Beach will be held at NAS JAX. Dress for the show will be ODUs. Please, no Tropical Blues for this event.

Kevin Koehl, FSO-PA

FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - PREVENTION

PUBLIC EDUCATION – BOB STRONG



Our next and last ABS course for 2011 is on October 15 at the Stellar building. Paul Burns will be out of town. If you had ever planned to step up and help with our PE program now is your chance. I need another instructor and at least one or more aides to help.

Bob Strong, FSO-PE

PROGRAM VISITOR – MARLENE KOEHL



First of all, I would like to thank and congratulate John Hadley for his dedication to the RBS-Visitation Program. To date, John has completed 76 Marine Dealer Visits and is certainly making the Auxiliary’s presence known. Thanks, John. In recent weeks, I have been working with the FSO-PA and FSO-MA in initial planning for November’s Air Show at NAS JAX. Please see Kevin Koehl’s report for details on the upcoming event. We will also be participating in a Partner Event scheduled for 15 October from 1100 – 1500 hours at The Marina at Julington Creek. As we did last spring, we will set up an information table and offer vessel safety examinations for the marina’s customers. It will be an opportunity for Vessel Examiners who still need to complete the required VSCs before the end of the year and at the same time, promote boating safety with some really nice people. Since the event is scheduled on the same day as our Boating Safety Class and a couple of our VEs will be instructing that day, we need additional Vessel Examiners who would be available for a couple hours that day to help make this a successful event. Please let me know if you want to participate as a VE or at the information table (mekoehl@gmail.com). Finally, for the month and as of 19 September, our team has continued to promote boating safety and education by visiting 12 locations and signing up one additional partner.

Marlene Koehl, FSO-PV

FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - RESPONSE

OPERATIONS – WHIT VICK



Patrols on *Carlie II*, a 16 foot Boston Whaler, continue. All activities and training related to on the water operations can be accomplished on this boat, albeit on a reduced scale due to the boat's size. I will try to accommodate all interested in operations as best as possible with this facility, and also am available for shoreside training and crew candidate check offs as time permits.

The Welaka boat remains in dry dock for repairs and return date is unknown at this time.

Whit Vick, FSO-OP



GUEST SPEAKER AT 4 OCTOBER FLOTILLA MEETING

**Neil A. Armingeon, the St. Johns Riverkeeper
will be our guest speaker at the meeting of
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 14-8**

4 October 2011 at 7:00 PM

at the Florida Tackle and Gun Club

**All members and guests are encouraged to attend.
We want to "pack the house"!**

Refreshments will be served starting at 7:00 PM

*** FLOTILLA 14-8 PHOTO ALBUM ***

FLOTILLA MEETING 6 SEPTEMBER 2011

Photos by Carolyn Strong, Kevin Koehl & Whit Vick



**CWO2 Doug Schubert, USCG
Station Mayport addressed our
Members at the flotilla meeting**

Two Special Guests



**CWO2 Doug Schubert and his wife Sam visited
at our September flotilla meeting. Doug recently
replaced CWO Jim DeVane at Station Mayport.**

FLOTILLA MEETING 6 SEPTEMBER 2011



Whit Vick, FC congratulates John Hadley on receiving a Sustained Service Award, an Award for VSC/RBS Visitor Program and was designated a Telecommunications Watchstander.



Paul Tynda received a MDV/VE Ribbon



Carolyn Strong received a Sustained Service Award

**24 SEPTEMBER 2011
September Patrol Focuses on Training**



Cris Vonderheide and Kevin Koehl prepare to board Whit Vick's facility, *Carlie II*

Coxswains Whit Vick, Cris Vonderheide and crew trainee Kevin Koehl conducted a weekend patrol on the St. Johns River and Doctors Lake on Saturday, September 24. The focus of the patrol was a crew training mission to assist Kevin in completing crew training tasks by demonstrating proficiency in required skills. Crew trainees must demonstrate the ability to perform tasks to standards established by the Coast Guard. This patrol included demonstrating radio communication skills, preparing for rear and side tows, and use of safety equipment. The patrol included a "working" lunch at Whitey's Fish Camp on Doctors Lake which offered some great food and an opportunity to demonstrate some "off water" knowledge and skills. Kevin plans to complete crew training and qualify for crew this year.



Cris & Kevin enjoy lunch at Whitey's

FLOTILLA DINNER SOCIAL WITH FLOTILLA 14-2

Members of Flotilla 14-8 enjoyed an evening of fellowship with members of Flotilla 14-2 at the MUDVILLE GRILLE on Tuesday September 27, 2011. Guest speakers were Tom and Gerry Clare from Flotilla 14-1. Tom showed pictures from their Great Circle Boat Trip in 2007 and routes that they have traveled by boat marked on a large map of the eastern United States. You can visit their web site at <http://www.tomclare.com/>, click on 2007 trip and/or enjoy reading about all their trips by boat.

Derek Lloyd and Carolyn Strong each gave a brief talk on the history of our flotillas and of Division 14, along with a slide show of pictures from 1972 to the present time.

A good time was had by all, and a promise that our flotillas will continue having fellowship with each other, as we have done in the past.



Kevin and Marlene Koehl, Flotilla 14-8



Gerry and Tom Clare, our guests from Flotilla 14-1



**Cris Vonderheide, 14-8; Kirk Altman, 14-2
and Derek Lloyd, 14-2**



Carol and Charles Taylor – Flotilla 14-8



Phil Talon, 14-2; Cris & Carol Vonderheide, 14-8

**FLOTILLA DINNER SOCIAL
WITH FLOTILLA 14-2 (continued)**



The Habermas family: Ron, Amanda & Becky, 14-8



Terry & Richard Colado with Chuck Hayes, 14-2



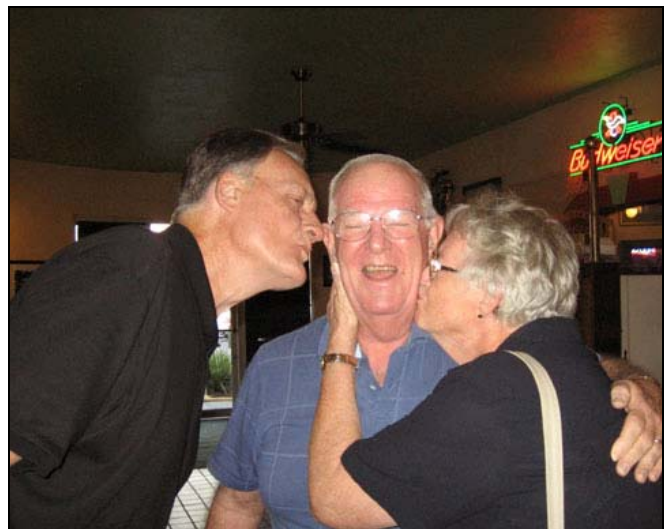
Patti Hayes and Donna Thomas, 14-2



Kirk Altman and Mark Henricks, 14-2



Charles Taylor and Whit Vick, 14-8



**Chuck Farmer (center) gets kisses from his wife
Laura and from Bill Sekeres – all members of 14-2**

Dinner Photos by Kevin Koehl and Carolyn Strong

Mandarin Newsline – October Edition



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Update

Visit us Online or in Person

By Contributing Writer Ralph Little, Flotilla 14-8

This month we have two public events and new contact information for the flotilla. We will have a booth and a marine patrol at the November 5-6 Air Show at Jacksonville Naval Air Station. Come by the booth and check out the wide array of helpful information we offer and engage our members with your questions about boating. And remember your ear plugs for those jet engines!

On October 15th, the flotilla will present About Boating Safely, our last course for 2011. Previous students have commented that because of both the quality of instruction and its content, the course “should be required for all boaters”. While not required of everyone, Florida Law does require that boat operators born on or after January 1, 1988 pass an approved boating safety course and carry the resulting Florida Boating Safety Education Identification Card along with a picture ID. The course is held at the Stellar Building, 2900 Hartley Road in Mandarin, just off San Jose Blvd. next to I-295. The class will run from 7:30am to 5:00pm with 30 minutes for lunch. \$25 covers each student’s manual and it is just \$5 more for a second family member. All boat operators can take the program and if you care to join our efforts, its fee is included in member dues. Call Bob Strong at 904-721-1346 for specifics on the course and to register.

We have added a Facebook page for the flotilla and you will be a welcome “friend”. We hope to shorten the lengthy address which I hesitate to list here, so find us by searching on “Coast Guard Auxiliary Jacksonville “ or use the familiar “F” button on our website. That website remains chock full of boating information and links and we have renamed it, “Safe Boating Jax” to reflect the essence of what we promote. Check us at <http://www.safeboatingjax.com/pages/intro-p.htm> for area weather, tides, boating information and more.

If you wish to join the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, contact Charles Smith at 904-541-1660 and he will guide you through membership. We are also happy to perform free vessel safety examinations wherever your boat is located in Northeast Florida – on water or land. Go through the buttons on our website or email John Hadley at john.hadley83@yahoo.com to schedule a vessel examiner. It is always a perfect time to have your safety preparations checked.

We invite you to learn how to become a member, take a boating safety course or schedule a free vessel safety check by going to our Flotilla website at SafeBoatingJax.com.





Florida By Water is pleased to announce that we have been awarded the Flagler Award for "Best in Show" (under \$100K category) from VISIT FLORIDA. The Award was presented during the 44th Annual Florida Governor's Conference on Tourism, held September 25-27 at the Westin Diplomat Resort & Spa in Hollywood, Florida.

FloridaByWater.com

Flagler Awards

Named for Henry Flagler, the Flagler Awards were established in 2000 to recognize outstanding tourism marketing in Florida. Annually, the Flagler Awards honor many of the countless individuals and organizations that help maintain and improve Florida's position as one of the world's most popular travel destinations. The awards are open to all individuals, private businesses and not-for-profit organizations offering a product or service that promotes tourism to or within the state of Florida.



Rusty Gardner

Florida By Water

904-866-6389

<http://www.floridabywater.com/>

** Rusty is an active member of Flotilla 14-8 and is on the National Public Affairs Staff.*



FLOTILLA 14-8 MEETING

Tuesday 4 October 2011

GUEST SPEAKER:

Neil A. Armingeon, the St. Johns Riverkeeper

4 October 2011, 1900

at the Florida Tackle and Gun Club

All members and guests are encouraged to attend.

We want to "pack the house"!

Refreshments will be served starting at 7 PM

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- | | | |
|-----|-------|--|
| OCT | 04 | Flotilla Meeting – Special Guest Speaker–1900–Florida Tackle & Gun Club |
| | 15 | ABS Class – last one for 2011 – 0730 – Stellar Building |
| | 20 | Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to VFC, FSO-PB and Division SO |
| NOV | 01 | Flotilla Meeting – Flotilla Elections - 1930 – Florida Tackle & Gun Club |
| | 04-06 | NAS Jax Air Show – CGAUX Exhibit open Friday through Sunday |
| | 20 | Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to VFC, FSO-PB and Division SO |

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2011 NAS Jax Air Show

November 4 – 6

Friday, 4 November is a practice day for the Blue Angels attended only by the Military. Saturday and Sunday are the public air show days.

The Auxiliary will staff the canopy exhibit all three days.

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8 IS GREAT !



Visit our award winning website at www.SafeBoatingJax.com

EIGHT BELLS is published at no expense to the government. Cost of its publication is borne by the dues paying members of Flotilla 14-8 of the 7th District U.S. Coast Guard.

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.