
EIGHT



BELLS

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

Volume XXXVIII No. 5

May 2012

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Auxiliary Patrol for Jacksonville Blessing of the Fleet



The annual Blessing of the Fleet took place on the St Johns River from Metropolitan Park to the Jacksonville Landing on Saturday, 01 April 2012. Coast Guard Auxiliary vessel *Carlie II* was on hand with Whit Vick, coxswain and Kevin Koehl, crew, as well as the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue boat, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and the Captains' Club.

More photos inside this edition.

Photo contributed by Rusty Gardner

	<p>United States Coast Guard Auxiliary U.S. Department of Homeland Security</p>	<p>America's Volunteer Guardians Since 1939</p>
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FROM YOUR FLOTILLA COMMANDER



At the Flotilla Leadership Training course held in St Augustine March 11, 2012, a book was given out called "Performance Improvement Guide", published by the US Coast Guard Leadership Development Center. The stated goal is to make the Coast Guard the best-led and best-managed organization in government. With no disrespect meant to those who obviously spent a lot of time and effort to write this, I would characterize it as a business-oriented tome not intended for light reading-- which is actually my preferred reading technique. Included is a smorgasbord of acronyms and business models, graphs, and charts. A business person may find all this elementary, but most of the concepts were way over my head, although I have found they can be useful to ponder if I'm having trouble falling asleep.

Included are topics like the Malcolm Baldrige National Performance Excellence Criteria, Hierarchy of Strategic Intent, Vision Statement, SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats), Critical Success Factors (CSFs), Force Field Analysis (key forces affecting a goal), Gantt chart (not a typo for those little bugs which define south Georgia, Gantt charts refer to an overall project timeline), SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Action-oriented, Realistic, Time based), vision statements and action plans, Plus/Delta (good/bad) evaluations, systems thinking, CTQ (Critical to Quality) tree, ABC (Activity Based Costing), UPLM (Unified Performance Logic Model), DMAIC (Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, Control) model, CG-OAS (Coast Guard Organizational Assessment Survey), CGBI (Coast Guard Business Intelligence), the 6 Ms (Methods, Manpower, Materials, Machinery, Mother Nature, Measures), CTQ (Critical To Quality) tree, PDCA (Plan, Do, Check, Act), FMEA (Failure Mode and Effects Analysis), QMB (Quality Management Board), QAT (Quality Action Team), DPMO (Defects Per Million Opportunities), Six Sigma, NWG (Natural Working Group), SIPOC (Supplier Input Process Output Customer), VA/NVA (Value Added/Non Value Added), WIIFM (What's In It For Me)--to name a few, but you get the picture.

However, despite my limited comprehension of most of the finer points of the book, I did find some useful one-liners or bits of wisdom which I will share with you, a sort of "Dummies Guide to the Performance Improvement Guide".

- Coast Guard's definition of leadership: "You influencing others to achieve a goal". When you can have a positive impact on others' lives, this is good.
- Buy in: you want to all be on the team, to have skin in the game, to be on the same page, all supporting the same missions and goals--not just, "I can live with this", but "I can support this".
- Gate opening: provide quiet individuals with the opportunity to participate. They may add just as much as the more extroverted types. The best ideas come out only if we listen to all who have ideas.
- What I call the "Zen" group: The easy way out often leads back in. There are no simple solutions or final answers. Faster is slower. Everything is connected to everything else.
- The "wildcard": for those who like to run meetings using cards--a reminder to take time to recharge.
- Pareto chart: used to separate the vital few from the trivial many--i.e., focus on important issues you can effect, prioritize, don't sweat the small stuff or things you cannot change.
- The successful organization is the one that can learn the fastest. A learning organization is the one that will survive and thrive in the long run. We have to be flexible and adaptive to flourish.
- What will your legacy be?
- HAVE FUN! My personal favorite.
- "I ain't wastin' time no more 'cause time goes bye-bye." This is not actually from the book (it's by the Allman Brothers band for those of you from the North), but it's a good line the book might have used to lighten things up a bit.

FC Report continued on page 3...

FC Report continued...

And the top of them of all: the US Coast Guard Core Values:

- Honor: Integrity, uncompromising ethical conduct and moral behavior in all our personal actions. Loyal and accountable to the public trust.
- Respect: Treat each other with fairness, dignity, and compassion. Encourage opportunity, growth and creativity of individuals through empowerment. Work as a team.
- Devotion to Duty: we are professionals who seek responsibility, accept accountability, and are committed to the successful achievement of our organizational goals. We exist to serve. We serve with pride.

So these are a few items in this small but weighty book that made sense for me. Or, in the parlance of the book--these are VA (Value Added) bits that work for me and I hope for you as well.

Thanks to all of you who have volunteered your time and efforts for a worthy organization, the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Semper paratus,

Whit Vick, Flotilla Commander

FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - LOGISTICS

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES – PAUL BURNS



You may have noticed a little change in our website at www.SafeBoatingJax.com. The Home Page has been redesigned to fall in line with the Auxiliary's latest look and navigation. The graphics also match the division site and still under construction new 7th District website.

With left side navigation menus now on the home page it will be easier and quicker for both members and the public to get to important pages that they seek.

The "**14-8 Members Section**" and "**Public Information**" buttons will bring you to the same pages inside the website that you are used to.

It has been recently reported that the left navigation menus in the National design websites may not work with iPad and some mobile devices. So, iPad users you can access the same pages inside the website with a special link on the home page that bypasses the side menu. (Sorry Rusty!)



My goal is to have the interior pages re-designed by 2013. If you notice any problems, inaccuracies or issues with the new design, please let me know.

Paul Burns, FSO-CS

HUMAN RESOURCES – REBECCA HABERMAS



I'm happy to report that we have two potential new members who were introduced at our April meeting. They are in the process of completing their applications and are both very excited to join the Auxiliary.

The first is Michael Daniels. Michael has his own boat that he would eventually like to get certified as a facility vessel. He is a bookkeeper and is interested in becoming a radio watch stander, doing vessel safety checks and eventually also becoming boat crew certified. He is an experienced boater, also has experience in communications, and a former EMT with advanced first aid training. He was also a volunteer with an ambulatory service in Pennsylvania.

Our other applicant is Kristen Bell. Kristen is an Environmental Specialist for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. She is an OSHA Hazard Extension Provider, a member of Florida's Environmental Response Team and has participated in several fundraising events. Kristen is interested in learning more about Marine Safety Protection within the Auxiliary. We welcome them both and are looking forward to helping them become productive members of Flotilla 14-8.

Becky Habermas, FSO-HR

INFORMATION SYSTEMS – MARLENE KOEHL



A few weeks ago I sent out a directive from Robert Cook, our SO-IS, regarding an Information Systems request that we not store more than a few months 7029 on-line reports. Please remember to make a copy of your report before deleting from the system. The 7029 form is the Auxiliary's most commonly used form. This form is used to report a variety of volunteer hours including administrative hours, meetings, mentoring, prep and travel, training, study time and other miscellaneous hours. There is now a short video explaining how to use a 7029. If you are unfamiliar with the form, please take a few minutes to go to the following link:

<http://cgaux.org/library/video/itgroup/7029-video-walkthrough.php>

If you are not already a member of Vimeo, you will need to join the free basic service in order to download the video. I am in the process of creating a general guidelines document for reporting mission hours and will be sending it out to all members in the near future. However, if you have any questions or need assistance with any report, please contact me at mekoehl@gmail.com or give me a call at 904-923-6613.

Marlene Koehl, FSO-IS

PUBLIC AFFAIRS – KEVIN KOEHL



April is here and public and partner boating activities are on the increase. The Marina at Julington Creek held their customer appreciation event in late March. Charlie Smith and Ralph Little supported the event. The Blessing of the Fleet was held on April 1. Whit Vick and Kevin Koehl provided an Auxiliary patrol presence assisting Duval County Sheriff's department and the Captains Club to organize and lead the fleet of private boat owners through a procession from Metropolitan Marina to The Landing.

On April 14, Charlie Smith and Peter Kraslawsky, a visiting Auxiliarist from District 8 provided support to an event at Mulberry Cove Marina while Marlene and Kevin Koehl provided support to a Marine Flea Market. NAS JAX conducted a base-wide safety fair on April 19, John Hadley, Bob Strong, Charlie Smith, Marlene Koehl, and Kevin Koehl manned a boating safety information table. The Auxiliary shared an exhibit space with officers from Florida Fish and Wildlife and a 5 year old alligator. The alligator stimulated a lot of discussion on "paddling" our area waterways safely. Well over a 100 military and civilians visited the display and picked up advice and literature and boating safety classes, vessel safety checks and boating safety information. Other April public boating events include the Southeastern Boat Show at Metropolitan Park and visits by French tall ships.

Kevin Koehl, FSO-PA

FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - PREVENTION

MEMBER TRAINING – JOHN HADLEY



Member Training Goes Into Spring

The activities for Member Training have begun to move almost hand-in-hand with other Public Affairs and Public Education efforts as March departed, and April's events came upon us. This department's activities began to roll along in higher gear. April's relayed memoranda from district officers showed that technology is moving along, but there is a time to almost every training the Auxiliary offers.

In late-March I was privileged to present the 2012 version of the Team Coordination Training (TCT) update. So also, in April was the scheduled CPR update, presented by Jeff Blomgren, our Immediate Past Flotilla Commander. Thanks to Jeff for bringing the changes to the attention of the attendees.

Another activity we are presenting is the new method, for awareness purposes only, of ordering the flotilla materials officer will be using to get published materials from ANSC, and from the www.safeboatingcampaign.com website. Flotilla members should be seeing changes soon in the speed with which they receive their requested materials. We are arranging additional May activities for the meeting which we will report on next month.

Member training continues to wit: One (1) member is presently enrolled in the AUXPAT Webinar course, one (1) member is enrolled in the Assistant Pollution Responder course. The second meeting of this class is 10 May at Sector Jacksonville galley at Station Mayport from 1300-1700 hours. Another member has completed the ISC-250 (External Support Function 15) class.

Tests are being arranged in AUX COMS and AUX WEA.

The AsstPollResp Personal Qualification Package is yet another way for members to expand their service to the nation by gaining the ability to assist the Coast Guard visitation teams.

Membership is advised that Webinars are a unique way to take lectures, with the ability to attend to one's affairs, and still find and study the materials presented.

This Webinar method was most recently used this year on the AUX SEAM course. It seems to be well-received with several students reporting having taken and passed the AUX SEAM class.

As these classes are presented, and the invitation to take them arrives via email, I will circulate an All Flotilla notice for that course.

Respectfully, John Hadley FSO-MT

PROGRAM VISITATION – MARLENE KOEHL



During the month of April, the Recreational Boating Safety-Program Visitation department has been supporting USCG missions by participating in several program partner events. On 14 April two Program Visitors (PVs), Kevin and Marlene Koehl, mingled with bargain hunters at Pier 17 (Ships Locker) and Sadler Point Marina's Flea Market. Rather than setting up an information table, we walked around offering boating safety literature and striking up conversation about boating and boating safety. It was a new approach which seemed to work well for this particular venue. Also held on 14 April was a Vessel Safety Check (VSC) day at Mulberry Cove Marina. Charlie Smith, Program Visitor and FSO-VE organized the day's activity. Peter Kraslawsky, a visiting Auxiliary Vessel Examiner from District 8, offered his assistance at the event.

On 19 April, program visitors supported a public affairs mission at the Safety Fair for NAS JAX by staffing an information and safety booth from 0630 to 1430. Two new partner locations were added in April: Huckins Yacht Corp and Allstate Insurance Company. Our Program Visitors continue to interface with our partners on a regular basis. As of 20 April, we have reported 42 visits for the month. For information about becoming a Program Visitor, please contact John Hadley, FSO-MT.

Marlene Koehl, FSO-PV

PUBLIC EDUCATION – BOB STRONG



The April 14, ABS course at the Stellar building had seven students. I was planning on nine but we had two no shows. John Hadley and I taught the entire course and Jack Holler helped with registration and marlinspike.

The end of course evaluation forms again gave us many accolades such as "Great", "Professional", "Very Informative" and "A must for all Boaters". Once again, at least two students said that more time should be spent on Navigation. Perhaps we should plan a "Weekend Navigator" course.

Another flotilla in our division has begun offering a free course using the "Boat Smart" books available from the State of Florida. If we can obtain a supply of these books I'm in favor of trialing the free course. If enough students want more training we can begin teaching the Boating Skills and Seamanship Course again and charge enough to cover our costs.

Paul Burns will be working out of town for the next three months so we need another instructor with boating experience to help teach the courses scheduled for May 12, June 23 & July 14. Please contact me if you are interested in helping.

We will also be teaching a short course on Boating Safety at the West Marine store at the St. John's Town Center on the afternoon of 24 May. Please let me know if you would be available to help.

Bob Strong, FSO-PE

VESSEL EXAMINER – CHARLES SMITH



Our visitor from Knoxville, TN, Mr. Peter Kraslawsky was my team member for our Vessel Safety Check (VSC) effort at Mulberry Cove Marina, NAS JAX. The occasion was a fishing tournament sponsored by the installation Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Division. Unfortunately, I forgot my camera but Peter will make an effort to attend our monthly flotilla meeting for a photo op.

A VSC blitz at the Mandarin Park boat ramp is scheduled for 20 May 1000-1400. Last year this was a very successful effort which yielded an above normal number of exams and decals awarded. We will again practice the team concept which has proven beneficial time wise to both examiners and examinees. Prior to the 20 May event I will make an effort to schedule another marina and will keep all examiners advised of dates and times.

Charlie Smith, FSO-VE

FLOTILLA STAFF REPORTS - RESPONSE

OPERATIONS – WHIT VICK



A patrol was done on *Carlie II* on April 1 at the Jacksonville Blessing of the Fleet. This was a beautiful day to be out on the water. We got our facility blessed and sprinkled by the padre doing the blessings. Kevin Koehl and I met Jim Suber, who is the Jacksonville City Dockmaster. He is also in the Power Squadron, and invited us to join. The Auxiliary and Power Squadron have overlapping missions such as education and Vessel Safety Checks, and more cooperation and coordination between the two organizations could only benefit the customers we serve--i.e., the boating public. We have several members in our flotilla who are members of both the Auxiliary and Power Squadron. Jim was very appreciative of the Coast Guard Auxiliary being there for the Blessing of the Fleet and thanked us personally and publicly over the VHF.

Another patrol is scheduled May 5, 2012 to provide support for a paddling regatta on the St Johns River. The Welaka boat is reportedly serviced and back in Welaka. A meeting for Welaka coxswains is scheduled for May 14 in Welaka. I'll report on these next month.

Whit Vick, FSO-OP

NAVIGATIONAL SERVICES – CRIS VONDERHEIDE



Thanks to Chuck Farmer, SO-NS 14:

Need to check your GPS accuracy? NGS benchmark with witness post near the SE corner of the intersection of Milton Drive with Heckscher Drive at the base of a utility pole. The location is 30 deg. 23' 54.0"N and 081 deg. 29' 39.0"W.

Except where noted, the information listed below has been taken from the Seventh District Local Notices to Mariners, Weekly editions 11-52 through 12-16.

General Information

➔ Mooring to a Federal Aid to Navigation, or otherwise damaging one, is a violation of 33 CFR 70.01 and may earn a fine of \$500.00 per offense. [NB – Damaging PATONs is similarly treated.] (LNTM 08-51 and following).

Status of Charts (<http://chartmaker.ncd.noaa.gov/mcd/dole.htm>)

<u>Chart Nr.</u>	<u>Chart Title</u>	<u>Ed/Date</u>	<u>LNTM</u>
11485	ICW- Tolomato River to Palm Shores	36/Jul 10	12-16
11489	ICW – St. Simons Island to Tolomato River	39/May 11	12-16
11490	Approaches to St. Johns River; St. Johns River Entrance	20/Jan 11	12-16
11491	St. Johns River – Atlantic Ocean to Jacksonville	37/May 10	12-16
11492	St. Johns River – Jacksonville to Racy Point	21/Jul 06	12-07
11503	St. Marys Entrance – Cumberland Sound and Kings Bay	44/Mar 12	12-12

Bridges and Bridgeworks

Matthews Bridge - through September 2013 for repairs. Vertical clearance reduced by about two feet [DUCK!] LNTM 12-07.

Main Street Bridge

- Closed 0800 to 0930 on 5 May for the First Coast March for Babies, LNTM 12-16.
- Closed on 4 July from 1900 until 0100 5 July for fireworks, LNTM 12-10.
- Closed 6 October 2012 from 1330 to 1600 for the 20th anniversary of the “Buddy Check 12” event, NTM 12-13.
- Closed 24 Nov from 1400 until 25 Nov 0200 for the Jacksonville Light Parade, LNTM 12-16.

Ortega River Bridge (SR 211)

- Repairs continue, single leaf operation 0700 to 1800, Monday through Friday, double leaf opening on three hours notice to the bridge tender, LNTM 12-13.

Cris Vonderheide, FSO-NS

GUEST SPEAKER AT MAY 1 FLOTILLA MEETING

Mr. Al Abbatiello, Chairman of William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway Management Council will present and describe an oral history project completed with 34 long term residents who live along the Scenic Highway. He will also present the Council's scenic highway master plan. He will speak for about 10 minutes and will answer questions as well as hand out materials pertaining to the project.

FLOTILLA 14-8 PHOTO ALBUM

Blessing of the Fleet – Downtown Jacksonville 01 April 2012



Whit Vick and Kevin Koehl onboard Carlie II, provided an Auxiliary patrol presence assisting to organize and lead the fleet of private boat owners through a procession from Metropolitan Park Marina to The Landing, along with the Jacksonville Fire Rescue boat, the Duval County Sheriff's department and the Captains Club.

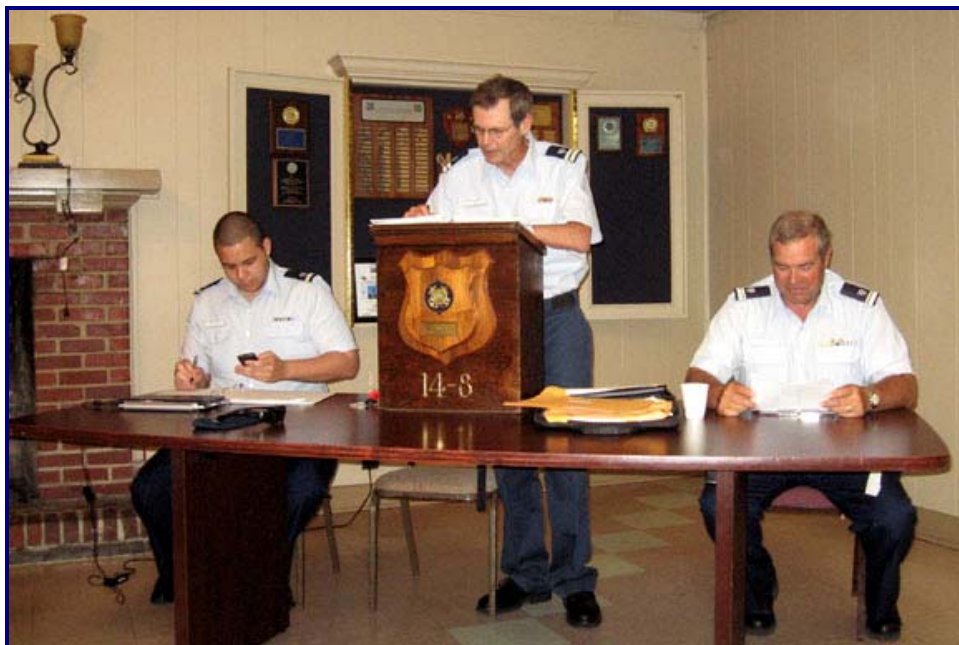
The Jacksonville Fire Rescue Boat (above) and one of the many boats lined up for the Blessing of the Fleet (right).

See more photos of the event on page 13 of this edition.

Photos by Kevin Koehl



Flotilla Meeting 03 April 2012:



The meeting comes to order with Paul Tynda, FSO-SR; Whit Vick, FC and Kevin Koehl, VFC



Whit Vick, FC congratulates John Hadley, who passed the NAV Rules Exam with a score of 96%.

Becky Habermas, FSO-HR with Kristen Bell and Michael Daniels, two prospective members who were welcomed at our April meeting.

Meeting photos by Carolyn Strong



Safety Information Booth at NAS Jax 19 April 2012



Kevin Koehl, Charlie Smith, Marlene Koehl, John Hadley and Bob Strong were on hand to talk with visitors at our information table.



Marlene helps some visitors find the information they need.



The Coast Guard Auxiliary and Florida Fish and Wildlife shared a safety information booth at a safety fair at Naval Air Station Jacksonville on Thursday 19 April. A popular guest of Florida Fish and Wildlife was a 5 year old alligator which was available for "petting".

Photos by Kevin Koehl, FSO-PA

Training Patrol on Don Mooers' Facility

21 April 2012



Cris Vonderhiede, 14-8 (coxswain), Don Mooers, 14-4 (crew) and Kevin Koehl, 14-8 (crew) participated in a training patrol on Don's boat. In addition, there were 3 trainees and one guest on board. The first photo shows some detached floating oil boom that we came upon in the Intracoastal Waterway. We reported it to the Coast Guard.



We also came upon a runabout caught by the outgoing tide.



Story and photos by Kevin Koehl

Mandarin Newline Article



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Update

Helping You Stay On the Water

By Contributing Writer Ralph Little, Flotilla 14-8

With the boating season well underway, we are stressing the availability of our Vessel Safety Check service. I've borrowed from various sources to emphasize the importance of this step to your boating experience. As you read, remember that the Auxiliary provides complimentary vessel checks, without penalty, that are recognized by law enforcement and prepare you to meet standard requirements.

In reference to a recent law enforcement termination of six boats from their planned day on the water, I quote Frank Jennings Jr., recreational boating and water safety program manager for the Great Lakes' 9th Coast Guard District. "Checking your gear ahead of time not only saves you the cost of a potential Coast Guard civil penalty, but far more importantly it could also save your life if something goes wrong. Boating officers don't enjoy terminating someone's voyage early, but it's much better than telling family members their loved ones didn't survive a boating accident."

Free Vessel Safety Checks (VSCs) by the Coast Guard Auxiliary are performed at the vessel, and take about 15 to 30 minutes to complete, depending on the size of the vessel. VSCs can be conducted anywhere — from the marina to the boat owner's driveway. Mariners whose vessels pass the inspection are awarded a decal that informs the Coast Guard, harbor patrol, sheriffs, police and other boating law enforcement and safety agencies like the Coast Guard Auxiliary that the mariner's boat was found to be in full compliance with all federal and state boating laws during a safety check for that year. Additionally, many insurance agencies offer discounts for vessel owners who undergo annual vessel safety checks.

If a vessel does not pass the safety check, a citation or notice of violation is NOT issued. Instead, mariners are provided a written report detailing how to correct any discrepancies and receive a follow-up exam. Vessel safety checks may be scheduled through the Coast Guard Auxiliary [HERE](#).

As with other aspects of life, the Auxiliary and public benefits from commercial sponsorship. We don't permit advertising on our boats, but currently BoatUS sponsors the Vessel Safety Check decals which we award for successful vessel examinations. Helping with any follow-up exams in 2012, West Marine is again providing Vessel Safety Check discount coupons that give you a break on items you may need to achieve a successful exam and receive your decal. While this is not an endorsement of West Marine, they do support boating safety by making these coupons available. West Marine requires the boater to present a copy of the coupon from their web site and the completed examination form to receive the 10% discount.

Blessing of the Fleet – Downtown Jacksonville

01 April 2012



Little boats, big boats and everything in between lined up on the river for the Blessing of the Fleet.

Photos from BoatNorthEast.com. To see more images, go to:
<http://www.boatnortheast.com/photo/albums/blessing-of-the-fleet-2012>



FLOTILLA 14-8 MEETING

Tuesday 01 May 2012

Fellowship & Refreshments 1900, Meeting at 1930
Florida Tackle and Gun Club

GUEST SPEAKER AT MAY FLOTILLA MEETING

Mr. Al Abbatiello, Chairman of William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway Management Council will present and describe an oral history project completed with 34 long term residents who live along the Scenic Highway. He will also present the Council's scenic highway master plan. He will answer questions as well as hand out materials pertaining to the project.

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- MAY 01 Flotilla Meeting – 1900 - Florida Tackle & Gun Club – Guest Speaker
- 05 Paddling Regatta on St Johns River
- 07 April 7029 Reports due to FSO-IS
- 10 ABS Class for Private Group
- 12 ABS Class – 0730 to 1700 – Stellar Building
- 15 Division Staff Officers' Reports due to VCDR 14
- 19-25 National Safe Boating Week – Watch for Special Events *
 - 19 “Inflate Your Inflatables” – West Marine at Town Center
 - 20 VSC Blitz – Mandarin Park – 1000 to 1400
 - 24 Short Boating Safety Class – 1800 – West Marine
- 20 Eight Bells Deadline: Reports due to VFC & FSO-PB
- JUNE 03 Flotilla Family Social at Becky Habermas' home 1300 – 1700
Watch for more information to follow
- 05 Flotilla Meeting – 1900 - Florida Tackle & Gun Club

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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.

*To learn more about National Safe Boating Week, visit <http://www.safeboatingcampaign.com/> or visit the Coast Guard's Boating Safety Resource Center located at: <http://www.uscgboating.org/>