

14-8

September 2014
Volume XL | No. 09

Seventh Coast Guard District

Monthly Voice
Of USCG
Auxiliary
Flotilla 14-8



Flotilla Commander

PBurns@SafeBoatingJax.com

Paul B. Burns

Flotilla Vice Commander

dec23265n@gmail.com

John K. Hadley

Publications Officer

148publications@gmail.com

Chrystal Wickline

Our Award Winning Website

www.SafeBoatingJax.com

Flotilla Commander..... Paul Burns

Flotilla Vice Commander.....John Hadley

Secretary of Records..... Tom Edwards

Finance..... Bob Strong

Operations..... Whatley Law

Marine Safety.....Rusty Gardner

Member Training.....John Hadley

Program Visitation..... David Fay

Public Education..... Bob Strong

Navigational Services.....Cris Vonderheide

Vessel Examination.....Whatley Law

Communications Services..... Paul Burns

Diversity.....Paul Tynda

Information Services..... Marion Linda

Human Resources..... Becky Habermas

Public Affairs..... Vacant

Publications..... Chrystal Wickline

Materials..... Paul Thomas

Historian.....Carolyn Strong

Flotilla Commander..... 2

Flotilla Vice Commander 2

Publications Officer..... 2

Our Award Winning Website 2

Paul Burns, FC 5

 Flotilla Commander.....5

Boat Crew Training5

Activities: A Lecture at Epping Forest Yacht Club5

7th District Training Conference.....5

Flotilla Elections and Staff Offices.....6

John Hadley, VFC 7

 Flotilla Vice Commander.....7

Great Reports This Month – Just Not Enough Of Them7

Paul Burns, FSO-CS 8

 Communications.....8

The following passwords are in common use by Auxiliarists...8

Marion Linda, FSO-IS..... 9

 Information Systems.....9

Bob Strong, FSO-PE 10

 Public Education.....10

John Hadley, FSO-MT 11

 Member Training.....11

New Member Orientation11

2014 | Calendar Details 12

 Flotilla 14-8 Meetings 12

September 2, 2014 12

October 7, 2014 12

November 4, 2014..... 12

December 2, 2014..... 12

 Events & Activities 12

September 13, 2014 12

ABS Course Dates 12

Other Events & Dates 12

Special Boating Dates 12

Sailing Around The World..... 13

Thursday, October 16th 6:30pm, Epping Forest Yacht Club Presentation: “Sailing Around The World” by Dr. Stanley Paris..... 13

Patrol on St. Johns River 14

Sunday, July 27th 14

Fellowship at Sakura Japanese Restaurant 15

More Memories! 16

Fellowship at Sakura continues..... 16

Flotilla 14-8 Memories 17

August 15th Flotilla Meeting..... 17

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Update 18

 Breathing Air – Only Air..... 18

Paul Burns, FC

Flotilla Commander

At the August flotilla meeting we swore in three new members: James Small, Logan Small, and Juan Steward. We have received member numbers for Roger Davis and Chris McLaughlin. All five attended the new member orientation at Coast Guard Station Mayport this past month. Chris McLaughlin has already completed the requirements for Vessel Examiner certification. The class of 2014 is highly motivated to make an impression. Most are not just sitting waiting for an invitation, they make things happen and take charge of their new careers in the Coast Guard Auxiliary.



Boat Crew Training

With many new members eager to get their feet wet as well as interest from a few others, we have decided to begin a new in-house boat crew class. We will be conducting lessons at each flotilla meeting. Whatley Law and John Hadley are working up a lesson plan to get things started at our September 2nd flotilla meeting.

Activities: A Lecture at Epping Forest Yacht Club

Look a little deeper into the newsletter and you will find a fun activity planned for Thursday, October 19th. Our flotilla has been invited by *North Florida Cruising Club* to attend an event at *Epping Forest Yacht Club*. The guest speaker will be talking about his plans to make a second attempt to sail around the world on his 63-foot state of the art boat.

7th District Training Conference

The 7th District Training Conference is coming on September 18-21, 2014 at the Florida Hotel & Conference Center in Orlando, FL.

There is an abundance of classroom training, and certification going on at this once a year event. Examples are Vessel Examiner, Marine Safety Qualification, Mentoring, four-hour TCT, Instructor Training, Flotilla Administration, ATON Verifier, AUX Weather, Just to name a few. If you have an interest in going, I know some members of our flotilla will attend. The District Materials Store, which has recently closed, is also holding a *Fire Sale* on all leftover uniforms, insignia, accessories, and more. Everything must go!

Flotilla Elections and Staff Offices

As we get into the final quarter of the year, one of the things we need to shift our attention to is changes in leadership and officer positions. If you have a desire to participate at a higher level or simply find a change of pace with a new job, let me know, so we can begin preparations and training for the transition.

- **FC:** The Auxiliary Manual requires that I step down after two terms as Flotilla Commander. The elected office requires BQ status, at least one year of service in the Auxiliary and completion of the Administrative Procedures Course.
- **VFC:** We need a new Flotilla Vice Commander for next year, which has the same qualifications as FC.

Quite a few new FSO positions will be open:

- Publications (FSO-PB)
- Public Affairs (FSO-PA)
- Finance (FSO-FN)
- Public Education (FSO-PE)

Other offices may become open:

- Human Resources (FSO-HR)
- Marine Safety (FSO-MS)
- Program Visitor (FSO-PV)
- Member Training (FSO-MT)
- Diversity (FSO-DV)

We certainly don't want people wearing multiple hats (or at least no more than 2). We need an Election Committee to confirm and vet FC/VFC candidates.

John Hadley, VFC

Flotilla Vice Commander

Great Reports This Month – Just Not Enough Of Them

Sad to say, many of our Flotilla Staff Officers have decided that their reports may not be important enough to make a report on. How hard is it to make a report? Well, let's see – I've started this report at 1226 and we'll see how long it takes me to write this.

I'm asking to see if anyone decides to consider how hard it is to do a short report on what it takes to tell what they have been doing. Mind you, a couple of things have been said about this. One is – write the same report you send in to your Division Staff officer – and add a line or two.

Another piece of advice goes, write a paragraph or two for Eight Bells – and add a line for your flotilla meeting a week or so later. This is really not difficult.

Do you want your flotilla work to be noticed and admired by our active-duty friends? This is pretty easy. Just do it. Another thought: No one person thinks of everything that they could or should do, in accomplishing their billets' duties. That's why YOUR IDEAS are so important. Bring them to the meetings, bring them to the Fellowship gatherings, talk about them to your reporting superiors, and let them see the light of day.

Finished Time: 1233. Seven minutes to get this done.



Happy Writing!

Paul Burns, FSO-CS

Communications

With several new members getting started with training and veteran Auxiliarists needing to complete their Mandated Online training. I thought that it would be appropriate to review the procedure for either obtaining or resetting your Auxiliary Member Zone Password and the Aux Learning and Management Password (for testing).



There are a couple of things to remember here.

- The Member Zone uses your member number and a password that you create.
- Aux Learning and Management uses your Email Address and a password that you create.
- When obtaining or resetting your password, a confirmation email is sent to email address that the Auxiliary has on file for you, AND that email must be answered with a confirmation within 15 minutes, or you have to go through the procedure again.
- It wouldn't be a bad idea to make sure that both passwords are the same. That will make it easier for you to remember.

The following passwords are in common use by Auxiliarists...

(1) For many Auxiliary websites, your **"Member Zone Password"** is required for access. These include the AuxDirectory, ShopAuxiliary, the National Testing Center (NTC), the Auxiliary Online Classroom and other Auxiliary Websites. To obtain or replace your Member Zone Password, go to the AuxDirectory (<https://auxofficer.cgaux.org>) and click on "Obtain or Change Password." You will be asked for your Auxiliary member ID and your email address. (Make sure you use "Tab", not "Enter" as you navigate that web page.) You will then be sent a validation email which will time-out in 15 minutes. Responding to that validation email confirms that your email address is still valid and completes the process. If you miss the 15 minute window, simply repeat the process, generating a new validation email, and a new time limit. ("Missing" validation emails might be in your Junk/Spam email folder.)

(2) The Auxiliary Learning Management System (**AUXLMS**), a Coast Guard (non-Auxiliary) controlled site, uses our primary email address, as shown in AUXDATA, as the "Username". For the initial password, simply click on "I forgot my password", and one is sent to you. The AUXLMS contains the online "Mandated Training", ICS-210 and required VE Workshop. You can visit the AUXLMS at <https://auxlearning.uscg.mil>

Marion Linda, FSO-IS

Information Systems

There is a wealth of information available through the Coast Guard Auxiliary – sometimes maybe too much and it becomes confusing.

I get emails forwarded to me from the DSO-IS and additional emails from the SO-IS. Recently, I received many Power Point Presentations about using and retrieving information from AUXDATA & AUXINFO. That is where I got this “little guy”

It’s almost like my giving you a pot full of coffee, but never giving you a cup – it becomes just a job not finished.

If you’re not comfortable with a computer, I can either show you how to fill out a form, or fill out the form in your behalf. Most important is for the form to be filled out.

The only way the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary knows what we are doing as a flotilla (and whether or not we are a worthwhile flotilla) is by the information entered and tracked in AUXDATA.

In the fall, my iPad & I will be attending more flotilla meetings than during the summer. Please join me before or after the meeting for instructions on filling out forms and/or how to retrieve information from AUXINFO (which I am just learning myself). All members have access to AUXINFO.

Some of the missions are submitted in many parts. I just recently found out that if 1 part of a mission is not reported, there is no credit for any of the mission, even the parts submitted.

Remember, all paperwork has to be submitted and entered into AUXDATA before a mission is considered complete.



Bob Strong, FSO-PE

Public Education

Our About Boating Safely (ABS) course on 9 August had twenty eight students. Thanks to Bruce Ennis for helping Paul Burns and I teach this course.



Our next ABS course will be on 13 September at the Florida Tackle and Gun Club. Any help will be appreciated. If you're a new member, please feel free to sit in on this course.

You can still have fun on the water while wearing a life jacket and boating responsibly. Here are the top 5 *excuses* not to wear a life jacket we hear from boaters.

1. **"I have life jackets on board."** Having life jackets on board the vessel is not enough. Accidents happen too fast to put on a stowed life jacket.
2. **"I'm a strong swimmer."** Even a strong swimmer needs to wear a life jacket. During an emergency, clothing can become heavy or waterlogged while in the water.
3. **"It's too hot and doesn't look cool."** Old-fashioned, bulky orange life jackets have been replaced with new styles, like inflatable life jackets that may resemble a pair of suspenders or a belt pack. These are much cooler in the warmer weather.
4. **"It gets in the way."** There are life jacket styles available for any recreational water activity – fishing, water sports, hunting, paddling and more. There are even styles for pets!
5. **"Nothing is going to happen to me."** Face it, accidents happen. Boating can be a fun, safe and enjoyable activity, but when the "Wear It!" message is ignored, the consequences can be grim.

Just ask Richard VanDermark, an experienced boater and a navigation officer in Orange County, New York, about the importance of life jacket wear. VanDermark recalls the day he went tubing with his family when he slipped while helping his grandson onto the boat, hitting his head and falling into the water. Thanks to wearing his life jacket, his son-in-law quickly pulled him out of the water and performed CPR.

"There is no doubt in my mind that my life jacket saved my life. No matter how good a swimmer you are, you never know what will happen when you're boating," said VanDermark. "Always wear your life jacket."

Remember, whether you're an experienced or new boater, it is important to follow boating safety procedures and wear a life jacket each and every time you are on the water. There's never an excuse not to "Wear It!"

John Hadley, FSO-MT

Member Training

We have had a really active flotilla this month, training-wise. It falls to me to crow and brag about this. I **love** these kinds of reports because we can extoll the virtues of our members.



New Member Orientation

The New Member Orientation class was held at USCG Station Mayport on Saturday, August 9th. I need to attend this! Who did attend? Let me count. Whatley Law, our FSO-Vessel Examinations/Operations, Becky Habermas our Division and Flotilla Human Resources Officer, James Small and Logan Small, Juan Steward, and our newest member, Chris. McLaughlin. This gave our flotilla a large representation in the class, where they learned Coast Guard tradition, uniforms, paperwork, flags, when and how to deliver a salute. Regular stuff, not required of the average American today, was taught and from what I've heard Rick Smith, Chuck Hayes, and Bill Sekeres do our nation proud. Marion and Eric Linda also attended the very first class and due credit is being given here, their reports have had a lot to do with my recommending this class. We now are entering a phase where I will wholeheartedly recommend this class to everyone who feels they will benefit. Personally, I felt four years of daily intense ceremony well-qualified me to bypass. But, as you know, the training here comes at a **very** good price. There are plans to pitch this to the Commodore and District Staff, and there might be a period when it will be hard to get a seat locally. Please consider attending.

Other than the orientation training, what else is going on? Whatley has begun his personal qualification package to fill a much-needed vacancy at Station's Main Gate. Additionally, we have a new Vessel Examiner at John T. Lowe boat ramp next to the FT&G club on San Jose Boulevard, Chris McLoughlin! Congratulations to Whatley for your patience and flexibility in making the time to *get 'er done*.

I am working my way through the Boat Crew Augmentation package to serve on the 25-footers. I am thinking of assembling an account of how this went.

Lastly, National Convention (NACON 14) is ended August 17th. I was still disappointed I am unable to attend the ICS 400 class, which is hard to locate. However, D-Train 2014 is still on for next month. Go to the District 7 tab on our website's second page to locate DTRAIN's location, schedule, and registration details.

Once again, DTRAIN remains a rich source of events affecting our division's upcoming year. This can affect your qualifications too, if you see fit to get a class in or take a test!

Sailing Around The World

Thursday, October 16th 6:30pm, Epping Forest Yacht Club Presentation: “Sailing Around The World” by Dr. Stanley Paris

Article and photos provided by Paul Burns, FC

I have friends at the North Florida Cruising Club who have wanted to enjoy some fellowship with the Coast Guard Auxiliary. So for our October fellowship night, Please mark your calendar! The North Florida Cruising Club (NFCC) is having a special night on October 16th at Epping Forest Yacht club and we are invited to attend. Happy hour starts at 6:30 and the presentation starts at 7:30.

Dr. Paris is the owner of the yacht *Kiwi Spirit*. *Kiwi Spirit* is a state-of-the-art offshore cruising boat. Dr. Paris departed last year from St. Augustine in an attempt to break the single handed around the world record for a St. Augustine to St. Augustine sail. Unfortunately, he encountered equipment failures (both boat and human) and was forced to abandon the attempt just after passing the Cape of Good Hope. He is currently planning another attempt. I have been told he is planning on leaving in early November for a second attempt.



North Florida Cruising Club



Speaker: Dr. Stanley Paris



Paris' Yacht: *Kiwi Spirit*

NFCC had Dr. Paris speak to our club before his last attempt and everyone agreed it was fascinating! This is boating at its best and it is right here in North Florida. It is not only a chance to hear an engaging speaker but also to meet our brothers in the boating community.

Feel free to invite your boating friends. We are planning for 150 people. Let's all give Dr. Paris a sendoff he will not forget.

Patrol on St. Johns River

Sunday, July 27th

Photos provided by John Hadley, VFC

Once in awhile, you get a chance to do a favor. Pictured below is John Hadley (me), Scott Thomas from 14-2, and Dave Fuller on Sunday, July 27th for DCAPT-N on the OPFAC, TIP SIE WACI III. Thank you again for joining us on the St. Johns River for a patrol.



John Hadley, Scott Thomas from 14-2, and
Dave Fuller

Fellowship at Sakura Japanese Restaurant

Photos submitted by Carolyn Strong, Historian

We had great food and fellowship at Sakura Japanese Restaurant Thursday night, August 21st with eleven members and guests present. We all congratulated Roger Davis on receiving his long awaited member number and welcomed our guests, Santiago Castrodad and his lovely wife Yvonne. Santiago is in the process of relocating to Jacksonville. He is an active member of Flotilla 1 in Fajardo, Puerto Rico, where he serves as FSO-PV/MT and also teaches Boating Safety. He is searching for a home flotilla in our area. Let's have a good turn-out at our September 2 flotilla meeting and give Santiago a warm welcome. We also have two more new members who have received their member numbers and are ready to be sworn in. Let's welcome Roger Davis and Chris McLaughlin to our ranks.



Our Chef begins to prepare our meal. L to R: Ron Habermas; Yvonne Castrodad; Santiago Castrodad; John Hadley; Carol Lee Davis; Roger Davis

Photo taken by Paul Burns



Paul Burns

Photo taken by Carolyn Strong



Bob Strong

Photo taken by Carolyn Strong

More Memories!

Fellowship at Sakura continues...

Photos taken submitted by Carolyn Strong, Historian



Carol Lee and Roger Davis
Photo taken by Carolyn Strong



Carolyn Strong, Becky Habermas and Ron Habermas
Photo taken by Bob Strong



John Hadley
Photo taken by Bob Strong



L to R: Paul Burns, Bob & Carolyn Strong; Becky & Ron Habermas; Yvonne & Santiago Castrodad; John Hadley; Carol Lee Davis. Present but not in photo: Carol Burns.
Photo taken by Roger Davis.

Flotilla 14-8 Memories

August 15th Flotilla Meeting



L to R: Juan Steward, Logan Small, and James Small swearing in
Photo taken by Carolyn Strong



James Small receives his Certificate of Membership
Photo taken by Carolyn Strong



Logan Small receives his Certificate of Membership
Photo taken by Carolyn Strong



Juan Steward receives his Certificate of Membership
Photo taken by Carolyn Strong



Whatley Law received his First Sustained Auxiliary Service Award and Ribbon
Photo taken by Carolyn Strong

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Update

Breathing Air - Only Air

By Contributing Writer Ralph Little, Flotilla 14-8

If you thought breathing needn't be taught – think again, boaters and water frolickers. Lurking in and around any motorized craft is carbon monoxide (CO), a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas. It is produced when a carbon-based fuel—such as gasoline, propane, charcoal, or oil—burns. Yes, diesel, too. Sources on your boat or from a neighboring boat, may include engines, gas generators, cooking ranges, and space or water heaters. I'm borrowing freely from the Coast Guard's Boating Safety Resource Center site where there is much more to learn at:

http://www.uscgboating.org/safety/carbon_monoxide.aspx

CO can gather in any enclosed space, such as a cabin or a canvas shelter, or the back-draft area of your transom and under the swim platform. Persons “teak surfing” or dragging off a swim platform are in high danger of asphyxiation. The draft behind ski boats is another danger area. Statistics indicate known deaths and hundreds of poisonings but the Coast Guard believes it is greatly underestimated since many deaths have been erroneously attributed to drowning. Some ski and houseboats are now equipped with stacks or amidships vents to alleviate CO. Most of you have experienced the fumes swirling into the cockpit. That is the very obvious exhaust that includes CO. By itself, you will not detect CO. For cabin purposes a CO detector is a valuable addition for occupants; however they are not effective outside an enclosed space.

Increased effects of CO result from factors including altitude, age, smoking, alcohol drinking, or in those with lung disorders or heart problems. However, anyone can be affected and physical exertion accelerates the rate at which the blood absorbs CO. Early symptoms of CO poisoning include irritated eyes, headache, nausea, weakness, and dizziness. Symptoms are often confused with seasickness or intoxication, so those affected may not receive the medical attention they need. CO poisoning or toxicity is a life-threatening emergency that requires immediate action. If CO poisoning is suspected, ventilate the area, move victims to fresh air, observe them for signs and seek medical help. Proceed with caution. The victim may be in an area of high CO concentration, which means you or others could be in danger as well. Evaluate the cause and fix the issue if possible.

Experienced boat operators teach our About Boating Safely course at the Florida Tackle & Gun Club at 9010 San Jose Blvd. Call Bob at 904-721-1346 to reserve a place in the September 13th class or check our website at <http://SafeBoatingJacksonville.com>.

14-8

Eight Bells

Seventh Coast Guard District

Monthly Voice of USCG Auxiliary Flotilla

Jacksonville, Florida



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: The Privacy Act of 1974 protects names, addresses, telephone/fax numbers and email addresses of Flotilla 14-8 members which may appear in this or other USCGAUX publications. As a matter of policy, information described above is not made available to the general public or outside groups without that member's expressed and/or written consent. When such information appears, its privacy shall be safeguarded and the information will be clearly labeled. Publication of this information by the general public and/or outside groups is prohibited by the Privacy Act.

Visit our award winning website at www.SafeBoatingJax.com.

