

BUOY 13



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Fall DTRAIN 2022

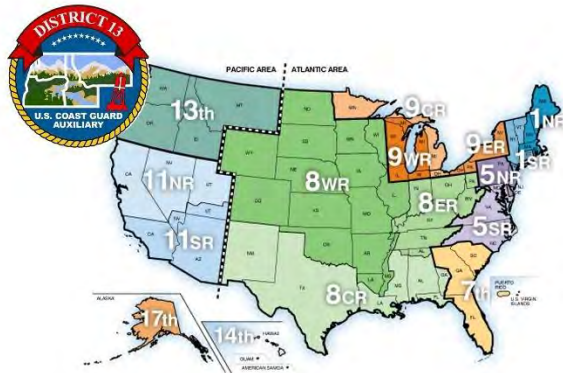


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On the Cover: Como Singler and DCOS Dan Kienle standing at D13 DTRAIN General Board Meeting on 01Oct 2022. Monarch Conference Center. Clackamas, OR. Photo credit: Robert Megel

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Sector North Bend George Tinker



From the Bridge...



COMMODORE'S LOG



Greetings D13 Members,

The District 13 Fall D-Train was held in Clackamas, OR, at the Monarch Hotel & Resort through the weekend of September 30th through the 2nd of October and we had a host of guests! We had LT Booth from office of BSX who attended the whole weekend, and it was great that we had the complete office of our DIRAUX attend also. Our new Director of Auxiliary, CDR Jantzen, our OTO, CWO4 Robinson, the new YN1 Poching and our Auxiliary Specialist Jennifer MacArthur were there also for the weekend, which was greatly appreciated! Saturday night at the banquet, we had the Sector Puget Sound Commander, CAPT Hilbert, Sector Columbia River Commander, CAPT Jackson and wife Melani, MSU Commander, CAPT Negron, Sector Columbia River Deputy Commander, CAPT Noggle and wife Jessica, Sector Columbia River OIA, LT Saylor and fiancé Elizabeth, along with the DIRAUX office and BSX, plus our newly elected VNACO (e) Mary Kirkwood!

We started off the D-Train on Friday morning with the EXCOM meeting, while at the same time we had training for our Division Commanders and anybody else that wanted to attend both Award Writing and Public Affairs/Marine Safety training in the morning. In the afternoon we had AUX-CA and IS training while the Ways and Means Committee met in the afternoon also. We had Chief Valdez meet with us at lunch to discuss Coast Guard recruiting.

We then had training in the afternoon which included CS training along with Division Commander training given by COMO Lewis, plus we had our QEs and QE Advisory Board meet in the afternoon. The weekend included a lot of great training, and hopefully in the future we can include even more great training which hopefully will get our membership wanting to attend these sessions!

I want to extend congratulations to the winners, and I also want to thank the members who ran that did not win this time, for they were well qualified also and I hope that they will consider running in the future. I really feel we have fantastic new leaders that will continue to keep our district growing and thriving!

Very Respectfully,
Tiney D. Singler

District Commodore Thirteenth Coast Guard District U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

DISTRICT CHIEF OF STAFF



Courtesy Photo

I had the privilege of hearing our new Commandant of the Coast Guard, Admiral Linda Fagan, speak at NACON. Admiral Fagan spoke on where we, the Coast Guard Team, is going. She emphasized her Commandant's Intent: "Tomorrow looks different. So will we."

She believes we will be a more adaptive and connected Coast Guard that generates sustained readiness, resilience and capability.

Of course, this past couple of years have been difficult, but more importantly to me is that at this same time we have seen the expansion and development of new opportunities to serve:

- We have seen tremendous growth of culinary assistance
- Chaplin support has grown by leaps and bounds
- We have assisted with investigation programs
- We have participated in supporting the SW Border
- We increased translator help
- And we even contributed to aid verifier systems and artificial intelligence.

These are just a few of the way we have expanded our support of Coast Guard missions and provided new opportunities for us to serve.

I'm excited about the future of the Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, and District 13.

We must get back, however, to our pre-covid enthusiasm. We need to get back to yearning to serve.

We need to reengage and get back to having fun.

We will be starting a new year soon, but the time to prepare for 2023 is now. I urge you to start working on your plans for next season. Let's make opening day and the National Safe Boating Week the most active ever. Let's lay out our training plans for new Officers. Let's set our goals for a stealer year.

Speaking of goals, I will be distributing District 13's 2023 – 2024 Operational Plan very soon. I invite you to read it and to set your goals and strategies in support of this plan.

Our number one job is Recreational Boating Safety and we must make sure we strive for constant improvement. It is our responsibility to make sure we are reaching out to our marine partners, vigilant in our approach to educating the boating public, and thorough in our completion of Coast Guard missions.

Let's serve the boating public and the United States Coast Guard in stellar fashion this coming year. Because we know that in this way, WE SAVE LIVES.

What an honor to have the tremendous opportunity to serve the members of the district as your Commodore for the coming two years. Thank you. Thank you for this opportunity and thank you for all of the fantastic work you do as Auxiliaries of District 13.

Very Respectfully,

Dan Kienle

District Chief of Staff

Thirteenth Coast Guard District U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

MILESTONES & ACHIEVEMENTS

2021 Flotilla Commander Certificates of Appreciation

Div. 01	Flot. 11	Pamela Chelgren-Koterba	Flot. 18	Richard Parker	
Div. 02	Flot. 22	Klaas Nijhuis	Flot. 24	Gordon Myers	Flot. 25 Mark Taeschner
Div. 03	Flot. 33	Geoffrey Daria	Flot. 38	Michael Tilson	
Div. 04	Flot. 41 Flot. 45	Simeon Baldwin Jared Ellars	Flot. 42 Flot. 47	Sylvia Oster Haryy Dudley	Flot. 44 Flot. 48 Randall Zempel David Grant
Div. 05	Flot. 51 Flot. 54	Scott Fischer Daniel Liming	Flot. 52 Flot. 56	Gary Malone Susan Mathis	Flot. 53 Flot. 59 Lawrence Zemliak Robert Taylor
Div. 06	Flot. 62	Marcus Smith	Flot. 63	Corey Deck	Flot. 66 Diane Epstein
Div. 07	Flot. 73 Flot. 7-12	John Stuhr Patrick Walcott	Flot. 76	Adam Baker	Flot. 78 Karl Johnston
Div. 08	Flot. 82 Flot. 87	Gerald Bishop Thomas Barnes	Flot. 84	Steve Bilte	Flot. 85 Brad Nielsen
Div. 10	Flot. 10-2	Jonathan Wells	Flot. 10-3	Richard Rasmussen	Flot. 10-5 Tommy Cockerham

NACO 3 Star Core Training Award

2022 Flotilla 22

Diversity Management NACO 3 Star Award

<u>2021</u>	2022
Flot. 12	Flot. 18, Flot. 22 & Flot. 24
Flot. 41, 44, 45	
Flot. 51, 52, 53, 56	Flot. 52, 53, 56
Flot. 62	
Div. 07, Flot. 73, 78	Div. 07, Flot. 73
Div. 08	
Flot. 11-4	

2021 Century Club Award

Flot. 11	Peter Border	Flot. 43	Edgar Davis	Flot. 45	Robert Hancock
Flot. 51	Daniel McCarren	Flot. 52	Norm Hoffman		
Flot. 53	Thomas Murphy, Lawrence Zemliak, Paula Boeckman, James Carroll & Jenny Shea				
Flot. 73	John Stuhr & James Fenske	Flot. 78	Karl Johnston		
Flot. 84	Kathy Goodwin & James Harris	Flot. 11-4	Scott Prestel		

National Public Affairs Awards 2022

USCGC Healy Event Plaque

Deborah Cordone -- Flotilla 52

Photography for Fellowship Plaque

Deborah Cordone -- Flotilla 52

Photography for Marine Safety Plaque

Deborah Cordone -- Flotilla 52

Auxiliary Commendation Medal

Linda McCarty Flotilla 78

Auxiliary Meritorious Service Medal

Jeanne Sucholski Flotilla 22

Auxiliary Commandant Letter of Commendation

Mark Aroney	Flotilla 24
Wilfred Sumner	Flotilla 52
James Blaylock	Flotilla 66
John Stuhr	Flotilla 73
George Long	Flotilla 83

Auxiliary Achievement Medal

Clayton Gravelle	Flotilla 24
Deborah Cordone	Flotilla 52
Beverly Hannibal	Flotilla 87
Mark Hannibal	Flotilla 87

District 13 Awards

Auxiliary Achievement Medal

Brenda Belongie Flotilla 51

Auxiliary Commendation Medal

Tony Ford	Flotilla 18
COMO Daren Lewis	Flotilla 76

Auxiliary Medal of Operational Merit

Kathy Goodwin , Robert Jackson & Brad Hooper	Flotilla 84
Thomas Elliott & Richard McNulty	Flotilla 85

Cutterman Device

Patrick Wolcott Flotilla 7-12

*Flotilla Meritorious Achievement Medal
Flotilla 11-4*

Keri Ballard	Craig Hartman
Merton Burns	Steven Lee
Terry Clinton	Scott Prestel
Janae Dixon	Joseph Tettleton
Ronnie Fritz	Paul Wallin
Camille Hallam	

DISTRICT CAPTAIN REPORTS**DCAP-North**

Debra Alderman

I just want to say that I am truly proud of the activities and accomplishments of the Auxiliarists in all four of the divisions in the Northern Area. There are so many great highlights and outstanding individuals I could describe. Here are just a few:

Division 1

Flotillas in Division 1 have done a great job of offering a robust program of public education through this year, graduating dozens of members of the public from their Boat America and Weekend Navigator courses. Flotilla 1-2 (Edmonds) facility, "Salish Guardian" has done numerous missions this year and supported Divisions 2 and 4 with on water operations and training of boat crews.

Earlier in the year the division conducted member trainings including TCT, TCO and Ops workshops, and Nav Systems trainings. Flotilla 1-2 members also visited Base Seattle where they interacted with the active duty and were able to tour Station Seattle's quick response boats and toured the Joint Harbor Operations Center facility which included both the communications center and vessel traffic system.

Flotillas participated in public affairs events such as the Edmonds Independence Day parade and celebration. Earlier in year Flotilla 1-8 (Everett/South Whidbey) was in communication with local YMCA which offered to work collaboratively since they are very involved with water safety initiatives for local schools. One of the possible offers of help was use of local YMCA pools for in-water survival training and testing of gear. This is a great idea for collaborations around the District.

Division 2

Division 2 recently published an outstanding newsletter with highlights from all of 2022 so far.

Flotilla 2-2 was approved for modified "Level 2" engagement with Sea Scouts. In addition to helping coordinate a number of Sea Scout events this year, the division put on an in-person Boat America Class targeting Sea Scouts and their families with 17 attending and passing the exam. While many people have contributed to these efforts, a big Bravo Zulu to DCDR Klaas Nijhuis who has personally devoted a lot of time not only to building the AuxScout program within the Auxiliary but he has also become a very involved adult leader within Sea Scouts in the Seattle area. I encourage other units around the District to contact Klaas and his team at Flotilla 22 about getting involved with the AuxScout program in your AOR! There are other youth programs that we can be supporting, as well. As an example, Sector Puget Sound/Station Seattle are hosting a Coast Guard exploration day for Girl Scouts, elementary age through high school, at Base Seattle on November 5th and they have asked for Auxiliary help with that event. If you are interested in getting involved (or would like to replicate this type of event where you live), feel free to contact Klaas Nijhuis, DCDR, Div 2.

As the "semper paratus" reputation of the division has grown, opportunities to work with the active duty are coming in more frequently. Recently an Auxiliary facility from Division 2 was used for a rad/nuc training exercise. Earlier in the year crews and facilities from Divisions 1, 2 and 4 collaborated with active duty and local law enforcement units to support on-the-water safety during Opening Day in May, the massive Seattle-area Seafair festival and other events in the area.

Members of the division, including FI 2-4 member Max Schneider, have served on numerous culinary assistant deployments on cutters in the region over the past year. This is another area where we are getting lots of requests from the active duty for assistance. The training is available. If you're interested in getting aboard a cutter or really supporting your local station, why not consider getting your qualification as a culinary assistant? Contact the DSO or appropriate ADSO CA (culinary assistant program) for more information.

Highlights of member training at the flotilla level have included a number of presentations about what Auxiliarists and members of the boating public need to know about hazardous materials reporting and what to do to stay safe if such a situation is observed. FI 2-2 had a guest presentation from retired KING-TV meteorologist Jeff Renner.

DCAP-N Cont--

In public affairs, the division has had a very busy year with lots of extensive missions: VCDR Dale Vodicka gets special mention as he was the tireless driving force behind the Seattle Boat Show booth in February as well as all Seattle area activities on land and water during the massive local Seafair festival in late July and early August.

Nine local cities in the greater Seattle area accepted the division's suggestion to do a proclamation of National Safe Boating Week at their council meetings in May. Representatives of Division 2 flotillas attended each of these meetings, and took the opportunity to say a few words about boating safety.

Division 2 resumed offering tours of the Alki Point Lighthouse on summer Sundays from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The Auxiliary docents welcomed over 1200 visitors during the season. A big shout out to a long-time member of the team, Mike Brough, FI 2-4, who was at the lighthouse every single Sunday of the entire season, contributing over 65 hours total. Will Winter (FI 2-4) and Dale Vodicka (FI 2-2) each were there nearly the entire season, putting in over 50 hours each.

Division 2 held a fellowship picnic in August and invited members of neighboring Div 3 flotillas to attend. Since it was held at a beach, there was a hands-on member training demonstrating how to conduct a paddlecraft vessel safety check.

Sadly, past DCDR John Warner crossed the bar this past summer. Many of the division leaders and members attended (and assisted in planning) their memorial services. There was outstanding representation from the Auxiliary including the new Director, Commander Jantzen and the D13 OTO, Chief Christopher Robinson, along with DCOS Dan Kienle and DCAPT-S Kevin Thiel who traveled all the way from Oregon for the funeral. John's family was truly touched at the way John's Auxiliary shipmates showed up to honor him one last time.

Division 3

Program visits and vessel exams have been going on in the greater Tacoma area. Some FI 3-3 members have supported Division 4 public affairs efforts during events in the Gig Harbor area.

Ron Holtcamp deserves special recognition for his public outreach at the Washington State Fair (AKA Puyallup Fair) for three weeks in September and the Spring Fair during two weekends in April. He interacted with hundreds of members of the public during these events.

Division 3 members, particularly Leigh Ewbank and John Thoma, participated actively in the Honor Flight send offs and welcome-home festivities at SeaTac Airport throughout the year. Members of Divisions 2 and 3 participated in these wonderful opportunities to celebrate and thank WWII, Korean War and Viet Nam era veterans. If you have not had a chance to participate in Honor Flights, they leave from airports in all the states in District 13 and I encourage you to get involved. For more information contact Leigh, John and Jim Ehnborn (President of the Past DCDR Assn.)

Division 4

Flotilla 4-5 supported a number of activities in the Gig Harbor area this year, both on the water and on land.

Flotilla 4-4 has been very active working on the Airbase in Port Angeles and have been standing watch and helping out with the Active Duty.

The Small Boat Station in Port Angeles has also been offering up training opportunities for the Auxilarists to train on their patrols. Several members have gone out with the Active Duty and completed some training and gotten some PQS sign-offs completed by the Active Duty.

Bravo Zulu to all the members who are willing to take time off from their busy lives to pitch in and make a difference! As I wind down my term as DCAPT-N, I want to thank all the leaders and members of the Northern Area and I look forward to working with you on projects and programs in the coming years. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me!

Debra Alderman
DCAPT-N, 2022



DCAP-South

Kevin Thiel

Southern Area Report

19 October 2022

The long summer days have ended and given way to cool, foggy Fall mornings with colorful leaves. Summer has always been my favorite season but Fall in the Pacific Northwest is spectacular. We had a great summer in the Southern Area.

Our member activity levels increased over the previous year. We have charted a course that is slow, steady, and deliberate as we continue the transition back to normal operations from the pandemic.

Many of our members were out often helping recreational boaters and the Coast Guard. We saw increased activity in Vessel Exams, Program Visits, AV missions, Public Affairs events, operational patrols, and direct support missions. We had members attend a variety of training at NACON, DTRAIN and elsewhere. Things are looking up!

I want to express my sincere thanks to everyone for their hard work and dedication this summer and for performing your missions safely, without incident. You will never know how many mishaps were prevented or lives saved because you were out there on the front line doing your job. I can assure you that every mission and contact made with a recreational boater had a positive impact.

At DTRAIN, a new District Commodore, a District Chief of Staff and two new District Captains were elected. Congratulations to each of you and thank you to everyone who ran for office. The Divisions elections are being held this month and Flotilla elections will follow. I want to thank everyone who has made the decision to run for a Division or Flotilla office and wish you all the best.

For those not seeking elected office, I challenge you to reach out to the newly elected officers and give them your full support. Please support your elected leaders by volunteering for staff offices, or serving on committees or work groups. As newly elected leaders step into their roles, our past officers must reach out to them and offer counsel, help with questions, and lots of encouragement.

Now is the time to start preparing for next year. Each of us should take time to pause momentarily and for some self-reflection. I challenge each of you to spend 30 minutes thinking about "Your Why." What motivated you to join the US Coast Guard Auxiliary? What did you hope to accomplish, learn, and gain from being a member? If you have not done this before, write it down and keep it for future reference. Next, think about "Your Why" today. Write it down. Has "Your Why" changed? Mine did and the list got longer.

Knowing "Your Why" is important. Having an awareness of "Your Why" will help you stay engaged as a member, focusing on training, missions and activities important to you. It will help you be a more proficient and productive member of the Auxiliary, and result in a positive volunteer experience. It is equally important that you discuss "Your Why" with elected leaders and others as it helps them to understand you and your interests.

There is much to do to prepare for 2023 and it is important that every Flotilla and Division set goals and make their plans. Please communicate with your elected leaders about what you want to accomplish next year and be an active participant when goals are set and plans are being made. Your input is invaluable to elected leaders when they are planning training and activities for their Flotilla or Division.

DCAP-South Continued--

I am encouraged about our transition back to in-person meetings and events. The fellowship that I experienced at DTRAIN was especially meaningful to me. After two years of virtual meetings, I really enjoyed talking to people at mealtime, between meetings and catching up with shipmates. I am hopeful that we will finish this year by having in-person Changes of Watch and that conditions will continue to improve for us.

In closing, thank you again for service and for being the elite group of people that you are.

DCAP- East Craig Hartman

Flotilla and Division Commander Training to resume in January

Starting in mid-January, the annual training for Flotilla and Division Commanders will once again take place on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6 Pacific / 7 Mountain time via ZOOM. Key topics such as Finance, HR, Member Training, Information Services, Legal, and Public Affairs will be offered. Please mark your Calendars and save the dates. The goal of this training is to get Flotilla Commanders and Division Commanders important information necessary to their success as leaders. Although the classes are focused on Flotilla and Division Commanders, all are welcome to attend.

Instructors needed for District Training and Public Education

Have you ever considered expanding your training skills across the District? There are classes getting identified that need instructors to support them. And if you have an interest, Public Affair booths at boat and other shows. The plan is to get you needed training before you participate as well as material to review and become familiar with. Then schedule times and dates for you to support the District either in person or by an online meeting application like ZOOM or GO TO MEETING. If you have an interest, please contact Mr. Craig Hartman for more information.

A Safety Minute.....

Have you ever thought what the term Safety means? The Oxford Languages defines Safety as: the condition of being protected from or unlikely to cause danger, risk, or injury. Safety is not a thing, but a perception. If you evaluate your surroundings and feel safe, you are safe. But if a bird strikes you, that perception of safety disappears. What does this mean to us? Simply, that we must always watch out for ourselves, our families, and our shipmates. If we do this, we begin to adopt a Safety Culture view of the world around us. So, follow the old saying of Me, Mine, You, Yours and we will do all we can to stay safe and keep our companions safe.



DISTRICT STAFF OFFICER REPORTS**DSO-AS Klaas Nijhuis****AuxScout Program-- What is it?**

Hello fellow members in District 13. My name is Klaas Nijhuis, and I was recently appointed District Staff Officer for the AUXSCOUT Program (DSO-AS). I was asked to write a little article for this edition of Buoy 13 in which I share my experiences with this relatively new partnership between the Sea Scouts and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. What follows is a bit of a narrative history wound up with facts and details. My hope is that it captures your imagination and maybe moves you to want to further explore for yourself what for me has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my membership.

I was first introduced to the program at a Division 2 meeting back in 2019 when Debra Alderman, then Division Commander invited adult leaders from the Seattle area Sea Scout units to make a presentation to the Board and Staff. As Member Training Officer, what captured my attention was that they teach Celestial Navigation - not something the Auxiliary offers. The day after the Division meeting I reached out to Bill Rahr, the Skipper of the Bellevue, WA unit (Sea Scout Ship Argo) to see if we could do something collaboratively. That conversation was exuberant to say the least. We started reaching out to others to build a team that could deliver that course to both the Sea Scouts and the Auxiliary. Fast forward to the Fall D-Train that year. Debra, then recently appointed ADSO-AS made a presentation to the attendees about the specific policies and procedures for the AUXSCOUT program put in place in District 13. These layered on the National Memorandum between the two organizations entered into in 2019 as well as the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

District 13 had created a two-step process for engaging with Sea Scouts. The first allows us to engage with adult leadership, the second with the youth directly after a period of exploration. Flotilla 22, of which I then was FC, was most eager to move forward with the program and after doing a bunch of Sea Scout required training and familiarization with the local and national policies we had an interview with then DSO-AS Craig Brown, who because of his prior experience with forging partnerships (specifically the Power Squadrons) was appointed by District leadership. The conversation that night was part proving ourselves and part learning more and resulted in a sign off for Level 1 engagement. We were excited to say the least.



"Shoreside training at Rendezvous. Photo by Larry Blackstock"

DSO-AS Cont--

We invited Skipper Bill Rahr to our annual summer picnic and a group of us broke away to gather "on the hill" to talk next steps. What resulted was a plan to do a joint rendezvous somewhere in our shared geographical Area of Responsibility (AOR). However we couldn't yet engage with the youth directly. An obstacle we overcame by us shifting the engagement over to active duty and the Auxiliary supporting them on a number of planned activities including a towing demonstration and some shoreside hands on stuff.

This event proved to be a hit and we immediately started work on planning a follow up expanded offering known as Safety at Sea, which too was in the hands of the active duty with members of our Flotilla as well as others from the Division providing logistical support at Station Seattle. A second Safety at Sea occurred 6 months later; each drawing Scouts from the three Seattle area Ships and each a resounding success. A third Safety at Sea is occurring 29 October, but this time Flotilla 22 which received permission to participate at Level 2 engagement earlier this summer will be working directly with the youth.

In 2021 there was an offering of the The Sea Scout Adult Leadership course - SeaBadge - to Auxiliarists from around the nation. Several from District 13 took advantage of this offering, but the SeaBadge pin earned for completing the coursework and practical exercises could only be worn on a Sea Scout uniform - so what did we do? We joined them and became mates on their Ships, which gave us the opportunity to work directly with the youth and really start to appreciate the determination, skill and quality of those attracted to this program.



"Second Safety at Sea"
May 2022 Photo by Dale Vodicka"



"September 2020
Rendezvous, Portage Bay.
Cisco's Kid, Auxiliary
Facility to outside of 49 ft
Coast Guard Response
Boat, Medium from
Station Seattle rafted up
to Sea Scout Ship Argo at
Seattle Yacht Club prior to
towing demonstrations.
Photo by L Blackstock"

DSO-AS Continued--

I want to call out the determination of a couple of Auxiliarists in Flotilla 22 who saw the program through: Diana Shaw who stepped in as Flotilla Staff Officer for the Program (FSO-AS) and herded the cats to get them all trained for engagement and John Rose who was identified as one of the teachers of the Celestial Navigation course that started it all. Both John and Diana are mates on the Sea Scout Ship Argo. They also did all the heavy lifting when it came to planning the Safety At Seas in partnership with Station Seattle Commander LT Alex Cropley and X.O. LT Sean Mazer.

I was offered the opportunity this summer to be an instructor of "SEAL" an advanced leadership course for the select youth from around the nation who came to Seattle to do this training shipboard on a long cruise in San Juans. An experience that holds many fond memories, but more importantly gave some fresh perspective on the work we do as Auxiliarists.

So why partner with Sea Scouts? We share similar missions of recreational boating safety. They share with us a love for all things boating and water-related. They are young and full of talent, and they can support us in most mission areas and roles. They might very well become our next members and might seek opportunities at the Coast Guard Academy or in service, and if not there in the Navy, Merchant Marine or maritime-related industries. You gaze into the eyes of a Sea Scout and you can see the future!

For more information on the program, start by looking here: <https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=054&category=sea-scouts>, and if you are wanting to have a conversation about the possibilities for your unit, give me a call or send me an e-mail.

Klaas Nijhuis, DSO-AS 130
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 425/686-2760



"Second Safety at Sea" May 2022
 Photos by Dale Vodicka"



By Don Hudson
Boise Flotilla

Through the Eyes of a New Member

Hello from a brand new member of Flotilla Boise, joining in July 2022. I am quite excited about joining such a needed and useful organization as the Coast Guard Auxiliary. I first heard of the Auxiliary through friends who are auxiliarists in Minnesota. I was fascinated by the stories and pictures of all the events they participate in as part of the Auxiliary and how much support they give to their community. Before that, who knew that such an organization as the Auxiliary even existed? Not I, and that reflects that we need to work on recruitment in our communities.

One of my biggest surprises was discovering I was even eligible to apply. But since there is no age limit, and prior military service is not required, I received "permission to come aboard." Once on board, I was delighted to see how many different skills the members of my flotilla possess. Boat owners, outdoors enthusiasts, business people, photographers, prior military, etc, each one making themselves readily available to the group. Everyone has something to bring to the table, and by getting the word out to diverse communities we can get the boating safety message to those who have not been reached before. Also, as far as recruiting goes, getting the word out is not always easy and that is something we have to prioritize in the coming months.

For myself, I have found opportunities, starting with completing the core online required testing, observed a vessel exam event, and participated at a Waterfowlers of Idaho Youth Event. The next step, which goes for any new member, is to decide which specific qualifications to pursue. The needs of my flotilla will be my compass to guide me to where I need and want to be but, more importantly I want to help my flotilla in any way possible. That said, as a new member with a fresh perspective, lending a hand to the active duty Coast Guard one day sounds pretty exciting also. Whether working in food service or accompanying them on patrols, the experience and the ability to give devotion of my time will be rewarding.

Now that I have discovered the Auxiliary, and am aware of the many vital and necessary activities current members have undertaken over the years, I would like to thank you all for your Auxiliary service, especially my Flotilla members. They have been so helpful. Lastly I want to say how proud and excited I am to have the privilege of being part of such a group. I will do my best to continue the work and uphold the legacy that you all have established with Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty.



DISTRICT DIRECTORATE CHIEF-LOGISTICS James Ehnborn**HONOR FLIGHT Returns on 17Oct22 from their “One Last Mission” honoring our veterans**

Seven Auxiliar members participated in the “Welcome Home” Ceremony at SeaTac airport
L – R: Vance Vaught, FI 45; Robert Hancock, FI 45; Jim Ehnborn, FI 24; Larry Blackstock, FI 22; Gail Porter, FI 45; Dale Vodicka, FI 22; Debra Alderman, FI 25. Picture was taken on Debra Alderman’s camera and edited by Debra Alderman.

Military personal from the US Coast Guard, US CG Auxiliary, US Navy and US Army performed the receiving line to honor each veteran as they deboarded the plane. The veteran was escorted by a member of the receiving line to the baggage claim area. Bagpipers lead veterans and their escort down the “Welcome Home” receiving lane. One at a time, each veteran received a special welcome home with flags waving, crowds cheering and lots of clapping. I estimate between 200 and 300 people welcomed home the veterans.

Link to Welcome Home Ceremony - Puget Sound Honor Flight

<https://pugetsoundhonorflight.smugmug.com/2022-HONOR-FLIGHTS/OCTOBER-2022/Welcome-Home-Ceremony/> Please watch the Tribute videos of the April 25 and May 16, 2022 Honor Flights.

One of the goals for the D13 Past Division Commanders Association, PDCA, for 2023 is to help you and your flotilla support the Honor Flight program. We discussed the program at our PDCA breakfast meeting at the D13 Fall Conference. Currently the program is flown out of these airports in our district:

Auxiliary Contact:

Dale Vodicka	WA: Seattle, Spokane
Robert Megal	OR: Portland, Grants Pass
Scott Prestel	ID: Sponsored by Lone Eagle Program
Jim Ehnborn	MT: Sponsored by Lone Eagle Program

We have people that have been on one of the flights available to talk about the veteran’s experiences of the emotional weekend at your flotilla meeting. We will be including additional information about the program on our new PDCA tab on the D13 WOW website (currently under construction).

- What veterans do you have in your flotilla that deserve to be honored on the “One Last Mission”?
- Are you available to serve on the “Have a safe flight” line when the veterans leave for their mission?
- Are you available to serve on the receiving line when the plane returns to your airport?

Many thanks for your service and support.

Jim Ehnborn, President, D13 PDCA

Training the Team District 13 Color Guard South

October 17th was the day we had waited for. Things were finally coming together. We had hoped to train the District 13 South, Color Guard members since before COVID 19 began. And today the plan finally came together. We had wrestled with individual schedules to set the date and we had coordinated Station Siuslaw River Color Guard primary instructor availability. We had worked to overcome most of the uniform challenges. We had sent out an invitation to other flotillas, inviting their members to attend the training and we had recruited a group that had the interest and desire to serve as members of a color guard.

As six members drove from their homes to the training, the day cleared and the sun began to shine. Each was dressed in the uniform of the day at the Coast Guard Station...ODUs. The members' excitement to participate in the day's activities was palpable. Two members had Auxiliary Color Guard experience, four did not, but all were ready to give this opportunity their all. SN Adler, our primary instructor and a "Coastie" from the station, stood by to welcome us.

Auxiliarists signed in at the station quarterdeck and then hauled color guard gear out to the training site. We reviewed the PQS and training expectations and then ploughed in, starting with marching and drill with colors and rifles. The training was hands-on and was exactly what was needed.

Participants worked in groups of two and four, learning or relearning "right shoulder, arms!", "left shoulder, arms!" with rifles. They also worked on how to carry the flags and how to post the colors. Shoulder-to-shoulder they marched, honing their skills, and receiving positive feedback from the chief instructor.



Color Guard Training Photo Credits
All photos are provided by Joseph Giammona, 130-05-02 FSO-PA

[above] Auxiliarist discussing Color Guard training objectives and plan
Auxiliarist pictured from left; Gary Malone, Steve Nichols, David Kelly, Steve Shallenberger, Norm Hoffman, Rik Bellerue

District 13 Color Guard Continued--

It was a team effort and a team accomplishment as we finished the day's training by thanking our instructor and the commander of the station. This was followed by a fellowship meal that reflected the impact of the day's job done well.

The standards achieved today were important, but the real examination will be held on November eleventh, Veteran's Day, as members will put the training all together as they post the colors for the annual Eugene Veteran's Day ceremony.

Submitted by Norm Hoffman



Pictured above: Auxiliarist learning positioning and how to march in step from left; Gary Malone, Steve Nichols, David Kelly, Rik Bellerue



On Left: Auxiliarist receiving rifle training and an overview on standing at Order Arms Auxiliarist pictured from left; Steve Nichols, Norm Hoffman, Steve Shallenberger, SN Adler

AUG 2022
MARK POSTER

“HOW TO BE THE BEST EXAMINER POSSIBLE”

We need to represent ourselves and the USCG Auxiliary in a professional, friendly, informative, consistent and respectful manner, deeds and appearance.

We are providing an invaluable service to the boating public; we are asking them to take precious time out of their day from friends and family to receive this service. It may not be exactly the right time for them at this very moment but advise them that we are available to travel if needed and can perform our exams on a trailer or in the water.

EXAMINER ETIQUETTE

The purpose of the Vessel Safety Check is to:

1. Increase the recreational boater's knowledge through education and training, thus providing safer waterways resulting in fewer injuries, accidents and fatalities
2. Recruit PE students for our classes
3. Recruit New Members.

SAFETY FIRST

Most exams are performed at launch ramps, marinas or at the owner's home while the boat is on a trailer. Launch ramps can be hectic places, especially on weekends and holidays, but it is a target rich environment.

The best practice is to have the local agency arrange ahead of time, an approved, designated location for the exams. There is never a reason to be rude and we should always strive to be considerate of our subject's time by performing the exam without delay and using a clear, concise routine.

Never, Ever provide driving guidance to rig or vessel operators!

There can be a tremendous amount of activity at launch ramps, so be aware and maintain situational awareness of boats, traffic, kids, dogs and other surprises, and as always be aware of yourself and your surroundings.

COURTESY

Do not lean or set anything on the tow rig, trailer, or boat.

Always ask permission to board.

Ask our Skipper where they want us to step.

Protect the vessel from boot/footwear marks with a towel or boot covers where you are directed to step.

GREETING

Be polite, positive and smile.

Find something on which to compliment them.

Introduce yourself and explain the exam (this is NOT an inspection).

Explain the ***BENEFITS*** of an exam.

The Exam is used for education and safety only ~ No report is ever provided to law enforcement. The exam should take as much time as needed for the operator to fully understand what is needed for safe boating experiences.

If they pass, they get a sticker.

If they do not pass, they now have a list of discrepancies to correct for safety and/or compliance.

Let the boater know that you or another VE may be available in the future to perform an exam at their home if they wish.

If you don't know or are unsure of the correct answer to their question, you must never guess or try to make something up that sounds reasonable. Let the boater know that you will research their specific question and get back to them in a timely manner.

THE WRAP UP

PASS

At the completion of the exam if they pass, congratulate them and provide them with the bottom copy of the form. Apply the sticker as required after removing any old VE stickers. I would suggest that you inform the owner of the sticker placement requirements prior to applying the VE sticker. Thank them for their interest in being a good Skipper and let them know we are always looking for good people to help conduct our missions. Ask them if they have an interest in becoming a member. If yes, report contact information to HR.

Did Not Pass

If they did not pass the exam, provide the bottom copy of the form to the O/OP and together review everything that resulted in the failure to pass. Be gentle. Considering that they participated in the exam process, and you shared what you found, there should be no big surprises for them upon failing to pass.

Explain that this is exactly the reason the Auxiliary conducts this mission, which is to help boaters become more knowledgeable, get voluntary compliance and to help them become more responsible and safe Operators. Result: Safer waterways due to fewer injuries, accidents and fatalities.

Make sure you thank them for taking their time today to find out how the vessel fared. Thank them for taking a proactive step in making sure they are going to have a safer boating experience. Vessel Exams are just a part of Recreational Boating Safety, which is one of the many Coast Guards missions.

Let them know we are always looking for good people to help conduct our missions. We really have to ask them if they have an interest in becoming a member. If yes, report contact information to HR.

Submit the proper reports as required and don't forget to maintain your own records.

[Edited in order to fit space]

USCG and USCG Auxiliary Conducting Outreach for Commercial Fishing Vessels

Photos by Wil Sumner

The qualified members of the District 13 USCG and USCG Auxiliary conduct bi annual safety examinations of commercial fishing vessels in major ports along the Oregon and Washington coast line. These examinations are required by federal regulations to ensure that the safety equipment is serviceable and on board while the boat is operating. In addition to the safety examinations, the Coast Guard and CG Auxiliary provide training on emergency situations and the proper use of the safety equipment.



Curt Farrell covering Boat Stability

Scenario – It is 0200 in the morning crew are asleep except one crewman at the helm in a rocking sea. All of a sudden, the general alarm goes off, flashing lights, loud noise, and smoke inundate the crew quarters. Other than panic, what are the crewman assignments? Who gets the raft ready along with safety gear, Who calls the coast guard and what is the most important items to say first? Who gets the fire extinguishers and prepares to put out the fire? Who finds and lays out the survival suits?



Crewmen learning how to plug leaks.



Crewman learns how to enter the water in Gumbo Suit

The Coast Guard and Auxiliary put on Safety Drill Conductor Classes and Boat Stability Classes that covers all of these questions and more during the three day course. In the class, crewmen learn how to

don their survival suit in 60 seconds (no small feat). They also learn how to set up, deploy and get into a life raft.



Auxiliarist Wil Sumner, and Instructor Steve Key demonstrate how to right a life raft.

The crew also learn as a team how to prepare the boat to abandon ship, put out a fire, stop a leak, make a MAY DAY Call, deploy an EPIRB, check on the stability of their vessel, etc.



Crewmen from Newport learning how to use flares.

Crewmen that complete the course receive a Safety Drill Conductor Class card, and can provide drill training to their crew (or other boat crews). This training needs to occur on a routine basis during the fishing seasons and the commercial fishing vessel examiners will ask to see their training schedules plus ask relevant questions regarding the drill training sessions.

Note: Ron Hilburger and Dan Cary are qualified AMSEA instructors for the Drill Conductor Training that the Coast Guard puts on in D13. These classes are sponsored by AMSEA (Alaska Marine Safety Education Association). AMSEA issues the Drill Conductor Certification Cards to the participants that complete the course, and who conduct Safety Drills on commercial fishing boats.



Editors Note: Please send your articles of interest and Auxiliary activities to me any time through out the year. Try to keep them around two pages. Photos are appreciated, please include the photographer's information, names of people in the photo and any other pertinent info.

Diane Epstein, DSO-PB
depsteinc66@gmail.com

Sat. Awards Banquet



COAST GUARD AUXILIARY



Fri. Evening Social



Board Meeting and Elections



Boating Safety Partners



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