



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

REPORT TO THE COMMANDANT



Items of interest reported monthly by District Commodores

August 2008

ATLANTIC EAST

First District, Northern Region

1. On July 30, D1NR and D1SR were recognized, at an All Hands Meeting, by the Atlantic Area Commander for work on the D1 Paddle Smart Initiative that was conducted during the months of May and June. Auxiliarists participating in multi-mission areas were involved in the initiative throughout the District.
2. On July 12, AUXAIR N957AM was on an MDA patrol when contacted by Sector NNE to divert to the fishing vessel *Kimberly Marie* that reported a fire on board. When the AUXAIR facility arrived, the *Kimberly Marie* was engulfed in flames and devoid of a cabin. N957AM began a search of the area and soon had visual contact with one person in the water wearing a survival suit. A nearby powerboat changed course to recover the person in the water when the circling aircraft was noticed, then the individual was transferred to a Coast Guard facility that had arrived on scene.
3. The District SAR contest was held on July 26 at ISC Boston. Two teams competed, with approximately 30 other Auxiliarists either working as support staff, judges, or cheering section, in attendance. At the conclusion of the day when scores were tallied, the team from Division 3 won by a very close margin.
4. Angel Swim is an ongoing effort by semi-retired executive who is swimming the length of the East Coast from New York to the Canadian border to raise money and awareness for children fighting cancer. This year he is working his way from Portsmouth Harbor to the Portland, ME. This seven-day effort is supported by nine Auxiliary facilities crewed by 30 Auxiliarists from Division 2.

First District, Southern Region

1. The flotilla commander of Flotilla 5-10 in New York City translated boarding procedures for several Equatorial Guinea Naval Officers during a mock boarding in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, July 10. The FC is deployed to the region as a translator aboard the Coast Guard Cutter *Dallas* under the direction of Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe, Sixth Fleet, in

support of Africa Partnership Station (APS). APS is an initiative aimed at strengthening global-maritime partnerships through training and other collaborative activities in order to improve global maritime safety and security.

2. On July 20, AUX FAC 221247 was on patrol in the Raritan Bay with a crew of three. The crew consisted a coxswain, a crewmember and a trainee who is an EMT. As the patrol began, they heard a recreational boat skipper call the Coast Guard for help. The distressed boater stated that he could not start his engines and his girlfriend was having seizures and needed medical attention. The coxswain is a first responder and carries a complete first aid backpack with medical oxygen whenever he is on patrol and the trainee has extensive experience with basic life support. Station Sandy Hook was contacted and 221247 was instructed to proceed to the distressed vessel. The Auxiliary facility arrived on scene about 15 minutes later, two or three minutes after a station 25-foot Safe boat had arrived. The EMT trainee went over, began administering oxygen to the victim, and assessed her condition as serious since she was incoherent and appeared to be in shock. He said that she had limited motor control as well. He and the crew of the Safe Boat transferred the victim onto the Safe Boat and transported her to Belford harbor to meet a waiting ambulance for transport to the hospital. The Auxiliary facility stayed with the anchored and disabled vessel, ultimately towing it into Keansburg.

3. On July 23rd, members of Division 14 under the leadership of the District Directorate Chief of Prevention installed the first “Kids Don’t Float” station in the District at Tottenville Marina on Staten Island. The “Kids Don’t Float” station provides loaner lifejackets for anyone needing them. In just a few days, the loaners got frequent use.

4. The Auxiliary Aviation program in First Southern continues to be very active. This month 46 patrols took place in Sector Long Island Sound, 31 in Sector New York Metropolitan area, 23 in Sector New York/Upper Hudson, four logistics missions and five flight checks.

5. Surface patrols have also been extremely active with 275 patrols in support of Sector New York and 250 in support of Sector Long Island Sound.

Fifth District, Northern Region

1. At station MSD Lewes, Delaware, Auxiliary Flotilla 12-02 supplies enough people on a weekly basis to answer phones and take messages for the MSD personnel covering eight hours each day during the week. The efforts of this flotilla enhance the capabilities of the station and free up vital Coast Guard personnel to do duties that are more important.

2. Station Indian River, Delaware, has an Auxiliarist serving as a radio communications watch stander 35 hours a week. He is a vital member of this station and serves an important role at the station by freeing up a boat crewmember to assume vital tasks at the station. In addition, another member has trained to stand duty on the stations 41-foot MLB and their 21-foot patrol boat.

3. There are three Auxiliary members serving on board the Buoy Tender *William Tate* out of Philadelphia. One serves as an in-port watch stander and as JOOD (junior officer of the deck). Another works with the EM's on board in port and underway. The third is training as watch stander and JOOD.

4. An Auxiliarist is helping with the Philadelphia Recruiting Office by minding the phones and taking message traffic for the recruiters. He is also redesigning the Recruiting Office power point presentation. In addition, he is developing a website for the Recruiting Office at Philadelphia.

5. Sector Delaware Bay has 14 Auxiliary members working at the sector. One member is a vital member of the Planning Department and is the Executive Secretary for the AMSC (Area Maritime Security Committee) and the ACP (Area Contingency Plan) meetings. Also, she has been tasked to set up field trips to the Tri-State Emergency Management Center for the entire Planning Staff. These trips were done with Hurricane Preparedness as the focus. Our Auxiliary team members are doing well at the Sector and Auxiliary member help is solicited and welcomed by the staff and department heads. The junior Coast Guard officers of the Sector will be attending an Auxiliary Orientation at our Fall Conference in Lancaster PA. The purpose of this orientations is to familiarize the junior Coast Guard officers with the Auxiliary and potential usage of its members for Coast Guard purposes.

Fifth District, Southern Region

1. Sector North Carolina: The Tax Relief Bill for Auxiliary members will remain in committee since the short session was completed before it reached the floor. We now have over 25 sponsors signed onto the bill and will use the winter months to strengthen our bill with additional supporters and be ready when they reconvene in March 2009.

2. Sector Hampton Roads: Flotilla 63, Poquoson, VA, has been named the Boat U.S. Flotilla of the Year for 2007. The president of the BoatUS foundation made the announcement in July, and the Flotilla Commander, was at NACON in Orlando to accept this honor.

3. The division supported for the first time the Leukemia Cup Regattas in Deltaville Virginia for two days with eight boats. This was great PR for the Auxiliary and a good event to support.

4. On July 22, there was an emergency drill for the North Anna Power Plant, based on a nuclear emergency. The Division 8 Lake Anna Ops Coordinator and the Flotilla 87 FSO-OPs participated in the drill at the invitation of the Louisa County Emergency Services Director and FEMA. The Auxiliary was part of the team headed by the Louisa County Sheriff's Office. The primary charge to the Auxiliary was to launch our OPFACs to notify boaters and residents on Lake Anna of the emergency.

5. Members from all over Division 12, Eastern Shore, took part in the 83rd annual Chincoteague Pony Swim. This year we achieved all of our mission objectives of educating the public on legal charter boats, ensuring a safe pony swim and assisting the state and town

with the placement of a slow speed zone. Additionally, we provided assistance if needed for VMRC in their protection of VA Governor Tim Kaine. This year we aggressively pursued educating the public about illegal charter boat operations and, our plan, for now, has seemed to work. We handed out a Q &A flyer about hiring legal charters to over 1,000 people.

6. Members of the Fifth District AUXCHEF program once again provided service during the Area Commander's Change of Command in Norfolk, and assisted with the Fifth District Commander's luncheon for flag officers.

District Seven

1. The Division 2 had a busy month as many flotillas sought to catch up on training and boating safety activities following a period of unusually low water in inland lakes. Patrols were conducted on lakes Allatona, Hartwell, Lanier and Sinclair, and training was conducted on Lake Thurmond. A vessel examination blitz at Lake Lanier Island Marina was covered by Atlanta CBS television station 46, and another vessel examination blitz was scheduled for Carter's Lake in northwest Georgia. The division provided strong support for Fourth of July events on inland lakes and at community parades, conducted a boating safety class for the Towns County, GA Fire and Sheriff's departments Marine Units, and hosted a chartering ceremony for newly formed Flotilla 29 that was attended by many active duty and Auxiliarists, and by District Seven DCO, Sector Charleston Commander, Director of Auxiliary CDR, and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources

2. Two Auxiliarists of Flotilla 29 were commended by the Army Corps of Engineers for their leadership in removing trash from Lake Lanier. The pair put the vessel *Little Toot* and a trash barge to good use in transporting volunteers and moving tons of trash.

3. In Division 4, due to efforts by one member, the number of Team Coordination Training (TCT) sessions offered to members of the division was increased substantially. The processing of Coast Guard Mariner Licenses was also assisted by addition of three Auxiliarists who qualified to process license applications. Three Auxiliarists also qualified to perform inspection of Uninspected Passenger Vessels and examine Life Rafts.

4. An Operational Facility from Flotilla 10-2 on patrol spotted a swimmer in distress. A lifeguard was about 100 yards away from the swimmer and swimming against a strong current and a rip tide. The coxswain quickly brought the swimmer onboard and then retrieved the exhausted lifeguard. Both the swimmer and lifeguard were taken to the beach area, where the departing swimmer made the boat crew's day by telling them, "Thanks, you saved my life."

5. The division assisted Coast Guard Station Tybee and Sector Charleston when Station Tybee lost electrical power and all radio communications capability. Sector Charleston requested the division to place its standby radio facilities in operation. Flotillas 10-1 and Flotilla 10-11 stood watch on fixed land based facilities while Flotilla 10-2 stood by at three marinas with high-mast towers. The Auxiliary radio facilities operated for approximately six hours until the Coast Guard Station's power was restored.

6. Flotilla 10-2 participated in the “Safe Kids Savannah” program by helping nearly 100 children learn how to fit, wear and swim with a life jacket. The flotilla is also helping make life jackets available for borrowing by boaters using two public boat ramps.
7. In Division 12, the detachment at Lake Marion, SC completed training of four boat crewmembers and arranged to place a dedicated Auxiliary Patrol facility at the lake. The addition of the facility greatly increases the Coast Guard presence on the lake. The division’s overall mission and activity hours are up across the board in comparison to results in the same month last year, with gains exceeding 25 percent in many activities.
8. Division 14 participated with the Nassau County Emergency Operations Center in an on-the-water test of the County’s disaster response plan. Additional exercises are planned as part of a Sector Jacksonville drill in August. Several flotillas and operational facilities from Division 4 will participate in that exercise. Qualification examiners from the division will also host qualification and re-qualification sessions for coxswains and boat crewmembers attending the September District 7 Conference.
9. The division is planning a presentation about the Auxiliary’s many activities for new personnel at Sector Jacksonville and Coast Guard Station Mayport. Auxiliarists from the division also will provide the Clay County Sheriff’s Marine Unit with a presentation about Rescue 21 and search coordination and execution.
10. During July, flotillas from Division 14 provided regatta and safety patrols at seven fireworks displays and 14 fishing tournaments. They also conducted boating safety seminars at six military and public locations.
11. In Division 1, three Auxiliarists attended the Wood Hull Fishing Vessel Inspections course at CG Training Command, Yorktown, VA. Another Auxiliarist attended the Aids to Navigation training course at Yorktown, while two others attended a Search Coordination and Execution “Train the Trainer” session.
12. The division supported Sector San Juan by providing personnel and Personal Water Craft Operational Facilities for the Annual San Juan Harbor Swimming Race. Division 1 also supported Sector San Juan and the US Southern Command by providing personnel and assistance to the 2008 Caribbean Search and Rescue Conference.
13. From Division 3, several Auxiliarists provided exceptional support to Coast Guard units during the month. The Flotilla Commander of 31 gave over 80 hours in the galley at Station Fort Lauderdale, while another provided engineering support to the Sector Miami Civil Engineering Unit. A member from Flotilla 38 provided medical services at the USCG Academy for two weeks, and an additional nine days at Integrated Service Command (Miami). A Flotilla 34 member served on the AIM Administrative Staff for two weeks, while two other members provided watch standing hours at Station Fort Lauderdale.

14. In Division 5, two Auxiliarists from Flotilla 58 taught a First Aid and CPR class at Coast Guard Station Fort Pierce.
15. Special awards were presented to the Palm Beach Post newspaper for its publicity of Coast Guard and Auxiliary safe boating programs, and to the South Florida Water Management District for requiring all water activities personnel to take a safe boating course. The district also permitted Flotilla 58 to conduct vessel safety checks of all of its vessels.
16. Flotilla 59 supported the two-day annual mini-lobster season by providing round the clock building access for Coast Guard, law enforcement and other personnel needing a place to eat and rest. The flotilla also provided a 24-hour radio watch and supplied food and beverage for active duty and law enforcement personnel working the event.
17. On July 6, two Auxiliary facilities responded to a SAR case at Deering Bay. Three young boaters had been thrown from an inflatable vessel, which then became a runaway. One facility picked up the three youngsters from a "good-sam," located and chased down the runaway inflatable, and at Sector Miami's request, set up a security perimeter. Miami-Dade Police stopped and secured the inflatable and the three youngsters were returned safely to their parents.
18. During July, the division provided a stand-by facility for Air Station Miami rescue swimmer training, or for use as an underway platform for trail line and hoist training. These training operations are conducted in Biscayne Bay every Saturday at sunset and on Sundays at 1330 hours.
19. A member who is a physician provided two weeks as a volunteer medical director at the USCG Academy during AIM Week. During that time, he handled over 100 different cases.
20. In July, Division Six Hawkeye Program watch standers provided 307 hours as Sensor Managers at the Sector Miami Command Center.
21. In Division 13, a core group of dedicated members continues to fulfill commitments to the Hawkeye Watch standing program at Sector Key West and on the water support of CG training operations for the helos and jets out of Air Station Miami.
22. In a July 25th ceremony keynoted by the Secretary of the Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection, the Lookout Lodge, owned by a member of Flotilla 13-08, was honored as the 200th facility in the state to receive the "Green Lodging" designation, and the first to hold both the "Clean Marina" and the "Green Lodging" designations. Auxiliarist DSO-PV mentored him through both programs.
23. An Auxiliarist from Flotilla 13-2, author of two books on marine communications, made a presentation on MMSI/Digital Select Calling and Rescue 21 to active duty and Auxiliary

personnel at Coast Guard Station Marathon. In a second session at Keys Fisheries in Marathon, he spoke to commercial fishing fleet owners and anglers.

24. Three Auxiliarists at Flotilla 13-3, were designated Initial Pollution Investigators (IPI), bringing the total number of IPIs in Division 13 to six. These Auxiliarists regularly assist Sector Key West with investigating spills of hazardous materials at marinas and boat launch ramps throughout the Keys.

25. The DSO-CS, an Auxiliarist in Division Four, assisted Sector Key West with the redesign of its website. The redesign brings the sector website into compliance with Department of Homeland Security requirements and is the first time a sector website will be maintained by the Auxiliary from a remote location. The DSO-CM is also an Auxiliary Aircraft Commander and recently flew the district commander and his replacement on a logistics mission.

26. The Division 16 captain attended both the Caribbean Search and Rescue Conference in San Juan, PR and a weeklong Search Coordination and Execution course conducted in Helena, MT. One Auxiliarist completed assembly of "survivor kits" and begun distributing them to local commercial anglers. The kits are produced with help from Caribbean Life Raft Company, which donated flares, water packets and food supplies.

27. Operational facilities from Division 8 provided regatta patrols for the Offshore Powerboat Races during the month. Facilities were also provided to Air Station Clearwater for helicopter lift training.

28. The division's Honor Guard Platoon, together with additional Auxiliarists from the division, provided assistance in various capacities at the Change of Command Ceremony at Sector St. Petersburg. During the month, the Division Staff Officer for Aids to Navigation attended a training course at Coast Guard Training Center, Yorktown, VA.

29. In Division 9, at the request of CG Station Fort Myers Beach, four flotillas provided operational facilities for patrolling late evening Fourth of July community fireworks displays. Flotilla 98 also provided two facilities to patrol the annual Charlotte Harbor swim.

30. In support of an urgent appeal for blood donations by an active duty member, several Auxiliarists from the division donated blood. A bloodmobile from Lee Memorial hospital collected blood from 21 volunteers and others contributed blood at the hospital's collection center.

31. During July, two Auxiliarists from Flotilla 91 and an Auxiliarist from Flotilla 96 served as communications watch-standers at CG Station Fort Myers Beach. One member from Flotilla 96, serves 36 hours of communications watch-standing duty each week, and during the past 30 years has provided nearly 30,000 hours as a communications withstander at the station. Also, she is ombudsman for USCGC *Marlin*, a position she previously held at Station Fort Myers Beach.

32. During the Fourth of July weekend, several Auxiliarists from Division 11, supported by an Auxiliarist from Division 8, provided key assistance to CG Station Sand Key's Search and Rescue (SAR) activities. The Auxiliarists handled four SAR cases and assisted in a case handled by the station's 47-foot MLB. In one SAR case, a man who dove headfirst into two feet of water was paralyzed from the chest down. An Auxiliarist who is a paramedic and member of the division's "ready boat" crew immobilized the man and arranged for him to be airlifted to the critical care unit at a nearby hospital.

33. In another holiday weekend SAR case, an Auxiliarist who is a medical doctor and member of the division's duty crew accompanied the station's 47-foot MLB when it responded to a call for medical help from a chartered fishing vessel located 30 miles west of Clearwater Pass. A man on board the chartered vessel was having heart problems. When the MLB arrived on scene, the doctor determined the victim had died and further medical assistance was not required. Another Auxiliarist, also serving with the duty crew that weekend, is the sector's psychologist/counselor and met the MLB on its return to provide assistance to members of the crew who were distressed by not being able to save the victim.

34. Division 11 is providing an operational facility to assist helicopter training on Monday evenings, and C-130 canister drop training on Tuesday and Thursday. During a C-130 aircraft training mission supported by an Auxiliary facility, the Aircraft Commander called-off the mission due to weather. As the facility and her crew entered Clearwater Pass, Station Sand Key received a radio call for assistance from vessel that was two miles west of Clearwater Pass. The facility returned to the Gulf, located the distressed vessel, and was able to determine it was disabled. The facility took the distressed vessel into tow under difficult weather conditions and delivered it safely to a boat launch ramp.

35. Flotillas from Division 15 assisted CG Station Yankeetown with a land-based radio net drill. An inventory of land-based and hand-held radios is being made and will be used to assist in communications during emergencies.

36. The division will help celebrate the Coast Guard's 218th birthday at a special celebration at CG Station Yankeetown. A picnic lunch will be provided and games and children's activities are planned. All members of the division are invited.

37. Due to poor performance with mirrors during last year's Red Baron air-sea training exercise, testing was conducted to evaluate the reflectivity of a DVD, CD, emergency signaling mirror, and an emergency laser light. The tests took place at 1900 hours, an hour-and-a-half before sunset. The weather at the time was clear with diffused sunlight, high cirrus clouds, and haze. Test results showed the laser light was most effective in making a noticeable signal, but the small emergency mirror also performed well. Although the DVD reflected light better than the CD, neither device performed as well as the laser light or emergency signaling mirror.

38. A program led by Auxiliarists to train active duty personnel at Air Station Clearwater in the skills needed to obtain a license to operate a fuel truck was a success. More participants are

in training and a future class is being organized. The Sector AUXLO has requested the training team offer the class at other Sector units.

39. An Auxiliarist has written a children's coloring book "Sandy." The book teaches environmental protection by showing what many aquatic birds and animals face in their challenge to survive. The coloring book was paid for through grants, and 5,000 copies of the book were printed.

40. Dialog was initiated between the Air Station AUXLO and a Defense Department Joint Task Force representative about Auxiliary Air participation in Florida Homeland Security Mission Exercises planned for August. Initial discussions indicate that flights will be tasked in daylight during two weeks in August.

41. A "Ready Alert" aircraft and crew was available for every July day when no flying mission was scheduled. Auxiliary Air had either a plane flying or a qualified crew ready to fly on every day of the month.

42. On July 7, an Auxiliary Air facility sighted a moored fishing boat with an oil sheen about a quarter mile long. The vessel was reported to the Coast Guard and followed while a surface asset was dispatched from CG Station Islamorada. The Coast Guard boarded the fishing boat and the aircraft continued on patrol.

43. Flotilla 28 provided over 150 hours of support to Station Tybee Island. Division 15 flotillas continue to provide Security Zone patrols at the Crystal River Nuclear Power Plant, and flotillas in Divisions Seven and Eight are providing Security Zone patrols at key sites in Tampa Bay.

ATLANTIC WEST

Eighth District, Eastern Region

1. From Division 6, a Coast Guard Auxiliarist responded to boat propeller casualty on Caesar Creek Lake near Dayton, OH. The captain of Division 6, who is also a fireman with EMS training and works (in Ohio DNR uniform) as a Watercraft Volunteer, was on the lake with an ODNR Officer. As they conducted normal patrol activities on the lake, a call came over the radio from the 911 network that a woman had been severely cut by a propeller and needed urgent assistance. They immediately took the boat with the victim to a ramp to meet the 911 responders. The division captain provided primary care and the ODNR Officer provided EMS treatment as they waited for the 911 responders to arrive and provide advanced life support care. Their calm, professional demeanor in caring for the patient and preparing her for Care Flight evacuation to a nearby hospital made the handoff to 911 responders quick and effective. The patient underwent surgery at the hospital, and was released to go home after a few days stay. She is expected to have a full recovery from her life-threatening injuries.

2. Divisions 6 and 18 teamed up to reach out to 525 youths at the Sixth Grade Safety Day at Ross County Fair Grounds in OH, attended by approximately 525 sixth graders. The students attended 10 sessions, 15 minutes each, on boating safety. They also recited a boating safety pledge and took a true and false test before leaving with a package of boating safety literature and "Take a Crash Course with the Splash Test Dummies" along with information on Water Way Watch program and United States Coast Guard Academy. The teachers were given the publication, Hurricane Katrina - The U.S. Coast Guard At Its Best.

3. Division 11 provided a PA exhibit for the "Fit to Float" campaign at the Bass Pro Shop in the Opry Mall. Members of Division 11 worked closely with the media including television, radio, newspapers and magazines.

4. Division 12 (Knoxville, TN) reports that their area is faced with the highest boating fatality rate in Tennessee with three already this year on Norris Lake. The boaters on Norris Lake are mainly vacationers from out of the area and are not candidates for the ABS class. Therefore, the division is working with other organizations and agencies to create a new CD that will be 20 minutes long with highlights from the ABC Course. This CD will be mandatory viewing by all people renting a slip on Norris Lake. They now have all of the support from all of the marina owners on Norris Lake to make this video part of their boating safety program. This project generated enough interest among the local community that over 54 people (which includes multiple retired Coast Guard and Reservists along with one retired Coast Guard Commander) to want to start a new flotilla for this lake.

5. Divisions 1 and 24 were able to work with active duty Coast Guard in PA events this summer. At the Armed Forces Day at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Division 1 was able to get a Coast Guard helicopter for display for their event and Division 24 was able to get a USCG HH-65 helicopter and crew to come up to Huntsville, AL from Mobile, AL for the Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity Event where Coastie the robotic boat enhanced boating safety. The public at both events were treated with a great opportunity to see these rescue helicopters up close and meet the pilots that fly them.

6. Construction of the Division 6 (Dayton, OH) NVIS antenna has been completed and a receive-only test was done in which it was determined that the USCGAUX ham net on the Gulf Coast could be identified in Ohio above the noise level. Additional on-the-air tests are planned with DSO-CM Rick Kreamelmeyer.

Eighth District, Coastal Region

1. Division 1 members have been appointed by Sector Mobile as auxiliary EOC (emergency operations center) for each Florida coastal county. The Auxiliary liaisons will act as a point of contact between sector and county emergency management officials. Flotilla 12 has an offer from an Eagle Scout candidate to build a kiosk for the St. Marks area. The kiosk will be stocked with boating safety literature by the flotilla.

2. Division 4 (South Louisiana) members supported activities around the recent oil spill in the New Orleans area of the Mississippi River by assisting in computer related activities and spot checking. They kept logs of ships and barges along the river for the purpose of vessel clean up. The Marine Safety Unit-Baton Rouge gave an enclosed trailer that is currently undergoing renovation as an emergency communications facility. Flotilla 47 is starting a detachment in Houma, LA.

3. Division 5 (North Central & Northwest Texas) has two flotillas rebuilding from a marginal strength to nearly doubling in size. The leadership and positive programs are paying dividends. Most activities for July were back to normal. Vessel safety checks, patrols and public affairs events were enthusiastically supported. Flotilla 5-14 at Cedar Creek Lake participated in a neighborhood air show organized by a member of the community. Safety patrols provided buffer space for the show that was attended by some 4,000 spectators.

4. Division 6 teamed with Coast Guard Station Galveston and supported the 4th of July festivities on Clear Lake. Other agencies in support included NOAA, Texas Parks and Wildlife and local law enforcement from nearby communities. The event was without incident and a big success.

5. Division 7 (Central South Texas) got its first real test of the Auxiliary Incident Management System (AIMS) during hurricane Dolly. Tasked by sector to account for their members the Division used the 3n system that resulted in the discovery of several difficulties in trying to contact members. A district wide test on 31 July resulted in better than 70 percent response.

6. Division 8 (Central and North Alabama & Mississippi) conducted its annual Riverhound Exercise in Tuscaloosa at the Marine Police Facility on Lake Tuscaloosa. The exercise involved QE check offs, refresher training on towing, SAR planning, GPS proficiency, line handling and night SAR. Flotilla 81 has installed a new communications antenna at West Point Lake to improve communications in the area.

7. Division 10 (North Texas) saw reduced boating activity on the Lakes of north Texas during July that was assumed the result of high fuel prices. Further, there was a reduction in boating classes and scheduled PE and PA events. There seemed to be an increase in the number of passengers on boats that were being used to transport people to island swimming areas. This dangerous practice was called to the attention of the skippers involved.

Eighth District, Western Rivers

For Division 2, the 8WR DIRAUX, RCO-N R and DCO attended an anniversary in Yankton SD to celebrate James Peterson's 50th year in the Auxiliary. He is 83 years old and still runs the Missouri River and still owns and uses 4 boats.

Ninth Districts, Eastern Region

1. All divisions are reporting activity and the DCO attended the CG festival in Grand Haven, MI. The District Modernization plan was submitted and approved and the deployment of the plan is now under way. In addition, the district has qualified six new UPV examiners, has three new program visitors in Division 5, and, as of this date is 22 visits over last year at this time. For July of 2007, the division had 1,148 visits and this year it has 1,169.
2. The inflatable lifejackets for vessel examiners were distributed and received with much enthusiasm. Harborfest was held in Oswego, July 24 – 27 and Division 2 assisted with the usual patrols, galley assistance, and communication watch standing. Flotilla 22 has been very successful in training the Ithaca Fire Department in basic safe boating fundamentals. They have scheduled additional search and rescue training to be held this fall.
3. On 11-13 July 2008, the OTO facilitated a Division 4, Boat Operations Training (DBOT) attended by 20-plus members including quality examiners, coxswains and crew. This on-the-water training program supplemented the classroom training provided earlier. It is an attempt to standardize operation practices throughout the district. The training included a man overboard drill, stern towing, side towing and plotting a SAR course.
4. On Saturday, 25 July 2008 a large number of Auxiliarists from Division 4 attended the Change of Command at Station Rochester.
5. Division 5 assisted over 900 adults and children with handicaps at the Leslie Sparano Memorial on Shenango Lake. They provided help with life jackets, boarding and unloading at docks and assisted those in wheel chairs. One member completed the Assistant Pollution Investigation training in Cleveland, Ohio.
6. Flotilla 07-03 continues training people to become UPV examiners, with the program growing and a number of charter captains calling the MSU office requesting appointments for vessel inspections. Members of this flotilla continue to log many hours conducting MOM patrols via USCG vehicles along the harbor areas between Station Cleveland Harbor and Fairport Harbor.
7. Flotilla 76 members are trained weekly to stand watch as communication watch standers, engineer on the 47-foot boat and generally help the active duty leadership in anyway that they can.
8. Over 360 VSCs have been completed to date with a passing rate in excess of 80 percent.

Ninth District, Central Region

1. Operations have been strong with many regattas, firework and SARs taking place. Members have been training for NSAR. PWC certificates have been provided for newly qualified operators. To show the teamwork between members of D9, the district is working

together to get all members out of REYR and return them to currently certified status. Grand Haven was a great success with the NACO, Chief of Staff of the Coast Guard and Commodore 9CR in attendance.

2. Division 10 supported the APBA Gold Cup races from 11-13 July by providing 15 facilities over the entire event. Division operations also supported the Roar on the River boat races from 18-20 July by providing six facilities over the entire event. Two ATON patrols were completed in July that completed the Class I PATON verification assignments from Sector Detroit. One division facility was provided to assist USCG Station Belle Isle in conducting on-water training during July. Twenty-four patrols were completed during the month of July.

3. Flotilla 10-07 held a “Kid’s Day” event on Sunday, 20 July at the Edison Boat Club on the Detroit River for children from five- to 14-years-old. Topics covered during the event were line handling, knot tying, first aid, life jackets, general water safety, finger printing, and radio communications. In attendance during the day’s events were 37 children and 36 parents. Helping out with the event were 22 Auxiliarists from Division 10, five active duty USCG and one reservist from USCG Station Belle Isle. Of great interest to everyone was the special guest, “Belle,” the station’s dog mascot, and the 33-foot SAFE patrol boat from Station Belle Isle. Cookies brought by the active duty personnel from Station Belle Isle were a major hit too.

4. Two facilities patrolled for the Belle Maer Fireworks, one for the St. Clair Fireworks, four for the Algonac Fireworks, two for the Port Huron Boat Night, six for the Port Huron to Mackinaw sail Race, one for the St. Clair Shores Offshore Challenge, two for the St. Clair Offshore Time Trials, and four for the St. Clair Offshore Race,

Ninth District, Western Region

1. From Division 3, the 9WR Color Guard is the official CG Auxiliary Color Guard for the annual memorial service to recognize departed Michigan Auxiliary members at the weeklong community festival celebrating CG history and memorials.

2. From Division 5 two members, at their own expense, sailed their SV across Lake Michigan and then worked along with others to assist in ship tours of the CG Cutter *Mackinaw*. This was part of the Grand Haven CG festival and their duty section hosted 3000 persons in one day through the Mackinaw

3. Safety patrols were conducted every Saturday night in Milwaukee for weekly fireworks of each weekly ethnic festival. One Auxiliary patrol boat logged 168 engine hours at this time in support of Station Milwaukee.

4. Division 4 hosted CG and Auxiliary visitors at the annual International EAA (experimental aircraft association) at Oshkosh Wisconsin. The Auxiliary staffed a communications base and daily safety patrols were conducted to protect the landing zone for seaplanes at the seaplane base on lake Winnebago where Oshkosh is located. The lake is also a ditching area for planes in trouble to avoid the crowded city where the airfield is located.

5. The robotic *Coastie* the safety boat was at this EAA for three days and was run by Auxiliary members from Division 5. The PA effort presented boating safety messages plus recruiting for CG and Auxiliary. *Coastie* was a real public draw and Auxiliary operators never got a rest as children clamored for *Coastie*.

PACIFIC AREA

Eleventh District, Northern Region

1. During the period of 23-27 July, 107 11NR Auxiliarists assisted in the spectacular Festival of Sail San Francisco and received numerous statements of appreciation for their participation during this spectacular "Tall Ships" event. The members acted as tour guides on the USCGC *Eagle*; performed as "Maritime Facility Supervisors" and liaisons with the tall ships; served as coxswains or crew on board the Auxiliary vessels that helped provide security during the event and provided for transportation to and from Yerba Buena Island; and, in addition, acted as *Coastie* operators and attendants at the public information booths

Special kudos to an Auxiliarist, who as Port Operations Director worked for months to recruit and organize a large team of members for 77 separate shore side "watches" in six different locations, and for another member who did an outstanding job of organizing the on-the-water resources on the San Francisco Bay.

The sector commander complimented the Auxiliary's performance and the Commander of the *Eagle* has expressed his particular appreciation for those Auxiliarists who gave tours on the *Eagle*. Thanks to the Auxiliary, the *Eagle* was able to host 4,124 visitors on Saturday, and 4,354 on Sunday.

2. Utah celebrates Pioneer Day on July 24 each year. The 11NR VCO and crew were on surface safety patrol at Jordanelle State Park, UT, when the Senior Law Enforcement Officer requested that they provide safety information to PWC operators. Auxiliarists were asked to interact with PWC operators as they were launching at the ramp and discuss the previous PWC accidents and collect some basic information for the Utah State Ranger. One week earlier, a fatal accident occurred on the lake when two PWCs collided. The Auxiliarists met with many individual PWC operators, consisting of 80 adults and 37 juveniles. They discussed safe PWC operation and overall PWC responsibility. The State Park Ranger expressed his appreciation for our efforts.

Eleventh District, Southern Region

1. A member from Division 12 edits the monthly newsletter of CGC *Halibut*, *The Breakwall*. The newsletter gets rave reviews throughout the Coast Guard. Previous editions can be viewed at <http://www.uscg.mil/d11/cgchalibut/Newsletter.asp>.

2. Two Auxiliarists from Division 12 were aboard during the CGC *Halibut*'s cruise to Catalina Island and took pictures that documented the event. In addition, the *Halibut* hosted several members of the Navy League. The cruise also yielded three new potential Auxiliary members.
3. About 20 hard working and dedicated volunteers from the Flotilla 29 (Dana Point), the City of Dana Point, and the Earth Ocean Society joined to collect the trash that was deposited on the water and surrounding area in our harbor. The cleanup took place with kayaks and PWCs working on the water and dock walkers working from the shore.
4. The governor of Arizona signed into law legislation that would increase penalties for driving and boating under the influence of alcohol. The proposal, House Bill 2643, did not include an ignition-interlock-system provision. The bill would, among other things, mandate a 10-day jail sentence for first-time offenders convicted of operating a boat while drunk and require those convicted of DUI to have alcohol or other drug screening before their suspended licenses could be reinstated.

District 14

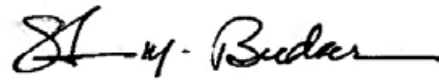
1. Eighteen members of Division 1's Pro Demo team participated in this year's Kailua 4th of July Parade for the second year in a row. The Auxiliary presence in this hometown atmosphere windward Oahu parade utilized a moving exhibit consisting of the Coast Guard prime mover towing one of the Auxiliary's 23-foot SAFE boats with uniformed crew and other members walking alongside the exhibit.
2. On July 10th, at the request of the 692nd Intelligence Group at Hickam AFB, members of Flotilla 23 presented a recreational boating safety briefing to over 80 officers and non commissioned officers assigned to the group during a periodic stand-down at the unit. In addition to a standard boating safety briefing, the presentation also included a section on dangerous marine organisms found in Hawaiian waters.
3. On July 21st 2008, members of flotilla 24 in Guam participated in the 49th Guam Liberation Day parade commemorating the liberation of Guam from Japan at the end of World War II, 64 years earlier. The Guam flotilla's 21-foot Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat was towed in the parade behind one of Sector Guam's 25-foot Safe Boats. Members of the flotilla rode and marched along the parade route.
4. Members of Flotilla 15 helped organize and participate in the Change of Command Ceremony for the USCGC *Kittiwake* on July 18. One member, along with the *Kittiwake*'s food service specialist, prepared all the food. Another member also prepared a Chinese feast for the Station Kauai and *Kittiwake* crews later in the month.
5. Flotilla 15 participated in the NOAA 11th Annual Kauai Family Ocean Fair at Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge, also known as Kilauea Lighthouse July 12. Attended by 2,500 visitors, this is Kauai's largest ocean education event where all exhibitors provided interactive activity for the visitors. The Auxiliary joined exhibitors from the NOAA'S Hawaiian Islands

Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, Kilauea Point Natural History Association, National Weather Service, Central Pacific Hurricane Center, U.S. Coral Reef Task Force, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, NOAA/DLNR Hawaiian Monk Seal Conservation Hui, Kauai Public Land Trust and others to provide an educational experience for the visitors to learn about reefs, seabirds, Hawaiian monk seals, sea turtles, whales, Kauai's underwater geology, boating safety and knot tying. This year the flotilla's display focused on paddle sports instead of powerboats as in the past. The Auxiliary exhibit featured a kayak, leashes for the paddle and paddler, suspender type inflatable life jackets, whistle, signal mirror and strobe light for safety plus many appropriate safety brochures.

District 17

1. Two Auxiliarists volunteered for a two-week forward deployment to Barrow and other Arctic coastal villages of Alaska with the active duty Coast Guard. They provided outreach/training in Barrow to 35 children at the local school on 30 July.
2. A dozen members of the Fairbanks Flotilla 31, using two jet river boats and two PWCs patrolled a regatta made up of home made vessels held together with duct tape. They traveled approximately three miles down the Chena River in Fairbanks with the Auxiliary fishing rafts out of the water or towing them back to the landing they missed. The flotilla's help in this event has turned it from a somewhat dangerous outing into a safe and fun day on the water.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven M. Budar
National Commodore