

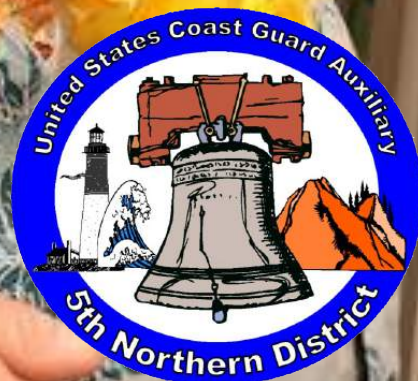
Fall 2022

Volume 119, Issue 4

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

Official Newsletter of Coast Guard Auxiliary 5th District, Northern Region

# topside



80 Years  
of TOPSIDE

See page 19 for details.

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## Confidentiality Notice Privacy Act of 1974

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*Leadership of 5NR*

<b>Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX)</b> CDR M. Chad Morgan	
<b>Operations Training Officer (OTO)</b> CWO4 Mickey T. Price	
<b>District Commodore (DCO)</b> COMO Joseph J. Giannattasio	
<b>District Chief Of Staff (DCOS)</b> Kurt P. Sarac, Sr	
<b>District Captain Central (DCAPT-C)</b> Cindi C. Chaimowitz	
<b>District Captain East (DCAPT-E)</b> Thomas Johnston Don	
<b>District Captain West (DCAPT-W)</b> J. Douglas Willwerth	
<b>Immediate Past Commodore</b> COMO Thomas J. Dever	
<b>President Past Captains Association</b> Alfred O. Grimminger	
<b>Division Commanders</b>	
<b>DCDR 01</b>	Reynolds A Giovannozzi Jr
<b>DCDR 04</b>	Peter A. Lacey
<b>DCDR 07</b>	Thomas H. Brouillard
<b>DCDR 08</b>	Robert N. Babezki
<b>DCDR 12</b>	Timothy D. Precht
<b>DCDR 15</b>	Ivan Meixell
<b>DCDR 16</b>	Basil Iwanyk
<b>DCDR 17</b>	Charles Lorentz Jr.
<b>DCDR 18</b>	Paul Whitman Sr.
<b>DCDR 19</b>	Edwin W. Seda
<b>DCDR 20</b>	COMO KC Murphy
<b>DCDR 21</b>	Michael B. McElwee

<b>D-AD</b>	Jason C. Flynn
<b>D-AD</b>	Donald W. Merrill
<b>DSO-C</b>	Jason C. Flynn
<b>DSO-C</b>	COMO Ken Brown, Janet Brown
<b>DSO-DV</b>	Ruth A. Bearce
<b>DSO-FN</b>	Mark F. Letavish
<b>DSO-LP</b>	Francis P. Bigley
<b>DSO-SL</b>	Harry W. Otto
<b>DFSO</b>	Thomas Callahan III
<b>DDC-Logistics</b>	Robert G. Vanderhook
<b>DSO-CS</b>	Richard Taylor, II
<b>DSO-FS</b>	Noreen Schifini
<b>DSO-HR</b>	Steven G. Trojanov
<b>DSO-IS</b>	Harry F. Dyer
<b>DSO-MA</b>	Jeffery Wilt
<b>DSO-PB</b>	Timothy P Marks
<b>DSO-SR</b>	Noreen Schifini
<b>DDC-Prevention</b>	Alfred O. Grimminger
<b>DSO-AS</b>	James Robert White
<b>DSO-MS</b>	Gregg R. Bollinger
<b>DSO-MT</b>	Theodore R. Hall
<b>DSO-NS</b>	Frank J. Williams
<b>DSO-PA</b>	COMO Kevin C. Murphy
<b>DSO-PE</b>	Pamela L. Thompson
<b>DSO-PV</b>	Russell M. Galson
<b>DSO-VE</b>	Edwin W. Seda
<b>DDC-Response</b>	Douglas L. Smith
<b>DSO-EM</b>	Gregory M. Stough
<b>DSO-CM</b>	Richard F. Lord
<b>DSO-AV</b>	William A. Fithian
<b>DSO-OP</b>	Donald W. Merrill

## Front Cover:

**WILMINGTON, DE:** Doug Willwerth, DCAPT-W (right) and Ed Seda, DCDR (left) having a good time fellowshipping at the 2022 Fall DTrain.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Barbara Sama*



## *From the Desk of the Commodore*

Team D5NR,

On January 1, I will complete my term as District Commodore and be relieved by COMO Kurt Sarac. It has been a true honor and privilege to serve as the Commodore of District Fifth-Northern for the past 24 months. I have particularly enjoyed the opportunity to work with our 69 flotillas and divisions and meet so many of you. Thank you to each and every member of D5NR for the dedication and hard work you each put into serving our Coast Guard and Auxiliary. You have met the National Commodore's intent and watchwords of "Relevance, Flexibility, and Professionalism." Thank you to your families for supporting you and enabling you to serve, and the sacrifices they make as well. We are the best trained most valued maritime volunteer service in the world because of you.

Over the past two years, Team 5NR has risen to the challenge to continue operations despite the challenges of COVID. You have:

- ◆ Certified 56 new AUXOP members.
- ◆ Qualified 6 new coxswains.
- ◆ Certified 23 new boat crew members.
- ◆ Performed 9,900 vessel safety checks
- ◆ Taught Boating Safety to 4,639 students through 765 PE classes.
- ◆ Performed 509 hours in Waterway Management Support.
- ◆ Conducted 2,689 hours of Member Training.

You proved our resiliency and our adaptability; it verified our dedication and demonstrated our value to the Coast Guard.

And you worked beyond the D5NR AOR boundaries...

- ◆ augmenting DHS surge deployments in support of the Southwest Border,
- ◆ conducting PE coordination, and surface/air exercises with neighboring districts (D1S & D5SR),
- ◆ and 21 members serve on the Auxiliary's National Staff.

None of this would have been possible without the great support provided by our DCOS, DCAPT's, DSOs and ADSOs, ASC, DDCs, Aides, and AUCs. Likewise, nearly every Coast Guard command, unit, and station within D5NR has an Auxiliary support presence. 115 members perform operational roles in directly supporting the Active Duty: AuxCA (Culinary Assistant) members provide food preparation and serve Coast Guard units, 8 Auxiliarists serve as radio watchstanders at Coast Guard stations, 18 in-port watchstanders on small cutters, 6 Clergy Support members expand Religious Ministry within the Coast Guard, 5 members support functions at Atlantic Strike Team, and 3 Auxiliary Health Support members regularly provide health care assistance at TRACEN's Medical Clinic. We have supported Air Station Atlantic City with Helo-Hoist boat operations and Sector Delaware Bay's Waterway department with ATON verification and Commercial Fishing Vessel Examinations.

*Continued on the next page...*



**Commodore Joseph Giannattasio**  
**District Commodore**  
**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary**  
**5th District-Northern Region**

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## *From the Desk of the Commodore, continued*

The everyday business of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Fifth Northern continued despite a global pandemic. You not only did those missions well, but rose to the challenge of significant events like transitioning seamlessly to conducting virtual meetings, workshops and training classes; tutoring Coast Guard children during stay-at-home school sessions; sewing facemasks for Active Duty families; and updating our district policy manual, amongst many others. The outstanding service during this period proved our exceptional resilience and demonstrated the endurance, resourcefulness and professionalism of our members.

If you've read this far, you'll see that it's been BUSY. We answered the call and we're preparing for the future – expanding ways Auxiliarists can support Coast Guard units, increasing growth of paddlecraft, cyber capabilities, and remaining Semper Paratus. I'm confident that you will continue your great service and support with COMO Sarac as he takes the helm. I will stand relieved knowing that District Fifth-Northern is leading the way.

Very Respectfully,

COMO Joseph Giannattasio

District Commodore, Fifth District - Northern Region

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary



## *Hurricane Season*

During hurricane season it is always very important to be prepared. Click below for a hurricane checklist you can use:

[Hurricane Preparation, Evacuation, and Recovery Checklist](#)

## A Message from the District Commodore (Elect) (Chief of Staff)

We are getting ready to end the 2022 RBS season, and we have been planning hard for 2023! We are thankful to our shipmates for once again making us Semper Paratus. We have answered the call once again to the expanded role that Team Coast Guard by having members sent to the southern board, helped daily on cutters, and provide support at Sector, Stations, and at national needs. At our NACON meetings Team Coast Guard shared the need for the Auxiliary more than ever. You are the tip of the sword, the boots on the ground for the “One Team, One Fight” strategy Team Coast Guard needs for success. I can not be more excited about our future. If we can remain agile, focused, and emphasize teamwork, we will be the force multipliers the Coast Guard requires. Every day we are challenged to help more and more in the need areas and still work on RBS! Listed below are some statistics of our great work.



**Kurt P. Sarac Sr.**

**District Chief of Staff**

**District Commodore (elect)**

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary**

**5th District-Northern Region**

- In the 5NR, we have over 200 AUX members embedded in the commands or direct help to the 5<sup>th</sup> District needs.
- We have fulfilled the needs of commands over 1000 times for direct support
- We have embedded members in almost every area in the Coast Guard
  - ◊ Culinary
  - ◊ Operations
  - ◊ Cutter, Station, and Command Center Watch Standers
  - ◊ Administrative Support
  - ◊ Instructors
  - ◊ Investigations and the Security Center
  - ◊ Station Support

“MAKE IT HAPPEN” attitude going into 2023

*Continued on the next page...*

## *A Message from the DCO (e), continued*

Some thoughts to bring to your deck plate:

- Be safe! Please take RM (Risk Management) seriously! We are all responsible for safety! It is not a check box item but a cultural need to implement.
- HAVE FUN! This is supposed to be enjoyable.
- Take time to encourage everyone. Don't just think the worst about someone if you disagree, but take time to understand where they are coming from!
- Move forward and think outside the box

I believe we have a great vision, solid leadership, and the best members! I am excited to charge forward as a team...One team, one fight!

Kurt

**Kurt P Sarac Sr.**

Commodore – DCO(e)

District Fifth Northern



## *J. Douglas Willwerth, DCAPT-W*

Greetings Shipmates!

Where did the summer go? This was one of the best operational seasons in quite a while! I believe our members are making up for lost time over the last couple of years. The Western Area has had much success in operations and recruiting this year. Congratulations to everyone, providing an upstanding and professional service to our AOR this year. I have said and acknowledged this before, we have some of the best and most resilient volunteers of any organization in the United States. While leadership provides direction, you have stepped up to the plate to show how the Flotilla members are the backbone of the Auxiliary and are able to get the job done!

With the cold weather and snowflakes looming around the corner, let's continue to be diligent in maintaining our core training and start thinking about achievements and goals, formulating a plan for the year ahead. For members struggling with entering information into AUXDATA II, try and make it a goal to partner with another member to learn the system. Maybe your Flotilla can hold a training session to aid in the learning process. Your time and efforts should be documented to help the Coast Guard with funding, and also to assure recognition to those members providing any service to a mission or a program.

I would like to wish all of you a fantastic Thanksgiving holiday! Thank you for all that you do in the Auxiliary! It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your District Captain in the Western Area over the last two years. It has been a sincere pleasure to work with you, and I hope you will provide the same support to Mike McElwee, District Captain elect for 2023. Please share a special thank you and recognition to those significant others that help support us in all of our activities and missions.

Very Respectfully,

Doug Willwerth

District Captain-Western Area  
Fifth Northern District  
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary



**J. Douglas Willwerth**  
District Captain—West  
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
5th District-Northern Region



## *Cindi Chaimowitz, DCAPT-C*

Good Tidings from the Central Area!

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the Central area as D-Captain during these challenging times. I would like to say THANK YOU to the auxiliary members who I had the pleasure of working with these past two years as my second-year winds down. My great appreciation extends to the DIRAUX office as well.

We were fortunate that we were able to meet in person at our 2022 Fall D-train in Wilmington, DE. I particularly liked the fact that I got to meet with my DCDR's face to face! In one case, meet a Division Commander for the first time. It was wonderful to see so many old friends and to make new acquaintances.

We survived a global pandemic, division merger and once we were able to open-up to the public we were graciously welcomed back into the community.

In closing, I would like to especially thank my very supportive husband Mike and my son Jonathan. Without their support I couldn't have taken on this exciting position. I am leaving you in very capable hands with Tim Precht taking over as the Central areas incoming D-Captain.

Please remember to stay safe, always.

Thank you for all you do!

Cindi C. Chaimowitz

District Captain-Central

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

5th District-Northern Region



**Cindi Chaimowitz  
District Captain—Central  
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
5th District-Northern Region**





## *Message from the DIRAUX, Commander Morgan*

It was a real pleasure to have the opportunity to meet so many of you at our Fall D-Train. The Hilton Hotel Christiana in Wilmington was a phenomenal venue. Jason Flynn and his team did a wonderful job locating, planning and executing the event. Commodore Giannattasio was a gracious host that led a spectacular event and really made me feel part of such a significant organization. It was inspiring to see the level of comradery amongst our membership as I met some of our new members and longstanding stalwarts.

Congratulations to all of our newly elected District Leaders. I am excited and confident in their potential to lead us to accomplish great things performing Auxiliary missions and supporting the Coast Guard. As we continue to push later into the fall, we are holding elections and Change of Watch ceremonies. My hope is that I or the OTO will be able to attend many the Division and Flotilla events. As these new leaders take the reins it is important that we support them and all pitch in to make them successful. Their accomplishments will led to greater possibilities for each flotilla.

Now that our Boating season has officially concluded we can look forward to some well-deserved down time. I'm sure some of our auxiliari-ist will head off to warmer locales to take in the winter months. The

DIRAUX office and our Chain of Leadership and Management are already deep in throws of preparing for the next boating Season. Mr. Price is working on changes to our operating guidelines, with the intent if weather allows to start the season a little earlier. The Executive Committee is planning and preparing for the Spring D-Train. We have the dates and venue selected for the D-train and are working towards programing an excellent assortment of classes, courses and training. These classes will assist our newest members as well as allow for growth to those more experienced Auxiliarists.

Once again the DIRAUX office will sponsor several Auxiliarist to attend the event. Please reach out to your leaders if you would like to attend with a DIRAUX sponsorship. My hope is that we can make the spring D-Train a well-attended event and strong representation from our western, central, and eastern areas. I look forward to seeing everyone there.



**CDR M. Chad Morgan**  
**U.S. Coast Guard**  
**Director of Auxiliary**  
**Fifth District - Northern Region**



## *From the OTO's Desk*

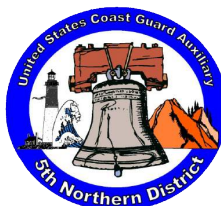
November marks four full months since I've reported to the D5NR DIRAUX office. In many ways it doesn't seem like that much time could have elapsed this quickly, however as I recount what we've done so far, I realize it's true that time flies when you're having fun.

First, I'll say that I recognize time is a commodity; It is finite and it makes sense that we describe the minutes and hours we commit to any specific pursuit as time "spent". The more I see how Auxiliarists spend their time, the more I understand the reputation that precedes the organization. So, when I think of the past few months, I am remembering drives to visit and learn from AUX members across the District; getting underway at Point Pleasant and in the Delaware River; attending division and flotilla meetings, EXCOM meetings, Operations meetings, ETS training (please attend ETS training!); visiting Long Level and SARDET Bowers Beach, and "The Shack"; talking about AUXPAD in the late evening at D-train and over breakfast in Huntingdon, PA near Raystown Lake; and meeting with members of the team during the "Think AUX Roadshow" at CG Station Manasquan, Station Barnegat Light, and Station Cape May (I am very glad to say these trips are ongoing).

As great as each destination has been, the highlight of every trip (and the reason I look forward to all the trips to come) has been the conversations with so many amazing people. So, I suppose I'd say that the past few months I've been laying the foundation for what will surely be my favorite tour of duty with the best Auxiliarists in the country. \*Thank you\* for choosing to spend your time with US Coast Guard. I hope you are as excited as I am regarding our future, let's continue to work together to take advantage of the opportunities that lie ahead. Thank you for your patience and your experience. I look incredibly forward seeing you in the near future. Be safe out there!



**CWO4 Mickey Price, OTO**  
**U.S. Coast Guard**  
**Director of Auxiliary**  
**Fifth District - Northern Region**



# Information from Around the District



# *Meet Your Incoming D5NR EXCOM*

*Comprehensive biographies will soon be posted on the District's website.*



## **District Commodore (DCO)**

**COMO (e) Kurt P. Sarac, Sr., District Commodore**

Commodore-Elect Sarac currently serves with distinction as the D5NR District Chief of Staff.

## **District Chief of Staff (DCOS)**

**Ms. Noreen Schifini, District Chief of Staff**

Noreen is finishing as one of the Commodore's Aides and as the District Staff Officer-Secretary Recorder. Immediately prior to that she served as DCAPT-E for two years.

Her



## **District Captain-Eastern Area (DCAPT-E)**

**Mr. Thomas J. Don, District Captain-East**

Tom Don is the current DCAPT-East and has been elected to a second consecutive 1-year term.



## **District Captain-Central Area (DCAPT-C)**

**Mr. Timothy D. Precht, District Captain-Central**

Tim Precht is currently The Division Commander for Division 12 which encompasses the entire state of Delaware.



## **District Captain-Western Area (DCAPT-W)**

**Mr. Michael B. McElwee, District Captain-West**

Mike McElwee is finishing up his second year as Division Commander for Division 21 which is centered in Reading, Pennsylvania





## ***DIRAUX Roadshow Continues***

*Articles and photographs by COMO Joe Giannattasio*

CDR Chad Morgan, DIRAUX and CWO4 Mickey Price, OTO continued their whirlwind tour of the district visiting our members and units to familiarizing themselves with our unique Auxiliary missions and capabilities. They have also been meeting with Coast Guard stations within the district highlighting how Auxiliarists can support the active duty and augment their missions by encouraging command staff to "Think Auxiliary".

- On 12 October CDR Chad Morgan and CWO4 Mickey Price with COMO Giannattasio visited USCG STATION BARNEGAT command with area Auxiliary members and leaders to inform and promote how local Auxiliarists may actively support and augment their unit. There are many Auxiliarists, whether possessing specific certifications (AUX-Chef, watchstanding, etc.) or unique personal skills (administrative, construction, financial planning), who are eager to help and assist the active duty in any way they can.



USCG STATION BARNEGAT: Meeting with AUX and STA BARNEGAT BAY.

*USCG Auxiliary Photograph.*

- CDR Morgan and BOSN-4 Price traveled to the district's Raystown Lake area on 19 October visiting our AUXPAD cadre COMO KC Murphy and Bill Turner for education regarding the AUXPAD program. Then the next day joined members at the Flotilla 19-01 Central Pennsylvania meeting.



Sector Delaware Bay personnel underway with Auxiliary  
*USCG Auxiliary Photograph.*



Gathering at Raystown Lake area

*USCG Auxiliary Photograph.*

- Division 04 area familiarization Auxiliary patrol on 23 August with new Sector Delaware Bay (SDB) personnel - Deputy Commander CAPT Higgins-Bloom, CDR Chad Morgan DIRAUX, ENS Rosemarie Perdomo OIA, CWO-4 Mickey Price OTO.

*Continued on the next page...*

## ***DIRAUX Roadshow Continues***

### ***Continued***

- On 27 October the duo traveled to to SARDET Bordentown in the afternoon then to Milford Delaware for a Division meeting in the evening.



DIRAUX Meeting with SARDET Bordentown and Milford Division members.

*USCG Auxiliary Photograph.*

- CDR Chad Morgan, CWO4 Mickey Price and COMO Joe Giannattasio visited USCG STATION CAPE MAY Commanding Officer LT Dan Nelson and exchanged ideas how local Auxiliarists may further assist the unit. Afterwards they joined current and incoming Flotilla 08-02 bridge members at their headquarters, The Shack and enjoyed a lunch of 'typical' South Jersey foods (Taylor Pork Roll and cheese sandwiches, cheesesteaks, Italian hoagies) and wonderful fellowship.
- On 10 November CDR Chad Morgan, CWO4 Mickey Price and COMO Joe Giannattasio visited USCG STATION MANASQUAN with area Auxiliary members and leaders to inform and promote how local Auxiliarists may backfill certain active duty jobs and actively support and augment their unit.



Meeting with STA CAPE MAY and Cape May Flotilla.

*USCG Auxiliary Photograph.*

Our 'Dynamic DIRAUX Duo' also came up with a catchy branding phrase to encourage active duty commands to consider Auxiliarist support: "We Have an AUX for That."

CDR Morgan and BOSN4 Price are planning to continue to visit each Coast Guard station along with the local Auxiliary leadership. They feel the visits are extremely beneficial for both the membership and the DIRAUX mission and look forward to maintaining this initiative.

## ***Lucky Bag - New Hours***

**New days and hours for Auxiliarists to access Lucky Bag:**

**Every Wednesday 0900-1100**

**Every Thursday 1000-1300**

**Every Friday by appointment**



## ***Useful Resources***

### **HURRICANE RELATED**

National Hurricane Center <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

Mike's Weather Page (one-stop shop with tons of information) <https://spaghettimodels.com/default.htm>

Tropical Tidbits <https://www.tropicaltidbits.com/storminfo/>

### **MEASURED RAINFALL**

Interactive Daily Measured Rainfall Amounts Map <https://cocorahs.org/>

### **CLICKABLE MAPS FOR WEATHER and MARINE FORECASTS**

NWS Weather Forecast Map (all US) <https://www.weather.gov/jetstream/wfos>

NOAA NWS Marine Weather Forecasts <https://www.weather.gov/marine/>

### **CLICKABLE MAPS AND HYDROGRAPHS FOR RIVER LEVELS AND FORECASTS**

NWS River Forecast Centers (Entire US) <https://www.weather.gov/jetstream/rfcs>

#### **Mid-Atlantic RFC River Hydrographs – S. NY to VA**

[Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center Map](#)

#### **Southeast RFC River Hydrographs - Wilmington NC to Key West, FL**

[Southeast River Forecast Center Map](#)



## *Auxiliarist Spotlight - Don Merrill*

### **Congratulations on 50 Years of Service**

"Don Merrill has been a pillar of strength for Team Coast Guard for over 50 years. I have worked with him for over 16 years, and two words comes to mind "Excellence and Integrity". He has been involved in too many RBS programs to mention. He has directly or indirectly trained more Coxswain and Crew than anyone I know in the Auxiliary. He is a leader second to none and a resource to all. Congratulations on 50 glorious years."

- Kurt P. Sarac Sr., DCOS (COMO-elect)



"Congratulations to Don for this 50-year anniversary with the Coast Guard Auxiliary! I know Don has worked hard and served our members well for this accomplishment. All of us truly appreciate his dedication and service."

-Commodore Joseph Giannattasio





## *Auxiliarist Spotlight - Harry Dyer*

### **Harry Dyer Turns 90**

By Christopher Orlando, ADSO-PB

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary 5th District-Northern Region would like to wish AUX Harry Dyer a heartfelt and sincere happy birthday! AUX Dyer has been a fixture within the District for decades, serving in a variety of roles. Today, we would like to recognize AUX Dyer for his devotion to duty.

AUX Dyer joined the Auxiliary in April 8, 1974 and is best known as the tech wiz of the District. During D-Trains and other District events, you can find AUX Dyer with his computer up, ready to assist any Auxiliarist in need of technological assistance.

“The Auxiliary offers some of the greatest, free, educational opportunities with fantastic instructors and online courses,” said Dyer. “From the Advanced Navigation Course, I learned invaluable information that permitted me to spend many years cruising and fishing, over 25 round trips between Atlantic City, NJ, and the Bahamas, and navigating almost every inlet on the east coast of the U.S. and the west coast of Florida.”

“Harry Dyer, a true renaissance Auxiliarist, continuously amazes me with the breadth and scope of his abilities. He is a true inspiration. As a member who joined the Auxiliary nearly a half century ago, Harry has proven to be adaptable and fearless in learning and mastering new multiple abilities that benefit our members and the district,” said Joseph Giannattasio, District Commodore.

Dyer has even spent time with the gold side. According to Dyer, he was the first Auxiliary liaison for Group Philadelphia (now Sector Delaware Bay) introducing the Auxiliary to the Coast Guard (the Sector Coordinator position did not exist), This is where he met Elizabeth Kain, Administrative Affairs Specialist for Coast Guard District Five.



*Continued on the next page...*

## *Auxiliarist Spotlight - Harry Dyer*

“It has been my honor to know and work with Harry for the past 24 years,” said Kain of Dyer.

“When anyone think about Harry Dyer, we think of Devotion, Dedication and service to our country. He is known as one of the long time pillars of Div. 17 and the District subject matter expert for the IS/IT needs of the members and leadership,” said Kurt Surrac, District Commodore Elect. “We have been so blessed to have Harry involved in the Aux for more year's than some members have been alive! He is a fixture of all things Team Coast Guard.”

Dyer has had an incredible career with the Auxiliary but according to Dyer, “My “favorite part” about being a member of the Auxiliary is helping others in various aspects, whether it involves boats or other subjects. I first became involved as an FSO-IS in 2000 BC (before computers in the Auxiliary). In the following years, I became an Instructor, a Vessel Examiner, performed boat patrols, served in various elected and appointed officer positions and published an award-winning newsletter. After “old age” took over I’m staying involved at the flotilla, division, district, and national levels and continuing doing my “favorite part” helping others.”

And Dyer would tell others, “Take advantage of those opportunities to further your education and then apply what you have learned to the associated Auxiliary programs. Get involved and you will find rewarding results. Never get discouraged, if you falter along the way, there will be someone there to provide help.”

*Photographs of Harry taken from previous Topsides.*

### **DIVISION 2 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR**



Harry Dyer (L), ADSO-PB, receiving Division 2 Auxiliarist of the Year Award from District Commodore John Locasale.

*Photograph by Cheryl Munroe  
FSO-PE 4-11 Wayne, PA*



Harry Dyer, FSM-MT 26, greeting guests at the Chem Club's meeting.

*Photograph by Edward B. Horohan  
FSO-PA 26 Roslyn, PA*

## ***Publications***

### **TOPSIDE Anniversary March 1943-Present**

We wanted to remind the district that an important milestone is coming.

Our research indicates that this newsletter, TOPSIDE, is the oldest continuously published Auxiliary newsletter. TOPSIDE has been regularly published since March 1943. 2022 begins the 80<sup>th</sup> year of the newsletter, with March 2023 being the official 80th Anniversary of TOPSIDE.



**Timothy Marks**  
**District Staff Officer -**  
**Publications**

To view TOPSIDE's online archive, please click this link on the D5NR website at <https://5nr.org/topside-archives/>. The TOPSIDE online bibliotheca contains the most complete collection of TOPSIDE from March 1943 to present.

We assembled a dedicated multi-disciplined team of 5NR members to insure the preservation of the collection of old TOPSIDE newsletters. The Team digitally scanned each issue and uploaded them onto a section in the district's website where they could be stored and accessed.

TOPSIDE's online archive reveals a wealth of treasure from the Auxiliary's history. Gems include a 1944 article chronicling the Auxiliary's response to the "Great Atlantic Hurricane" of September that year, the golden 50-year anniversary fall 1989 issue featuring the "History, 5th [Northern Region] Coast Guard Auxiliary," and policy pieces including the 2003 essay about the Auxiliary being the only volunteer organization to be included in the newly created Department of Homeland Security.

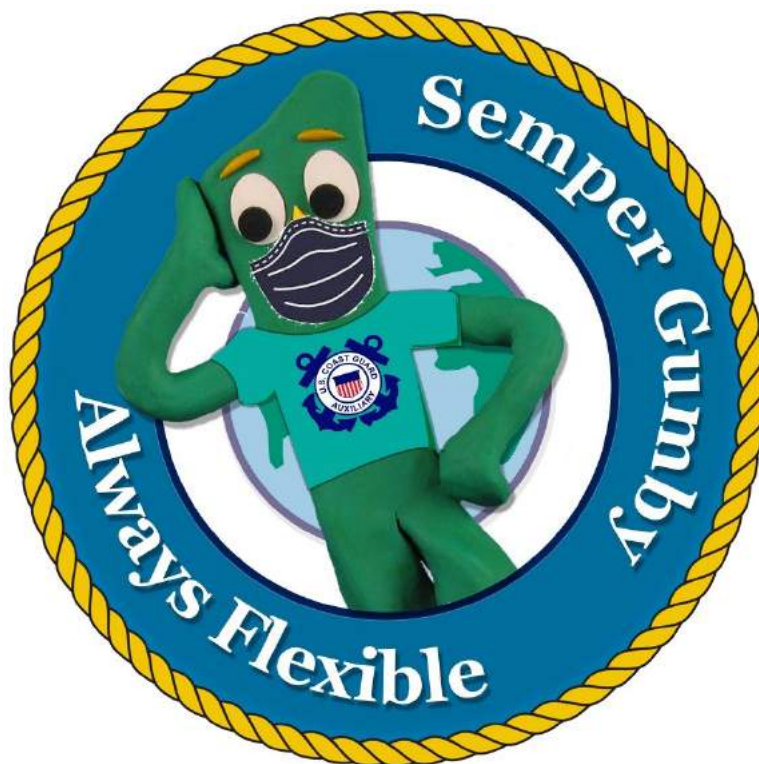
Please view this archive, continue reading current issues of TOPSIDE, and thank you for all your support to this newsletter for the past 80 years!



## Latest COVID Guidance

Please click on the link below to take you to the 5NR website with the latest COVID guidance information:

<https://5nr.org/diraux-covid-19-directives/>





## *RS&S Roadshow*

Paul Whitman ADSO OPS East has been conducting a RS&S Equipment Inspection 'Roadshow,' where he performs and demonstrates RS&S equipment inspections for member and leaders at the flotilla and division levels. Paul also makes use of these events to teach selected officers to learn to carry out Inspections on RS&S Equipment PFD's, Float Coats Etc to be in compliance with Chief Warrant Officer Mickey Price (OTO) Sector Delaware Bay Directives on these Matters to maintain Semper Paratus in order to aid The Public, Active Duty Personnel and Each Other while Underway.

Photos by John Tredinnick



## *Commodore's Holiday Message*

Joyous Wishes to each of you and your families! One of the real joys this holiday season is the opportunity to say thank you and to wish you the very best for the new year.

District Fifth Northern has had another operatively successful and busy year, and I'm confident that you will continue your great service and support of the Coast Guard. I'm blessed to serve as your Commodore and to represent an awesome group of for whom that is a year-round way of life! As members of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, you are part of the best trained most valued maritime volunteer service in the world. All year long you have donated the most precious thing you have - your time and your talent.

As we go through the holiday period, please stand tall with pride for a job well done. Above all as we travel to celebrate this holiday, stay safe and look forward to working together in the years to come.

Semper Paratus,

COMO Joseph Giannattasio, District Commodore D5NR



**Commodore Joseph Giannattasio**  
**District Commodore**  
**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary**  
**5th District-Northern Region**



## *Division 19 Activities*

On October 30, 2022, Flotilla 19-05 participated in the York Halloween Parade. In attendance were: Wendy Behr, Kevin Behr, Jeremy Kerstetter, Jeff Kuhn who also provided his truck and boat (the only float that floats!), and David Blechertas. We had a warm reception from the crowd as well as several offers to buy the boat! At the judging area near the square in town, we delivered a message to "Avoid a scary situation and always wear your life vest on any boat. From kayaks and canoes to power boats and sail boats, always keep it on!"



The Coast Guard Auxiliary York, Pa. floats their way along the parade route during the 2022 York Halloween Parade.

PAUL KUEHNEL, YORK DAILY RECORD



*Continued on the next page...*



## *Division 19 Activities*

### *Continued*

The Division 19 Honor Guard, led by Kevin Behr - Honor Guard Coordinator, attended a Veterans Day Event On Sunday 11.13.20 for Veterans Day Honoring Veterans at St. Peter's Lischey's UCC in Spring Grove, PA.



November 13, 2022 Honor Guard at St. Peter's Lischey's UCC. Pictured are Jeff Kuhn, Rick Young, David Blechertas, Jeremy Kerstetter, and Kevin Behr.

*Photo taken by Wendy Behr, 19-05*

*Continued on the next page...*



## *Division 19 Activities*

### *Continued*

On October 22, 2022, Flotilla 19-04 participated in the Millersville Halloween Parade.



## *Topside Puzzlers*

### **The US Coast Guard**

O S H P C E T S U Q P N Y C N Z N A E S  
 N O U F A C C F T E S K J K D H O C P H  
 E U J T K I X Q Y A Z O W Z B D I N Z A  
 N S L L A V E T V V T O V Q R V S O Q L  
 I C E N I R A M E U N E V E R D S T G L  
 N G I I K E A Y I E I W S E D D I L W O  
 E Q K T V S N P N T K H S G R Z M I B W  
 O F V L D R Q Y R M I G K A F A I M G W  
 N O M G W E V K M E N R U H O L T A R A  
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 F F G C F T L V V O E M D M W A U R F E  
 I B I T Q U P A K H P B E L M Y M E S R  
 V S Z J B C S D T K G H Z S K S X D E S  
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 C S P I L V N S N V S B Y M L Y F L O R  
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ALEXANDER HAMILTON  
 ARMED FORCES  
 COASTIES  
 MULTI=MISSION  
 ONE SEVEN NINE ZERO  
 REVENUE MARINE  
 SHALLOW WATER SAILORS  
 THE GUARD  
 US LIFE SAVING SERVICE

ALWAYS READY  
 COAST GUARD  
 MARITIME  
 ONE NINE ONE FIVE  
 REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE  
 SEMPER PARATUS  
 USCG





## *Southwest Border Operation*

In spring 2022, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) asked the U.S. Coast Guard to support its southwest border operations. The Coast Guard Auxiliary immediately responded providing logistical support in Texas to address the high volume of non-citizens seeking a better life in America. The Auxiliarists helped CBP agents provide the non-citizens with essential humanitarian care: initial processing, inventorying their personal property, handing out food, water and blankets. The Auxiliarists also helped stock supplies in the non-citizen's temporary living quarters, and unloaded pallets in warehouses.

Excerpts taken from a My CG article written by John Saran, AUXPA1, Division Chief – Publications, A-Directorate. See this site for the full article:

<https://www.mycg.uscg.mil/News/Article/3180542/auxiliarists-deploy-to-the-southwest-border/>



Auxiliarist Barbara Sama (right) along with another Auxiliarist supporting the Coast Guard in the Southwest Border Operations.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo*



Auxiliarists performing logistical support for the Southwest Border Operation.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photos  
By Barbara Sama*

# Auxiliary Valor on 9/11

by Gregg Bollinger, DSO-MS

The observance of the 21st anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attack on the United States is now as much history as the event itself, but before we move on into October, let's reflect briefly on the Auxiliary's connection to that fateful day.

Following the attacks, the Auxiliary supplemented active duty and reserve units. The Auxiliary contributed thousands of hours patrolling ports and rivers, monitoring recreational boating, providing SAR standby and continuing "normal" Auxiliary activities such as conducting boating education classes. The Auxiliary made it possible for the release of active duty personnel for crucial law enforcement and port security. There was an uptick in Auxiliary patrols post 9/11, particularly on the Potomac River which added to the security watch of the Washington, D.C. area.

While many Auxiliarists gave their time during this ordeal, one gave everything. U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliarist and volunteer fireman, Gregory Sikorsky, died during the collapse of buildings at Ground Zero in his efforts to save people.

Auxiliarist Sikorsky knew and lived the definition of service as both a volunteer firefighter and an Auxiliarist.

While the loss of Auxiliarist Sikorsky was tragic, we can be inspired by his sacrificial efforts and dedicate ourselves anew to the ideal of devotion to duty.

<https://www.firehero.org/fallen-firefighter/gregory-r-sikorsky/>



Auxiliarist Gregory R. Sikorsky

*Photograph taken from:*  
<https://www.firehero.org/fallen-firefighter/gregory-r-sikorsky/>



# A Special Coast Guard Thanksgiving with Auxiliary Support

Article and Photographs by COMO Joseph Giannattasio

For the fifth year in a row, on November 19th, District 5NR Auxiliarists and members of the community showed their appreciation to the families of USCG Station Cape May and home-ported cutters for their sacrifices while giving them a thoughtful Thanksgiving meal—complete with all the trimmings. John Burns, the Auxiliary Unit Coordinator for the station, Chef Robert Ohlsen, a Culinary Arts Instructor at the Cumberland County Technical Education Center worked with LT Dan Nelson, the station's Commanding Officer to make a special family style dinner for over 55 people.

More than 650 active duty, reserve, and civilian members work at USCG Training Center Cape May (TRACEN) and the 15 tenant commands. Coast Guard active duty members and families in Cape May face the same hardships as service members stationed anywhere. Some are unable to go home and be with their families during the holiday. And some families are missing an essential element to their holiday celebrations – a deployed loved one.



Chris Burns, Chef Rob and AUX Don Dobson serving Coast Guard members and families.



Active Duty personnel and family members in a group setting and enjoying a delicious Thanksgiving dinner.

Because Coast Guard personnel of the Duty Section need to be underway for an emergency in less than six minutes the dinner was held at the Oceanside Community Club within TRACEN. Nick DiRenzo, owner of Westside Meats in Rio Grande donated the food. Under the supervision of Chef Rob, John Burns and his wife Chris, Auxiliarist Don Dobson and District Commodore Joe Giannattasio helped with food preparation and serving. Chef Rob's son, Robert, also helped in preparing and serving the dinner. The goal is simply to provide Thanksgiving dinner, complete with turkey, dressing, glazed ham, sweet potatoes, veggies, macaroni and cheese, desserts, etc., to members and family of the Coast Guard as a simple way of showing appreciation to them, especially those who will not be able to travel home to be with family over the holiday.

*Continued on the next page...*

# A Special Coast Guard Thanksgiving

## Continued

After dinner, LT Nelson presented Chef Rob and Chris Burns with unit citations as tokens of appreciation for all they have done in coordinating this feast for the past five years.



The dinner all came together perfectly. There were approximately 55 Active Duty personnel and family members who had the opportunity to sit down in a group setting and enjoy the delicious dinner provided by local Auxiliarists and family, all prepared by a renowned chef. In addition, some Officers of the Deck from Coast Guard Cutters were provided meals “to go”. It all came together and was a memorable experience for all. It truly captured the meaning of giving thanks.



LT Dan Nelson presents Chris Burns and Chef Rob Ohlsen plaques of appreciation.



A bountiful Thanksgiving serving line awaits Coast Guard members and families.





# Commodore completes Alexander Hamilton Journey - from Alpha to Omega

by Tim Marks, DSO-PB

Photographs by COMO Joseph Giannattasio

In November, District Commodore Joe Giannattasio completed a personal journey of the history of the Coast Guard's founder, Alexander Hamilton.

Joe's expedition began in 2018. While sailing in the West Indies he visited the island of Nevis. Alexander Hamilton was born on January 11, 1755 or 1757 on the small Caribbean island of Nevis, a body of land neighboring St. Kitts in the Lesser Antilles. In the small capital city of Charlestown, COMO called on the Museum of Nevis History, which sits on the site of Hamilton's birthplace. The home as seen today is actually a replica of the original house, which was destroyed in a natural disaster and laid in ruins for some time.



Alexander Hamilton's birthplace, Nevis.

Anyone who remembers their high school history class knows that sitting Vice-President Aaron Burr shot and killed former Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton during an 1804 duel. What many people do not realize, however, is that the very boulder where a mortally wounded



Location of where Alexander Hamilton was shot.

Hamilton was thought to have rested still exists. Perched high atop the Weehawken Palisades in New Jersey, before the panoramic backdrop of the Manhattan skyline, COMO Giannattasio trekked to the grim reminder of the tragic death of one of this country's great Founding Fathers. There, sits the large, red sandstone boulder behind the formal monument, and bears the inscription: "Upon this stone rested the head of the Patriot Soldier, Statesman, and Jurist Alexander Hamilton after the duel with Aaron Burr."

Joe completed his odyssey in New York City at Trinity Church, set in lower Manhattan's financial district. Alexander Hamilton is buried in the cemetery of Trinity Church, where he owned a pew (No. 92), and where five of his eight children were baptized. His grave is marked by an elegant white marble pyramid, surrounded by four urns.

*Continued on the next page...*

# Commodore completes Alexander Hamilton Journey - from Alpha to Omega

Continued

On the grave is Hamilton's epitaph:  
The Patriot of incorruptible integrity.  
The soldier of approved valour.  
The statesman of consummate wisdom.  
Whose talents and virtues will be admired  
Long after this marble shall have mouldered into dust.



Alexander Hamilton's gravesite.





# Admiral Russell R. Waesche

## Presided Over the Creation of the All-Volunteer U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

By Leon Christopher DeFulgentis, AUXPA3

Admiral Russell R. Waesche was the eighth commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard. He served as commandant from 1936 to 1946, overseeing the service during World War II. Admiral Waesche was the U.S. Coast Guard's longest-serving commandant, having served ten years in the post.

Russell Randolph Waesche was born in Thurmont, Maryland on January 6, 1886. He completed his freshman year at Purdue University before applying to the U.S. Revenue Cutter School of Instruction. He was accepted and later graduated in October 1906. Waesche was stationed in the North Atlantic, the Great Lakes, and the Pacific Northwest during his first five years in the Revenue Cutter Service. In 1915, Waesche was assigned to headquarters in Washington, D.C. He took an active role in creating the Coast Guard with the merger of the Revenue Cutter Service and the U.S. Life-Saving service.

The 18th Amendment was passed in 1919, and Waesche was assigned to enforce prohibition at sea. He commanded various destroyers in preventing "rum runners" from entering port. He later commanded the USCGC *Beale*. After serving on *Beale*, he went to the Philadelphia Navy Yard and was the Coast Guard representative at the U.S. Sesquicentennial International Exposition. Admiral Waesche was later appointed Commandant as rear admiral on June 14, 1936. He was responsible for the merger of the U.S. Lighthouse Service with the Coast Guard in 1939. Waesche was also instrumental in organizing the Coast Guard reserve which underwent its greatest expansion in history. He served as Commandant during World War II and received honors for his service. While presiding over the great expansion of the USCG, Waesche made sure that the service maintained its separate identity while it was under administrative control of the U.S. Navy. The small peacetime fleet swelled with Coast Guardsmen manning more than 750 cutters, 3,500 smaller craft, 290 Navy vessels, and 255 Army vessels. Throughout World War II, the Coast Guard participated in every major amphibious operation. Aviators increased activities at all Coast Guard air stations engaging in anti-submarine and convoy escort operations. This was in addition to performing numerous search and rescue missions.



Admiral Waesche

*Source: history.uscg.mil*

*Continued on the next page...*

# Admiral Russell R. Waesche

## Presided Over the Creation of the All-Volunteer U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

### Continued

Admiral Waesche presided over the creation of the all-volunteer U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. This was to help the short-handed parent service promote recreational boating safety. A volunteer auxiliary made sense to help fill the gap of workforce shortages within the U.S. Coast Guard. Today the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has 21,000 members serving our nation and communities in 793 units. The auxiliary contributes 3.8 million hours per year in support of the Coast Guard; operating 1,800 vessel, 160 aircraft and 1,400 radio facilities. In 1943, Waesche secured support from the US Congress for the Coast Guard's return to the Treasury Department as quickly as possible after the end of World War II. Thus, the service avoided the problems that occurred after the First World War when the Navy attempted to maintain its control of the Coast Guard. Admiral Waesche retired from the Coast Guard in 1946. Navy Secretary James Forrestal decorated Admiral Waesche with the Distinguished Service Medal for "exceptionally meritorious service to the government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commandant, United States Coast Guard." He died later that year and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery in October 1946. The USCG cutter *Waesche* (WMSL-751) was named for Admiral Waesche and commissioned on May 7, 2010.

#### Sources:

USCG.mil; CGAUX.org; "Rear Admiral Russell R. Waesche, Jr." Notable People, U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office, Johnson, Robert Irwin (1987); *Guardians of the Sea, History of the United States Coast Guard, 1915 to the Present*. Naval Institute Press, Annapolis, Maryland; "Coast Guard takes delivery of cutter Waesche" Navy Times. 2009-11-08.



USCGC Waesche (WMSL-751)

Source: *Northropgrumman.com*

# Kayakers take over Barnegat Bay

By John Scordato, FSO-PE

On August 20, 2022, multiple kayaks & canoes inbarked on the Barnegat Bay. It was not an invasion but an attempt to break a record issued by the Guinness World record. More than 1200 kayaks & canoes registered to become a part of world record history. The current record of 326 kayaks in a waterway was set in Poland in 2018.

Besides trying to break a record it was also a fund raising event.

Save the Barnegat Bay organization will use the registration fees to assist within their organization. The kayaker's were placed into columns of two for the 1 mile loop course for safety and the ease of counting the boaters.

Many of the kayaker's were local as well as some that came from Ohio and California. One local kayaker was Michelle Miller of Seaside Park, NJ. who participated with her friend Robin Baudrey & her son CJ Baudrey. Ms. Miller stated; " it was alot fun and well organized".

Guinness evaluators were on site and assisted volunteers who recorded the number of kayaks. It will take about three to four months to certify the new record. Volunteer organizations who assisted included, Pine Beach Yacht club, police & fire depts. & EMS.

The USCG & NJSP Marine police were also on hand to keep participants safe.



Michelle Miller with USCG Auxiliarists John Scordato & Glen Delmonico of Manasquan Inlet, Flotilla 1607, both vessel examiners. Here the Auxiliarists finished conducting the VE examinations on one of Ms. Millers kayaks issuing VSC stickers to all of her kayaks. Auxiliarists Delmonico stated; " after applying these reflective stickers on your oars you will be extra visible ".

*US Coast Guard Auxiliary Photograph*



# Recognizing Deserving Members with Truly Unique Awards

by Tim Marks, DSO-PB

Award plaques are a perfect way to say thank you or to recognize outstanding achievements by members. They are easy to display and can be artfully arranged to show off multiple accomplishments or to create a wall of high achievers that will inspire and motivate others, but that doesn't mean they need to be expensive or tacky. The history of plaques and trophies date back to the original Olympic games in Greece, victors were crowned with twisted olive branches. It might seem simple to us today, but it was a serious status symbol in those times and was reserved only for the most elite athletes.

In his various elected and appointed leadership offices during his 19 years in the Auxiliary, Commodore Joe Giannattasio has experienced the accomplishment of receiving awards and the honor of presenting commendations to deserving members. As District Commodore, Joe has also created customized plaques to recognize members of his staff who went above and beyond the scope of their duties.

As a Coast Guard Auxiliary leader, there are many versions of citations to choose from when selecting traditional trophies from a vendor. However, COMO Giannattasio prefers to honor outstanding members with personalized distinctions that he designs and makes himself. Joe enjoys making plaques from uncommon sources - like wood reclaimed from early sailing vessels or from metal salvaged from decommissioned military aircraft. Joe believes awards should be meaningful and unique to the individual, and he has created awards that are unique in terms of material, design and more. "I want the awards I present to be emblematic and personal to the recipient, to be a keepsake as much as an accolade," explained Joe. For instance, a few years ago he made a surface operations award from wood salvaged from a retired 1950's Coast Guard Motor Life Boat (MLB) and an air program award from parts of a wing recovered from a WWII dive bomber. And a wooden paddle was the perfect catalyst to make a trophy celebrating District Fifth Northern's first certified Paddle Craft Operator (AUXPAD-O) by just adding a formal inscription and ornamental rope work, or coxcombing, by a skilled Shipmate.

Five years ago the U.S. Coast Guard honored Joe Giannattasio as the 2017 National Auxiliarist of the Year, and aviation personnel from Coast Guard Air Station Atlantic City celebrated the occasion by presenting Joe an engraved memento made from a Coast Guard helicopter's rotor blade attachment arm.



COMO Joe Giannattasio in his workshop.

*US Coast Guard Auxiliary Photograph*

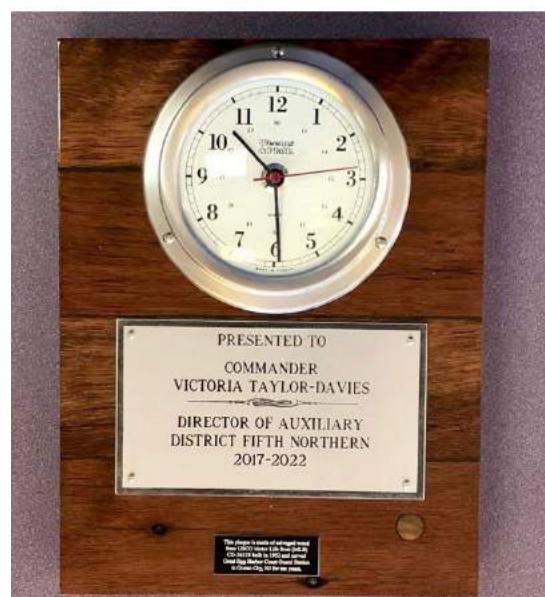
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# Recognizing Deserving Members with Truly Unique Awards

Continued

And the innovative and hard-working Auxiliarist encourages other Auxiliary leaders to be as creative when celebrating their members with commendation tokens. “You can make a personalized plaque using diverse materials gathered from around your area or travels. The possibilities are endless, and once you know how to make a basic trophy you can customize it to your heart's content!”



A sampling of awards that COMO Joe Giannattasio has produced

*US Coast Guard Auxiliary Photograph*

# History of the District



# *They Helped Win Battle of East Coast*

*by 5NR Historian Steve Marthouse*

Recently I traveled to the New Jersey Maritime Museum in Beach Haven NJ to review our Auxiliary Display. As I was moving some items around, I took close notice to a display board originally put together by my predecessor, John "Jake" Lincoln. Basically, the display consisted of several newspaper articles concerning the Coast Guard Auxiliary from the WWII period. Although I could read the date of the articles and the author, I was not able to identify the newspaper where they originally appeared. Once again following an internet check on the author's name, I find William B. Mellor, Jr. wrote a book titled "Sank Same" on January 1, 1944. The teaser on the book front cover reads: "The story of the modern Minute Men who drove the Nazi submarine invaders from our shores". On the back cover, "A drama of a modern battle of Concord whereby a civilian band drove the Nazi Submarines off the Atlantic Coast while the American Navy was busy on other fronts". Here is a book review from the time. Needless to say, I'm now on a search for a copy of this book.



*Steve Marthouse  
5NR Historian  
ADSO-PB History*

## SANK SAME

BY WILLIAM B. JR. MELLOR • RELEASE DATE: SEPT. 1, 1944

A repetitious account of the work of the Civil Air Patrol and Coastguard Auxiliary as an important part of the defense of our Atlantic coast during 1942 and early 1943 when the Nazi submarines were a serious menace to allied shipping. The book pays tribute where tribute is overdue, to the groups of volunteers who worked with little recognition or remuneration, in danger and unarmed at first, whose work consisted chiefly of routine patrols-with occasional spots of excitement. Too bad the style isn't more professional-crisper-and more interesting, for there's a story there.

Continued on the next page...



Scenes like this were all too frequent along the Atlantic coast during the early days of the war, when sinkings reached the appalling average of one a day.



## *They Helped Win Battle of East Coast*

### *Continued*

I believe these newspaper articles were excerpts from the book and they appeared in the Philadelphia Record newspaper. I have attempted to copy the article in the same format and style as the original.

## They Helped Win Battle of East Coast

### CG Auxiliary's Story Revealed After Two Years

By William B. Mellor, Jr.

Wednesday, April 19, 1944

If you wanted some advice on New Jersey law, or a good story about deep sea fishing, you might do well to consult Maurice Cole. Because he is an Atlantic City lawyer who likes to fish. But if you were looking for a man to chase a German submarine away from our shores, Cole wouldn't enter your mind. Nor, when picking a ship for the job, would you give a thought to Cole's 38-foot cabin cruiser, the Monjoie II.

### THEY DID IT

It happens, however, that Cole and the Monjoie did chase a submarine to its destruction in a most effective manner. How he did it-and why-can now be told, after two years. It is a part of a story which will merit a few paragraphs in even a condensed history of the future-and many of volume in the library of our national saga.

The story starts in the spring of 1941, when the Coast Guard, busy with the new duties created by a war fast approaching our shores, created a "civilian auxiliary", the main idea of which was to encourage pleasure boat operators to police themselves. Nearly 1000 men in the Philadelphia area joined up.

### WAR BREAKS

Then came Pearl Harbor and the outbreak of submarine warfare along the seaboard. Nazi U-boats were sinking ships in sight of the boardwalks-one a week, two a week, finally nearly one a day.

The Navy was busy with a two-ocean war. Coast Guard boats were in convoy service. The civilian auxiliary was asked if it could patrol the coasts. It could and did.



Continued on the next page...

## *They Helped Win Battle of East Coast*

### *Continued*

These civilian auxiliaries are comparable to the Minute Men of Lexington and Concord and take their place alongside the men of John Paul Jones' forces. That eastern coast patrol was, in a way, too, our Dunkirk. The little pleasure boats-and the big ones-performed a service not unlike that of the British sportsmen who rescued the survivors from the French beaches.

### **COLE'S VICTORY**

To get back to the Lawyer Cole and his victory over a submarine:

With a crew of two in the Monjoie II, Cole was patrolling many miles off the coast. He sighted a submarine cutting through the water, looking for stragglers off the in-shore shipping lane. What to do? The Monjoie II, for all her gray war paint, was still just a light, unarmed 38-foot pleasure boat. Cole made his decision in a split second. He



speeded up and headed straight for the U-boat. "I was chasing the sub as hard as I could" he relates. "But what the hell we would have done with it (or it with us) if we caught it, I don't know."

### **U-BOAT DIVES**

While he was speeding ahead, one of the crew was advising the shore station by radio telephone of what was happening. What the submarine skipper thought will probably never be known. It is certain he didn't know what kind of boat was after him because he submerged as fast as he could. That wasn't quite fast enough as it turned out, because a Navy Blimp was on scene almost immediately in response to the radio call. She dropped depth charges.

Not all of the amateur patrol boats, of course, sighted submarines. And none got credit for destroying enemy boats, although several had adventures similar to Cole's. The Navy, as one Coast Guard officer put it, "doesn't chalk up one as sunk unless you bring in its ears". As a matter of fact, most of the work done by the patrol can be classed as drudgery, rather than adventure. Out in all hours of the day and night in all sorts of weather, their little boats moved back and forth, watching, eternally watching. The sound of their propellers and the certain knowledge that they were alert to call for help from the shore certainly drove back many a prowling submarine and saved many American life.

A few of the citizen-sailors did see action in which submarines were destroyed. Bill Errig, of 410 Rodman Ave, Jenkintown told of one such adventure.

Continued on the next page...



## *They Helped Win Battle of East Coast*

### *Continued*

#### **RAN INTO CONVOY**

Early in the summer of 1942 he was on patrol in his boat *Tranquilla*. “We ran into a northbound convoy which had been halted a few miles offshore because a submarine had been reported,” he related. “I stood by in case I would be needed”. The cutters raced around, searching for the sub with their listening devices. Suddenly they all converge on one spot about a half mile from where our boat lay and started tossing in their ‘ash cans’. It seemed as if a volcano had erupted under us. “The *Tranquilla* was lifted clean out of the water and opened up at the seams. I was nearly blown off the forward deck. My crew landed in a pile on the cockpit deck”.

When the shooting was over, Errig went out to the scene and saw a slick of two kinds of oil-fuel and crank-case. That meant the real thing because when subs release oil to deceive pursuers, only one kind of oil is seen.



**William Hobbs chased a sub, too, but it got away.**

William Hobbs, of Egg Harbor, owner of a chain of 5-and-10 cent stores, had an experience similar to Cole's, off Ocean City in his yacht, *Edith H.* That time the sub got away.

When veterans of the “coast war” sit around to talk about their experiences, they have some humorous stories as well as tales of hardship and adventure. Frank G. Eskuchen, of 6521 Greenway Ave., design engineer with RCA and commander of Flotilla 11, for instance tells how he chased a shark for two miles, after reporting to the Coast Guard base that he had sighted a “suspicious object”. And one boat, seeking a sunken Navy PY craft with a grappling hook, “caught” a submarine. More correct, perhaps, would be a statement that the submarine most caught it. The hook became attached to the submerged U-boat, which kept right on. The crew let go the line in time to save themselves.

**This story of the minute men of the sea will be continued in the next issue.**



# 5NR Obscura



## *Cape May Diamonds*

Cape May is the home of the so-called "Cape May Diamonds". Cape May Diamonds are a natural phenomenon that washes up on the shores of Sunset Beach, near the remnants of the concrete ship SS *Atlantis*. These 'diamonds' are in fact clear quartz pebbles that wash down from the Delaware River. They begin as prismatic quartz (including the color sub-varieties such as smoky quartz and amethyst) in the quartz veins alongside the Delaware River that get eroded out of the host rock and wash down 200 miles to the shore. Collecting Cape May Diamonds is a popular pastime for visitors and locals



\*\*\*TOPSIDE offers this forum, District 5NR Obscura, to share some of the Cool, Hidden, and Unusual things to see In Auxiliary District Fifth Northern.

If you know of an interesting, curious or obscure place within your part of the district, send the Editor a couple photos with a brief description so other members can enjoy and maybe witness during a road trip.

# Photos from Across the District







**Flotilla 84 Retirees.** Left to Right: Dave Scallion, Tom Klein, Ernie Phillips.

“As we come to the end of 2022, we would like to thank Dave, Tom and Ernie for their many years of service and numerous contributions they have given to the Flotilla, USCG and our community. I would also like to thank them on a personal note for their support and guidance as I took over as FC. It is greatly appreciated. Congratulations and best wishes on your new retirement status and please do not be strangers. May you have fair winds and following seas.” - Joe Camarota, FC



**Seattle, WA:** 5NR Auxiliant Anne Marie Gillesberg (Flotilla 08-02) waves to family and friends at the Base Seattle Pier, Nov. 16, 2022, as the ship's crew prepares to undergo its mission in support of Operation Deep Freeze. The crew will transit Antarctica, and back, covering approximately 20,000 miles.

*Photograph by Petty Officer 3rd Class Michael Clark*



Auxiliary Stocking-Stuffer - This Auxiliary flatcar with Auxiliary submarine OPFAC is actually an O-scale rolling stock customized by an Auxiliarist-elf for a Coast Guard family.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by*

*COMO Joseph Giannattasio.*



**CAPE MAY COUNTY, NJ** - Auxiliary Co-pilot COMO Joe Giannattasio keeps an eye on a Coast Guard HH-65 helicopter that "intercepted" the Auxiliary Aircraft during Rotary Wing Air Intercept (RWAI) training with District Fifth Southern aircraft and aircrews. RWAI training is held weekly at USCG AIR STATION Atlantic City with the help of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photos by COMO Joseph Giannattasio*





Commander Morgan and CW04 Mickey Price attended Flotilla 19-01's monthly meeting on October 19, 2022.

*Photographs taken by various members of Flotilla 19-01*



**2022 Fall DTrain Senior and Flag Officers.** LtoR: COMO Ken Brown, CAPT Jonathan Theel, CDR Chad Morgan, CO-MO Tom Dever, DCO(elect) Kurt Sarac, DCO Joe Giannattasio, RDML Shannon Gilreath.

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Barbara Sama*



## *Fall DTrain*

To all who had a hand in shaping and organizing this Fall's DTrain - THANK YOU. Thank you so much for your time and effort in organizing such a wonderful Fall DTRAIN event. I have to say, I truly appreciate all the hard work you each put into ensuring our members having a valuable and enjoyable time. I hope future DTRAINS are as much fun! Thank you so much for organizing an outstanding event.

COMO Joseph Giannattasio





# Fall DTrain

Photographs by Barbara Sama, ADSO-PB





# Cutters at Station Cape May

*Photos by Auxiliarist Leon C. DeFulgentis, AUXPA3*

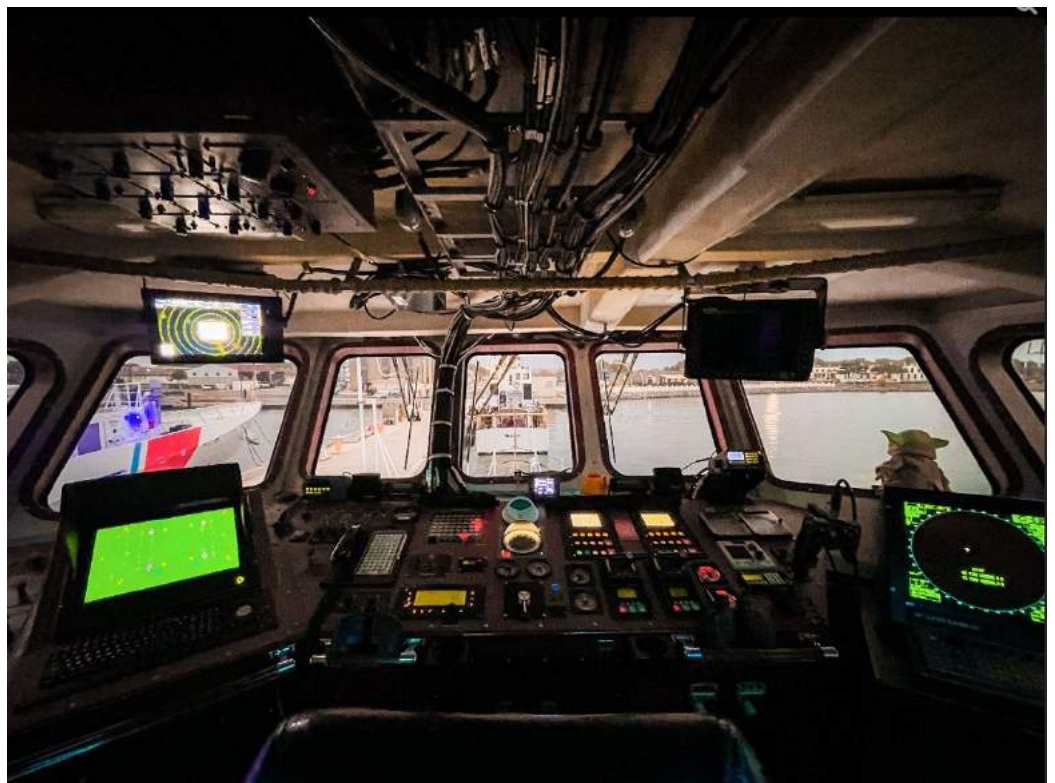


Pilothouse of USCGC Bonito at Station Cape May.

*US Coast Guard photo by Auxiliarist Leon C. DeFulgentis, AUXPA3*

USCGC Mako at Station Cape May.

*US Coast Guard photo by Auxiliarist Leon C. DeFulgentis, AUXPA3*





## *Seaplane Fly-In.*

On Saturday October 22, 2022 Auxiliary Division 04 was asked to provide a facility to clear the “runway” on the Delaware River and provide a security zone for landings and takeoffs. 04-09 FC Crowley’s facility 211993 was tasked for the patrol, with coxswain Alex Krupnik and crewman Jon Morrison, both from 04-09, and crewman Paul Baynard from 04-76.

*Photography by Jon Morrison, VFC Flotilla 053-04-09*





## QE DAY

On September 25, 2022, a QE Day was held on the Delaware River. It was an event where numerous members were QE-checked for boat crew and coxswain qualifications and recertification by several of the district QEs.

Photos by Scott Sigman



# COMMS Center

Communications to the  
membership compiled together  
(November 2021-January 2022)

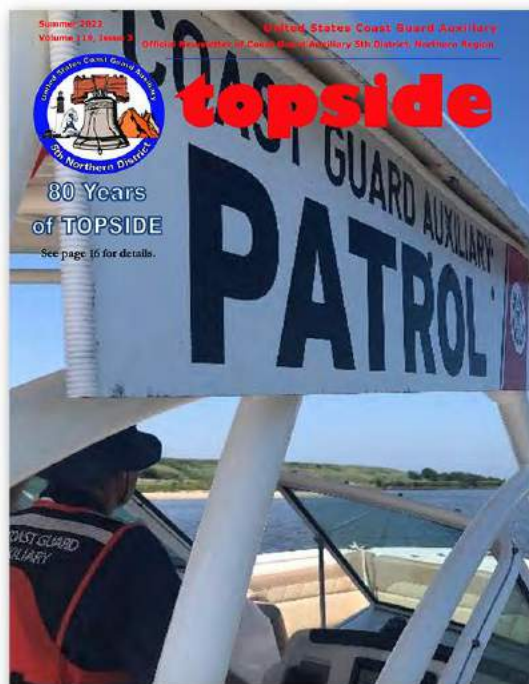




# COMMS CENTER

## NEWS FROM FIFTH DISTRICT-NORTHERN SECTION

NOGI 030CT22—Topside —Summer 2022 Edition



### Read All About It!

The Summer 2022 Edition  
is online

Topside is the Fifth District-Northern Region's premier magazine/newsletter that is celebrating its 80th year. After you check out the [latest edition](#), read the interesting stories from over the last 80 years. The edition includes information from around the district highlighting members and member activities.

Be sure to check out the entire 80 years of this great Auxiliary history

found in District Publications in the [Topside Archives](#) found on the [5nr.org](#) website.

## **L2 Auxiliary Leadership Link**

The Digest of US Coast Guard Auxiliary Activity

12 AUG 2022

To All Auxiliarists



### **SECOND QUARTER 2022 NAVIGATOR EXPRESS AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW!**

The Second Quarter Edition of the Navigator Express is available online now!  
Just click on the links below to read stories titled:

- Admiral Linda L. Fagan confirmed as the first woman to serve as Commandant of the Coast Guard
- Participation in the Auxiliary Life Jacket Wear Observer Program (AUXLWO) Augments the Coast Guard and Helps RBS
- Space OPS
- Flotilla Fort Washington takes Sea Scout trip to US Coast Guard Air Station Washington
- Doing Right by Right Whales
- Alex Haley, the Coast Guard's First Chief Journalist
- Coast Guard Station Golden Gate kicks off NSBW with Water Safety Fair 2022
- Flotilla 59 – Stuart, Florida celebrates 80 years supporting the Coast Guard
- Auxiliarists conduct sailboat rescue training for Coast Guard pilots and rescue swimmers
- Underway opportunities for Auxiliarists aboard the USCGC MUNRO
- Auxiliarist invited to attend christening of USCGC EMBLEN TUNNELL (WPC 1145)
- Auxiliarists have many ways to promote: Marine Safety
- Coast Guard K-9 recognized with Distinguished Service
- Don't fall overboard. Be prepared in case.
- Slow and steady completes the race

[Access the E-Magazine](#)  
[Access to PDF Magazine](#)

## **L2 Auxiliary Leadership Link**

The Digest of US Coast Guard Auxiliary Activity

DATED: 23 AUG 2022

TO: All Auxiliarists

### **National Elections Held at NACON 2022**

On Friday, August 19, elections were held at the Auxiliary National Convention in Orlando, Florida. The National Leadership team for the 2022-2024 term was elected by the Auxiliary National Bridge. Our leaders for this coming term are:

- National Commodore (NACO) - COMO Gus Formato

- Vice National Commodore (VNACO) - COMO Mary Kirkwood
- Deputy National Commodore - Atlantic Area East, Marine Safety (DNACO-MS) - COMO Allen Fredd
- Deputy National Commodore - Atlantic Area West, Response & Prevention (DNACO-RP) - COMO Patrick Feighery
- Deputy National Commodore - Pacific Area, Recreational Boating Safety (DNACO-RBS) - COMO Tiney Singler
- Deputy National Commodore - Information Technology & Planning (DNACO-ITP) - COMO Linda Merryman

Terms of office will begin November 1, 2022.

Congratulations and best wishes to our new National Bridge team!



## **L2 Auxiliary Leadership Link**

The Digest of US Coast Guard Auxiliary Activity

TO: All Auxiliarists

Dated: 30 AUG 2022

Re: 2021 Public Affairs Contest Winners



### **2021-22 PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONTEST WINNERS**

**Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Affairs A-Directorate**

**Lourdes R. Oliveras, MPH/AUXPA1**

**Director**

**District 5<sup>th</sup> Northern Winners -- Joseph Giannattasio, District Commodore**

- **Photography Category – Operations-** COMO Joseph Giannattasio Division 8, Flotilla 2, District 5NR

**District 5<sup>th</sup> Southern Winners -- Allen Fredd, District Commodore**

•

- **Division Newsletter Publication** – Connie Crosgrove “*Chesapeake Chatter*”, Division 23, Flotilla 6, District 5SR

**District 7 Winners– Patricia McMenemy, District Commodore**

- **Photography Category—Public Affairs**—Ellen DeLeo, Division 9, Flotilla 6, District 7
- **Photography Category—Public Education**—Robert Stringer, Division 5, Flotilla 9, District 7
- **Photography Category—Vessel Safety Checks--** Ellen DeLeo, Division 9, Flotilla 6, District 7
- **Flotilla Public Affairs Event—NSBW Event**—Robert Stringer, Division 5, Flotilla 9, District 7
- **Flotilla Newsletter Publication**— Robert Stringer “*Crossroads Currents*”, Division 5, Flotilla 9, District 7

7

**District 8<sup>th</sup> Eastern Winners – Matthew Meyer, District Commodore**

- **Division Public Affairs Event—Pearl Harbor Ceremony**—Robert Henson, Division 4, Flotilla 4, District 8ER
- **Photography Category—Member Services**—Ramon Llorens, Jr., Division 11, Flotilla 4, District 8ER



**District 9<sup>th</sup> Western Winners – Harvey Randall, District Commodore**

- **District Newsletter Publication**— John Saran “*Currents*”, Division 35, Flotilla 6, District 9WR

**District 11<sup>th</sup> Northern Winners – Dean McFarren, District Commodore**

- **Photography Category**—*Team Coast Guard*—Tiffany Townsend, Division 1, Flotilla 2, District 11NR

**District 11<sup>th</sup> Southern Winners – Charles Geiger, District Commodore**

- **Video** – Patrick Newburn, Division 7, Flotilla 3, District 11SR

**District 13 – Tiney Singler, District Commodore**

- **Photography Category**—*Fellowship*—Deborah Cordone, Division 5, Flotilla 2, District 13
- **Photography Category**—*Marine Safety*—Deborah Cordone, Division 5, Flotilla 2, District 13
- **District Public Affairs Event**—*USCGC Healy*— Deborah Cordone, Division 5, Flotilla 2, District 13

*Congratulations and BRAVO ZULU to all winners!*



## **L2 Auxiliary Leadership Link**

**The Digest of US Coast Guard Auxiliary Activity**

**To All Auxiliarists**

**Re: Direct Grant to Units**

**Dated: September 13, 2022**



Good day, Shipmates,

I'm excited to announce that the Auxiliary and your Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc., (AuxA), have formalized a “Direct Grants to Units” program that allows Coast Guard Auxiliary units to directly request and receive funding through the AuxA to support certain authorized Auxiliary program activities. The AuxA webpage now hosts a “[Direct Grants to Units](#)” tab where unit elected Auxiliary officers or their designees can quickly and easily make requests for funding after approval by the District Commodore.

Monthly, AuxA's Development team will collate requests and forward them to the Coast Guard Auxiliary National Executive Committee (NEXCOM). The cognizant District Commodore will be notified of approval status, usually within 30 days of submission. While there are many exciting and important projects and focus areas that are deserving of support, NEXCOM has established two primary focus areas it wishes to support in 2022:

- **Member Training** – NEXCOM seeks to fund initiatives that support, improve, or enable member training activities at the flotilla, division or district levels.
- **Recruitment Activities** – NEXCOM seeks to support units as they work to recruit new members to the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Questions about the program or application process should be directed to [grants@cgauxa.org](mailto:grants@cgauxa.org).

Very Respectfully,  
Alex Malewski, National Commodore  
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

## **L2 Auxiliary Leadership Link**

The Digest of US Coast Guard Auxiliary Activity

**28 September 2022**

**To: All Auxiliarists**



I am pleased to announce my selections for ANACO, Deputy ANACO and Director for the 2022-2024 term, and to solicit applications for all lower-level staff officer positions.

### **ANACOs**

Chief Financial Officer (CF) – COMO David Barber  
Chief Counsel (CC) – COMO Douglas Cream  
Information Technology (IT) - COMO Susan Davies  
Planning and Student Programs (PS) - COMO Peter Jensen  
Recreational Boating (RB) - COMO Robert Laurer  
Administrative Support (AS) – COMO Richard Mihalcik  
ForceCom (FC) - COMO Todd Monis  
Response and Prevention (RP) - COMO Fredrick Saunders  
Diversity (DV) – COMO Tracy Schultz

### **Deputy ANACOs**

(FC) David Elliot  
(CC) Bruce Kelton  
(RP) Anthony Marzano  
(CFO) Donna Miller  
AS) Gerald Patton  
(DV) Susan Thurlow  
(RB) Christopher Wilson

### **Directors**

DIR-A Public Affairs: Barry Denton  
DIR-B RBS Outreach: Nan Ellen Fuller  
DIR-C Computer Software and Systems: Amanda Constant  
DIR-E Public Education: David Fuller  
DIR-G Auxiliary Chaplain Support: Phillip Poole  
DIR-H Human Resources: Lee Zimmerman  
DIR-M Performance Measurement: Kevin Redden  
DIR-O Administrative Investigations: Sean Peoples  
DIR-P Prevention: Kim Cole  
DIR-Q Emergency Management and Disaster Response: William Hanlon  
DIR-R Response: Roy Savoca  
DIR-S Student Programs: JeanneMarie McNamara  
DIR-T Training: Robert Kumpf  
DIR-U User Support and Services: Jennifer Austin  
DIR-V Vessel Examination: James Cortes  
DIR-W Document Management: Terry Barth

Members desiring appointment or reappointment to the National Staff for Deputy Director or below positions are invited to submit a resume and relevant information to the appropriate person listed above no later than **05**

**October**. Members desiring appointment *must specify the office to which appointment is desired*. If more than

one office is sought, apply separately for each one. ANACO and Director email addresses are available in the Aux Directory

Very respectfully,

Gus Formato, National Commodore-elect U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

From: **L2 Auxiliary Leadership Link**

The digest of US Coast Guard Auxiliary Activity

To All Auxiliarists

18 OCT 2022



### **THIRD QUARTER 2022 NAVIGATOR EXPRESS AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW!**

The Third Quarter Edition of the Navigator Express is available online now!  
Just click on the links below to read stories titled:

- Auxiliary Policy Statement
- Sailing Aboard the Eagle
- Learning How to Tell the Auxiliary Story the AUX-12 "C-School" Experience
- Emotional Well Being
- Once in-a-Lifetime Tour of the Bering Sea
- Auxiliarists Join the Coast Guard Commandant at NASDAQ Opening
- Preparing Students for Public Service in the Coast Guard Through the Auxiliary University Programs
- Operation Blue Pacific, USCGC Munro an Auxiliary Interpreter's Journey Through Operation Blue Pacific
- Answering the Call
- Southwest Border Deployment
- From Silver to Gold
- Oil Spill Averted
- The Go-To Gang
- Securing New York City
- Coast Guard Air Station San Francisco Interagency Day
- Crisis Leadership

[Access the E-Magazine](#)

[Access to PDF Magazine](#)



From: **L2 Auxiliary Leadership Link**

The digest of US Coast Guard Auxiliary Activity

29 OCT 2022

To: All Auxiliarists





Volume 8. Issue 2 of RBS Job One" is now available online. It contains useful information for all involved in promoting Recreational Boating Safety. This issue features information on a variety of Recreational Boating Safety topics, including these articles:

- Auxiliarists Empower Sea Scouts and Cadets
- ABCs of River Safety
- Teach Your Children Well
- Seven Ways to Avoid Boating Accidents Next Season
- New, Free Online Training for Paddlers
- Suddenly in Command

We encourage all members to read this issue, it is posted and available here: [RBS Job One](#)

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## NATIONAL NOTICES



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

**01 AUG 2022**

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 026/22

Subj: **FY21 AUXDATA II PATROL ORDER REIMBURSEMENTS**

1. CG-BSX submitted 808 Patrol Orders to the Coast Guard Finance Center (FINCEN) for manual entry into the Financial System Modernization Solution (FSMS), and all Patrol Orders for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 have been reimbursed. FY 2021 Patrol Orders reimbursement is complete.
2. Auxiliarists who have not been reimbursed for a Patrol Order in FY 2021 (**only FY 2021**) are recommended to submit a "Service Request" in AUXDATA II.
3. 01 September 2022 will be the official closeout date for FY 2021 Auxiliary Patrol Order funding. Auxiliarists have until **30 August 2022** to submit a "Service Request" for any FY 2021 Patrol Order that they believe was not reimbursed. Any "Service Request" received for FY 2021 Patrol Orders after 30 August 2022 will not be entertained.
4. Below is updated guidance for Auxiliary members to check the status of their Patrol Order reimbursement.
  - a. Send an email to the FINCEN Help Desk at the following address - [FIN-SMB-Customerservice@uscg.mil](mailto:FIN-SMB-Customerservice@uscg.mil).
  - b. The Subject line of your email should be the **FSMS invoice number** from the Patrol Order in question. **Patrol Order Document ID is no longer valid in the new financial system.**
  - c. Provide the following in the body of your email:
    - i. FSMS Invoice Number: (Found under the "Comments" block of the Patrol Order)

- ii. Amount claimed
  - iii. Member ID#
5. Internet release is authorized.



**04 AUG 2022**

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 027/22

Subj: **UNITED STATES COAST GUARD'S 232ND BIRTHDAY**

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Today, the United States Coast Guard celebrates its 232nd year of dedicated service to the maritime public across the world. Its distinguished history is highlighted by the devoted support it receives every day from its uniformed volunteers of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. Please read the following ALCOAST message recognizing this special milestone...and happy birthday, U.S. Coast Guard!

Respectfully,  
Captain Troy P. Glendye  
Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX)

---

R 041220Z AUG 22  
FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC  
TO ALCOAST  
BT  
UNCLASS  
ALCOAST 288/22  
SSIC 5700

SUBJ: UNITED STATES COAST GUARD'S 232ND BIRTHDAY

1. Today we celebrate the 232nd birthday of the U.S. Coast Guard; our theme for 2022 is: "Honoring our Past... Shaping our Future."
2. Since our inception in 1790 as the Revenue Cutter Service, the U.S. Coast Guard has evolved to serve our Nation by executing missions that only we can uniquely perform. Each time a new challenge or threat emerged, the Coast Guard responded to meet our country's need. From domestic icebreaking and natural resource protection to drug interdiction and marine safety, our missions have broadened to firmly entrench our Service as a vital element of national defense and international security.
3. Just as the U.S. Coast Guard steadfastly met these challenges in the past, we will continue our legacy of mission excellence to embrace the opportunities of tomorrow. The Coast Guard will be a leader in global maritime governance, enforcing the rule of law, facilitating safe and secure maritime commerce, and protecting people and natural resources in a dynamic geopolitical landscape. We will explore and employ innovative ways to optimize our people, assets, and authorities to deliver security to the American public.

The Coast Guard will continue to cultivate partnerships domestically and internationally to strengthen the fabric of homeland security.

4. We will also continue to proudly tell our story and connect it to the communities we serve. Two hundred years ago, U.S. Revenue Cutter FLORIDA deployed to Key West to defend our southern border against

illegal imports of sugar, molasses, tobacco, and enslaved peoples. Today, August 4, 2022, Key West will become the newest Coast Guard City, recognizing the enduring support the city has shown for Coast Guard members and their families who call the lower Keys home. Later this month, we will also conduct a 'Keel-Laying' at the future site of the National Coast Guard Museum in New London, CT. This state-of-the-art facility will be an interactive time capsule that makes our '1790 to Now' evolution story even more accessible for generations to come.

5. Our Service's history and its future exist because of your commitment to readiness and mission execution. You are the heartbeat of the Coast Guard and every one of you adds to our legacy every day. I am extremely proud of your collective accomplishments. As we commemorate this day and celebrate our shared history, I want to thank you and your families for your service to our country.

6. Semper Paratus!

7. ADM Linda Fagan, Commandant (CCG), sends.

8. Internet release is authorized.



**09 AUG 2022**

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 029/22

Subj: **2021 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR**

Commodore Douglas S. Cream of the Ninth District - Eastern Region (D9-ER), Flotilla 33 of Buffalo, NY is the 2021 Auxiliarist of the Year. The following ALCOAST recently announced his selection. Congratulations to Commodore Cream! Bravo Zulu!

Respectfully,  
Captain Troy P. Glendye  
Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX)

R 091313Z AUG 22 MID600052176766U  
FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC  
TO ALCOAST  
BT  
UNCLASS  
ALCOAST 294/22



SSIC 16790

## SUBJ: 2021 AUXILIARIST OF THE YEAR

1. I am pleased to announce the selection of Commodore Douglas S. Cream of Ninth District-Eastern Region (D9-ER), Flotilla 33 in Buffalo, New York as the 2021 Auxiliarist of the Year.
2. Commodore Cream enrolled in the Auxiliary in May 2002. He immediately integrated into the organization by holding many flotilla, division, district, and national leadership positions including Vice Flotilla Commander, Division Staff Officer for Operations, District Staff Officer for Legal Parliamentarian, and Assistant National Commodore Chief Counsel. During the past year, Commodore Cream provided invaluable legal consultation and advice to Auxiliary leadership and the Coast Guard's Staff Judge Advocate on a remarkably diverse range of topics. A consummate shipmate, he leveraged his extensive legal expertise to assist the Mariner Credential Fraud Task Force (MCF-TF). Applying crucial insight and tenacious determination, he incisively analyzed volumes of complex jurisdictional reviews and prepared comprehensive briefs to Coast Guard leadership on nuanced legal decisions. His contributions were instrumental to the Task Force's successful achievement of unprecedented enforcement goals and enhanced deterrence of future mariner credential fraud. He supervised the 16 Auxiliary District Staff Officer Legal Parliamentarians, ensuring they provided all Auxiliary regions with timely and accurate legal counsel. Exercising utmost devotion to duty, he sustained extensive activity as an Auxiliary Qualification Examiner, Coxswain, Team Coordination Training Facilitator, Station Buffalo Auxiliary Unit Coordinator, and Sector Buffalo's Auxiliary Sector Coordinator.
3. Commodore Cream was also an active member of his local community. Demonstrating a gracious and generous nature, he ensured his fellow Auxiliarists were fully accommodated by regularly providing housing for Auxiliary shipmates when visiting the D9-Eastern Region for training and mission support. He also served as an ardent champion and contributor to the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance program, and provided extensive pro bono legal counsel to many Coast Guard personnel.
4. I heartily applaud Commodore Cream's dedication to the Coast Guard Auxiliary's success during the last year and for his numerous and substantial contributions to the Coast Guard. He will be formally recognized as the 2021 Auxiliarist of the Year at the Auxiliary National Conference in Orlando, FL on August 20, 2022.
5. POC: LT Christopher Booth, COMDT (CG-BSX-1), at [Christopher.W.Booth@uscg.mil](mailto:Christopher.W.Booth@uscg.mil).
6. RDML Wayne Arguin, Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy (CG-5P), sends.
7. Internet release is authorized.

**09 AUGUST 2022**

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 030/22

**Subj: EXTENDED SOLICITATION FOR AUXILIARY SUPPORT OF SOUTHWEST BORDER OPERATIONS**

1. Auxiliarists have provided outstanding support to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agency since May 2022. The U.S. Coast Guard has received a Request for Assistance from the CBP agency for extension of that support. The projected duration of this support now extends through November 2022. The request seeks

personnel to perform logistical support services as part of CBP's operations along the U.S. Southwest Border (SWB). Coast Guard Auxiliarists are eligible and invited to help the Coast Guard fulfill this request.

2. The following table summarizes relevant deployment topics, considerations, requirements, expectations, and the method by which Auxiliarists can volunteer to participate in this effort.

Deployment Topic	Deployment Question / Consideration	Deployment Requirement / Expectation
Orders / Travel / Duration		
	Projected Duration of Overall Support Operations?	September through November 2022.
	Minimum On-site Deployment Duration?	Auxiliarists are expected to be at a deployment site at least fourteen (14) full and consecutive days (travel days to-and-from the deployment site are not included). Availability for longer on-site durations as well as multiple deployment availabilities is welcomed. If able to provide only between 7 and 13 days at the deployment site, then indicate that constraint as part of the application (see next block). Deployments of less than 7 days on site will not be arranged.
	Auxiliary Coordinating Entity and Point-of-Contact For Auxiliarists?	<p>1 - The Incident Management Auxiliary Coordination Cell (IMACC) coordinates the vetting, management, and processing of Auxiliarists for this effort. It is operating virtually.</p> <p>2 – Auxiliarists can apply for deployment and seek information through the IMACC by sending an email to the following address: <a href="mailto:auximacc@cgauxnet.us">auximacc@cgauxnet.us</a>.</p> <p>3 – Those who respond will be sent further information about the missions as well as links to a site where they can provide information that will enable their vetting prior to deployment.</p>
	Order Issuing Authority (OIA)?	<p>An Auxiliarist's District Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX) currently serves as the OIA by:</p> <p>1 - Facilitating creation of an Auxiliarist's requisite E2 travel account for travel claim processing.</p>

		<p>2 – Providing written travel orders using travel authorization information and accounting data (aka, POET line) issued by the Coast Guard Directorate of Operational Logistics (DOL).</p> <p>3 – Facilitating the processing of an Auxiliarist's travel claim upon completion of their deployment.</p>
	Travel Arrangement Expectations ?	Travel arrangements needed to get to and from the deployment site are to be made by the deploying Auxiliarist through the Coast Guard's contracted travel agency (CWT SATO).
	Travel Expense Expectations ?	<p>1 - Travel expenses will be reimbursed via travel claim settlement upon completion of the deployment.</p> <p>2 - Travel advances will not be provided.</p> <p>3 – Only one travel claim may be submitted per deployment.</p> <p>4 - Air and rail transportation arrangements to-and-from a deployment site will be paid for through a Central Billing Account when a deploying Auxiliarist makes their air/rail travel arrangements with the Coast Guard's contracted travel agency (CWT SATO).</p> <p>5 - On-site lodging, transportation, and per diem food expenses will be reimbursed.</p> <p>6 – Auxiliarists considering whether or not to volunteer for this mission must be prepared to pay up-front expenses for meals and lodging (currently about \$150 per day), and potentially additional expenses for a rental car.</p>
	What If I Am Already Providing Recurring Support to a Coast Guard Unit?	Auxiliarists who provide recurring support to a Coast Guard unit (e.g., an Auxiliary Culinary Assistant (AUXCA-1) who provides daily/weekly/monthly support to a CG galley/dining facility) must check first with that Coast Guard unit to ensure awareness and confirm their availability to support this operation.
	Personal Financial Readiness Expectations ?	Since associated deployment expenses are largely handled on a reimbursable basis, there is strong potential for Auxiliarists to compile significant bills. Interested Auxiliarists must therefore ensure they have a strong personal financial basis upon which to participate in this effort. As part of the deployment vetting process, Auxiliarists who indicate they need to borrow any funds in order to participate will be denied this assignment to duty.
<b>On-site Work Expectations</b>		
	Types of Support That Are Needed?	Warehouse logistical support (e.g., stowing, monitoring, and recovering packages).



		- CBP desires administrative support as well but has not officially made that request through legal channels.
	Work Environment Expectations ?	Warehouse logistical support expected to be performed indoors. Anticipate needing physical ability to move boxes, materials, and supplies as well as performing shipping/receiving, inventorying, cataloging functions; ability to lift any weight is acceptable.
	Workday Expectations ?	1 - Expect most support services to be performed in 8-to-12-hour shifts on a 24x7 basis every day. 2 – Auxiliarists can expect a day off after 7 days and every 7 days thereafter. 3 - Minimum 8-12 hours/day. 4 - Nighttime hours should be expected.
	Lodging Expectations ?	Local hotel/motel lodging arrangements as they are identified.
	Meal Expectations ?	There are no meal facilities provided for deployed personnel. Meals must be procured/arranged on an individual basis in and around local communities.
	Personal Protective Equipment Expectations ?	Masks and gloves are provided.
	Chain of Leadership Reporting Expectations ?	Deployed Auxiliarists should expect to have an in-brief from fellow Auxiliarists who have been on-site and the CBP on-site leader. An Auxiliary on-site team leader will be designated to serve as the primary point-of-contact with their CBP counterpart. The CBP on-site leader will provide day-to-day tactical tasking for Auxiliarists.
	Other Deployment Concerns?	The Auxiliary Deployment Guide contains useful information for deployment preparations. It can be downloaded from the Auxiliary web site: <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tN7_VZ3oRf0NJBZ5Q5YfweUGHhgKQ82k/view">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tN7_VZ3oRf0NJBZ5Q5YfweUGHhgKQ82k/view</a> .
<b>Medical / Health</b>		
	Full COVID-19 Vaccination Required?	1 - Yes.  2 - Auxiliarists are considered fully vaccinated two (2) weeks after completing the second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine or two (2) weeks after receiving a single dose of a one-dose COVID-19 vaccine. Auxiliarists must be vaccinated with vaccines that are either fully licensed or authorized for emergency use by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (e.g., PfizerBioNTech/COMIRNATY, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccines); listed for emergency use on the World Health Organization Emergency Use Listing (e.g., AstraZeneca/Oxford).  3 – Until otherwise directed, Auxiliarists must attest to their full COVID-19 vaccination directly to the IMACC as part of their vetting process.
	Other Vaccinations	Yes. The Auxiliary Deployment Guide contains useful information for deployment preparations. It can be downloaded from the Auxiliary web

	Per Auxiliary Deployment Guidance Required?	site: <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tN7_VZ3oRf0NJBZ5Q5YfweUGHhgKQ82k/view">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tN7_VZ3oRf0NJBZ5Q5YfweUGHhgKQ82k/view</a> .
	Other Medical Concerns?	The heat that typifies natural outdoor environmental conditions along the SWB at this time of year warrant consideration.
<b>Training / Security</b>		
	Auxiliary Core Training (AUXCT) Currency Required?	Yes.
	Auxiliary ID Card Required?	Yes. An Auxiliarist with an ID card that is expired less than one year remains eligible for deployment.
	Auxiliary Logical Access Card (ALAC) Required?	No.
	Background Check Expectations ?	1 - Must have at least a current annual Operational Support (OS) background check (i.e., favorably completed within the past year).  2 – The CBP Office of Professional Responsibility will review these background checks and also perform its own background check prior to an Auxiliarist’s travel to the deployment site.
	Other Vetting Expectations ?	1 - The IMACC performs the majority of checks on Auxiliarists to ensure they are ready and appropriately eligible for deployment.  2 – The IMACC also collaborates with Auxiliarists’ District Commodores (DCO) and Directors of Auxiliary (DIRAUX) to confirm their suitability for deployment.

3. The Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX) is coordinating appropriate recognition for Auxiliarists that deploy in support of SWB operations.

4. Internet release is authorized.



**15 SEP 2022**

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 032/22

**Subj: FY23 AUXDATA II PATROL ORDER GUIDANCE**

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1. Please find updated guidance on FY23 AUXDATA II entry of patrol orders.
  - a. The Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) budget will start at 0000 hours on 01 October 2022.
  - b. Any patrol order being conducted on or after 0000 hours on 01 October 2022 will fall under the FY23 budget for funding.
  - c. Auxiliary members and Order Issuing Authorities (OIA) are reminded to continue to work on closing out FY22 patrol orders in accordance with ALAUX 028/22.
  - d. No “NEW” patrol request shall be requested in AUXDATA II (ADII) with a patrol date of 01 OCTOBER 2022 or later until further notice.**
  - e. The Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety (CG-BSX), Office of Budget Execution (CG-83), and the Salesforce contractor are in the process of updating ADII for issuing patrol orders under the FY23 budget.
  - f. Patrol requests for FY23 in “New” or “Requested” status, already entered in ADII, will be “Denied” by Salesforce.
  - g. Patrol orders for FY23 in “Approved” status, already entered in ADII, will be “Cancelled” by Salesforce.
2. The Coast Guard Comptroller recently released ALCGFINANCE 034/22, Subj: FY22 CLOSEOUT GUIDANCE. This message guidance forecasts the following dates for FY23:
  - a. 04 October 2022 - FSMS opens with limited functionality.
  - b. 15 October 2022 – FY23 accounts funded and available for use in FSMS.
3. CG-BSX will continue to update messaging on FY23 budgeting and ADII as it comes available.
4. Internet release is authorized.





**26 SEP 2022**

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 034/22

Subj: **PROMULGATION OF NEW AND REVISED AUXILIARY MISSION ACTIVITY CODES**

1. This ALAUX promulgates several new mission activity codes, and clarifies and updates the descriptions of over 20 existing mission activity codes. In several activity areas the new mission activity code replaces an existing operations code. Replaced operations codes will be discontinued.

2. New Mission Activity Codes and Descriptions: The following new mission activity codes have been added to AUXDATA II and are authorized for use as indicated:

- a. 10N AUXILIARY MUSICIAN (AUXMU) PERFORMANCE REHEARSAL (U) – Time spent by Auxiliarists who are qualified/designated as, or are in the process of qualifying/being designated as, any of the AUXMU competency levels, as well as Auxiliarists who, although not formally qualified/designated in the AUXMU program, nonetheless participate in preparation for an AUXMU performance as a result of invitation in accordance with the AUXMU SOP. This activity is currently reported using the AUXMU Auxiliary Musician Activities operations code. This new mission activity code will take effect on 1 January 2023 and the AUXMU operations code will be discontinued as of that date.
- b. 10P AUXILIARY MUSICIAN (AUXMU) PERFORMANCE (AT AUXILIARY REQUEST) (U) – Time spent by Auxiliarists who are qualified/designated as, or are in the process of qualifying/being designated as, any of the AUXMU competency levels, as well as Auxiliarists who, although not formally qualified/designated in the AUXMU program, nonetheless participate in an AUXMU performance at Auxiliary request, as a result of invitation in accordance with the AUXMU SOP. This activity is currently reported using the AUXMU Auxiliary Musician Activities operations code. This new mission activity code will take effect on 1 January 2023 and the AUXMU operations code will be discontinued as of that date.
- c. 10Q Auxiliary Musician (AUXMU) Performance (under Coast Guard orders) (U) – Time spent by Auxiliarists who are qualified/designated as, or are in the process of qualifying/being designated as, any of the AUXMU competency levels, as well as Auxiliarists who, although not formally qualified/designated in the AUXMU program, nonetheless participate in an AUXMU performance under Coast Guard orders, as a result of invitation in accordance with the AUXMU SOP. This activity is currently reported using the AUXMU Auxiliary Musician Activities operations code. This new mission activity code will take effect on 1 January 2023 and the AUXMU operations code will be discontinued as of that date.
- d. 20A CG Communications Augmentation (AUGCOM) (R) – Time spent in providing Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and contingency operational radio support utilizing an accepted Auxiliary radio facility. These missions must be authorized by CG COMMCOM or a CG Sector or unit. Operators must be TCO certified, with the lead operator having AUGCOM mission approval. Mission hours reported are only those where the facility is manned and ready for operator intervention. This new mission activity code is effective immediately.

- e. 20B RADIO WATCHSTANDER (U) – Time spent as a CG-qualified Watchstander at a Coast Guard unit when specifically assigned to duty by the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard Order Issuing Authority by name shall be noted in the ANSC-7030 form's Section VI "Remarks" or in the "Summary of Activities" in AUXDATA II. This new mission activity code is effective immediately.
- f. 20C AUXILIARY RADIO OPERATIONS / NET (R, U) – Time spent as a TCO at an Auxiliary fixed land, land mobile, transportable or portable radio station, when specifically assigned to duty by the Coast Guard or assigned to duty by appropriate Auxiliary officers. Time on an authorized Auxiliary Net is also reportable. If multiple TCO operators are authorized, one shall be designated as LEAD and all others as NON-LEAD. The Order Issuing Authority shall be noted in the ANSC-7030 form's Section VI "Remarks" or in the "Summary of Activities" in AUXDATA II. This new mission activity code is effective immediately.
- g. 20D COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT SETUP AND MAINTENANCE (R, U) – Time spent obtaining, delivering, setting up, installing, maintaining, and demobilizing Auxiliary radio facility equipment. This new mission activity code is effective immediately.
- h. 20M AUXILIARY COMMUNICATIONS MONITORING (AUXMON) (R, U) – Time spent at a Coast Guard Auxiliary authorized radio facility, monitoring specified Coast Guard or other communications as AUXMON program participants. This facility must be continuously manned or monitored during the period reported. This is currently tracked in AUXDATA II using the Operations Code AUXMON. This new mission activity code will take effect on 1 January 2023 and the AUXMON operations code will be discontinued as of that date.
- i. 54B PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION (A, B) – Time spent in the logistical transportation of personnel via Auxiliary aircraft or boat facility. Must be authorized and conducted under Coast Guard orders. Coxswain/pilot hours are reported as LEAD and Crew hours are reported as NON-LEAD or TRAINEE, as appropriate. This new activity distinguishes passenger transportation missions as a separate activity from non-passenger logistics missions. This new mission activity code is effective immediately.
- j. 96A AUXILIARY CULINARY ASSISTANT (AUXCA-1) SUPPORT TO COAST GUARD UNIT (U) – Time spent by Auxiliarists who are qualified as an AUXCA or are in the process of being qualified as an AUXCA-1 and are under supervision by a qualified AUXCA-1, AUXCA Instructor (AUXCA-IT), or Coast Guard Culinary Specialist (CS2 or above), performing authorized culinary assistant support to a Coast Guard or Auxiliary unit. This activity is currently reported using the AUXCA operations code. This new mission activity code will take effect on 1 January 2023 and the AUXCA operations code will be discontinued as of that date.
- k. 96B Auxiliary Culinary Assistant (AUXCA-1/2) Support TO AUXILIARY UNIT (U) – Time spent by Auxiliarists who are qualified as an AUXCA-1 or AUXCA-2 or are in the process of being qualified as an AUXCA-1 or AUXCA-2 and are under supervision by a qualified AUXCA-1, AUXCA Instructor (AUXCA-IT), or Coast Guard Culinary Specialist (CS2 or above), performing authorized culinary assistant support to an Auxiliary unit. This new mission activity code will take effect on 1 January 2023 and the AUXCA operations code will be discontinued as of that date.
- l. 97A Auxiliary Chaplain Support (ACS) (U) – Time spent by Auxiliarists who are designated Auxiliary Lay Leaders or who are designated Auxiliary Chaplain Support (ACS) and actively training for, preparing for, or performing authorized on-site support. This activity is currently reported using the ACS operations code. This new mission activity code will take effect on 1 January 2023 and the ACS operations code will be discontinued as of that date.
- m. 93W WORK LIFE SUPPORT (U) – Time spent by Auxiliarists, whose credentials have been examined and accepted by the Coast Guard's Health Safety and Work-Life (HSWL) Service Center (SC) Work-Life Division,

supporting the programs of the Coast Guard's Office of Work Life. Use OPCON to identify unit being supported. This new mission activity code is effective immediately.

n. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MISSION CODES – The following new mission codes are to be used for Emergency Management (EM) and are effective immediately (travel and prep hours should be reported as code 99C on the ANSC-7029 form or in the AUXDATA II Activity Log):

(1) 28L EM LIAISON SUPPORT (U) – Time spent as an EM Liaison Officer (LNO) or Coast Guard Agency Representative (AREP) to another Federal Agency or a State, County, or Local Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command Post (EOC/ICP) in support of emergency management / ICS missions and training.

(2) 28P EM PLANNING SUPPORT (U) – Time spent writing all-hands emergency plans and supporting procedures in support of Coast Guard Incident Management, including: Sector Incident Management, Area Contingency Planning, and support to Sector emergency management planning activities, with the exception of Marine Safety Contingency Planning.

(3) 28T EM/ICS TRAINING (U) – Time spent in emergency management training courses, including any preparation, study, or activities leading to emergency management qualifications or completion of an Incident Command System PQS. Time spent on ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800 must be reported under code 99D on the ANSC-7029 form or in the AUXDATA II Activity Log.

### 3. Revised Mission Activity Codes and Descriptions:

a. The following mission activity codes have been updated to clarify that the codes can be used by air (A), surface (B) and radio (R) operators. There is no change to the descriptions:

(1) 22B OPERATIONS TRAINING (A, B, R, U)

(2) 23A SAR STANDBY (A, B, R)

b. The following mission activity code descriptions have been updated to reflect changes in the Coast Guard Emergency Management Specialist (EMS) PQS.

(1) 28A EM/ICS SUPPORT (U) – Time spent supporting Coast Guard command post activities in a defined Incident Command System (ICS) role in response to an actual or potential event, other than as an EM Liaison Officer (LNO).

(2) 28B EM/ICS EXERCISE (U) – Time spent supporting Coast Guard practice / exercise command post activities or response drills in a defined Incident Command System (ICS) role, other than as an EM Liaison Officer (LNO).

c. The following mission activity code description has been updated to clarify that the code only applies to Marine Safety contingency planning:

(1) 70E MARINE SAFETY CONTINGENCY PLANNING (U) – Time spent in any Marine Safety planning activities in support of Coast Guard Incident Management, including: Sector Incident Management, Area Contingency Planning, response drills, and response to actual disasters or other major incidents (excluding pollution responses). This also includes time spent in planning or participating in exercises related to the National or Area Contingency Plans for mitigating or preventing oil or hazardous substance discharges from vessels and/or onshore facilities.



d. The following mission activity code description has been updated to clarify the reporting of ICS training time and instructor time:

(1) 70U MARINE SAFETY/MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (MS/MEP) TRAINING (U) – Time spent in preparing for, studying, doing On-the-Job Training (OJT), oral boards and/or practical exercises etc. leading to qualification for any M-related training or Personal Qualification Standard (PQS) certification. Time spent on ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800 must be reported under code 99D on the ANSC-7029 form or in the AUXDATA II Activity Log. When using this code, instructors do not receive instructor hours required to maintain the Instructor competency; use mission code 06A to report Marine Safety instructor time.

e. The following mission activity code descriptions have been updated to clarify that the codes may only be used by those holding National Chief Council (CC) or District Legal Staff (DSO-LP or ADSO-LP) offices:

(1) 94A LEGAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO THE AUXILIARY (U) – Any hours of administrative support to Auxiliary legal services programs including review of and advice concerning unit standing rules, Commandant Instructions, or other law, rule or regulation pertaining to the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary. This code may only be used by those holding National Chief Council (CC) or District Legal Staff (DSO-LP or ADSO-LP) offices.

(2) 94B DISCIPLINARY SUPPORT (U) – Any hours in researching, reviewing or advising upon disciplinary matters. This code may only be used by those holding National Chief Council (CC) or District Legal Staff (DSO-LP or ADSO-LP) positions.

(3) 94C LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (U) – Any hours spent in education and training regarding laws and procedures applicable to the Auxiliary. This code may only be used by those holding National Chief Council (CC) or District Legal Staff (DSO-LP or ADSO-LP) offices.

(4) 94D LEGAL SUPPORT TO THE COAST GUARD (U) – Any hours in support of legal assistance to Coast Guard units and offices. This code may only be used by those holding National Chief Council (CC) or District Legal Staff (DSO-LP or ADSO-LP) offices.

f. The following mission activity code description has been revised to remove “PERSONNEL.” Transportation of personnel is now reported under new mission code 54B:

(1) 54A LOGISTICS MISSION (A, B) - Hours spent in the logistical transportation of material via Auxiliary aircraft or boat facility. Must be conducted under Coast Guard orders. Coxswain/Pilot hour are reported as LEAD and Crew hours are reported as NON-LEAD or TRAINEE, as appropriate.

g. The following mission activity code description has been revised to include support of CG Rotary Wing Air Intercept and other air asset operations, training and support:

(1) 55A AIR/VESSEL INTERCEPT COORDINATION (A, B) – Time spent on an air or surface patrol under Coast Guard orders working with Coast Guard units to provide practice in identifying and intercepting targets as well as time spent under orders supporting CG Rotary Wing Air Intercept (RWAI) and other air asset operations, training, and support.

h. The following mission activity code descriptions have been updated to clarify the reporting of efforts related to the Auxiliary Health Services mission:

(1) 93A ADMIN SUPPORT (U) – Any time spent in administrative support to the health services program. Use OPCON to identify unit being supported.

(2) 93B CLINICAL OPERATIONAL SUPPORT (U) – Any hours spent in support of any Coast Guard healthcare facility. Only to be used by licensed medical professionals whose credentials have been examined and accepted by the Coast Guard's Health Safety and Work-Life (HSWL) Service Center (SC) Credentials Verification Office, to work at a Coast Guard healthcare facility. May also be used for on-line or telemedicine. Use OPCON to identify unit being supported.

(3) 93C HEALTHCARE TRAINING (U) – Any hours spent in training to learn the administrative and/or operational procedures for working at a Coast Guard healthcare facility or units performing Safety and Environmental Health Support missions.

(4) 93K SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT (U) – Hours spent by Auxiliary safety officers and engineers, whose credentials have been examined and accepted by the Coast Guard's Health Safety and Work-Life (HSWL) Service Center (SC) Safety and Environmental Health Division, to support safety and environmental health missions. Use OPCON to identify unit being supported.

i. The following mission activity code descriptions have been updated to clarify the reporting of efforts related to the Auxiliary Public Education mission:

Code	Course
14A	Boat America
14B	Boating Skills & Seamanship
14C	Sailing Skills & Seamanship
14D	GPS for Navigators
14E	Weekend Navigator
14F	Youth Courses
14G	Other
14H	State
14J	Paddlesports America
14K	Navegando America
14M	Paddlers Guide to Safety
14N	Intro to Basic Boating Safety
14P	Suddenly in Command
14R	Waterfowl Hunting & Boating Safety
14S	Kids and Paddlecraft
14T	Boats 'N Kids
14U	Waypoints
14V	Introduccion Seguridad Navegacion
14W	Personal Watercraft Course

4. Internet release is authorized.



**06 OCT 2022**

**FM: CHDIRAUX**

**TO: ALAUX**

**ALAUX 036/22**

**Subj: UPDATE TO OPERATIONAL AUXILIARIST (AUXOP) PROGRAM**

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1. This ALAUX promulgates an update to the Operational Auxiliarist (AUXOP) program.
  2. In March 2022, the Chief Director of Auxiliary, in consultation with the National Executive Committee, chartered the Operational Auxiliarist Program Working Group (OAPWG). This working group was comprised of operationally-experienced Auxiliary and active-duty leaders who were tasked with examining the program in its current form as a membership status. The working group met several times and after careful review and consideration recommended the following actions:
    - a. AUXOP should remain a membership status.
    - b. The designators in AUXDATA II which denote an Auxiliarist as having achieved AUXOP status (i.e., AX and AX2) should be merged into one designator: AX. This would be the only designator for AUXOP achievement. Use of AX2 would no longer be authorized regardless of how an Auxiliarist achieves AUXOP. All Auxiliarists with the AX2 designator should have it changed to AX.
    - c. A comprehensive data review should be conducted within AUXDATA II to ensure standardization of AUXOP entry into an Auxiliarist's record. Once an Auxiliarist achieves AUXOP, their status should be changed to AX and have the award "AUXOP-pin" added to their record. The AUXOP competency was inconsistently applied to the records of Auxiliarists who achieved AUXOP.  
  
It has proven unnecessary and should be removed from all records.
  3. These recommendations are approved. Associated changes to current member records in AUXDATA II shall be made by the AUXDATA II Change Advisory Board by November 07, 2022.
  4. Internet release is authorized.







**06 OCT 2022**

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 037/22

Subj: **NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH**

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1. October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Since 2004, the President of the United States and Congress have declared October to be National Cybersecurity Awareness Month helping individuals and organizations protect themselves online as threats to technology and confidential data become more commonplace. All Auxiliarists are strongly encouraged to remain vigilant against cybersecurity threats and to actively apply strong countermeasures in their personal and Auxiliary activities.

2. In 2021, the United States experienced the most expensive data breaches in the world, with an average cost of \$4.24 million per attack. That was a 10 percent jump in one year, and the biggest single-year increase in the past seven years according to a recent IBM study. It was reported that 3 out of 4 organizations have fallen victim to a ransomware attack, up 61 percent in two years. Threats like these are still prevalent and dangerous, and it is critical that we all take the necessary steps to prevent an attack. This year's Cybersecurity Awareness Month campaign focuses on the following four practices as highly effective methods to achieve a strong cybersecurity posture:

- Recognize and Report Phishing
- Use Strong Passwords
- Keep Your Software Updated
- Enable Multi-Factor Authentication

3. There are more ways to operate safely online and many are documented in the latest U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Cybersecurity Awareness presentation. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

4. This year's campaign theme, "See Yourself in Cyber," demonstrates that while cybersecurity may seem like a complex technical subject, ultimately, it's really all about people. The campaign focuses on the "people" part of cybersecurity, with the goal to ensure all individuals and organizations make smart decisions whether at work, home, school, or in the Auxiliary.

5. Finally, if you "See Yourself in Cyber" and have a strong cybersecurity background, you are invited to check out the AUXCYBER augmentation program. If you have not previously expressed interest, you can start the process by [clicking here](#).

6. Internet release is authorized.





**22 OCT 2022**

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 038/22

**Subj: AUXILIARY-SEA SCOUT YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (AUXSCOUT) PROGRAM – SOP REVISION**

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1. In November 2019, the inaugural national Auxiliary-Sea Scout Youth Development (AUXSCOUT) Program Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) document was issued to provide information and policy for the conduct of enhanced partnering between the Auxiliary and the Sea Scouts. It was last revised in April 2020 to address new provisions including establishment of the Flotilla Staff Officer position for AUXSCOUT (AS) program management.
2. The AUXSCOUT SOP has been revised again. New key provisions include:
  - a. At least one adult (i.e., 18 years of age or older) Auxiliarist or Sea Scout leader with current Boy Scout of America (BSA) Safe Swim Defense Training (SSDT) is required to be present for the conduct of swimming-related activities.
  - b. At least one adult (i.e., 18 years of age or older) Auxiliarist or Sea Scout leader with current BSA Safety Afloat Training (SAT) and CPR training is required to be present for the conduct of a mission involving an Auxiliary surface facility.
  - c. Authorized organizational activities for Sea Scout youth under 17 years of age and enrolled in the Auxiliary are significantly expanded (e.g., authorization to serve on Change of Watch and fellowship committees; authorization to serve as Assistant District Staff Officer in three program areas; authorization to serve as a District Commodore Administrative Assistant (D-AA)).
  - d. Several changes that address the presence of AUXSCOUT membership and training fields in AUXDATA II.
  - e. Several changes that address:
    - (1) Data entry guidance for SSDT, SAT, Youth Protection Training (YPT), and Sea Scout Adult Leader Basic Training (SSALBT).
    - (2) Changes to make in AUXDATA II to enrolled Sea Scout youth names and dates of birth.
  - f. Several changes to reflect SSDT, SAT, YPT, and SSALBT requirements for flotilla, division, and district-level AS staff officers.
3. The revised AUXSCOUT SOP (AUX-SOP-002(D)) will be posted on the Sea Scouts page of the RBS Outreach Directorate wiki site: [https://auxbdeptwiki.cgaux.org/index.php?title=Sea\\_Scouts](https://auxbdeptwiki.cgaux.org/index.php?title=Sea_Scouts); on the Auxiliary national Youth Programs website: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=S-DEPT&category=auxiliary-youth-programs>; and on the Chief Director of Auxiliary website (SOP section): <http://agroup-bx.wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=BX-GROUP&category=sop>.

4. Internet release is authorized.



**31 OCT 2022**

FM: CHDIRAUX

TO: ALAUX

ALAUX 039/22

Subj: **PASSING OF PAST NATIONAL COMMODORE**

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1. We are saddened to inform all Auxiliarists of the passing of Past National Commodore Peter W. Melera who passed away on October 25, 2022. Commodore Melera led an incredible life dedicated to service to our Nation in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.
  2. Commodore Melera joined the Auxiliary in 1974 and was an active member in his flotilla in Rye, NY. He proudly served in several positions, and as the National Commodore from 1995-1996. He was an outstanding leader who helped form our organization into what it is today. His testimony on April 25, 1996, to the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, helped assure passage of the "Auxiliary Act" into law. This piece of legislation redefined the Auxiliary and provided authorization for the Commandant to utilize Auxiliarists to "...assist, the Coast Guard...in performing any...function, power, duty, role or mission or operation authorized by law," and, most importantly, it provided the legal protection for us to do so. This was indeed a watershed event for the Auxiliary and laid the legal groundwork for the truly multi-mission organization it is today and further enfranchised it as a member of "Team Coast Guard".
  3. COMO Melera is survived by his wife, Barb, son, Peter Franklin, daughter by marriage, Pam and four grandchildren. Service will take place at Christian Community Church of Faith; 355 State Route 7 Richmondville, NY on Friday, November 4, 2022 at 11:00 AM. Please join us in sending thoughts and prayers to Commodore Melera's family and friends in this difficult time.
  4. Internet release is authorized.





# A Message from the Editor

Good day 5NR,

.Upon looking at the photographs of the Fall D-Train, I was very sorry I was unable to make it this year. It looked like a lot of fun. I will certainly be attending the Spring D-Train. IF you haven't attended one before, you should think about attending. They are a great experience for training, fellowship, meeting other Auxiliarists, and meeting Active Duty personnel.

Please view this archive, continue reading current issues of TOPSIDE, and thank you for all your support to this newsletter for the past 80 years!

<https://5nr.org/topside-archives/>

Have an enjoyable Holiday season!

Semper Paratus,

Tim Marks

DSO-PB



**Timothy Marks**  
District Staff Officer -  
Publications

## United States Coast Guard Auxiliary 5th District, Northern Region

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
DIRECTOR OF AUXILIARY 5NR  
FIFTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT  
1 WASHINGTON AVENUE  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19147-4393

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

## Newsletter Staff

### Editor

**Timothy Marks**

District Staff Officer for Publications

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

5th District, Northern Region

[tpmarks@comcast.net](mailto:tpmarks@comcast.net)

**Communications Ellen Voorhees**

**Historian Steven Marthouse**

**Media Christopher Orlando**

**Photography Barbara Sama**

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# Parting Shot



**WILMINGTON, DE:** Commodore Joe Giannattasio at the 2022 Fall DTrain. We thank COMO Giannattasio for his service as our District Commodore for the last two years. His leadership has carried us through many difficulties including a global pandemic. Thank you, Commodore!

*Coast Guard Auxiliary photo by Barbara Sama, ADSO-PB*