

DIVISION COMMANDER'S REPORT

To: DCO Angelo Perata, D11NR
Cc: District Staff
Date: 17 January 2012
Division: 6 – Gold Coast
DCDR: Wally Smith

HIGHLIGHTS

- Scheduled VSC stations are underway in Santa Cruz
- PE classes underway
- Member Training is active

DETAILS

- Vessel Safety Checks are on schedule in Santa Cruz Harbor. VSC's are offered by VE's from 6-7 on the second Saturday of each month, and by VE's from 6-10 on the fourth Saturday! VSC's at Lakes Nacimiento and San Antonio will be getting back underway when the weather brings more boaters to the lakes.

In 2011, Vessel Safety Checks totaled 1,856.

- The Boat Crew training program offered monthly on the fourth Tuesday at 1800 at an Operational Facility in Santa Cruz Harbor will begin again this month. All crew and trainees are welcome and dockside sign-offs are available.
- The Boat Crew program finished strong in 2011 with nearly 2,500 Marine Patrol hours logged.

While patrol activities were reduced in November and December, there was one event that was very well supported. On 17 December, a "Will Swim For Food" event was held as a fund raiser for the Second Harvest Food Bank. The swim course circled the Santa Cruz Wharf in 53 degree water. The event was supported by three operational facilities on the water, three mobile radios on the Wharf, the Santa Cruz Radio Tower, and one Auxiliary photographer. Nineteen Auxiliarists participated. The event organizer was extremely complementary towards the Auxiliary and publicly acknowledged the support on the organization's Facebook page. An article about the event is published in the current SITREP. \$17,000+ was raised!

- A full series of Public Education classes began this month and will run through early April at the Santa Cruz Harbor Public Meeting Room. The following courses are being offered by Flotillas 6-7 and 6-10:
 - Boating Skills & Seamanship
 - Sailing Skills & Seamanship
 - Coastal Navigation

The two local Flotillas really did an extraordinary job in promoting this semester's classes. As a result, the BS&S class has 23 students (several with power boats), the SS&S class has 22 students, and the CN class has 14 students.

- Division 6 held its first meeting of 2012 in Paso Robles on 07 January sponsored by Morro Bay Flotilla 6-1. The Paso Robles venue made travel significantly shorter for the majority of attendees.
- The Flotilla Leadership Course was presented in Santa Cruz in December. Nineteen members from three Divisions attended.
- A New Member Academy was held in Santa Cruz on 14 January in Santa Cruz. Sixteen new and more "experienced" members from two Divisions attended.

AGENCY INTERACTIONS

- Sixteen Auxiliarists attended CG Station Monterey's Holiday Party. It was a great event with approximately 100 total attendees. Auxiliarists provided numerous gifts for the grab bag.

UPCOMING EVENTS, DATES AND LOCATIONS

- D-TRAIN – PORTOLA INN & SPA, MONTEREY – 16-18 MARCH 2012
Planning is actively underway for D-TRAIN in March. Anyone wishing to participate in the planning and/or participate in staffing at the event will be very welcome. The theme for Friday "Fun Night" will be **PIRATES OF THE MONTEREY GOLD COAST**.
- Member training in the next couple months will include the Auxiliary Patrols Specialty Course (AUXPAT) on 29 January and 05 February, and the 8-Hr TCT on 04 March. Both will be offered at the Santa Cruz Harbor Public Meeting Room. Up to a maximum of 20 members are welcome. A few slots are still available for both courses ... if you have members who would like to attend, please have them send me an email ASAP ... first come first served.
- Member Training in 2011 totaled 849 instructor hours and thousands of accumulated 'student' hours.

DIVISION GOALS

- Retain current members and recruit new members.
- Expand Marine Safety activities and AWW per Coast Guard request.
- Offer training to members as requested.
- Increase interaction, communication, shared events, and training between Flotillas
- Continue the excellent rapport with CG Station Monterey, and USCG Cutter Hawksbill.

Respectfully submitted,
Wally Smith, DCDR – Division 6