

DISTRICT ELEVEN NORTHERN REGION

NORTHWIND

Safe Boating Week Report
May 2008



Recent Boat Fire San Francisco Bay, Photo By Jim Aberer, FL 12-91

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, **America's Volunteer Lifesavers**

DEPARTMENT OF >>>

The Uniformed Volunteer Component of The
United States Coast Guard
(Authorized by Congress in 1939)



July, 2008

This edition of the Northwind features the Feb. 2008 D-Train award recipients and the National Safe Boating Week Division 11N Report of activities. **George C. Knies, DSO-PB**

Parade of Sail 23 July 2008 **George C. Knies, Festival of Sail Parade Coordinator**

The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *EAGLE* is not *required* to board a pilot for arrival in San Francisco on 23 July 2008 as she is a U.S. Government Vessel, however because of the complexities associated with her initial arrival and the Parade of Sail she will embark her pilot in the early hours of 23 July, and will come directly to her berth at San Francisco Pier 30/32 on the face under power. She will board her Parade of Sail guests at 0930 and then proceed out to sea to the Parade Muster Area West of the Southern Span of the Golden Gate Bridge and Mile Rocks.

The Phoenix (SFFD fireboat), the first vessel in the parade, will take up station at the Eastern end of the muster area, and will begin the parade by passing under the GGB, just North of the South Tower, at 1200 hours sharp. All other vessels are to muster to the West, out toward Mile Rocks, in parade order. The pilot on board Eagle, astern of Phoenix will set the Parade speed.

It is anticipated that Eagle (295' LOA, 231' LWL) will berth port side to, bow to the north, on the northern portion of SF Pier 30/32; Bounty (180' LOA, 108' LWL) will berth port side to, bow north, to the stern of Eagle.

Coast Guard 'Accepts' New Legend Class National Security Cutter

The USCGC BERTHOLF (WMSL 750) has been accepted by the Coast Guard after months of trials. The 418-foot vessel, with a crew of 118 personnel, is now officially 'home' to the crew which began moving aboard following the formal acceptance. They had been living in a hotel ashore as the trial period moved forward and their training intensified.

Bertholf will arrive at its home port at Coast Guard Island in Alameda on *July 23, 2008* after traveling on the East Coast doing some 'show and tell' port visits and additional training. The new ship, with state-of-the-art electronics and weapons systems, including helicopters and interceptor small craft launched from the stern for pursuing and apprehending smugglers or in rescue operations. Bertholf will be commissioned in traditional ceremonies at Coast Guard Island August 4, 2008.

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Northwind

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Vic Connell. DCO

Tis the Season for Elections and Reorganization

This is the time of year when we start thinking about candidates for our district, division and flotilla elections starting in September. I know what some of you are thinking...why would anyone run for elected office? Isn't it enough nowadays just being an Auxiliarist? What with personal security requirements, ICS courses and new qualification requirements? How does anyone find the time to take on the additional commitment and responsibility of a leadership role?

Well...because we ARE an organization with special kinds of volunteers, each year we do see well qualified and motivated Auxiliarists who step up and declare their candidacy for elected office - willing to take on the extra work and responsibility that is involved...and often experience the rewards that can come from taking a leadership role.

But why do some people choose to do this? Because they realize that one of the greatest and most satisfying opportunities for us as Auxiliarists is to make use of our experience and skill by taking a leadership role and helping to develop and implement strategies in support of the CG. Leadership does have its rewards: respect from your peers, satisfaction in helping to formulate your unit's agenda, and the sense of accomplishment you get by getting results from your individual leadership efforts.

You are going to see some changes in our unit Elected Officer titles starting in this election cycle. The Commandant requested that we change these titles for 2009, so that we are more aligned with the Active Duty Coast Guard and the goals of Coast Guard Modernization.

At the district level, we will be electing a new District Commodore, a new District Chief of Staff (formerly Vice Commodore), and three new District Captains (formerly Rear Commodores). At the Division level, we will be electing a Division Commander (formerly Division Captain) and a Division Vice Commander (formerly Division Vice Captain). Titles at the flotilla level remain unchanged - Flotilla Commander and Vice Flotilla Commander. Our National Auxiliary Leadership has given us a unique opportunity to examine our administrative structures, to see what is working well and what could be improved, and then reorganize ourselves so as to enhance our mission execution in support of the Coast Guard, our maritime partners, and the boating public.

So I say...Bravo Zulu to those Auxiliarists who are willing to run for elected office and are trying to make a difference by taking a leadership role! They will find that this is a unique and interesting time to be an elected officer, because of all the changes that we are undergoing as part of the Coast Guard and Auxiliary Reorganization process.



Jimmin Chang, RCO-MS

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance is an independent, non-profit, charitable organization, providing financial assistance to the entire Coast Guard "family", including the Auxiliary. The Annual campaign this year has received almost \$60,000 so far from Auxiliarists across the country. This is 140% of what was received mid last year, and also exceeded the 2007 year end total of \$55,800. Many thanks to all who have contributed! At a time when so many are in need of financial help, the recipients are and will be most grateful.

For those who would still like to contribute, it is not too late. Please go to <http://www.cgmahq.org> and you can donate with credit card or print out the Form for cash (check or money orders) donations. Don't forget to let them know you are with the Auxiliary from District 11NR. Their mailing address is Coast Guard Mutual Assistance, 4200 Wilson Blvd, Suite 610, Arlington, VA 22203-1804. The amount you give is not important. It is the participation that counts. Let's send your contribution in today!



Stephen R. Salmon, RCO-OMS

Focus on the Mission

There's a persistent gloominess in the air and I don't mean just the smoke. Typhoons and earthquakes in Asia. Floods in the Midwest, and wildfires in the West. Add to those natural disasters a shaky economy, spiraling gas prices, violence at home and abroad, and it's enough to bring out the pessimist in anyone, including Auxiliarists.

At times like these, I think it's important that we not lose heart, and stay focused on our mission. And simply put, that mission is to save lives.

On a weekend lake patrol, an Auxiliary boat crew pulls survivors from a capsized vessel. Another Auxiliarist spots a person floating in the waters of San Francisco Bay, and calls in a rescue boat. Clearly, those members are saving lives. But other Auxiliarists are as well.

Somewhere, a boater avoids being run down at night because a vessel examiner alerted him to a burned-out bulb. Another is saved because she learned from a public information booth about proper life jackets—for herself and her children. A container inspector spots a defective container with hazardous materials, and a ferry vessel auditor identifies safety deficiencies on a popular ferry route.

Other Auxiliarists help save lives indirectly. The materials officers, the finance officers, the personnel services officers, the elected officers, all help keep the organization going so we can carry out our primary mission.

That mission is not only valuable, but valued. Every month I hear praise from the active duty Coast Guard about the services and assistance the Auxiliary provides. And their message is clear: they couldn't do their job without us.

So let's avoid the temptation to give in to pessimism and discouragement, and stay focused on the mission. Our roles may vary, but we are America's Volunteer Lifesavers.

What is a Tall Ship?

A tall ship is not a strictly defined type of sailing vessel. Most often the term means a traditionally rigged sailing vessel, i.e. barque, schooner, brigantine, barquentine, brig, ketch, sloop, or a full-rigged ship depending on the number of masts and the cut of the sails.

For the purpose of classification and race rating, the American Sail Training Association adheres to the descriptions found in the Racing and Sailing Rules and Special Regulations established by Sail Training International.

- CLASS A—All square rigged vessels and all other vessels over 131 feet length overall (LOA).
- CLASS B—Traditional-rigged vessels with a LOA of less than 131 feet and with a waterline length (LWL) of at least 30 feet.
- CLASS C—Modern-rigged vessels with a LOA of less than 131 feet and with a LWL of at least 30 feet not carrying spinnaker-like sails.
- CLASS D—Modern-rigged vessels with a LOA of less than 131 feet and with a LWL of at least 30 feet carrying spinnaker-like sails.

Coast Guard considering new safety rules for sailing vessels

As a result of a fatality aboard the Schooner *SV Alabama*, the U.S. Coast Guard plans to publish a safety advisory and will consider whether to require safety harnesses for sailing vessel crews who climb rigging.

The Coast Guard ruled that no regulations were violated when 18-year-old deck hand fell to his death aboard *Alabama* off Martha's Vineyard.

Benjamin Sutherland was crossing from one mast to another along the spring stay, which is a slightly diagonal wire that connects the two masts. Sutherland was grasping the wire with his hands and feet when he fell.

The Coast Guard said it was the nation's only fatal accident of its kind on a passenger schooner in at least 17 years.

The 90-foot vessel had departed Vineyard Haven Harbor for a late morning cruise with 45 passengers.

The practice of laying across the spring line is an extremely dangerous and unnecessary evolution, especially when the vessel is underway. It appears the practice was not discouraged and was considered by some crewmembers as a daring accomplishment or a 'rite of passage.' It is interesting to note that some sailors regard harnesses as a "hindrance and safety hazard."

District 11NR Auxiliary D-TRAIN Doubletree Hotel Modesto, CA 14 -16 March 2008

AIDS TO NAVIGATION AND CHART UPDATING - 2007

Recognition for Outstanding Achievement in furthering the Aids to Navigation and Chart Updating Programs

1st	Nick G Tarlson	1024 Points
2nd	Joel A Sargent	451 Points
3rd	Linda R Haynes	288 Points

CHART UPDATING FLOTILLA TROPHY - 2007 Most Outstanding Performance in Aids to Navigation Program

Central Marin Flotilla 14 1092 Points

COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS - 2007

Fixed Land Radio Watch Standing

1st	Hannelore Maddox	644 Hours
2nd	Vern T. Maxson	331 Hours
3rd	Shirley C Maxson	330 Hours

LAND MOBILE TROPHY - 2007

Communicator-in-Command

1st	Jeff C Price	974 Hours
2nd	William D Martin	558 Hours
3rd	Mark Mushet	475 Hours

COMMUNICATIONS/OPERATIONS - 2007

Most Combined Communicator Hours

1st	Jeff C Price	1408 Hours
2nd	Hannelore Maddox	644 Hours
3rd	William D Martin	558 Hours

LAND MOBILE CALL OUTS - 2007

Richard D Bennion

LAND MOBILE CALL-OUT HOURS - 2007

Jeff C Price

OPERATIONS, AIR CREW-OBSERVER AWARD - 2007

John F Thielen 68 Hours

OPERATIONS, PILOT AIR PATROL AWARD - 2007

1st Randolph F Parent 58 Hours
No qualifiers for 2nd and 3rd

OPERATIONS, TOTAL "IN-AIR FLIGHT TIME" 2007

1st Randolph F Parent 68 Hours

OPERATIONS, VESSEL COXSWAIN - 2007

1ST	Steve A Paskett	258 Hours
2nd	Linda L Vetter	237 Hours
3rd	Charles M Duncan Jr	220 Hours

OPERATIONS, PATROL CREW AWARD - 2007

1st	Jean E Paskett	258 Hours
2nd	Terry M Blanchard	242 Hours
3rd	Shirley C Maxson	201 Hours

OPERATIONS, PATROL PWC OPERATOR AWARD – 2007

1st John S Hunt, Jr 54 Hours
No qualifiers for 2nd and 3rd

PAST COMMODORE JACK C BULLOCK MEMORIAL

OVERALL OPERATIONS TROPHY - 2007

Most Outstanding Performance in Overall Operations

No Qualifier

OPERATIONS FLOTILLA TROPHY -2007

For Outstanding Operations Performance

No Qualifier

Continued next page

STEVE MITCHELL MEMORIAL AWARD, MARINE SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION - 2007

For Outstanding MS/MEP Performance

Embarcadero Cove Flotilla 12-03

MEP – MS- CVS AWARD – 2007

1st	Robert E Lund	1317 Hours
2nd	Michael F Nolan	1049 Hours
3rd	William W Burns	385 Hours

RBS PROGRAM VISITS, FLOTILLA TROPHY -2007

For Outstanding RBSPV Performance

Stockton Flotilla 10-03

PROGRAM VISITS AWARD - 2007

1st	Barbara M Leonardi	591 Visits
2nd	Michael J Lauro	537 Visits
3rd	Phillip E Grove	450 Visits

VESSEL EXAMINATION AWARDS - 2007

1ST	Phillip E Grove	354 VSCs
2ND	Anthony D Leonardi	263 VSCs
3rd	Joaquin P Duran	230 VSCs

VESSEL EXAMINATION TROPHY - 2007

For Outstanding VSC Performance

Modesto Flotilla 10-02

PERSONNEL SERVICES, FLOTILLA TROPHY - 2007

Most Outstanding Performance in Personnel Services

Point Bonita Flotilla 17

MEMBER TRAINING, FLOTILLA TROPHY - 2007

Most Outstanding Performance in Member Training

North Solano County Flotilla 53

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND MEMBER TRAINING
INSTRUCTOR HOURS - 2007

1ST	Milton R Entwistle	226 Hours
2nd	Nick G Tarlson	205 Hours
3rd	Robert R Aurner II	136 Hours

PUBLIC EDUCATION, FLOTILLA TROPHY - 2007

Most Outstanding Performance in Public Education

Central Marin Flotilla 14

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, FLOTILLA TROPHY - 2007

Most outstanding Performance in Public Affairs

Redding Flotilla 39

COAST GUARD OPERATIONAL SUPPORT – 2007

1st	Jeff C Price	1224 Hours
2nd	Ann L Stanaway	1060 Hours
3rd	William S Kinsey	816 Hours

COAST GUARD ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT – 2007

1ST	Gail L Ramsey	976 Hours
2nd	Stephen R Salmon	479 Hours
3rd	Anita M Farnholtz	372 Hours

TRAINING AID TROPHIES - 2007

Best of Type I None

Best of Type II None

Best of Type III **Charles McCarty, FL 53**

Best of Type IV None

Flotilla with Most Training Aids Displayed **Flotilla 53**

Best of Show **Charles McCarty, FL 53, Bearings**

PUBLICATIONS, DIVISION TROPHY - 2007

Most Outstanding Division Publication

“Tackline” Division 7

Continued next page

PUBLICATION, FLOTILLA TROPHY - 2007
Most Outstanding Flotilla Publication
"Flotsam & Jetsam" Flotilla 88

OUTSTANDING PHOTOGRAPHY OF AUXILIARY
ACTIVITY, NORTHWIND – 2007
Glenna Gardner, Flotilla 72

DISTRICT HISTORIAN, FLOTILLA TROPHY - 2007
Most Outstanding Flotilla History Book
Harry McBain, Sacramento, Flotilla 35

PAST COMMODORE JOSEPH J WEST TROPHY - 2007
Most Improved Flotilla in all major programs
Sacramento Flotilla 35

DIRECTOR'S TROPHY – 2007
Outstanding Division
Suisun Bay Division 5

DISTRICT COMMANDER'S TROPHY - 2007
Outstanding Flotilla
Silicon Valley Flotilla 49

DISTRICT COMMODORE'S TROPHY - 2007
Outstanding Auxiliarist
Mike Nolan

CLIFORNIA STATE AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE-2007
California Department of Boating and Waterways Award
Gail L. Ramsey



Visit To Monterey Harbor By USCG Cutters Aspen and George Cobb March 20, 2008

Mark McLaughlin VCP Division 6

Monterey Harbor was honored with the joint arrival of USCG Buoy Tenders Aspen and George Cobb. This event was organized and cosponsored by USCG Auxiliary Division 6 and by the Navy League of the United States Monterey Bay Council. The event was well covered by local media including KSBW Channel 8 TV, KSCO radio of Santa Cruz and the Monterey Herald Newspaper. While moored at Monterey Wharf Number Two tours were made available to the public. The Aspen got underway with members of the Navy League and Auxiliary invited along as guests to observe the cutter's operations. Auxiliary members invited included Victor Linderholm (6-7), Sarah Reeves (6-7), Ralph Neal (6-4), and myself. We went to Pt. Pinos where we watched the crew lift a buoy, place it on the deck, clean and maintain it, and observed as it was placed back in the water on position. Lunch was served on the mess deck, which was appreciated by all. We were impressed by the docking procedure when we returned to Monterey Harbor, which was preformed, in close quarters with a strong wind on the port beam. Commander David Chareon-suphiphat and Captain Bingaman from Alameda joined us on the trip and their knowledge and expertise provided insights on the activities being preformed by the crew of the Aspen. The Monterey Lanes Bowling Alley was reserved for the crews of the George Cobb, Aspen and Coast Guard Station Monterey. Free bowling along with food and drinks were provided. The Monterey Maritime Museum was reserved for a wine and food reception attended by the wardroom staff of the two cutters. Local civic leaders, staff members from the Naval Post Graduate School, Navy League members, Naval Order members, and Coast Guard Auxiliary members attended. The Coast Guard Auxiliary provided services such as a van and driver to take and return the crewmembers to the bowling alley. Auxiliary members also served as pourers and servers at the wine reception. Tony Budlong FSO-IS 06-04 deserves special recognition for handling the van operations. Members of the Auxiliary attending the wine reception were Rod Collins (DCP Div 6), Maryanne Collins(6-7), Tony Budlong (6-4), Bill Dotson (6-4), Ralph Neal and myself. All in all this was an excellent event and showed great cooperation in organizing and execution between the Navy League and the Coast Guard Auxiliary to make it all possible. (C)



AuxAir in District 11N

By
ADSO-PA/MT Ron Darcey
AuxAir Squadron 11N

For the pilots and flight crews of AuxAir Squadron 11N, the increase in budget and a dedicated Air Station reliance on its Auxiliary aviators in late 2007 have brought a welcomed revival in operations and a renewed sense of purpose and morale for all AuxAir personnel. Although the former days of seven day week patrols, a component of thirty-plus aircraft and unlimited time in the air are gone, AuxAir is perhaps realizing a leaner, but just as meaningful, operational asset to the AOR.

Currently, squadron strength holds at nine aircraft (that includes one twin and one helicopter) with another returning with a new engine (to satisfy calendar TBO-Time Before Overhaul policy) that will complement mission-specific operational requirements. AuxAircraft are well situated at six airports between the Bay Area and Sacramento that further provides easy ranging and quick response to most any target or location of interest within the AOR.

Training

District 11N's AuxAir's structure has undergone several major revisions since the program swelled after 9/11 and the Squadron Concept was created. First was an assertive and energetic Air Observer recruitment and aviation training program that culminated in over 110 new observers throughout 2005. This effort resulted in an equally assertive observer training program, held at the Livermore Airport one Saturday each month lasting from early 2006 culminating in mid-2007. The training introduced recruit Auxiliary aviators into the Auxiliary, the aviation program and included many hundreds of hours of mentoring by the program's aviation



Squadron flight crew departs their twin engine, Cessna 340 after an Alpha sector mission. L to R: Nick Williams, Jerry Kurata, Mike Gildersleeve, Ron Darcey. Danish TV Photo

instructors. Also revised was the Air Observer Check List, now separated into two phases. In phase I or primary, all training is classroom academics composed of communications through AOR geography/navigation, observation technique, air to surface photography and crew resource management. Phase II, or advanced, comprises the 10-hour, flight training requirement flying actual patrols and applying academic training; honing skills, advanced communications, technical performance, squadron procedure and developing trainee confidence. Once qualified by the training team, recruits are interviewed by instructors for skill level and sign-off by the Squadron DSO-AV. They are presented their operational award either at Flotilla or Squadron Dinner ceremonies and qual'd for flight operations.

A by-product of the training program was the organization of the squadron's all-day Air Education Training Course (AETC) held twice each year, rotating classrooms between Coast Guard Island (CGI) and Coast Guard Air Station Sacramento. AETC is a refresher and recurrent academic syllabus in both general and selected aviation and operational procedures.

Coast Guard Auxiliary aviation requirements, to reinforce operational mission tasking and especially a positive focus on situational awareness (SA) and selected aviation and operational procedures.

AETC is a continuous training activity that ensures everyone in the squadron does things in a uniform manner to assure all operations and skill levels meet squadron standards: to be consistent, which is what standardized training is all about. It is an excellent 'post graduate' training syllabus and while not mandatory, attendance is typically high with an average of 30 aviators participating in each course.

In accordance with National requirements is the annual Aviation Safety Workshop, also held twice yearly, between CGI and the Air Station SAC. The workshop is conducted by squadron safety officers with subjects on pre-flight procedures, required safety equipment, aero medical lecture and the annual 75-yard swim test into a life raft; cockpit egress training and aircraft survival techniques. Incorporated in the squadron's workshop are aviation safety lectures, current FAA update briefings, crew resource management and aeronautical decision making principals. During April's 2008 workshop, Commodore Vic Connell and the squadron's Coast Guard AUXLO, Lt.jg Hilary Niceswanger joined in, both remarking of syllabus content, its intensity and dedication of the attending 68 aviators that, included several recruit observers still to complete Aux membership.

The AuxAir Mission in District 11N

Primarily the mission is recreational boating safety and in that, the squadron is dedicated and well trained if, only from an aeronautical point of view. That is, while its aviators cannot swoop down and make a recovery they certainly are the "Search, Locate and Vector" asset their mission requires. As one ADSO-PA compared: AuxAir is relative to the Marine Corps in which Marine Air's primary mission is to support the troops on the ground, so too AuxAir; support their colleagues on the water and land mobile.

But AuxAir has other capabilities that involve other mission specific operations as well. To support and reinforce the Coast Guard's air stations when a cost-effective, available and reliable aviation resource is needed. Many times, AuxAir have relieved Coast Guard and other state agencies in SAR, observation and especially, as Squadron 11N has provided many times, aerial photography; recording still and video of incidents involving environmental contamination, misguided vessels (certainly very beneficial to Coast Guard Marine Safety Office) and the reinitiated, First Light Mission.

As a First Light Mission example: on 18 March, Air Station SF requested squadron aircraft to prepare a search for the missing sailor of the 31 foot 'Daisy,' concentrating efforts south of the gate to Monterey and suspect flotsam reported off Santa Cruz. Within an hour of the request, three Aux aircraft with full crews from Hayward, Livermore and Sacramento were on the flight line ready to launch. Although a persistent marine layer prevented the



Pre-ATON Verification mission briefing. Lower L to R: Brian Cliff, Dennis Caponigro, Ron Darcey, Gene Wheeler, Skip Morford. Nick Williams photo

Hayward and Livermore crews from getting aloft, the SAC crew did, following the coast line from Santa Cruz to Monterey but found the reported debris to be a door. This same crew flew again the following day (Hayward and Livermore crews remaining ground-bound by fog) with the same disappointing results. However the rapid response and effort paid dividends with the SAC crew being recognized for their contribution to the operation and professional manner in which they performed the mission. It is clear that the intensive training to which Squadron 11N is dedicated is in direct relationship to mission success the flightcrews continually exhibit in mission capability, operational flexibility and rapid response.

Squadron Dinner Meetings

Because many Aux aviators are from other Flotillas, the squadron includes the Auxiliary's Fourth Cornerstone holding bi-monthly Squadron Dinner Meetings that combines Fellowship and forum for operational curriculums, mission/operational refreshers, briefings and when appropriate, AuxAir recognition and awards. The activity maintains an aviation ambiance, keeps aviators close as a unit and as important, offers the Aviation Right of Passage of qualification into the AuxAir community. Often attended by Gold Side aviators, dinner provides a welcome opportunity for Aux aviators to mingle with their active duty colleagues, talk of all things Coast Guard aviation and discover what might be on the operational horizon. Attendance is in uniform, open to Auxiliarists by request.



Pilot Leo Gross and observer Nick Williams settle into the cockpit of Gross's American Yankee to conduct a Delta Safety patrol. *Ron Darcey photo*



Showing off its Auxiliary markings, a Cessna 150 turns over Browns Island on a routine Safety Patrol flown by Pat Dencognito and observer Chuck Utvic *Ron Darcey Photo*

AuxAir Aviators

The people that make up AuxAir Squadron 11N are highly mission dedicated, the job as Force Multipliers and especially protection of the nation. These are quality, fully-trained aviators, ready to respond, ready to execute new found capability and certainly ready and well-prepared to take on greater mission tasking in which they are requested to undertake. ©

AUXAIR 11N ————— YOU CAN COUNT ON US!!!

Festival of Sail, San Francisco 23—27 July 2008

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Participation

William Kinsey DSO-PA/ADSO-PB & George Knies DSO-PB

On July 23-27 tall ships will be in San Francisco Bay. In addition to the USCGC Eagle, over thirty vessels of various vintages will sail into the port, set up "open house" and allow the public to view and experience sailing from another era. Hundreds of thousands are expected to view and visit this tremendous epic visit. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will participate in this event with shore-side watches as Ships Liaison Officers, staffing booths to share our story, cover the Waterways Watch Program, and represent the Auxiliary and what we do. Short five-hour "watches" are available during the above dates. The uniform is either ODU's or Tropical Blues. *For details and to sign up, contact the Port Operations Director, Rick Saber (Flotilla Commander, Flotilla 12) at 415-457-0345 or 415-497-2332 or by e-mail at eagle@rsaber.com or Diana Serchia ADSO-PA 11NR at dserchia@flotilla17.org.*

Our on-the water participation will entail providing our facility assets assisting the numerous Federal, State, County and City marine patrol vessels (the blue lights) enforcing the Parade of Sail "Regulated Area" safety/security zone and the Mock Cannon Battles that will operate 1400-1630 daily at different locations on San Francisco Bay. ©

COAST GUARD AUXILIARY DISTRICT 11NR National Safe Boating Week Report 2008

Angelo Perata RCO-RBS 11NR, NSBW Chair

The divisions of District 11 Northern Region report the following:

Division 1 Northern & Central San Francisco Bay



Flotilla 14 Central Marin

Submitted by Gail Giacomini

On Sunday, May 18, 2008, the *San Francisco Yacht Club* hosted a safe boating day, with an exhibit of life jackets and safe boating literature provided by USCG Auxiliary, Flotilla 14. The exhibit was put up by myself, (schlepped by my husband, due to my "booted" foot) and assisted from 12-1400 by Herb Golenpaul (driving from Sonoma with an injured knee!) from Flotilla 14. Vessel Safety Checks were offered by Flotilla 12 examiners Bob Hendry, JoseMaria Castro and Rick Saber (who stepped in to take the place of Tom Moore from Flotilla 14, who had a family emergency).

Two trainees from Flotilla 14, Jerel Berkov and Roger Machin were on hand to get some qualifying VEs. Rick Saber (Flotilla 12) assisted Roger Machin to do four of his five qualifying VEs! (Jerel needed to leave at noon.) Herb P. went with Roger on the first of the five required qualifying VEs earlier in the day. Rick sent form MT-2 with four signoffs to Roger, who will add Herb's data to it, and send it and a copy of his VE exam to the Flotilla Commander, Dudley Smolen, for signing, which he will then send to DIRAUX. Roger will become our newest examiner, speedier than most, thanks to Rick!

We gave safe boating literature, keychains, "safe boating day" rubber, blue bracelets and lots of whistles to about twenty SFYC members and visitors, and gave away four Dock Walker bags with materials (after the forms were filled out and given back to us). We also gave some tattoos and safe boating coloring books for the children and had six children sign "Panda Pledges" to be safe boaters (before they could choose their whistles!). The Waterway Watch information was commented upon and disseminated and *Stop the Drops* pamphlets given to the SFYC manager Dennis Conneally, to put out for members.

Five exams were given, and one person asked for their boat to be given a VSC at another date and site. The SFYC provided complimentary lunches to the four Auxilirists who were there at noon. Two pictures were taken at this event of the exhibit. Rick Saber reports, "Our interactions with the San Francisco Yacht Club were warmly received by both the new manager Dennis [Conneally], [note: and Russ Coggeshall, past manager and present Webmaster] Director Al Haussener and Commodore John Swain. All in all, a solid start for National Safe Boating Campaign week." I agree!

Flotilla 15 Oyster Point

Submitted by Arthur Park

Continued next page

On Saturday May 17 and Sunday May 18 ten members of the Flotilla maintained an all day booth and offered courtesy vessel exams at Brisbane Marina. We had earlier given the Marina a flyer as to our proposed vessel exams and they had circulated it with all their tenants. The two day event was, in our opinion, very successful.

1. Contacts. At the booth we had available assorted safe boating literature. We had twenty-six "contacts" and discussed with these contacts safe boating points and Auxiliary activities and distributed safe boating literature.
2. Vessel Exams. Three qualified examiners conducted twenty-five vessel safety checks. Most of the vessels passed their requirements and stickers were affixed.
3. Dock Walking. Our two certified dock walkers handed out six dock walking bags and conducted the related surveys.
4. New Member Inquiries. The owners on one of the examined vessels expressed interest in the Auxiliary and a member conducted an in depth interview with them. The interested parties are coming to our next Auxiliary **Flotilla meeting**.

Flotilla 17 Point Bonita
Submitted by Diana R. Serchia

Our NSB Weekend began on Saturday, 17 May. The Pier 39 Marina in San Francisco sponsored our event. A Public Affairs booth was set up for the boating public and an appointment list was also created to set up vessel exam appointments. The weather could not have been better. We had blue skies, lots of sunshine and many of the boating public stopping by to visit. By the end of the weekend, 18 May, the following was completed:

A total of 20 plus vessel exams were performed by our vessel examiners, including newly qualified ones. Future vessel exams were scheduled for later dates. 42 people stopped by our booth asking for boating information and literature was given along with giveaways.

AWW program was discussed and literature given to the public. An employee of the Marina expressed interest in becoming an Auxiliary member. Over 10 Flotilla members volunteered for this important Auxiliary event. The Pier 39 Marina expressed interest in sponsoring us for future PA and VE events.

A "Thank You" plaque was presented to the Marina Manager, Sheila Chandor.



One happy boater!



Robin S. educating the boating public.

RBS Speaking Engagement - Coyote Point Yacht Club
Submitted by Robert Hendry, Division Captain

On Saturday, May 17, 2008, the Coyote Point Yacht Club held a boating seminar for its members. They requested a Recreational Boating Safety Speaker to be present and provide relevant information and I fulfilled that request for the USCG. My talk was received well by about 20 members of the Club and focused on "Wearing Life Jackets" with various types on display. Pamphlets were handed out to all present on the types of Life Jackets and their **intended uses**. Considerable discussion followed with all questions being answered to their satisfaction.

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Following the life jacket discussion, a brief talk was given on the America's Waterway Watch program. The pamphlet on AWW was passed out to all present and a brief discussion on its intended purpose and interest was shown by all. Questions were answered and the Club posted the large laminated poster as well as put America's Waterway Watch pamphlets on display for others to see.

All in all, it was a productive session and a good impression was created for the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary as well as a needed public service being fulfilled.



Division 3 Central California Valley

NSBW plans include a kick-off/Open House at Sacramento Radio One, and a VSC Station at Discovery park. We are also firming up our NSBW plans, which will include the annual life jacket exchange with Cal-Boating at Northern California Sam's Clubs on FRI 23 MAY 08. We also plan to have an Air Drop demo on Folsom Lake on SAT 24 MAY 08, in conjunction with Air Station Sacramento.

In the Sacramento area, press releases from the division included notice of the ABC class at Folsom Lake, and "Boaters Urged To Be Safer This Summer" offering four easy-to-follow tips. Additionally, a press release informing of the Coast Guard air drop at Folsom Lake, and two stories were released to the Elk Grove Citizen regarding safe boating week and one after Memorial Day regarding operations on that weekend in area waterways. In the Redding area, twelve press releases were sent informing of National Safe Boating Week.

Flotilla 39 in Redding reports having four boats on Whiskeytown Lake, a Vessel Safety Check Station and public affairs booth, a West Marine Booth, a large sign with California and Federal requirements for boating safety, training for new members, a free lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, cold drinks, potato salad and macaroni salad.

A CHP helicopter from Redding visited with us and we discussed evacuation from a boat and other topics on recovery of people from the water and boat ramps. We did 19 Vessel Exams, and gave away 239 whistles to the kids to put on their life jackets, coloring books, safety brochures, and 26 orange ski flags

We also received a safety proclamation from the Shasta County Board of Supervisors, and the City of Redding CA. for National Safe Boating Week.



Division 4 Santa Clara County

PUBLIC AFFAIRS EVENT HELD AT WEST MARINE, PALO ALTO, CA. SAN ANTONIO ROAD STORE. NUMBER OF BROCHURES AND PAMPHLETS DISTRIBUTED TO NEARLY 200 VISITORS.



VSC / PUBLIC AFFAIRS EVENT HELD AT COYOTE LAKE IN GILROY, CA. DISTRIBUTED BOATING INFORMATION TO ABOUT 25 VISITORS, AND CONDUCTED A NUMBER OF VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS. 17 AUXILIARISTS PARTICIPATED. A SPECIAL TRAILER BUILT BY AUXILIARIST JOHN SPARRER AND SON, PROVIDED EXCELLENT DISPLAY AND COVER.

VSC / PUBLIC AFFAIRS EVENT HELD AT REDWOOD CITY MARINE, CA. DISTRIBUTED BROCHURES TO ABOUT 15 VISITORS AND CONDUCTED A NUMBER OF VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS.



Division 5 San Pablo/Suisun Bay

Flotilla 51 Vallejo

Public Affairs At the request of Flotilla 51, the cities of American Canyon, Benicia, and Vallejo gave out proclamations recognizing National Safe Boating week. In each case, flotilla members attended city council meetings to receive the proclamations and speak to the city councils. This is a good opportunity to get our safe boating message out to local officials.

On May 17, the flotilla set up a Public Affairs/Vessel Exam table at Brinkman's Marina. About 40 people were contacted, with some interest in future boating classes and vessel exams. Coast Guard Station Vallejo stopped by the marina during the PA event, and subsequently did a number of boarding's near by.

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Vessel Exams **At Brinkman's Marina, the flotilla performed 22 vessel exams, which kept our examiners busy that day. Else-** where during the weeks preceding and just after NSBW, an additional 17 examinations were performed.

Program Visits Three program visits were done

Public Education Information on regular classes at Solano College was given out at the PA table. We are also close to an agree-
ment with a local insurance agent to provide an ABC class for all of the agent's boating customers.

Operations OPFAC Osprey did a safety patrol on the Napa River on May 24, and assisted CG 41365 with a training evolution on the same day. Members from Flotilla 51 also crewed on patrols May 24 and May 25 on Millerton Lake, rescuing two PWCs that were sinking.

Fellowship On May 17, the flotilla had a potluck and bar-b-q for members and Coast Guard staff at CG Station Vallejo. A good time was had by all.

Flotilla 52 Napa, Curtis Han, FC-52

On May 14th in a joint effort Flotilla 52 and 53 had a Vessel Safety Check station at Pleasure Cove Marina on Lake Berryessa. A total of 26 boats, including 6 houseboats got Vessel Safety Checks. This joint Flotilla 52 and Flotilla 53 effort was conducted as part of Lake Berryessa RBS Project. Members of Flotilla 52 did 15 VSCs and members of Flotilla 53 preformed 11.

On May 22nd, Flotilla 52 participated in PA mission at Travis Air Force Base, providing boating safety information to the Air Force Personnel. Members of Flotilla 52, Flotilla 53, and Flotilla 57 were involved in this joint PA mission.

On May 24th, three members from Flotilla 52 participated in Safety and Training Patrol from Benicia to Napa River and back aboard OPFAC Osprey coxswain by Mike Ungersma.

Flotilla 53 North Solano County, Chuck McCarty, FC-53

14 MAY - in conjunction with Flotilla 52, we conducted a Vessel Safety Check Station at Pleasure Cove Marina, Lake Berryessa where 22 VSCs were completed.

18 MAY - conducted a Vessel Safety Check Station at Suisun City Marina launch ramp and 17 VSCs were completed.

22 MAY - in conjunction with representatives from Flotilla 52 and 57, conducted a Public Affairs booth at Travis AFB as part of a Travis program for its personnel - an estimated 1,000 individuals went through the PA booth.

23 MAY - conducted 4 Program Visits, adding 3 new partners to the RSBPV program.

25 MAY - conducted a Vessel Safety Check Station at the Capell Cove Launch Ramp, Lake Berryessa where 33 VSCs were completed.

Flotilla 55 Petaluma, V. Thomas Maxson, VFC 0505

Flotilla 0505's activities in an around Safe Boating Week consisted of three PA events at the West Marine Swap Meets in Santa Rosa; the annual Open House at Coast Guard Station Bodega Bay, three days of patrols and Vessel Safety Checks at Lake Sonoma and two days of assisting the Coast Guard Station Bodega Bay as a platform.

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Shirl and Tom Maxson and Larry Kubo at the Santa Rosa West Marine Store conducted the PA events. Our traveling booth with notices of classes being offered and other handouts for Safe Boating was offered. The attendees were encouraged to try various Lifejackets and T-shirts were given to the children when they tried them on. Parents were reminded that the kids were much more inclined to wear their lifejackets when they see their parents in them! An attractive bulletin board lists the State and Federal Requirements for various boat lengths was displayed and always elicits questions and comments.

The Coast Guard Station Bodega Bay held its annual Open House, attended by approximately 300 people. Fortunately the day was sunny and mild. Three Helicopters landed and were available for tours and the Coast Guard C-130 made several passes to the delight of the crowd.

Three days of vessel examinations, patrols and meeting and greeting the boating public at Lake Sonoma is an annual event for Flotilla 0505. Unfortunately the first day weather was less than cooperative, with rain, wind and cold. Sunday and Monday were much more to our liking and the boaters on the lake. One facility preformed a SAR successfully for a vessel who lost his engine.

Last but not least one 0505 facility was required for two days to be a platform for the CG Station Bodega Bay. Being towed three times, passing the P-6 Pump three times and being boarded three times gave the new station crew much needed practice and will help to prepare them for boating mishaps.

Flotilla 57 Pleasant Hill

Vessel Safety Checks: Total - 46 Passed - 41 Failed - 5 These were preformed by 8 flotilla 57 members at: Pittsburg, Martinez, Benicia and Rio Vista.

Safety Fair at Travis AFB: Safety information and Lectures were presented to approx. 1,100 military personnel Presentations were made on: Life Jack-ets Waterway Watch program, General Boating information. In Attendance were:

Lead - Jim Blackburn - FC-57
Curtis Han - FC-52
Randy Powers - ADSO-MA, FL-53
Nedla powers - ADSO-MA, FL-53



Division 6 Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties

Flotilla 64

As the kickoff-date for National Safe Boating Week falls annually on the same day as Armed Forces Day, it seemed suitable to honor our Military as well as Law Enforcement on the same occasion as NSBW since with concerted effort all of the participants could be brought together to help "make it happen". And it was felt that on this occasion it was proper under world circumstances. With the outside assistance of the Public Relations Officer from the Defense Language Institute, Mr. Al Macks, under the direction of Col. Sue Sandusky, its Commandant, we were able to program the Colonel's attendance as well as that of the U. S. Navy Choir and other members of the service attending the language school for our celebration.

Located adjacent, at the top of the Launch Ramp at the foot of the Harbormaster's Office was the Flotilla 6-4 Booth with Promotional Handout Material and Vessel Examiners providing free vessel safety checks. Manning the booth were Division Vice Captain Mark McLaughlin, Flotilla Commander Skip Eckel, Member Training Officer Ralph Neal, MA Officer Bill von Christerson, IS Officer Tony Budlong and CS Officer Des Wytman.

The USCG 47' Motor Life Boat arrived with Lt. Mark Warren on board and was docked nearby at City Dock with its complement of personnel from Station-Monterey. It was open for public touring

In addition to a Speaker System provided by myself, Al Macks, the PR Officer provided an additional portable system that proved invaluable to us and the speakers as well as the choir.

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The main speakers on this occasion were Captain Paul Gugg, Sector Commander for the U. S. Coast Guard, Yerba Buena Island, San Francisco who was introduced by Lt. Marc Warren, Coast Guard Station-Monterey, Commander, who, himself, was soon-to-be rotated-out in July to a new command.

Other main speakers included Colonel Sue Sandusky, Army Commandant of the Defense Language Institute, Monterey, who on this occasion represented all the other Branches of the Service, all of whom serve while attending the Institute under her command.

Also speaking, the Mayor of Monterey, Chuck Della Salla, welcomed all to the occasion providing his support to the Coast Guard efforts on behalf of Safe Boating and to the Military and Law Enforcement on this Armed Forces Day.

Also in attendance as guests were the three levels of Law Enforcement serving our area: representatives of the California Highway Patrol, Monterey **County Sheriff's Office and the Monterey Police Department.** Each was specifically honored for their contribution to our society in the defense of our rights.



Rounding-out the celebration was the 32-Member Monterey Community Concert Band led by Dick Robins, the local Bandmaster who directs Community Concerts at the Maritime Museum near Wharf No. 1 on a regular schedule. He varies his concert appearances only for our annual NSBW celebrations and very few other occasions due to his demanding concert schedule.

Mr. Robins had prepared a suitable repertoire of musical pieces for our occasion. The Navy Choir joined the Concert Band in singing the National Anthem, followed by USCG Captain Paul Gugg reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The Band then entertained the audience with a series of Show Tunes with which to open, leading into the Introductions and speeches, with Lt. Warren personally introducing Captain Gugg.

Following the completion of the Speeches, the Band swung into a series of Military Airs, covering each and every Branch, saving until the LAST----THE COAST GUARD HYMN (they are the ONLY band in the Region that has the band music)—the band **introduced it with opening introductory “flourishes” whereupon recognizing THEIR music, ALL COAST GUARD PERSONNEL SHOT TO THEIR FEET AND STOOD AT ATTENTION THROUGHOUT ITS BEING PLAYED.** It was a sight to see.

On closing the proceedings, the Master of Ceremonies read a Dedication to all in the Military and Law Enforcement who protect our Rights and Freedoms

The affair lasted approximately an hour accentuated by a FLY-OVER at just the right moment at the opening of the ceremonies.

The cooperation of Captain Gugg and Colonel Sandusky was deeply appreciated and the local assistance rendered by Station Monterey personnel and those of the Defense Language Institute were critical to the success of the proceedings.

This celebration is an annual feature of Flotilla 6-4 during which the Flotilla offers Boating Safety Classes while seeking new members and offering safety checks to local boaters. This annual celebration attests to the outstanding leadership and guidance provided by Division 6, Flotilla 64 and Coast Guard Station-Monterey.

Division 7 Utah

On a beautiful spring day on a late April afternoon, several members of Flotilla 78 were not out enjoying the respite from winter. They were inside Pony Express Elementary School in Eagle Mountain, Utah, talking to hundreds of elementary school children about water safety.

The flotilla had been contacted in late March about participating in the school's first annual Family Safety Fair being held on Monday, April 28, 2008. Along with representatives from the fire, police, a K-9 unit, and many other booths, Flotilla 78 talked to estimated 1000-1100 parents and children about ways to safely have fun in the water.

Linda Sterling manned the display designed by Lana Visser that emphasized different areas of water safety--not only while boating, but while fishing, swimming, and enjoying water sports. She talked to parents about ways to keep their children safe at home, at the swimming pool, and at the lake. She also answered boating questions when parents wanted information. Utah State Boating Office provided brochures and lots of giveaways for parents and kids alike.



With Joyce Bell giving him his voice, and under the watchful supervision of Pam Berger, a newly refurbished Coastie talked to the kids about being safe when they played in the water, and reminded them that they should always wear their life jackets whenever they were in or **near the water. Because of limited space, Coastie didn't get to move around much, but he still delighted and mystified young and even older kids ("How does he know I have on a blue shirt?") Coastie trading cards were given to each child who talked to Coastie. The trading card listed Coastie's Water Safety Rules to remind the kids what they had talked to Coastie about.**

Flotilla 78 also presented two activities to further re-enforce two important water safety rules – to always wear a properly fitting, age-appropriate, Coast-Guard approved PFD, and to never jump in the water to try to rescue someone in trouble – instead, throw something to them and then get help. The kids had great fun throwing a 2-1/2 lb life ring to try to hit a target—and hopefully learned something!



A pile of PFDs in assorted sizes and colors kept Bill Rouleau and Don Robinson busy all evening as the kids came over to actually try on a PFD, learn how to put it on, and how to buckle it up (and keep it buckled up!) Bill and Don talked to each child about wearing their PFD while they are swimming, boating, or around the water.

They also talked to the parents about making sure the PFD fit each child properly – a PFD is not something to buy and let them grow into! They emphasized buying the proper PFD for the activity, and that the PFD **should always have "Coast Guard Approved" stamped on each PFD.**



Don's Coast Guard PFD intrigued many of the kids, and he was happy to show them all the safety gadgets on his PFD!

The kids had a great time trying on the PFDs, throwing the life ring, talking to Coastie, and also got to take home lots of loot - stickers, bracelets, pencils, and coloring books! We had a great time talking to and interacting with the kids. Hopefully, the parents also got good information about how to teach water safety to their children and enforce water safety rules through their teaching and example. An informal survey **done by the fair organizers showed the Auxiliary's booth was one of the favorites of the fair-goers**, so hopefully we will be invited back next year for the 2nd Annual Pony Express Elementary School Safety Fair!

Division 8 California North Coast

Flotilla 88 Clearlake

Flotilla 88 started planning early for NSBW 2008. In October 2007 Flotilla member Jerry Collins started the process for securing a community grant from the Clearlake WALMART store. This is the fifth year the local WALMART store has funded the Flotilla **NSBW "Children's Lifejacket Project"**. **The grant was \$1000.00 and along with funds from the Flotilla** *Continued next page*

special projects fund and generous donations from several Flotilla members the total grew to \$1750.00. This allowed for the **purchase of 150 Type 3 lifejackets in various children's sizes.**

This year the flotilla invited the California Highway Patrol, CDF Cal Fire, and Lake County Sheriff Marine Patrol. The Flotilla gave a free lifejacket to children under 12 accompanied by a parent/guardian. The child was properly fitted and both child and adult were instructed on proper use and care of the lifejacket.

This year the flotilla invited the California Highway Patrol, CDF Cal Fire, and Lake County Sheriff Marine Patrol. The Flotilla gave a free lifejacket to children under 12 accompanied by a parent/guardian. The child was properly fitted and both child and adult were instructed on proper use and care of the lifejacket.

In addition to the Auxiliary lifejacket giveaway and RBS booth Cal Fire had Smokey the Bear at their booth giving families vital information on fire prevention. CHP set up a child car seat safety inspection station and replaced 29 car seats, free of charge, of the one hundred plus vehicles that filed through. The seats were replaced because they were the wrong size for the child, the seat date expired, or the seat was faulty in some manner. The Lake County Sheriff Marine Patrol provided a patrol boat for display and several children took pictures at the helm with their new lifejacket on.



Lake Co. Sheriff Marine Patrol

Our very own Richard Thomas, also the DSO-PS, operated "Coastie" with the greatest of ease. Wherever he went it was like the tale of the "Pied Piper" with a crowd of children and adults following him to the booth area. WALMART management was so impressed with his public relation skills they jokingly offered him a position as the parking lot coordinator.

Project coordinator Jerry Collins, Past RCO said, "We knew we would have a captive audience and wanted to invite our public safety partners to join us in this opportunity to get vital safety information into the hands of the public. With over four hundred people coming through it was a very productive day for all".



This October the Flotilla will apply for a grant for NSBW 2009. The agencies that joined us this year asked if we would invite them back next year if we get approved. This event would not have been as successful as it was without the help of Flotilla 88 members DA Butts FSO-FN, Deana McAllister FSO-CS, Richard Thomas DSO/FSO-PS, Betty Strach FC, Jack Gerhardt, Pati Gerhardt, Robert Stack FSO-MS, Karen Wilson FSO-SR, Janis Krasovec, Art Shaw, John McEwen VFC, Victoria Stephens, and Charles Rester FSO-PV. Also, joining Flotilla 88 at the event was Angelo Perata RCO. Angelo worked fitting and instructing the children and adults alongside Betty Strach and Jerry Collins. A special thank you to Nita Collins, former member and FC of Flotilla 88. She was inspired to create this project six years ago after the tragic drowning of a child on Clear Lake. Thanks also to Sgt. Dennis Ostini Lake Co. Sheriff Marine Patrol, Lt. Dane Hayward Commander Kelseyville Office of CHP, Fire Prevention Specialist Kevin Coburn CDF Fire Prevention. A heartfelt Tango Mike to all and a Bravo Zulu for a job well done. Jeremiah Collins Project Coordinato

Flotilla 08-11 Crescent City

Flotilla 8-11 was very busy for National Boating Safety Week this year. The week started with an intense search and rescue call for 4 boaters in distress south of Crescent City at the Mouth of the Klamath River. Our 25 foot rescue boat assisted the Coast Guard in saving the life of one of the boaters that was swept out to sea in the current. The next day, our flotilla had a Bar-B-Que that featured knot tying and heaving line training as part of the fun and games. We gained a new member as a result of that activity. We visited many schools and spoke on water safety and accident prevention during the week. All together 1 kindergarten class, 5 third grade and 3 fifth grade classes were visited and the program lasted approx. one hour per class. Total children visited was about 270.

Friday May 23 saw another Search and Rescue call. A 30 ft. Crab Boat lost electrical 2 miles south of Crescent City and was close to the surf line. We started out on the Two Sisters and ended up on the 851 for that one, coming back into port at 12:15 A.M. Friday May 30, 2008 was the first Summer Fun Safety Day. Many agencies were involved in this

Continued next page

program sponsored by the First Five Family Resource Center and the program went from 10-1. During that time approximately 300 children rotated into our presentation about water safety. These children were mostly kindergartners.

We responded to yet another SAR call on that Friday afternoon with a small boat losing their engine and needing a tow in from in back of the getty near Whaler Island.

Saturday May 31, 2008 we gathered at the small boat basin for complementary vessel exams and the “life jacket give away” program. These life jackets came from a grant from Wal-Mart and some were from Del Norte County Sheriff Department’s grant from Safe Waterways. We gave away about 48 life jackets, taking time to fit each child correctly based on their weight. Believe it or not, the entire family of the vessel we pulled in from the getty the day before was waiting in line for free life jackets. We were happy to give those out to that boat!! We made many good contacts and spoke to a lot of folks about the auxiliary. We had a lot of interest for our next ABC class on June 28. We did 4 Vessel Exams and are scheduled to continue tomorrow. All in all, a very busy week!! *Jill Munger FSO-MT and Boating Safety Week Coordinator*

Division 10 San Joaquin Valley
Submitted by Mike Lauro

Saturday May 17 was the kick-off date for National Safe Boating Week (NSBW). CAPT. Swatland USCG Sector San Francisco, Raynor Tsuneyoshi, Director Cal Boating, Paul Newman of the National Safe Boating Council and many other representatives from BOAT/US, local Sheriff and Fire Depts. USCG Auxiliary was represented by Mike Lauro DSO-VE to help the kickoff of the **summer campaign of the 2008 “WEAR IT CALIFORNIA” life jacket program at the Stockton Ports Stadium in Stockton. A VSC** was performed on **the** vessel.



Division 11 Sierra

Executive Summary

May is traditionally too early for boats to be appearing on Lake Tahoe and the Northern Nevada Lakes. This year we had unseasonably warm weather on the weekend of NSBW to be followed by rain, snow and temperatures in the 30s on Memorial Day weekend. The warm weather brought some unique problems to the boating public. Beach goers, paddle enthusiasts and boaters experienced their first day of warm weather after 6 months of winter. The day time high reached in the upper 70s yet the water temperatures were only in the high 40s. We took this opportunity to educate the boating public through news media, the introduction of a new brochure, boating safety classes and at a special paddle event on the dangers of cold water immersion.

Division 11

Division elected officers and operational staff attended a SAR orientation meeting and picnic hosted by Station Lake Tahoe. Senior Chief Bennett invited the law enforcement agencies, county agencies, SAR agencies, salvors and the Auxiliary to a **“meet and greet” to discuss boating issues for the start of boating season on Lake Tahoe.**

Continued next page

Jack Leth SO-OP, Jim Snell SO-MT and Dee Dee Kincade DCP met with the National Weather Service in Reno to discuss promoting the new Recreational Forecast for Lake Tahoe and Pyramid Lake. The new forecast will include wind and wave reports for various areas of the lakes. **Auxiliary members have been asked to become "Wave Spotters". The new report was introduced to the public during NSBW in time for the Memorial Day weekend.** The Auxiliary and NWS visited local agencies, boat ramps and the newspapers to get the word out on this new product.



There has been a lot of press on safe boating practices throughout the month of May. The local paper on the North Shore of Lake Tahoe is running a four part series on the front page on the aquatic invasive species problem. The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) has adopted two new provisions in regards to the invasive species. The first provision prohibits the introduction of aquatic invasive species into the Lake Tahoe region. The second subjects all watercraft to an inspection by TRPA before launching. Inspectors were at all the public ramps starting May 17, the start of NSBW. Fishing report articles stressed the importance of wearing a life jacket. Flotilla 01 had articles on their planned boating safety classes and Vessel Exam Days.

Flotilla 11-01 North Lake Tahoe

Dee Dee Kincade DCP and Jack Leth SO/FSO-OP attended the change of personnel at Station Lake Tahoe. Flt 01 presented six out-going Coasties with personalized mugs in appreciation of their participation with the Auxiliary in the last four years.



A Fantastic Turnout for the Lake Tahoe Water Trail Committee Community Paddle Event at Sand Harbor. It could not have been a more beautiful day at Sand Harbor on Saturday, May 17th for the Lake Tahoe Water Trail Committee's "Spring Community Paddle Day". Over 90 participants from the Lake Tahoe area and nearby Nevada and California communities gathered at Sand Harbor for a magical two hour paddle of the East Shore and then returned to a BBQ lunch.

"I never realized just how many people were interested in paddling on Lake Tahoe. This was a perfect opportunity to learn about how to be safe on the water, give input to circumnavigation of the lake, and just enjoy a glorious day on the water with others," said Jeff Wells of Nevada City. The paddle event started with a safety talk by Jay Schmidt SO-PE and Dee Dee Kincade DCP of the North Lake Tahoe Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 11.



These dedicated volunteers reminded every kayaker about required safety equipment and the care needed to paddle on Lake Tahoe where the water temperature on Saturday was 48 degrees. Then the participants launched into the calm, blue water and paddled south in three groups, led by informative local volunteer guides. During the BBQ lunch at the group pavilion participants also had a chance to talk to representatives of the Tahoe Resource Conservation District Staff to learn about invasive aquatic species and what kayakers can do to help stop their spread. Harry King, owner of Tahoe Ecosports in Kings Beach, braved the cold water and demonstrated survival techniques such as how to get back in a kayak if it

capsizes and how to help rescue a paddler in trouble. For information about the Lake Tahoe Water Trail Committee, how to become involved and future planned events - please visit www.laketahoe-water-trail.org. To see more photos of the event go to: www.niobeburden.com/lwtw_paddle

With rain and snow over Memorial Day weekend our VE Day on the west shore of Lake Tahoe and the Mike Brown Seaplane Splash-In events were canceled. These events were replaced with an invitation by Station Tahoe to join them at the Tahoe Biltmore's Event Honoring Veterans. Various military groups participated with booths. Flt 01 manned a boating safety booth with XPO BM1 Josh Martin and EPO MK1 Adam Barton.

Continued next page



Our first ABC Class held on May 31 this year was extremely successful with 23 attendees, 8 of them under the age of 17.

Our first facility hit the water during NSBW. The first patrol was a night ATON patrol to check the lights on the JPL and Davis buoys that reside in the middle of the lake. All 5 buoys had discrepancies. This patrol was followed by a training patrol with Station Tahoe. The week was followed up with a safety patrol as boats started to show up for the boating season.

Flotilla 11-03 Reno and 11-05 Carson City

SAR training is mandatory for the Lyon County boat crew. Keith White and Jim Harfiel from 11-03 and Bill Stoltz FC 11-05, presented training to the members of Lyon County SAR at Lake Lahontan. Topics covered were basic knots and bends, towing, heaving line drills, and flare practice. A great deal of information was covered, including a review of the USCG AUX SAR Manuals during the six hour session.

Keith White and Mike Lawrence manned a VE booth at Boaters Flea Market at West Marine, Reno. Keith conducted VEs and answered a number of questions regarding safe boating and the local lakes. Mike helped customers with purchases from GPS Strobe lights. They also spoke to a couple potential recruits about the USCGAUX. Keith and Mike were there earlier, and longer than expected due to the public's desire for free information and goodies including registration floats, water bottles, whistles, Rules of the Road, stickers, and Waterway Watch information.



Keith White conducted a Girl Scout Life Jacket Swim held in Fernley, NV on May 22. The girls were somewhat scared at first, but once they learned the proper way to enter the water they were very comfortable. They even conducted a HELP position, as well as linking up and attracting attention. It was so much fun. All participants received a New Life Jacket with whistle, T-Shirt, as well as a bag of goodies with coloring books, water bottles and tattoos. Everyone received a certificate at the end of the session. The Girl Scouts are going to create a special patch for this troop.

Ken Willrich FSO-MT put together a tour of the National Weather Service offices in Reno on Saturday, May 17. 10 members of Flt 03 and 05 experienced a very interesting 1 1/2 hour learning experience. The tour concluded with a weather balloon launch. 120 stations around the US launch their balloons at the same time.

Flotilla 11-04 South Lake Tahoe

Vic Beelik FC has developed a brochure on Cold Water Immersion just in time for the start of the boating season. Nevada Department of Wildlife was agreed to print copies of the brochure to be distributed at the Nevada boat ramps.

Division 12 East San Francisco Bay

Working with the Coast Guard, Division 12 participated in Troop Fest 2008 aboard the aircraft carrier museum ship USS Hornet. **Activities included a public affairs booth and other displays. Members attending were Pat O'Leary DCP 12, James O'Leary, Clarence Johnson, Jack Kane, and Angelo Perata RCO 11NR.**

Final comments:

Thanks to the DCPs and the Division NSBW chairs for their activity and diligence in reporting; congratulations for a job well done exceeding all expectations. The camaraderie experienced was itself a reward. Their accomplishments have proven what we can do when we come together for a common goal. **Angelo Perata RCO-RBS, NSBW Chair District 11NR USCGAUX**

©

NORTHWIND

Festival of Sail coming to San Francisco 23 July 2008



July 2008 Edition

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