



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
America's Volunteer Lifesaverssm



NASSAU SOUNDINGS

USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 14-1
Fernandina Beach, FL
Seventh Coast Guard District



Volume 15, No. 01

Aaron Rawls

FSO-PB 14-1

January 2006

FLOTILLA COMMANDER

James Arman

FC 14-1

(904) 261-3804

December has been a busy month of organization and getting ready to start the New Year. It did start with an outstanding Change of Watch ceremony and dinner. The staff has been chosen and an organizational meeting held to make plans for 2006. The Vice Flotilla Commander and staff are enthusiastic and anxious to get started. A 2006 activity calendar has been published as a working document. It has been distributed to the staff and will appear monthly in the "Nassau Soundings" and on the new website.

Our FSO-PE, Doug Auburn, has planned for a busy year of educating the boaters in our area. He begins the year with a 10 lesson Boating Skills and Seamanship program starting 10 January. We have a super group of instructors with a wealth of boating knowledge that shares the teaching duties.

We start the year with a new FSO-PA, Bob Conklin. He has already submitted and had published an article and picture of our Change of Watch. I feel sure that he will continue to do the job with a sense of purpose. Keeping the public informed of the Flotilla's many activities.

Our FSO-VE, Jim Hiott, has received the new Vessel Safety Check Decals and related materials and is ready to start an aggressive program of inspections at all of the boat ramps in our area of responsibility.

We are happy to start this year with two FSO-PVs, Dallas Butcher and David Johnson. By the end of the year they had in excess of 150 visits. I expect more than that this year.

Even with the fuel restrictions, we will end the year with over 85 patrols. We now have 12 coxswains, 24 crew and 10 facilities and we are ready to do the missions. The FSO-OP, Heinz Fridrich, has done a commendable job keeping us on the water. I have also given him the job of managing the fuel budget and we are doing quite well on what we have been allocated. He has planned a very active patrol schedule for 2006. There will be multi-mission patrols that allow us to do our safety, security, ATON and environmental patrols while training new crew and retraining old crew. In addition he has planned a quarterly night ATON patrol. We look forward to the challenge.

The FSO-CM, Jerry Neal, has the requirement to maintain the Flotilla radio watch during patrols. He does an excellent job. I have also given him the challenge to increase the number of watch standers by five before the end of the year.

We submitted several ATON discrepancy reports last year. I am asking that Coxswains contact the FSO-AT, John Tatum, with all ATON problems encountered immediately after ending the patrol. He will have the duty to get the information to ANT Jacksonville in a timely manner.

I have asked the FSO-MS, Richard Trollope, to monitor the Marine Safety websites and make a report in each monthly "Nassau Soundings" and on the website. Any urgent information will be disseminated immediately.

Member training during 2005 was less active than usual. This year the FSO-MT, Bob Sperry, has an aggressive schedule planned. Even though there no required workshops this year, we intend to have them in our Flotilla. They are Operations, Vessel Examiner, Instructor, New Member, Mentoring, Risk Management and CPR/First Aid. We are planning two specialty courses (AUXSEA and AUXNAV) and a formal crew training class.

We have just launched a new website. Our new FSO-CS, George Baggs, is a go-getter; he intends to keep the site current with information for our membership.

2005 was a good recruiting year for 14-01. I am asking the FSO-PS, Sam Boyd, to do even better this year. I have submitted three award applications for his recruiting efforts during 2005. Under the direction of FSO-PB, Aaron Rawls, our newsletter, "Nassau Soundings" will continue to improve as the staff members get into the routine of submitting timely articles.

Our hope is to meet or exceed our stated goals and to put emphasis on all the three corner stones of the USCG Auxiliary.

VICE COMMANDER

Tom Hayden

VFC

14-1

(912) 729-8195

Many Flotilla Staff Officers are really getting a running start on preparing programs for Vessel Safety Exams, Personnel Services, Public Affairs, Communications Services, Member Training and Public Education during January. New Member Training on Saturday, 7 January, from 0800 to 1000, is our first training event for the year. This training is to provide an overview of what new members should know about the Coast Guard Auxiliary in general and Flotilla 14-1 in particular. This is not a lengthy course of instruction but short presentations to remind the new members of what they need to know to be fully participating members of Flotilla 14-1. The Flotilla Commander has invited all the membership to attend if you desire.

The new Flotilla 14-1 website constructed by George Baggs is looking great with lots of useful information. I check it almost every other day just to learn more about all the new items that are available on the web site. If you have not gone to the new website at www.a0701401.uscgaux.info, I strongly recommend that you do.

I am personally looking forward to many Member Training opportunities that are being prepared for the membership. Sam Boyd, Bob Speery, Heinz Fridrich, Jim Hiott, Mike Owsley and Jim Arman and others have already prepared courses of instruction and are ready to stand in the starting blocks. Doug Auburn has a Boat Skills and Seamanship starting on 10 January, and we need to spread the word and make sure all our friends know about this great opportunity. Member Training is my top area of interest and we need more trained coxswains and crew members. I hope more crew trained members join me in the coxswain training program.

If any member has other ideas for any activities other than what has been planned by the Flotilla Staff Officers, please send them to Jim Arman and myself.

This is going to be a great year.

AIDS TO NAVIGATION John Tatum FSO-AN 14-1 (904) 491-7601

The primary responsibility of the Flotilla Staff Officer for Aids to Navigation (FSO-AN) position is to conduct chart updating patrols, verification of private aids to navigation, and the prompt reporting of discrepancies in Aids to Navigation (ATONS) and to inform flotilla members of all developments. The FSO-AN will also maintain close liaison with Division Staff Officer of Aids to Navigation (SO-AN). This officer should also establish and maintain close contacts with the local USCG unit for the purpose of establishing and maintaining Auxiliary ATON patrols and rendering assistance to USCG for emergency ATON servicing. This officer must cooperate with other agencies in chart updating, submit special investigation reports, participate in any required Auxiliary operations seminars, develop and supervise training programs for other ATON verifiers, and other duties as outlined in the Auxiliary Member Manual and Flotilla Procedures Manual.

COMMUNICATIONS Jerry Neal FSO-CM 14-1 (904) 277-8270

Happy New Year to you. May it also be joyous, healthy and spiritual?

This year all Radio Watch Standers got their 7030 Mission reports in with very little prodding. To you RW Standers, I thank you. You know you have gotten credit for your watches.

I am in dire need of Radio Watch Stander trainees. The only hard part is to pass the Auxiliary Communications test. It's fairly easy, actually, if you read, study and understand the booklet. I will help you study, if you want.

Thereafter, you can purchase a VHF radio, mast, and antenna to operate from home, if you live in a good location. Otherwise, you can operate from the AI Lighthouse Cottage radio room. Watches are assigned to about one per month and the watch is usually about 4-5 hours long.

Occasionally, we may have a VHF radio we get on permanent loan from CG Mayport. I use one of them in my home. All I had to buy was a power supply, masts, and an antenna. I can help you buy all those items and help you to install the system.

If you get going now, you may be able to get one of these radios. So if you are interested, please call me. My phone number is shown above.

COMPUTER SERVICE George Baggs FSO-CS 14-1 (912) 576-1505

On December 19, 2005, with the help of Herman Albertine, our new website is up and running. The new website is only a beginning and will require the cooperation of each member to make it a truly functional site for all members.

The new website URL is: <http://a0701401.uscgaux.info/index.html> and is located on a new Linux server, which is faster and provides us more file space (15Mb). With this additional space, we can add more pictures, additional animation, and more member information. Members are welcome to send photos of flotilla events. When photos are taken on digital cameras, members are asked to use the medium or lower resolution settings. Lower resolution photos will not have to be edited, thus providing more photo space within the site. Also, when sending photos, add necessary information describing the shot. Please send these photos in their original format and not imbedded within another document. If a large number of photos are sent, “zip” them with “Winzip”. By zipping the photos, a large number can be sent by email. Some email servers will not allow large files to be received without being zipped. Anyone needing help with the “zip” process should email the Webmaster for websites available for shareware downloading. If you only a few photos, you can attach them to the email. As we gain more experience with the website, we will be able to remove unneeded items and add more relevant information making the site more usable.

Herman Albertine is now the retired Webmaster after ten years. Congratulations on a job well done! If additional information concerning the website is needed, please feel free to email me at: gbaggs@tds.net.

INFORMATIONS

Craig Bennett

FSO-IS 14-1

(904) 261-7456

Here are two websites that all the members may use to check up on your progress and to locate others.

AUXILIARY E- DIRECTORY – <http://www.auxedirectory.org/> Need to find a Division officer or a fellow member’s contact information? Sign up the national e- Directory. This searchable directory contains contact and office information for every Auxiliarist in AUXDATA. While you are there please check to make sure that all your information is correct.

AUXINFO - <http://www.auxinfo.uscg.gov> AuxInfo allows all Auxiliary members to track their progress in the training, certifications and other activities. All Auxiliary members have a quick and easy way to follow their progress in gaining qualifications or tracking hours in programs. All the data that is in AuxData, for which you need a password, is also in AuxInfo. AuxInfo is a read only website program that allows members to review their progress.

MATERIALS

Bill Long

FSO-MA 14-1

(904) 321-0203

The Flotilla Staff Officer of Materials will exercise staff responsibility and supervision over the procurement of materials including stationary, forms, manuals, texts, U.S. Government postage, and PE course material for distribution to Flotilla officers and members and will keep all members informed of developments in this area. The FSO-MA will keep close liaison with the Division Staff Officer of Materials (SO-MA) and will coordinate and cooperate with all staff officers in order to keep them supplied with the

FSO-MT to encourage and increase the number of qualified marine dealer visitors. This officer will make and maintain close contact with marine dealers, current records of visitations, decal distribution, and plan and perform workshops, member MPV training, and ensure that all forms for MPV are correctly completed and promptly forwarded. The FSO-PV reports monthly to the VFC, checks periodically that all qualified MPV examiners conduct their annual quota of marine dealer visits of four (4) per examiner, and that each MPV examiner does not lose their qualification status as a result. He or she will formulate and execute a plan to ensure all marine dealers are covered and provided with decals, that they receive an updated schedule of PE courses and VSC stations in their area. Dealers should receive handouts on these PE and VE programs and any USCG provided materials.

OPERATIONS

Heinz Fridrick

FSO-OP 14-1

(904) 261-5844

THE ANATOMY OF AN AUXILIARY PATROL

Many members of our Flotilla never had the opportunity to participate in one of our weekly safety/security patrols. Many may think that a patrol is essentially like a party where some older folks go out on the water and enjoy themselves for a few hours. While some of this is true, we enjoy ourselves and also the fellowship on the water, you should also know that patrols are serious business with responsibility for safety and security of our waterways.

In today's Nassau Sounding Part 1, I would like to describe what actually goes on prior to the departure for a patrol. In next month's Nassau Sounding in Part 2 .I intend to explain what we actually do on patrols.

THE PRE-DEPARTURE PATROL ACTIVITIES – PART 1

About 3 to 4 weeks before any of our boats go on a patrol we publish a monthly patrol schedule. This schedule takes into consideration the availability of boats, coxswains and crew. It shows on what date we want to patrol, how long a patrol is expected to last and what areas we are required to patrol.

Within the division our flotilla has the largest number of approved operational facilities, coxswains and crew. You can imagine that getting everybody to agree to a specific patrol date within a month is challenging. We are asked by the Coast Guard to patrol on weekends because more boat traffic is expected. This means that in an average month we have between 8 and 10 safety/security patrols. Of course there may be months when we have more patrols especially when we are requested to support public events like regattas or the Kingfish Tournament. All monthly patrol schedules are submitted to Division and to Station Mayport for approval.

About a week before a scheduled patrol the boat owner requests a patrol order from the Coast Guard. At least a day before the actual patrol the coxswain confirms with the crew their participation in the patrol. He will also discuss what uniform to wear, the expected weather conditions and the patrol mission. Usually a day before the patrol the boat owner checks the readiness of the boat for patrol. He may check oil and transmission fluid level,

fuel level, instruments and start up the engine. He may also attach the patrol signs and the auxiliary operational ensign.

At the day of the patrol coxswain and crew assemble at the launching site about half an hour to an hour before departure. The coxswain updates the crew on the patrol mission, the area to be patrolled and the weather conditions. Then crew and coxswain review a detailed pre-departure checklist, a pre-departure security check list and a risk assessment of the planned patrol.

With the risk assessment crew and coxswain assess the risks of various aspects of the patrol like weather conditions, complexity of the mission, supervision and crew fitness. Each of these is rated and then added up. If the accumulated risk exceeds a certain level, ways have to be determined to reduce the risk, the patrol may have to be cancelled or special approval from the Coast Guard may be required to continue with the patrol.

Once all the check lists and risk assessments have been completed the coxswain calls Station Mayport informing them about the patrol. The coxswain, usually on the phone, communicates the patrol order, the areas that will be patrolled, the patrol mission, the number of persons on board and the result of the risk assessment.

Most other flotillas use Station Mayport for radio watch. In our flotilla we have our own Radio Guard for each patrol. This makes for better communication from our somewhat remote area of responsibility. Prior to departure we call our own guard on the radio to communicate the same information we gave to Station Mayport. This also allows us to test our radio.

While on patrol, we report to our Radio Guard every 30 minutes our position and the status of our operation. We also use our Radio Guard to communicate with Station should we need some special approval from the Coast Guard to change our mission.

Once we have accomplished all this we warm up the engines, we cast the lines, bring up the fenders and with a sound of the horn we take off.

See for more information about auxiliary patrols in next month's Nassau Sounding.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Robert Conklin

FSO-PA 14-1

(912) 673-9678

We start off 2006 with a new FC and VFC, new officers in new positions and a lot of work ahead of us. As your new FSO-PA officer, please keep me informed of your activities, suggestions for newspaper articles and anything else you can think of to help promote Flotilla 14-1 this year. My contact information is tele-912-673-9678 or email-mcmaya@tds.net

Two newspaper articles did get published in Florida and Georgia papers during December, our "Change of Watch", and our new "BS+S Class" that will be starting in January.

Also there is a new Coast Guard publication you all might be interested in

looking at on a monthly basis; COAST to COAST-Press clippings throughout the country. <http://www.auxadept.org/coast2coast/>

PUBLICATIONS Aaron Rawls FSO-PB 14-1 (904) 225-0765

To keep myself from being “dropped” to the bottom of the newsletter I am including an article, you FSO’s may want to do the same. Any member can also contribute to the Nassau Soundings, subject to Command Decision it will be published in the next newsletter. Just e-mail your article to me, preferably in “word” Times New Roman, 12pt. It will be here in this section with proper credit to the author. Thanks

PUBLIC EDUCATION Doug Auburn FSO-PE 14-1 (904) 491-0042

I have received a copy of all division 1 public education schedules & can report to you that we are doing well for our constituents with the number and type of P. E. offerings. In addition, I want to report to all members a new P. E. opportunity. The Auxiliary has formed a partnership with Skiers Choice Boats. They manufacture Moomba & Supra wakeboard boats. (What is a Wakeboard boat? A Wakeboard Boat is a "Go Fast" boat but one designed specifically to tow a wakeboard. They generally have a 350 hp inboard to give speed & power. In addition, they also have a Samson post to aid towing while some may even have built-in ballast tanks to alter the boats profile in order to create a maximum wake for the skier/skiers to jump. These boats are ideal tow craft, swift and easy to steer.) With this agreement new boat purchasers, starting with the 2006 models, will receive a certificate entitling the purchaser entry into a CGAUX ABC class. When we receive this certificate and return it to Skiers Choice our flotilla will receive a fifty dollar rebate.

PERSONEL SERVICE Sam Boyd FSO-PS 14-1 (904) 277-6608
Louis Fusco (912) 673-9470

We have several prospect members but no commitments yet from any of them. In January we will receive several suggestions from Division 14 on how to improve new member orientation and follow up to see that new members are developing and interest is maintained.

We need more participation from many of our members and miss them very much. Perhaps some of the directives coming from Division will help.

Fellowship chairman Tom Pippin has a night out planned for us at Barbara Jeans on Jan. 18th. Tom will also announce at the next meeting that we hope Y'all will make plans to see member Jane McAdams play "The Book Store". Jane didn't write the story, but she wrote the music. (18 songs) The play is also based on part of Jane's life. It will be at the F.B. middle school on January 26, 27, 28 and 29. Perhaps we can go as a group. Tom will discuss this at the Flotilla meeting. Call Tom if you would like to go.

VESSEL EXAMANER Jim Hiott FSO-AN 14-1 (904) 261-4205

Hope everyone had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year. I received our allocation materials for 2006, and will have them with me at the Flotilla Meeting on Jan. 5. Several questions have been raised concerning the proper display of registration numbers. The basic tenets of the regulations prescribed under Title 33 are:

- 1) Be painted on, or permanently attached to BOTH sides of the forward half of the vessel. Self-adhesive numbers are accepted as permanently attached;
- 2) Be in plain, vertical block characters of not less than three inches in height. The numbers can be slightly smaller than three inches if they can be read at a distance of 100 feet
- 3) Must contrast with the color of the background.
- 4) Have spaces or hyphens that are equal in width to a letter or number
- 5) Must read from left to right. Numbers may also be applied to the superstructure, or cabin sides on the forward half of the vessel. Number must appear in the manner as illustrated : FL 1234 AB or FL-1234-AB

HISTORIAN

Robert Lauber

FSO-HN 14-1

(904) 277-4065

CHANGE OF WATCH

The Flotilla Commander and Vice Commander are elected by the members to serve for one year.

The elected Officers are installed at the ceremony called “CHANGE OF WATCH”.

During the Auxiliary unit’s Change of Watch, the elected Auxiliarists will be installed by the Auxiliary’s senior elected leader or Coast Guard officer present, by administering the Prologue and Pledge for Elected Auxiliarists. The new Staff Officers are introduced and installed. The” Buddy Birkitt Award” is presented to the outstanding member for the past year. Special awards are presented to deserving members by the Flotilla Commander.

It has been a tradition for Flotilla 14-1 to combine a social event with the Change of Watch each year. We have this event at a local facility to accommodate the membership, there spouses and guest. Our first event was held at Shoney’s motel meeting room with the restaurant catering the dinner. We used this facility for two years.

Walkers’ Landing on the Plantation was used for a few years, reserved by one of our members living on the Plantation. We then begin having the event at the St. Peters social hall. This became our favorite location and was used for many years. In 2004 we were unable to use the Church and went to The Crab Trap restaurant. This proved to be too small and for our last event we returned the ST. Peters where we had a very successful Change of Watch and a catered dinner with members bringing the desert.

Several years we purchased the meat dish and members brought the rest of the food. In my opinion the home cooked food beat all the caterers by far. Each year we discuss the caterers or pot luck for the next event.

Thanks to Bill Foster we have reserved the hall at St. Peters for 2006.

See you there.

GROUNDS KEEPER

Paul Clark

FSO-GK 14-1

(904) 261-4041

We will clean the Lighthouse grounds and cottage on Saturday 28 Jan at 0900. In December we only had three members show-up for work out of a membership of over 80 members. We need your help on the 28th.

Clean inside the cottage

Blow off the walks and drive

Rake leaves, etc.

FELLOWSHIP

Tom Pippin

FSO-FL 14-1

(904) 491-6285

I want to "Thank" all members who completed the survey at the Change of Command. It makes it much easier to have events that you want to do. We are planning many good socials at different restaurants and having trips to interesting sites and vessels! Our first social will be at BARBARA JEANS, Wednesday, January 18, 1830 hours--Good Food and a Good Time!! Congratulations to Bob and Betty Macias for winning the drawing from the survey--they will have their meal paid at Barbara Jeans. We will have a lot of different things to do in Fellowship when the weather is nice in the spring. I do encourage the membership to offer your suggestions on socials, etc. PLEASE LET ME KNOW YOUR INTENTIONS FOR THE JANUARY SOCIAL VIA E-MAIL OR LAND LINE as soon as possible.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| BOATS, WATER & KIDS | Gary Bong | FSO-WK 14-1 | (904) 261-2006 |
| LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER | Helen Sintes | FSO-AN 14-1 | (904) 261-4432 |
| SECRETARY | Jill Auburn | FSO-SR 14-1 | (904) 491-0042 |
| FINANCE | J. Sintes | FSO-FN 14-1 | (904) 261-4432 |

USCG - Auxiliary Flotilla 14-1**Offers****Red Cross CPR Training**

(Note: All Crew and Coxswains are required to be current with First Aid and CPR Training)

*Adult CPR, including Automatic External Defibrillator Training.
And, 1st Aid & Safety Class*

Date: Saturday, January 14, 2006

Time: 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Location: Amelia Island Lighthouse Cottage

***Cost: \$15. for CPR class (Aux. discount)
\$15. for 1st Aid Class (Aux. discount)***

\$20. 00 (if you take BOTH classes on SAME day!)

Please bring your lunch and beverages with you.

Instructor: Deborah Rollins

You MUST sign up in ADVANCE!

Contact Deborah to enroll in class.

904 261 0725

egrets@bellsouth.net

It is deep sympathy we announce the death of Nancy Knauss. Should anyone care to donate in Nancy's name the hospice address is: Hospice of the Golden Isles, Inc. 1692 Glynco Parkway, Brunswick, Ga 31525. Their toll free number is: 1-866-275-6801. Thank you.

S/P
Ron

January 2006

| January 2006 | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| 1 NEW YEARS DAY | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 FLOTILLA MEETING 1900 - 2100 | 6 | 7 NEW MEMBER TRAINING 0800-1000 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 BS&S L-1 1900 - 2100 | 11 | 12 BS&S L-2 1900 - 2100 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 BS&S L-3 1900 - 2100 | 18 FELLOWSHIP AT BARBARA JEAN'S 1830 - ???? | 19 BS&S L-4 1900 - 2100 | 20 STAFF REPORT DUE | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 BS&S L-5 1900 - 2100 | 25 STAFF MEETING 1900 | 26 BS&S L-6 1900 - 2100 | 27 NASSAU SOUNDINGS ARTICLES DUE | 28 COTTAGE & GROUNDS CLEAN UP 0900 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 BS&S L-8 1900 - 2100 | | | | |



FLOTILLA 14-1 MEETING

**January 5, 2005
1900**

**Amelia Island Lighthouse
100 O'Hagan Lane
Fernandina Beach, FL**

NASSAU SOUNDINGS is published at no expense to the government. Cost of its publication is borne by the dues paying members of Flotilla 14-1 of the 7th District U.S. Coast Guard

***PRIVACY ACT:** Telephone numbers and addresses of members are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. As a matter of policy, rosters of names, addresses and telephone numbers shall not be made available to the general public or any outside organization.*

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
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