



NASSAU SOUNDINGS

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



Volume 17, No. 01

Aaron Rawls

FSO-PB 14-1

January 2008

FLOTILLA COMMANDER

Tom Hayden

FC

14-1

(912) 674-2348



2008 Staff Officers Sworn In

Now that our great year in 2007 is behind us it is time to look to the future and 2008. At the Division 14 Board Meeting last 15 December, we were introduced to the CGAUX District 7 Strategic Plan 2008-2011. It is the Commodore's vision that "...we will be a fully integrated force multiplier with the Coast Guard providing a balanced complement of Recreational Boating Safety and Maritime Domain Awareness resources trained to professional levels, and maintaining the flexibility to adapt and support the changing roles we might be assigned. Mission execution alongside, and integrated into, the Active Duty Service will be our new normalcy."

Our first Flotilla 14-1 meeting on Thursday, 3 January, will provide details on how we will help develop the Division 14 Business Plan for 2008, and how we are planning to implement the Commodore's vision through our Recreational Boating Safety training for the members and the general public. Our first Boating Skills and Seamanship Course will

begin 19 February. Also, in February we will have a New Members Workshop and an Operations Workshop.

We will have a Flotilla 14-1 Special Staff meeting on 9 January, to finalize the calendar for 2008 and initiate a first draft of our Flotilla 14-1 Business Plan for 2008. I want to thank all our returning staff members and welcome Tom Basore as FSO-Personnel Services and Pete Maye as FSO-Marine Visitor.

Look forward to another great year and see you on Thursday, 3 January.

VICE COMMANDER

Heinz Fridrich

VFC / OP 14-1

(904) 261-5844

By the time you read this the New Year 2008 has already started. I hope you all had great holidays and I wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

As your newly elected VFC and reassigned FSO-OP I was wondering what I could tell you at the beginning of a New Year. Let me give you some of my thoughts.

In the past whenever I assumed a new responsibility in business or academia I tried to understand the current status of the business and its organization. Then with my new team's vision of the future we would develop longer term strategies and shorter term objectives and plans. This allowed us to measure whether we are making progress.

I like to apply this business process to our Flotilla.

Today I would like to discuss my thoughts of our missions and organization and at a future time our strategies, plans and objectives.

Based on our today's Coast Guard Auxiliary Mission we have four distinctive but interdependent functional groups or areas of responsibility within our Flotilla to meet the mission assigned to us.

- Recreational Boating Safety
- Marine Safety and Security
- Flotilla member services
- Socials and Fellowship

The first area of responsibility is in Recreational Boating Safety. All efforts in this area are directed towards the outside of the flotilla. It ranges from education in public schools to public education. It includes vessel examination, marine program visitation and public affairs. To be successful we need a focused and strong marketing, sales and customer service effort and attitude.

The second area of responsibility is in Marine Safety and Security to support the Coast Guard in Maritime Homeland Security efforts and in operational, administrative and logistical requirements. This ranges from (MDA) Marine Domain Awareness patrols to (PME) Permitted Marine Event patrols to safety patrols. This is the operational responsibility of the flotilla. It involves operations, member training, communication, marine safety and aids to navigation. It requires extensive training and certification for day and night operation and for new operational members.

The third area of responsibility is in Member services and includes all personnel, finance, information systems, materials and publication. In our flotilla there are others like Grounds Keeper, Historian, Social and Fellowship and Lighthouse Keeper, who play important roles in our flotilla.

All these disciplines provide the glue for the flotilla and its member ship. Without them the flotilla cannot function effectively as an organizational unit.

The fourth area of responsibility is our socials and fellowship which helps us get to know one another and be able to better work together.

Be prepared for the Flotilla Commander and me to ask each of you to participate in these functional groups and to meet, discuss and agree on a set of objectives for 2008.

If you have any comments on this article please let me know. Do not wait until the next Nassau Sounding is published.

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

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

I wish you all a very happy, prosperous and healthy New Year. As the New Year progresses, we will soon find two new Radio Watch Standers. I submitted the names of Paul Clark and Heinz Fridrich a week ago as completing all the necessary tasks. After receiving confirmation of both their appointment and acceptance of their radio systems, they will join the ranks of this dedicated group.

COMPUTER SERVICE Joe Blanchard FSO-CS 14-1 (904) 277-4257

Working on a new look for the website. Please send any suggestions that you would like to see on our website.

Joe Blanchard jlblan2@bellsouth.net

Remember to check our web site. <http://cgaux7-14-1.org/>

FINANCE J. Sintes FSO-FN 14-1 (904) 261-4432

INFORMATIONS Craig Bennett FSO-IS 14-1 (904) 261-7456

MATERIALS Louis Fusco FSO-MA 14-1 (912) 673-9470

MARINE SAFETY Richard Trollope FSO-MS 14-1 (904) 941-1403

1. Our SO-MS assisted the Clay County Sheriffs Marine Unit and Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) officers with recreational vessel safety checks and Marine Sanitation Devices at Green Cove Springs (Red Bay Marina and Reynolds Yacht Basin).
2. The Florida Legislature failed to assist marinas with a tax break. The intent of the request for assistance was to tax marina on the actual use of slips instead of the number that might be used. As the rules now stand, a marina is taxed for 10 slips when in fact only 5 are used. In 2008, the "marina exemption" bill will be tried again.
3. www.Rulefinder.com is a new website designed to bring boating regulations together. Regulations from the American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC), ISO, USCG, and the European Union will be assembled in one place for the use of manufacturers and others.
4. By a vote of 4-3 the Non-Motorized Subcommittee of the FWC recommended against registering canoes and kayaks (in Florida) If passed, operators would need to pay for

registration, apply numbers to the craft, and carry the registration certificate on board at all times.

5. Under Georgia State Laws (52-1.31 and 52-1.32) it is illegal to live aboard a structure (boat) on Georgia waterways. Rationale: Hindrance to navigation.
6. If anyone wants to provide a Monofilament (fishing line) recycling program container at a boat ramp, contact Wayne Beard (Flotilla 14-9) by e-mail jew@gbso.net. Wayne has additional details of this program sponsored by Boat US. The containers require maintenance consisting of emptying sending in the contents.
7. Excerpted from the Fall 2007 issue of the USCG Auxiliary magazine, "Navigator", is a sad fact as stated in the article titled "Paddle Pushers" (page 5): "In New England last year, 54 people died in boating and paddling accidents, of which 49 were not wearing a life jacket" Remind your friends and kayakers you meet: "wear your life jacket; it won't work unless you put it on".

MEMBER TRAINER

Bob Sperry

FSO-MT 14-1

(904) 277-7191

During 2008 the flotilla member training will continue training for crew candidates and for any current crew qualified members who wish to qualify as coxswains. I encourage all members to consider this and other training which makes all of us safer on the water. If you have any question about the requirements or either crew or coxswain please contact me by email or phone.

This year we will continue to offer AUX-SPECIALITY courses if we get sufficient interest. Two courses are being planned at this time but others will be considered if any members show interest.

First is AUXNAV which may be offered in conjunction with the Advanced Coastal Navigation offered as a Public Education course. These courses cover the same material and use the same text but a more difficult exam is required to get credit for AUXNAV which is one of the required courses for AUXOP status. This is one of our most useful courses for anyone planning extended cruising experiences involving unfamiliar waters or offshore cruises out to 50 miles or so. It is our most difficult course and requires several hours of homework before each session. The course normally requires 12 sessions and has a two part final exam. It is recommended that the exams be taken on different days.

The second is AUXPAT which covers the activities involved in performing the different types of patrols we are called on to do during the year. We cover our safety patrols, regatta patrols (both powerboat and sailing), as well as other water event we may be scheduled for. It covers our duties, responsibilities, organization coordination, and administrative concerns. This course is also required for AUXOP status and usually takes about six sessions.

This year we will again offer our GPS for Mariners course which is also offered as a Public Education course. This course is a hands on course requiring each participant to bring his on GPS to class and involves calling up the various menus, pages and screens used to get the most from these remarkable but confusing devices. We conduct it as a two session course, the first day introducing the navigational concepts involved and the use of the text book in conjunction with the individual GPS's instruction manual. Then assigning homework for the second session where we set up a multi-leg route and then run it (by auto, not boat.)

Any suggestions or comments will be appreciated. Email bcdsp@netscape.net
Phone 904 277-7191

MARINE PROGRAM VISITOR Pete Maye FSO-PV 14-1
OPERATIONS Heinz Fridrick FSO-OP 14-1 (904) 261-5844

1. During the month of December we had 10 patrols which brings the YTD patrols to 130 eight more than what we had planned through this month. Due to weather we had to cancel 3 patrols during the month.
This is the highest number of patrols we ever achieved in any year as a flotilla and I want to thank all boat owners, Coxswains, Crew members, Crew trainees, Radio Watches for a very busy and successful year.
2. Available for Patrol during the month were 7 facilities, 10 coxswains and 22 crew members
3. At this time we have 11 new members who have expressed an interest to become crew. During the month of November five of them participated in "On The Water" training. In December 8 new members participate in "On The Water" crew training.
4. In February next year we are planning two Operational Workshops. Please mark your calendar

In the first Workshop on Wednesday, February 6 1900-2100 we intend to discuss @008 Patrol Practices and procedures, 2008 patrol schedule and new training and certification requirements, Night Operations and Standard Operating Procedures for Operations including Come Upons for distress and non distress situations.

In the second Workshop on Wednesday, February 27 1900-2100 we will discuss 2008 currency requirements, Permitted Marine Events, key policies related to operation such as offshore limitations, min crew requirements etc In addition we are planning to discuss communication requirements and navigational aids and reporting.

5. In the coming year we are planning 139 patrols including 24 Multi mission patrols, 79 marine safety patrols, 22 PME patrols and 14 Operational patrols with QE's. We plan to recertify 7 crew and 3 coxswains, to certify up to 6 new Crew members, 16 patrols for additional night training and 6 patrols for Operational excellence.

We will discuss all this in the forthcoming workshop in more detail

This will be another challenging and demanding year for operations, member training communications and Navigational Aids. I am confident that together we can do this

PUBLIC AFFAIRS Robert Conklin FSO-PA 14-1 (912) 673-9678

Well, it finally happened, Flotilla 14-1 has made the papers. Not just once, but rather once a month. Working with the editors of Nassau Neighbors, members of our flotilla can now submit articles on a monthly basis on all aspects of safe boating in Florida. We are looking for 150-200 word articles on boating safety, equipment, trailering, etc. that the average

boater can understand. In addition to your words being in print, your picture will also be published, so you can be locally famous.

The process is simple, Email your articles to me- mcmaya@tds.net , include a picture, preferably a head shot, and I will do the rest.

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

PUBLIC EDUCATION Tom Pippin FSO-PE 14-1 (904) 491-6285

The Flotilla has scheduled great programs for the public and members for 2008!! The success of these programs depends on good information going to the public and the involvement of the members "talking up" the programs with their friends and contacts at work, the marinas, etc. We will offer two BOATING SKILLS AND SEAMANSHIP classes; one in February and one in September. We will offer at least three ABC courses this year in the Spring. One will be FOR WOMEN ONLY (however if men want to participate, they will be welcome!). These classes are not for the general public only; they are excellent learning resources for all new Flotilla members and are required for Crew training. We have excellent Instructors and they are the reason why these programs are successful. We have also scheduled a required Instructors Workshop for all instructors in early Feb.--more on this later.

PERSONEL SERVICE Tom Basore FSO-PS 14-1 (904) 277-6608

Not anything new to report on the Personnel Services side. We had a good year of recruiting but were saddened at the deaths of 3 very good friends. Our new FSO-PS Tom Basore is looking forward to working with future prospects in his new staff position. Please forward all prospects to him. Remember we need a couple more patrol facilities, so be on the look out for boat owners. Tom Basore will have his hands full learning this demanding position so I will continue to maintain the roster for a while. Route any changes to me Sam Boyd.

A special congratulations to the winners of our two major annual awards.



First Commanders award went to: Jay and Helen Sintes



The Buddy Birkitt award went to Doug and Jill Auburn, Surrounded by Former Recreants

SECRETARY

Conrad Vaughn

FSO-SR 14-1

(912) 882-9453

First a note of congratulations to those VEs of our Flotilla 14-1 who conducted at least 172 Vessel Safety Checks (VSCs) during calendar year 2007. Several of our VEs inspected a significant number of these VSCs while “out of the area (Tom Hayden while serving with FEMA in Minnesota and California, Mike Owsley while otherwise on vacation and Tom Clare on his ‘round the Eastern U. S. cruise). Frank Powell and Tom Pippin (significantly) did well and Jim Arman, Jim Hiott, Ron Knauss all accounted for quantities in excess of the “five-to stay alive” as a qualified VE. Four others did stay “alive” and all their efforts are appreciated ---not as numbers but because you made boating safer.

While in pursuit of other information, I have found that the (CG Auxiliary) National Department of Vessel Safety Checks Q& A maintains a database specifically for responses to queries from VEs. The questions are usually very good and by the “Rules” for this database are not answered until they have been researched. The questions may not be for commercial and Uninspected Passenger vessels as they are not under the program for recreational boats. (However, in response to some queries, the questioners are steered to the proper agency- --usually the Coast Guard or the appropriate State agency) Only one major issue for VEs: “Do not ask a question if it is already in our database.” As there is no “table of contents” nor “search-engine” provided, you may have to review the entire database first to determine if your question had already been answered. (If you have the time, the Qs & As are very interesting reads).

New decals for calendar year 2008 are “in the mail”. Distribution to the VEs of record will commence upon receipt. If you need more copies of the Fed and FL or GA publications or ANSC 7012 VSC forms, call me at (904) 491-1403 or e-mail your request to rtrollope@earthlink.net. Reminder: “Submit your “Activity Report Vessel Examinations ANSC 7038 to our Flotilla FCO-IS, Craig Bennett, craig@aibeach.com to get them into AUXDATA; “if not there, you did not do the m!”

The Lighthouse Property

Flotilla 14-1 was chartered on November 2nd 1991 with 26 members. Sonny Laton was our Flotilla Commander. We met in various places and did not have a home that we could call our own. The lighthouse cottage was occupied by an active duty Coast Guard family. Later the Coast Guard discontinued using the cottage. When Joe Talbird was FC we requested the use of the cottage for our flotilla’s use as a meeting place. We were already taking care of the Lighthouse and had access to the property. The Coast Guard Group Mayport Commander met with us and gave Aaron Rawls, who became FC after Joe Talbird, the keys and complete use of the Lighthouse property.

In May 2000 the City of Fernandina Beach was offered the Lighthouse property by the GSA as a Historical Monument. The City Parks and Recreation Dept is in charge of the property and we were asked to continue to maintain the property and use the facilities as we did for the Coast.

We are very fortunate to have use of such a fine facility. It is important that we maintain the property and continue its use. We appreciate the members that help with the maintenance.

GROUND S KEEPER	Paul Clark	FSO-GK 14-1	(904) 261-4041
Work day Jan. 31, 2008. Come one, come all. Plenty of work to go around .			
LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER	Helen Sintes	FSO-LK 14-1	(904) 261-4432
FELLOWSHIP	(Vacant)	FSO-FL 14-1	
YOUTH PROGRAMS	Gary Bong	FSO-YP 14-1	(904) 261-2006
HEALTH and SATETY	Deborah Rollins	FSO-HS 14-1	(904) 261-0725

Note from FC Tom Hayden: Let's bring in the New Year with a commitment to get certified to SAVE A LIFE. Auxiliary members (14-01) get huge discounts on Red Cross training. Talk about this with your neighbors and those you love. Bring someone with you to this important training! The life skills you learn will teach you to save a life and give you confidence to assist in an emergency on the water, at work and at home. Make a commitment in 2008 to be trained! CPR classes offered to all USCG auxiliary members by American Red Cross instructor Deborah Rollins.

Adult CPR, including AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) training.

Also 1st Aid & Safety Class

Date: **Saturday, January 26, 2008**

Time: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm CPR & AED

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm First Aid & Safety

Location: Amelia Island Lighthouse Cottage

Cost: \$25.00 for CPR class (Aux. discount)

\$15.00 for 1st Aid Class (Aux. discount)

\$30.00 if you take BOTH classes on SAME day!

Please bring your lunch and beverages with you.

You MUST sign up in ADVANCE! No later than Wednesday, January 23rd, please.

Contact Deborah to enroll in class.

904-261-0725, or by Email: egrets2006@comcast.net



FLOTILLA 14-1 MEETING

**January 3, 2008
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

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