



## 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

First let me say it is good to be back. Actually, it's good to be any where. Many thanks to Heinz Fridrich, FVC, for filling in while I was on a forced weight loss program.

How many of you saw the recent CGAUX Press Release on boating statistics? Here is the opening paragraph:

"The good news is deaths resulting from recreational boating accidents fell in 2007, according to figures just announced by the United States Coast Guard's Boating Safety Division. The count dropped from 710 in 2006 to 688 in 2007, the lowest figure since 2004 and third lowest since the Coast Guard began collecting statistics specifically related to recreational boating. "It's gratifying to see the number of deaths going down," commented Rear Admiral James Watson, Director of Prevention Policy. "We hope that this is a result of more boaters **adopting responsible boating behaviors**, such as making sure that everyone on board is wearing properly-fitting Coast Guard-approved life jackets at all times."

Not that I want to criticize the press release but it did not mention the Recreational Boating Safety educational programs we teach all the time. The ABC and BS&S programs go a long way in promoting "responsible boating behavior."

It is the responsibility of all members of the Flotilla to help advertise and promote by word of mouth the ABC and BS&S programs we put on at Flotilla 14-1. Recently we had to cancel an ABC program because we did not have enough people sign up for the program. That is a great loss to the boating public who need the information. If you did not know we had two very serious boating accidents on the Saint Marys River this month that required medical helo lift to the hospital. Our next BS&S program will be in September. Be looking for the final date and tell your boating friends.

Welcome BACK Tom!!

Note from Carolyn Strong, Flotilla 14-8

Marc asks that you remind friends and public boating contacts to register their VHF-FM radios having DSC (Digital Selective Calling) capabilities. If the radio is registered, you have an MMSI number. **In the event of an emergency you simply push a button, usually red, for USCG assistance. If the device is not registered the USCG will not know what boat is calling.** In order for the device to transmit its location, it must also be connected to a GPS unit. Many boaters assume that the device comes emergency ready i.e. both registered and able to transmit its location. By the same token, when you are doing a Vessel Safety Check on a boat with a DSC capable radio, ask for the MMSI number rather than asking if the radio is registered. If they give you a number then you know the radio is registered. It may be good to discuss the GPS requirement also.

FSO-MS 14-8

**VICE COMMANDER** Heinz Fridrich VFC / OP 14-1 (904) 261-5844

At the last Flotilla meeting we asked whether there was any interest to visit the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum in Savannah with a fellowship dinner in Fernandina in the evening. The response was great but finally only 9 of us were able to participate on Monday, May 19.

This was a unique experience and very educational for all of us. It was especially very interesting but also very touching to me, because as a young teenager I was able to observe the eighth Air Force from below or as some of you may say from the other side of the fence.

As you walk through the very well kept displays, read the history of the eighth during World War II, visit the Memorial Gardens and the Chapel you are not only very impressed but also get emotionally involved

By the mid 1944, the 8<sup>th</sup> AF had reached a total strength of more the 200,000 people. At its peak the 8<sup>th</sup> could dispatch more the 2,000 four –engine bombers and 1,000 fighters on a single mission. That is why they are known as the “Mighty Eighth”.

They were a major factor with their daylight raids to win the war on attrition and for the allies to gain air superiority. Without them this terrible war probably would have been prolonged.

It came however at a very high cost to them, 26,000 were killed in WW II, 47,000 plus were wounded and 28,000 became prisoners of war. Most were less than 20 years old. The 8<sup>th</sup> had the highest casualty rate of all armed forces.

I hope many of you can visit this museum in the future. It is a reminder of what it can take to preserve our freedom.

I want to thank Doug and Jill Auburn for organizing the visit and dinner. It was a great day for all of us.

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

General Information –

- Coast Pilot 4, 39<sup>th</sup> edition, covering Cape Henry to Key West, is available at “<http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/coastpilot4.htm>”.
- The 2007 edition of Light List 3, updated through LNTM 27-07, is available online at <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pubs/lightlists/lightlists.htm>

St. Marys lighted buoy 11 is not operating.  
Cumberland Sound upper Range A front light is replaced with a temporary one.  
Cumberland Sound rear light A is extinguished.

We reported a red daymark ashore on Tiger Island. We also reported Amelia River R2 light is erratic.

Every Auxiliarist, while underway in an operational facility, should be checking every ATON, PATON and bridge encountered for discrepancies. If you spot one that is off-station, significantly damaged, sinking, or otherwise out-of-sorts, call it in by cell phone to the Sector Jacksonville Operations Duty Officer, phone 564-7513.

Weeks Marine, with dredge R. S Weeks, will be dredging in the vicinity of the St. Marys Entrance, outside navigable waters, with floating and submerged pipelines renourishing th beach at Fernandina Beach, FL. ETC is 10 August 2008..

There will be a chart updating course given by division possibly Sept. 13 or 20. Also an aids verifier course previous to this.

#### EPIRB NOTICE

The US Coast Guard issued a press release  
<<http://www.uscglosangeles.com/go/doc/830/198867/>> reminding mariners  
That older model Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)  
that broadcast on 121.5 MHz or 243 MHz will not be monitored by  
satellite as of February 1, 2009. Effective that date, the satellites  
will only monitor for radio beacons broadcasting on 406 MHz. Some of  
the newer EPIRBs are equipped with embedded GPS, which will  
automatically signal the location of the distress. (4/18/08).

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Jerry Neal

FSO-CM 14-1

(904) 277-8270

I have all eight 7030 reports from radio watchstanders (RWS) for the month of May. One more 7030 will be due 31 May.

RWS Macias is still on vacation. He should return the first part of June. That will make seven RWS available.

All RWS are performing to standards.

I sent the signed-off ANSC 2004 Radio Inspection & Offer For Use Form papers for H. Fridrich to operate as a RWS from his boat. I sent it to our new SO-CM Tom Sorensen. He has reviewed it and should have sent it on, by now.

I have been in conversation with Tom Sorensen, SO-CM. He will visit our Lighthouse Cottage facilities in June. We have discussed his plans for increased coverage of VHF in our Division. Since the plans are still in the talking stages, I will report on them when they become more solidified.

I am still pursuing Paul Clark and Isabel Gaw to complete their processes to become RWS. They have radios and antennas in place in their homes. Paul has to take the ICS 100 & 700 tests. Isabel said she would be studying the Comm Specialist workbook soon after the Ocean Swim event is over.

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

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

During the month of May the Materials activity has been light. Issued the usual postage and mailing materials to FSO's. Ordered literature racks and pamphlets for the Program Visitation mission area and ordered educational materials for our program boating and water safety for grade school children.

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

1. Portable Fire extinguishers 101: There are three types of fire extinguishers for three classes of fires A usually a wet type, B usually a powder type and C usually a gas type. The USCG specifies a Type B because B puts out all three classes of fires rather than only the specific class of fire by the other two.  
On a label for the extinguisher appear certain numbers and letters:  
Type A size 1 equates to 1 ¼ gallons , size 2 =2 ½ gallons , size 3 =3 ¾ gallons of water.  
Type B size 1 equates to 1 square foot of powder and so on....  
Type C size 2 equates to 2 cubic feet of gas, size 5 = 5 cubic feet and so on...  
Remember that the typical Type B extinguishers most of us carry on our vessels are useful for only about 3 minutes...
2. National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA): This association (to which not all boat builders belong) is the watchdog of the Boating industry. NMMA provides training to certify builders that they are adhering to USCG standards. USCG has 13 requirements but NMMA has added 21 more. If you examine a (newer) boat, look at the bottom of the Capacity Plate or on the boat's helm for the NMMA certification decal. NMMA certified vessels are 7 times less likely to be recalled. NMMA also certifies boat trailers.
3. Swim platforms 101: Two Types Integral or extension of the hull bonded together (the strongest type) and Bolted on (separately built and attached/bolted on with brackets. (A variation of this is a platform on either or both sides of the boat)  
Length (fore and aft distance extending from the hull) provides space for boarding with scuba tanks, swimming, etc. Marinas will usually charge you for the over all length (OAL) of your vessel –including the swim platform.  
Safety considerations: The aft edge of the platform should project “past” the propeller if you have inboard/outboard (I/O) even with the prop in the raised position. Too high of a platform will make it difficult to board; too load and it make affect the boats operation.
4. New type of environmentally friendly boat called the “SEA SPI” from the SEA SUN Company. It is an electrically powered version of the “Personal Water Craft” (PWC) with

a viewing window (glass bottom type) that lets you see below. The SEA SPI comes in two sizes: 1 person, single motor and 2 person, 2 motors. Ref. [www.seasuncapital.com](http://www.seasuncapital.com)

5. Stolen boats, etc. Boats and trailers well chained to themselves and ground in South Florida (and elsewhere in South Carolina) have been subjected to an updated form of theft of their outboard engines. Thieves using a CHAINSAW cut the transom (with engine) and hauled that away leaving a hole behind.
6. If you need to check if an item is USCG approved, go to <http://cgmix.uscg.mil/equipment>. Listed will be every item approved by the USCG from A-W including life preservers, flares, marine sanitation devices etc.  
Click on Equipment Search to view the list (MIX stands for Marine Information Exchange. The list used to be contained in a book; now it is easier to update a computer file than send out notices to every book holder).
7. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has a new means to report damaged or missing "Manatee No Wake" signs: Call 1 (866) 405 -Buoy (2869) or by email, [Markeroncall@MyFWC.com](mailto:Markeroncall@MyFWC.com) . Provide the sign location, the problem with it, and a name and contact phone number

**MEMBER TRAINER**                      Bob Sperry                      FSO-MT 14-1                      (904) 277-7191

The AUXNAV Speciality is underway with 12 students.

Our GPS course will be held on two consecutive Saturday Mornings in June. 14 June and 21 June. You need a handheld GPS to bring to class. Contact me if you plan to attend. 904 277-7191 or [bcdsp@netscape.net](mailto:bcdsp@netscape.net).

**MARINE PROGRAM VISITOR**   Pete Maye                      FSO-PV 14-1                      (912) 552-3350

The Flotilla is presently providing visitation services to 10 partners. We have, however, identified at least 30 more potential partners and there are no doubt many others. Unfortunately the Flotilla has only one certified program visitor. We really need two or three more PVs so we can expand our program and make a much larger impact on boating safety. Becoming a certified PV is easy...you pass an online exam and then we do two visits together. That's it. Then you are able to work on your own schedule. It is a very good way to promote boating safety while providing a valuable service to your Flotilla. If you are interested please e-mail me at [pmaye@tds.net](mailto:pmaye@tds.net) or call at 912-882-3350.

**OPERATIONS**                                      Heinz Fridrick                      FSO-OP 14-1                      (904) 261-5844

During the month of May 2008 we had 15 patrols two more than planned. This brings our YTD patrols to 44, two less than planned. Due to very windy weather we had to cancel a QE mission with three patrols.

During the month we supported the Fireworks of the Shrimp Festival. At the same evening we checked off three crew Trainees for night navigation and piloting.

On Saturday, May 17 we had an all day major QE mission with 2 QE's, 4 facilities, 3 crew trainees for crew qualification, 1 coxswain and 7 crew for recertification.

Only four crew were recertified and only one crew trainee was qualified. The coxswain was recertified for inshore but has yet to perform an offshore Search Pattern.

These are not very good results and we must do much better and I know we can.

The following is a list of the most pervasive problems we saw during the mission.

- Lack of communication during critical MOB drill, towing evolution and anchoring
- Lack of situational awareness
- Knowledge of SAR policy , come upons and definition of safe harbor
- Understanding of relative bearings and being able to judge distances
- Understanding of basic First Aid principles
- Chart reading and Aton definition
- Use of signal mirror

We are now rescheduling another QE mission for the second half of July to make up what we missed on May 17.

I strongly suggest that all operational members and especially the candidates for the next QE mission read again critical sections in the crew manual and also the hand outs of our workshop in February 2008.

<b>PUBLIC AFFAIRS</b>	Robert Conklin	FSO-PA	14-1	(912) 673-9678
<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>	Aaron Rawls	FSO-PB	14-1	(904) 225-0765
<b>PUBLIC EDUCATION</b>	Tom Pippin	FSO-PE	14-1	(904) 491-6285

We have just completed the ABC Course on may 17th with 11 graduates. It was an great class and I want to thank the Instructors for this class: Mike Owsley, Bob Lauber, Doug Auburn, Bob Sperry and Bill Foster. This will complete the courses until the BS&S/10 Course starting in September. The GPS Course is being advertised in the paper and will start in July. This course is for the public and members.

Cary Bong and his Instructor crew completed a very successful BOATING FUN Program for 3rd Graders in Yulee--over 300 kids received this valuable instruction. Way to go Gary and Crew!!!

<b>PERSONEL SERVICE</b>	Tom Basore	FSO-PS	14-1	(904) 321-0645
	Sam Boyd	FSO-PS	14-1	(904) 277-6608
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Conrad Vaughn	FSO-SR	14-1	(912) 882-9453
<b>VESSEL EXAMANER</b>	Richard Trollope	FSO-VE	14-1	(904) 491-1403

1. The Chief Director of the Auxiliary has announced discontinuation of the “Boating Safety Hotline”, telephone # (800) 368-5647 effective immediately. That hotline # had previously been printed on numerous books and pamphlets. Although the ANSC “has begun to line out the number wherever it appears in these materials, those which have already been distributed (to us) will require our effort. For our VEs, the most important step is to line

out (entirely) the hotline #located on the back, bottom right corner of the VSC Safety Check (ANSC 7012) forms. (That is the copy the VE provides to the owner/operator). If you have older versions of the “Federal Requirements & Safety TIPS for Recreational Boats”, check the back cover for the above hotline # and obliterate it prior to passing them on. The latest versions (white background for the front cover with title in yellow and blue) don’t have the hot line number at all so they are “good to go”. For your VSC Manual (COMDTINST M16796.8) obliterate the above hotline# on pages 5,34,35,and 38.

2. Boating Safety Week will be behind us but there will be many targets of opportunity for VSCs for boaters in our area of responsibility. Please make a sincere effort to stress the proper quantity, fit, and condition of LIFE jackets. Our local waters get very choppy and when they do, savvy boaters put on the jacket. Remind boaters with kids that they should not leave the pier without ensuring those jackets are on the kids age 6 and below in Florida, 7 and below in Georgia, and 13 and below if going out past the Jetties (Federal Waters!!)
3. Aside from Fishing Tournaments, the next scheduled event is National Marina Day, Saturday 9 August. This will provide an opportunity to catch stragglers for their VSCs.
4. Remember to make me a “copy to” address on your ANSC 7038 submission of VSCs conducted for the AUXDATA system. Just send it to:  
[craig@aibeach.com](mailto:craig@aibeach.com),  
[rtrollope@earthlink.net](mailto:rtrollope@earthlink.net).

<b>HISTORIAN</b>	Robert Lauber	FSO-HN 14-1	(904) 277-4065
<b>GROUNDS KEEPER</b>	Paul Clark	FSO-GK 14-1	(904) 261-4041
<b>LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER</b>	Helen Sintes	FSO-LK 14-1	(904) 261-4432
<b>FELLOWSHIP</b>	<b>(Vacant)</b>	FSO-FL 14-1	
<b>YOUTH PROGRAMS</b>	Gary Bong	FSO-YP 14-1	(904) 261-2006

Just completed the last Children’s program at Yulee Elementary School for 3rd Graders -- over 300 kids received this valuable instruction. . Next program in the Fall at Atlantic Elem. We would like to have new volunteers to join us for the 2008-2009 campaign. Contact me at [gmb2235@comcast.net](mailto:gmb2235@comcast.net) or 261-2006. Thanks, Gary Bong

<b>HEALTH and SATETY</b>	Deborah Rollins	FSO-HS 14-1	(904) 261-0725
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# FLOTILLA 14-1 MEETING

**June 5, 2008  
1900**

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

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY  
588 LITTLE PINEY ISLAND POINT  
FERNANDINA BEACH FL 32034

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