



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. 05

Aaron Rawls

FSO-PB 14-1

May 2006

FLOTILLA COMMANDER

James Arman

FC 14-1

(904) 261-3804

Time sure does fly when you are having fun. It seems like only yesterday that I accepted the position of Flotilla Commander. These first four months have sure been filled with new, exciting and demanding challenges. My first District Conference was a challenging four days, but the reception I received from the classes I taught was very rewarding. I hope to do it again.

Flotilla 14-01 is making our Recreational Boating Safety mission our priority during April, May and June. With the boating season kicking into high gear, we feel that this is the time of year to get our message out and save lives. I believe that we save lives by teaching boaters how to boat safely and making sure that their boats are up to safety standards. So, we are going to do our best to get the word out. I am challenging each of our members to live up to their pledge and support the RBS mission. I am asking them to share my vision of every boater in our Area of Operations have a boating safety course and every boat Vessel Safety Examination decal.

To this end we are planning an aggressive program for the St. Mary's Kiwanis Children's Safety Day, 22 April, the Shrimp Festival, 4 through 7 May, National Safe boating Week, 20 through 26 May and the Memorial Day weekend 27 through 29 May.

We plan to have information booths, vessel examiners at all county ramps, a Program Visitor blitz of all partners, Coastie and Life Jacket instruction for the kids and an active Public Information campaign through out the three months. We will have the Coast Guard Cutter SHRIKE for a day at the Shrimp Festival for tours.

We just completed an American Boating Course and are conducting another on 22 April. We are working hard to educate our local boaters.

Our FSO-VE spent Saturday 18 March at the Fernandina Beach West Marine Store doing Vessel Exams and eating hot dogs.

Coxswain and Crew training continue with 4 Coxswain and 12 Crew trainees. On the water training starts this month. Our first specialty course, Seamanship, starts in May.

Our recruiting effort has brought us 6 new members with skills that will help our Flotilla perform its mission more effectively.

The Fellowship cornerstone of the Auxiliary has been busy. A tour of the US Coast Guard Cutter MARIA BRAY at Mayport, an excellent dinner at the Fernandina Beach Women's Club and a trip to the Jacksonville Zoo were all well attended.

These Spring and Summer months are also a busy time for our Operations Officer. Annual Currency Maintenance for all Crew and Coxswain has begun. Scheduling and conducting the ACMs for 10 Coxswain and 21 Crew can be a demanding task.

We also have a full schedule of permitted events. Fireworks on 22 April and 5 May, the Blessing of the Fleet on 7 May, the Kingfish Tournament on 3 June, Fireworks again on 4 July, the Open Water Challenge Swim Race on 8 July and the annual Thistle Race 15 and 16 July.

All of this and our weekly multimission patrols are keeping our facilities on the water and our crews busy.

Operational Excellence training will start the on the water phase in May with 7 Coxswain, 10 Crew and 6 Facilities.

All in all these first four months with the Flotilla have been a very rewarding time.

VICE COMMANDER Tom Hayden VFC 14-1 (912) 729-8195

Many members are hard at work preparing for the various events that we have in May. None could be more important than National Safe Boating Week – 20-26 May. Some may wonder just how effective is this campaign. Well, 2004 saw the first drop in boating fatalities since 1991. 676 people died in boating related accidents in 2004 compared to 924 in 1991 and an average of around 750 for each year since 1991. In 2004, approximately 70% of all fatalities drowned (484 out of 676) and approximately 90% of the victims who drowned were not wearing their personal flotation device. The 2006 campaign is mostly about wearing a PFD or some kind of life vest. Flotilla 14-1 will be conducting major events from Vessel Safety Checks to information booths, marine visitor programs, youth programs and a news media campaign. You can make a difference. Join one of the many activities and maybe save a life.

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

There is nothing new to report from the Local Notice to Mariners. Cumberland Sound as of March 6 still lists the same light problems.

What do we look for on buoys?? This is a few of over 43 different items we are required to report. The main buoy items are sinking, adrift, gong missing, submerged, capsized, whistle missing, off station, stranded, number obscured, tapper missing, number obliterated, bell missing. And that is just for starters!

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

All but two Radio Watch Standing (RWS) 7030 Mission Reports, from 25 March to April 26, were received and submitted to Info Systems.

I now have six Radio Watch Standers available this period. The sixth one has recovered sufficiently from an illness to be able to be assigned radio watch.

Need For More Watch Standers

Every month several of us has to pull double duty because of not having enough Radio Watch Standers. When illness or vacations occur, some of us have to pull up to three watches. Therefore, I am still in need of at least three, preferable five, more radio watch standers. If anyone has any interest, please call me immediately at 277-8270 or email me at jerdadgman@aol.com. Thus far, five people who have expressed interest have not come forward to take the Aux Comm test. It's not hard to study for and to pass the test. Many of us have done it with ease. Just getting started is the hard part. I am ready and willing to help you get started and/or to study, if need be.

District 7 CM Report

Eric Glasscott, DSO-CM, said in his April report that a response is awaited from Coast Guard Headquarters on the application for Auxiliary HF frequencies. He is strongly recommending that the request to use the 5422.5 kHz frequency on an interim basis be re-activated in view of the nearness to the hurricane season and possible delays in approval being obtained for the application for the wide range of HF frequencies.

I have an all-frequency HF transceiver that we could install at the lighthouse cottage so we, radio watch standers, could use to help out on the HF frequencies. An HF radio system, including a dipole antenna, can provide communications over many hundreds of miles. In the event of a large-scale disaster, we can provide communications to Federal agencies when there are no other means available, even cell phones. There would be many radio drills to hone our skills. This could be a lot of fun for us Radio Watch Standers.

COMPUTER SERVICE	Joe Blanchard	FSO-CS 14-1	(904) 2774257
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

Just a reminder to those of you who may have a supply for penalty stamps that they are not using should give them to other members in need. The Coast Guard has paid for these stamps in the same manner as you and I would pay at the Post Office for regular stamps. Unused Penalty Stamps are lost money for the Coast Guard. Also note: if you are sending a Post Card, the ANSC asks that you use a 23 cent stamp plus a 1 cent stamp to comply with the rate increase to 24 cent.

MARINE SAFETY	Richard Trollope	FSO-MS 14-1	(904) 941-1403
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(Relayed from Marc Lang, Div MSO)

- A. Go to <http://www.nauticalcharts.gov/viewer> for an 8-page list of charts you can print out for free. The buttons allow you to move the chart from the ocean to inland. Included are charts 11488 and 11489 etc.
- B. Georgia has become Number 1 in receipt of stolen boats (some from Florida). In 2004, Georgia had been (only) number 4 with 679 stolen boats registered; however in 2005, Georgia had 1856 out of 318,186. Problem: Georgia has no title or bill of sale requirement to register a boat. The typical theft is a trailered 20'-27' boat from a storage lot. The

thieves change the Hull Identification Number (HIN) and then register the boat “legally” in Georgia. (For example, the number 3 might become an 8). To register that boat the thieves simply fill out an application (for the State decals) “on-line” or mail it in.

(Noted by Tom Hayden VCO Flotilla 14-01 concerning changed vessel requirements in Georgia as of 2005)

- A. Two Georgia state decals are necessary; one on each side placed before the registration numbers.
- B. Fire extinguishers (when required) must be mounted.

(Comment for our vessel examiners: a significant proportion of the boaters using the Dee Dee Bartels (Nassau County) ramp are from Georgia).

An alert gained from the publications from U.S Boat: with the advent of summer more fuels (especially “up-north”) will be containing ethanol for decreased pollution and subsidized gasoline prices. Caution: your engines/motors may run okay on a 15% mix of ethanol with gasoline but you should check with your owner’s manual (or the manufacturer) concerning impact on fuel lines, gaskets, and tanks.

Fernandina Beach City Marina maintenance update:

According to the foreman (Joe Perres) for the dredging work, over 39,000 cubic yards of mud have been taken to “Hammock Island” (15 miles south of Fernandina Beach). The job originally called for 52,000 cubic yards to be removed but Joe expects far more than the original estimate. (The caked mud at the “shoreline”, when wetted, slides like calving glaciers into the areas dredged earlier).

B The City Ramp sign needs a further update from closed until “5-8-06”. Work is to halt 27 April 2006 to permit cleanup prior to the Shrimp Festival (4-7 May). Dredging will recommence presumably by 8 May.

MEMBER TRAINER	Bob Sperry	FSO-MT 14-1	(904) 277-7191
MARINE DEALER VISITOR	Dallas Butcher David Johnson	FSO-PV 14-1	(904) 491-3854 (904) 491-6657
OPERATIONS	Heinz Fridrick	FSO-OP 14-1	(904) 261-5844

We had 11 Marine Safety Patrols in April. Year to date we had a total of 29 patrols, but 6 less than planned due to inclement weather. The patrols in April include a night mission in support of a firework display at the junction of Jolly River and Bell River.

At the present 9 coxswain, 14 crew and 7 facilities are available.

The fuel usage of the flotilla is within budget because we had fewer patrols than planned, but also because we reduced the number of security Zones to one per patrol.

On the water training for coxswain and crew trainees will start in May. At the present we are planning eight crew training and one coxswain training missions in addition to our regular week end patrols.

We have also been requested by the Coast guard to support the fireworks and Blessing of the fleet at the Shrimp Festival with two vessels each and in early June the St. Mary Kingfish Tournament with three vessels.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS	Robert Conklin	FSO-PA	14-1	(912) 673-9678
PUBLICATIONS	Aaron Rawls	FSO-PB	14-1	(904) 225-0765
PUBLIC EDUCATION	Doug Auburn	FSO-PE	14-1	(904) 491-0042

Our second ABC class occurred Saturday 22 April. We had 10 people. Our next ABC class is scheduled for 13 May. After that class we have a GPS class scheduled for July 15 & 22. Our final P E offering shall be BS&S scheduled for Sept.12 through Oct. 19. We need to get advertising out on the GPS offering during safe boating week as I believe there only 2 people signed-up for it at this time.

The CGAUX has been presented the National Water Safety Congress' National Award for its programs promoting boating and water safety. This ought to be a "feel good" moment for all of us so dedicated. However, we have also read where boating fatalities in Florida are on the increase. "Feel Good" moments are good, but it is obvious we must keep up with our P, E. efforts. To this end we could use more people who are qualified P. E. instructors...please give this consideration. We frequently have to have instructors "double-up" on instructional; assignments in order to present one of our programs. If you cannot give us time as an instructor, please "talk-Up" our program with the public when you have the opportunity.. Our P E. programs do more than get the word out on boating safety...these classes are also a source for us to gain new members. I am asking all members of 14-01 to give us a hand and put out a positive word to the public whenever you get the chance. Do this in support of our P.E. efforts.

PERSONEL SERVICE	Sam Boyd	FSO-PS	14-1	(904) 277-6608
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Attendance has been good at recent staff and flotilla meetings thanks to our energetic elected officers. However we are still missing many of our old friends. Some say they object to the musty smell in the cottage. Have you been there since the carpet was replaced with tile and the walls were scrubbed? BIG IMPROVEMNT. Bob Lauber, Chief Specialist and FSO in charge of musty smells has been leading the effort for many months to identify the cause and eliminate the odor. The latest effort was to hire a consultant firm to tell us what is needed. We are waiting for those results. I attended a staff meeting 4/26/06. I was there for over an hour and noticed no odor and had no odor in my clothing when I left. BIG IMPROVEMENT.

Some people may be staying away from meetings because they do not want to wear a uniform. We are civilians and it is not necessary to wear a uniform. Please do not be

intimidated by those of us who do. I wear mine, because someone told me it makes me look 10 years younger. It may work for you.

We have 6 new members waiting for final approval. That's great, but we only have 3 more prospects in the pipe line. We need your help in finding a few more.

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

Greetings everyone!

It's almost time for Shrimp Festival, or as some call it our annual invasion of tourists. But, along with the crowds we have a golden opportunity to reach people, and talk about boating safety, to recruit and do vessel exams.

When you get the chance to talk to our boating public remember to tell them this, if nothing else. We had 80 boating deaths last year in Florida; 62 of these were not wearing life vests. That's 62 of our friends, neighbors and loved ones that are no longer with us. Please tell them to wear their life vests. Make sure they fit properly, and that the little ones are wearing them. It makes no difference if they are six or twelve-years-old, because it still hurts to lose them regardless of their age.

I still need a lot of help from our VEs for National Safe Boating Week. Please call or e-mail me. We can, and do make a difference.

That's all for now, hope to see all of you at our next flotilla meeting.

HISTORIAN Robert Lauber FSO-HN 14-1 (904) 277-4065

GROUNDS KEEPER Paul Clark FSO-GK 14-1 (904) 261-4041

LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER Helen Sintes FSO-AN 14-1 (904) 261-4432

BOATS, WATER & KIDS Gary Bong FSO-WK 14-1 (904) 261-2006



We had a great excursion to the Jacksonville Zoo this month with 21 members and their guests enjoying the day. The weather was great and the company--animals and humans--was outstanding!

Our May social will be a LUNCH date at Bonito's on Center St., downtown Fernandina. I will have a sign-up sheet at the meeting on May 4th--we will meet at 12:00 Noon. I will also have a sign-up sheet at the meeting for all interested members wanting to tour the USS TENNESSEE at Kings Bay in July--we need to get clearance before we go--more on this at the meeting.

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION U.S. COAST GUARD CG-3615 (Rev. 3-02)		AUXILIARY - RECORD OF UNIT MEETING					
UNIT NO.		UNIT NAME (As recorded in AUXDATA)				Members Present BQ + AX	
0701401		Amelia Island, Fl.				27 0	
DATE	MEETING TIME	MEETING LOCATION			TYPE OF MEETING(✓)		
04/06/	1900	Lighthouse Cottage, F. B.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR BUS. <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL BUS.		
UNIT OFFICERS PRESENT (List office abbr. and last name only)							
J. Arman FC, T. Hayden VFC, J. Blanchard CC, J. Hiott AN, S. Boyd PS, H Sintas Lt. Hse. T. Pippin Felshp. B. Lauber Hst., P. Clark Grnds Keep, J. Sintas Finan. R. Trollope VE, D Auburn PE, J. Neal, Communications							
GUESTS PRESENT							
Zero							
CONDENSED VERSION OF REPORTS AND MOTIONS VOTED ON (List)							
<p>1. Mtg. called to order @ 1900 by FC J. Arman; B. Sperry FSO-MT led pledge to flag.</p> <p>2. FC J. Arman reported upon his attending 8th District Conference in Orlando, Fl. While there he conducted several classes on Leadership. Also reported on making important contacts which should be beneficial to 14-01. FC Arman also communicated to all members to contact him re. getting any materials needed to meet their responsibilities.</p> <p>3. Motion made by T. Pippin & seconded by R. Jameson & carried to accept the minutes of the March 2, 2006 meeting and place them in Sec. File</p> <p>4. Members sworn in: J. Blanchard FSO-CC, C. Bennett FSO-ISO, Sworn in by VFC t. Hayden assisted by FC J. Arman</p> <p>5. J. Sintas, Finance, gave the financial rept. Motion to accept rept. made and approved. The report will be placed on file for audit.</p> <p>6. R. Lauber gave follow-up report on cottage odor problem. Testing group will send two people to do study in one half day to accommodate our request.</p> <p>7. Fellowship; Tom Pippin has organized trip to Jax Zoo to be folowed by lunch @ Sand Dollar. Bus will leave Rec. Center @ 8:45 am, Apr. 18. Cost is \$15.00 per person to cover cost of bus & admission to zoo. Lunch cost NOT included.</p> <p>8. B. Lauber reported the First Commanders Award will be revised. R. Conklin needs volunteers for SHRIKE duty & to hand out CGAUX information flyers. Motion to adjourn Mtg. made & carried @ 2015.</p>							
UNIT TRAINING TOPICS PRESENTED							
FC Arman presented safety film and led discussion of same							
REMARKS (Include special events, future plans, awards presented, etc.)							
Shrimp Festival: is scheduled for May 5,6,&7. No interest in May 4 scheduled parade. National Boating Week May 20-26 --Work in progress to support this program & promote fact that CGAUX main intent is boating safety & saving lives. Risk Management scheduled for 8:00am April 15 @ Lighthouse Cottage. Aux Service Performance Awards presented to: S. Boyd, R. Lauber, D. Johnson, J. Hiott, D. Auburn, T. Hayden, and C. Bennett							
NEXT BUSINESS MEETING (Give Time, Date and Location)							
05/04/06 at 1900 at Lighthouse Cottage Fernandina Beach, Fl.							
DATE SUBMITTED		SIGNATURE OF PERSON SUBMITTING REPORT					
4/12/06		Jill Auburn FSO-SR					

PREVIOUS EDITIONS MAY BE USED UNTIL SUPPLIES ARE EXHAUSTED
ANSC# 7017

SN 7530-00-FO1-4710

May 2006

	1	2	3	4	5	6
				4 FLOTILLA MEETING 1900 - 2100	SHRIMP FEST PARADE	SHRIMP FEST MAIN EVENT
	8	9	10	11	12	13
7		9 AUXSEA SPECIALTY COURSE 1900 - 2100		11 AUXSEA CONT. 1900 - 2100		13 ABC CLASS#3 0800 - 1700
SHRIMP FEST BLESSING THE FLEET						CREW TRAINING OWT 1100-1500
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		16 AUXSEA CONT. 1900 - 2100		18 AUXSEA CONT. 1900 - 2100	19 STAFF REPORT DUE	20 CREW TRAINING OWT 1100-1500
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
CREW TRAINING OWT 1100-1500		23 AUXSEA CONT. 1900 - 2100	24 STAFF MEETING 1900 - 2000	25 AUXSEA EXAM 1900 - 2100	26 NASSAU SOUNDINGS ARTICLES DUE	27 COTTAGE & GROUNDS CLEAN UP 0900
28	29	30	31			
	MEMORAL DAY					CREW TRAINING OWT 1100-1500



FLOTILLA 14-1 MEETING

**May 4 , 2006
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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