



# NASSAU SOUNDINGS

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



Volume 16, No. 10

Aaron Rawls

FSO-PB 14-1

October 2007

**FLOTILLA COMMANDER**

Tom Hayden

FC

14-1

(912) 674-2348



Guest Speaker Police Chief Hurley, September Meeting

In a recent issue of the NAVIGATOR the Commandant, Adm Thad Allen, USCG, spelled out his concept of "Team Coast Guard Ready for Anything." His Memorial Day "SITREP" was sent to the "Men and Women" of the Coast Guard, but his message is pertinent to Auxiliarist. I hope everyone receives the NAVIGATOR, it is sent to all Auxiliarist by the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association. Please take the time to read it. I want to review what Adm Allen's seven orders to the Coast Guard mean to me:

1. Be flexible. The CGAUX members needs to be agile, flexible and responsive to our USCG mission and to the Flotilla activities.
2. Trust in leadership. I try to be transparent in all I do. I often included a staff officer as an info cc on messages between me and the Division, DCP and/or VDC, because I want to keep the FSO informed.
3. Understand what we are doing. The Flotilla membership needs to understand that the Flotilla leaders are carrying out the responsibilities of their office and doing it very well. Our Flotilla staff meetings, anyone can attend the last Wed of the month, is a very open

forum. We do not publish minutes so a FSO can express any opinion without concern for what will be reported any where. Our information in the Nassau Soundings is generally what is covered in our staff meetings. I have asked each FSO to make his monthly staff report to be the submission to the Nassau Soundings.

4. Talk about it. I asked each and everyone to talk about anything you read or hear from the USCG or the CGAUX that you do not understand.

5. Be professional. You may be a "volunteer" but you have taken an oath to support the nation, the Coast Guard, the CGAUX and the Flotilla. You have to be professional in your appearance, words and deeds.

6. Stay focused on the mission. In the words of Adm Allen: "Our purpose will never change. We are America's lifesavers and guardians." The CGAUX primary mission is Recreational Boating Safety. All other events and activities should revolve around this mission.

7. Most importantly - take care of each other; take care of your families, and take care of yourself. This last statement from Adm Allen is one we sometimes forget. We are a fellowship and we need to look after each other. We need to look after our families who support us. We need take care of ourselves. On this last note, too often I see Flotilla members who are ill or recovering from illness and they still come to an event or a mission. While that is highly admirable for their courage, fortitude and dedication, it can be detrimental to others.

Stay focused and stay patient when the occasion arises.

**VICE COMMANDER**                      Bill Williams                      VFC      14-1                      (904) 261-9511

We now have a BS&S course in session with some much needed new members.

Bill Foster, Ed Deely and I did our required annual audit of Jay Sintes' fine work...were you an accountant, Jay? A copy of same, along with 2 years spreadsheets is tacked to the bulletin board for members perusal, in the spirit of full disclosure.

If we can get through the next six weeks without a hurricane you can start thinking about breaking out your "Mustang Suits" for cold water patrols.

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

### **General Information**

1. NOAA has posted all of its U. S. nautical charts at a new location, <http://ocsddata.ncd.noaa.gov/onLineViewer>.
2. Light List III, up-dated through LNTM 06-16, is available at [http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pubs/LightLists/V3Complete\(3\).pdf](http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pubs/LightLists/V3Complete(3).pdf). Regular corrections are also available.
3. The most recent chart information, dated 1 July 2007, is available online at <http://chartmaker.ncd.noaa.gov/mcd/dole.htm>.
4. The U.S. Air Force is transitioning to a new operating system for the GPS Constellation. The phased operational transition will migrate each satellite, ground

antenna, monitor station and other GPS data feeds from the Master Control Station to the architecture evolution plan new Master Control Station in an incremental manner.

Users that experience problems, anomalies or outages with GPS are requested to provide online feedback via the USCG NAVCEN-S -GPS Outage Worksheet- at: [HTTP://WWW.NAVCEN.USCG.GOV/GPS/GPSUSERINPUT.HTM](http://WWW.NAVCEN.USCG.GOV/GPS/GPSUSERINPUT.HTM)

Mariners are encouraged to report all GPS, DGPS, LORAN or AIS problems, anomalies or outages to the USCG Navigation Center at: (703) 313- 5900, E-mail:

[NISWS@NAVCEN.USCG.GOV](mailto:NISWS@NAVCEN.USCG.GOV)

#### 5. Status of Charts, Latest Editions and Most Recent Local Notice to Mariners

<u>Chart Nr.</u>	<u>Chart Title</u>	<u>Ed/Date</u>	<u>LNTM Date</u>
11488	Amelia Island to St. Augustine	26/Dec 06	13/07
11489	ICW – St. Simons Sound to Tolomato River	37/May 07	30/07
11490	Approaches to St. Johns River; St. Johns River Entrance	19/Dec 06	17/07
11491	St. Johns River – Atlantic Ocean to Jacksonville	36/Jan 07	37/07
11492	St. Johns River – Jacksonville to Racy Point	21/Jul 06	24/07

Dredging –

- St. Marys Entrance Channel, by dredge ILLINIOS (sic), ETC Oct 07

Previously reported as discrepant, now reported as Watching Properly:

South Amelia River Light 46 (LLNR 38165), LNTM 33/07.

I attended an Aids Verifier Workshop in September and qualified as an Aids Verifier.

Division recommends besides reporting discrepancies we verify all PATONS (PRIVATE AIDS) once a year on form 7054 issued through FSO-AN 14-1. I will work with OPS on this. I hope to send out a new AOR Light List shortly. All reports, even by telephone have to be put on form 7054 and passed thru me for distribution.

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

**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

1. Ballast Water Ruling- as previously mentioned in other reports, unless the Federal law is changed, all recreational boats will need a permit by September 2008. HR 2550, if approved by Congress, would exempt recreational boats from this permit requirement. It is strongly requested that all boaters and other persons urge your legislative representatives to pass HR 2550 as soon as possible
2. SOS signals- getting saved is about getting found. Even with an EPIRB, the last 1/2 or 1/4 mile of a SAR may be critically dependent on signals.  
Orange smoke is more likely to be seen from the air but unless the sea is calm, not as noticeable from a boat.  
Meteor flares are more noticeable from a boat than from the air. Aircraft crews cannot see beneath or behind them. Fire a flare gun at a right angle to an aircraft in sight.  
Night vision equipment will pick up Reflective Tape or even the spark from a cigarette lighter  
Signal mirrors can even work off of moonlight.
3. From "ON SCENE" magazine- "Instinctive Drowning Response"  
A USCG helicopter flies over 5 people in the water after their boat capsized; they all appear to be just treading water. Can they wait for the USCG rescue boat to arrive? NO, they cannot as they are all drowning!.
  - A. Except in rare instances, drowning people cannot call out for help. Their respiratory systems are used for breathing and speech is secondary.
  - B. Their mouths alternately sink below and reappear above the water. There is not enough time to exhale, inhale, and call for help.
  - C. They do not wave for help. They extend their arms laterally to press down on the surface of the water and lever their bodies to lift their mouths to breathe.
  - D. If they are drowning they cannot move toward a rescuer or reach rescue equipment.
  - E. If in Instinctive Drowning Response, they can only struggle on the surface up to 60 seconds before submersion occurs.
  - F. Someone waving, shouting, and kicking is in what is known as Aquatic Distress. They are not drowning but are still in trouble and need assistance.  
Rescue crews need to be trained to recognize the difference between Instinctive Drowning Response and Aquatic Distress and not just throw another ring buoy or cushion.
4. [www.boatdesign.com](http://www.boatdesign.com) has a lot of information on vessels—electrical systems, etc.
5. Steve Craven (14-7) continues to provide fingerprinting and oath services to the Merchant Mariners of the surrounding areas. He works out of the Investigation Office of Sector JAX. He usually does this on Tuesdays. Call (904) 564-7659 or (904) 564-7642 to set up an appointment.
6. [www.bobber.info](http://www.bobber.info) is an Army Corps of Engineers website. Click on enter and then click on "Games" for an operational "lock". You can operate the lock to allow a boat to enter and leave, you operate the pumps, sound the horn, open and close the gates-- all with your computer mouse. For someone who has never seen a lock operate, this is as real as it gets.

**MEMBER TRAINER**

Bob Sperry

FSO-MT 14-1

(904) 277-7191

**MARINE PROGRAM VISITOR** (Vacant)

FSO-PV 14-1

**OPERATIONS**

Heinz Fridrick

FSO-OP 14-1

(904) 261-5844

1. During the month of September we had 13 patrols which bring the YTD patrols to 106, twelve more than what we had planned through this month. Since the beginning of this month we added one additional patrol/week for a total of three patrols/week. Two of the weekly patrols have been Harbor Safety and Security missions.

2. Available for patrol were; 7 facilities, 12 coxswains and 17 crew.

3. Actual fuel costs are in line with the revised 2007 fuel budget from Division.

4. On September 8, 2007 I attended a Division Operations Workshop. Following are some of the highlights of the workshop. We plan to discuss these at the next Flotilla meeting and in more detail at a Workshop early next Year. Most of items were covered in two workshops we had in February and March 2007

- All operational flotilla members must read the Operations Policy Manual COMDINST M16798.3E
- Use and location of safety lights on OPFACS.
- Communication problems with Sheriff, Florida wild life
- Come upon procedure.
- PMEs for rest of this year.
- Offshore limitations
- Night check off required for all QE recertifications.
- Crew and coxswain training.
- Improved Vessel examinations for OPFACs.
- Temporary orders.
- Incident and SAR case numbers for Assists.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Robert Conklin

FSO-PA 14-1

(912) 673-9678

## **BOATING STATISTICS 2006 Summary**

The number of boating deaths, injuries and property damage increased for the second consecutive year and when compared to 2005 are as follows: 710 deaths vs. 697; 3,474 injuries vs. 3,451; and \$43,670,424 in property damage vs. \$38,721,088.

Overall, two-thirds of all fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those who drowned, ninety (90) percent of the victims were not wearing their life jacket. Eight out of every ten boaters who drowned were using boats less than 20 feet in length. Consistent with previous years, 70% of reported fatalities occurred on boats where the operator had not received boating safety instruction. Operator inattention, carelessness/reckless operation, excessive speed, and no proper lookout are the primary contributing factors in all reported accidents. Alcohol use is the leading contributing factor in fatal boating accidents; accounting for nearly twenty (20) percent of all reported fatalities. Twenty-nine (29) children age 12 and under lost their lives while boating in 2006; compared to 21 children in 2005 and 14 children in 2004. Nearly twice as many children drowned in 2006 (15) compared to 2005 (8). The most common types of boats involved in reported accidents were open motorboats (45%), personal watercraft (PWC) (24%) and cabin motorboats (14%). A significant increase was observed in the number of reported fatalities associated with the use of canoes/kayaks (99) when compared to 2005 (78). The 12,746,126 boats registered by the

States and territories in 2006 continued along a downward trend and represents a two percent decrease when compared to the 12,942,414 boats registered in 2005. 1

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

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

The second BS&S/10 course of this year is ongoing and very successful! We have 24 enthusiastic students enrolled with 6 Flotilla members in attendance with five of these going into the Crew Training Program. The class is lively and everyone is enjoying the learning process. I want to thank the Instructors for their preparation and enthusiastic presentations. This is the last BS&S utilizing the 12th Edition material.

The new and improved 13th Edition is already here and will be used next year. This edition has new PowerPoint Slides and the Manual has been updated and improved. We are looking forward to a great PE year in 2008 planning three ABC programs, two BS&S/10 Courses and a GPS Course for the public.

**PERSONEL SERVICE** Sam Boyd FSO-PS 14-1 (904) 277-6608

The new ruling from the Director of the Auxiliary allows for a major change in new member status. Previously new members had to wait until they cleared the security process to participate in some training and flotilla activities. It is taking more than 5 months for new people to clear the security center. However they are assigned a member number as soon as DIRAUX receives the new member application and accompanying paper work. That only takes 3 to 4 weeks. At that time they receive a status of AP (application applied for).

When receiving AP status they are listed in AUXDATA. They can now participate in ALL flotilla activities and training to include taking exams after completing training. This is the new ruling. We took advantage of this by swearing in 6 new members at the September Flotilla meeting. They are:

Leanne Aberson, Steve Filkoff, Chuck Molnar, Dave Seaman, Barbara Dunn and Rolland Penny. At the next meeting we hope to swear in Tony Gianneti and John Voltmer.



If you have not paid your Flotilla dues, please do so. They were due Sept. 20th, so you are past due if you have not sent your payment to Jay. You need to return the form Jay sent you even if you are not continuing with your membership. Hope that doesn't apply to anyone. I

<b>SECRETARY</b>	Conrad Vaughn	FSO-SR 14-1	(912) 882-9453
<b>VESSEL EXAMANER</b>	Bob Tolg	FSO-VE 14-1	(904) 261-6149
	Richard Trollope	FSO-VE 14-1	(904) 491-1403

Although we are still within the “Hurricane Season” our local (and transient) fishermen are still going “out “, particularly on weekends. Most of them will trailer their boats to our local ramps at Dee Dee Bartels, Fernandina Beach Marina, or St.Marys, GA. Because of their size, many of these boats will be of “special interest” for safety and many are older with not always the best of maintenance. Aside for poor safety gear (lifejackets, distress signals expired –or about to be), navigation lights are often inoperable. As the owners often note, they don’t intend to be out at night-but the rule require the lights work and our VEs must insist they do. We can always re-inspect after a repair job—and we can make “house calls”!

As for visual distress signals, many owners/operators of trailered, powered boats are seemingly unaware that they “must carry night signals when operating from sunset to sunrise” if the vessel is 16 feet or longer. Take the opportunity to show them the rule by giving them the “Federal Requirements and Safety Tips” brochure (as well as the Florida and/or Georgia Boaters Guides) during the course of the VSC. These clarify the rules and their distribution falls directly within our CGAUX mission to educate the boating public.

As with the VSC itself, these brochures are free. If you need more brochures, VSC forms, decals, or other pamphlets, please call me at (904) 491-1403 or e-mail me at rtrollope@earthlink.net.

<b>HISTORIAN</b>	Robert Lauber	FSO-HN 14-1	(904) 277-4065
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**October 27<sup>th</sup>, Saturday at 0900.**

**We need more help to clean the interior or the cottage and grounds. Last time we only had 3 members to do all the work. Show your interest in the flotilla and be there.**

<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>	Mac McAllister	FSO-FL 14-1	(904) 227-0062
<b>YOUTH PROGRAMS</b>	Gary Bong	FSO-YP 14-1	(904) 261-2006
<b>HEALTH and SATETY</b>	Deborah Rollins	FSO-HS 14-1	(904) 261-0725



# FLOTILLA 14-1 MEETING

**October 4, 2007  
1900**

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

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***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.*

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS