



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

America's Volunteer Lifesaverssm



NASSAU SOUNDINGS

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



Volume 18, No. 09

Aaron Rawls

FSO-PB 14-1

September 2009

Calendar of Events

- Sep 03** Monthly Flotilla 14-1 meeting.-All Members – 1900 – Lighthouse
08 BS & S Classes (Tuesdays and Thursdays until October 20th)
09 AUXPAT Classes (Wednesdays until October 21st).
19 Flotilla Training - Man Overboard Procedures
24 Nassau Soundings Article Submission Date
26 Work Day
30 Flotilla Staff Officer Meeting – 1900 – Lighthouse
- Oct 01** Monthly Flotilla 14-1 meeting.-All Members – 1900 – Lighthouse
06-20 BS & S Classes (Tuesdays and Thursdays until October 20th)
07-21 AUXPAT Classes (Wednesdays until October 21st).
28 Flotilla Staff Officer Meeting – 1900 – Lighthouse
29 Nassau Soundings Article Submission Date
31 Work Day



Marina Day at Amelia Island Yacht Basin

On November 2, 1991 Division XIV of the 7th Coast Guard District Auxiliary chartered Flotilla 14-1 at Amelia Island. 26 members of the new flotilla 14-1 pledged the promotion of Boating Safety. Three of the original charter members are still in the flotilla: Herman Albertine, Aaron Rawls and Bob Lauber. Bob and Aaron are still very active.

In the following 18 years the charter members and many others who joined the flotilla worked very hard to make our flotilla one of the best. We conduct safety patrols on our local waterways, assist the Coast Guard with homeland security duties, teach boating safety classes, conduct vessel safety checks, visit with marine dealers and many other activities.

It must be our duty to preserve and enhance what these dedicated Flotilla members have done for the Coast Guard Auxiliary and for Flotilla 14-1 over these many years.

We have over 90 members in our flotilla but only about a third is actively involved in our flotilla. Over two thirds of major activities like Operations, Radio watches, Vessel safety checks, Marine dealer visits and staff officers are done by operational members i.e. dedicated certified crew and coxswains. All of them participate in more than just one activity.

Operation is vital to our flotilla. **We must maintain our operational capability.**

We must also attempt to involve non operation members increasingly in the many flotilla activities and responsibilities.

Over the past year we have lost about 50 % of our coxswains and 30 % of our crew members. As we look ahead over the next 2 to 3 years we expect to lose additional coxswains and crew. Our flotilla will no longer be the same unless we do something about it NOW.

Pending background and experience of a new member it can take up to two years to train and qualify crew and coxswains.

We have developed a crew training strategy and we discussed it with all staff officers and some of our coxswains. We plan to discuss this also at the next flotilla meeting. We need the help and involvement of all members.

Our strategy in general terms is

1. **Strengthen our recruiting effort.** We would like to recruit up to 20 or more new members per year hoping that some are willing to train as crew and become coxswains. We plan to have a recruiting team with all function involved. We also want to challenge all members to help in recruiting. This effort must include a plan how to retain members.

2. **Implement a focused crew and coxswain training program.** We plan to have a boat crew coordinator and all qualified members will be asked to participate. This must include a strong mentor program
3. **Strengthen our annual currency maintenance.** This must include a retention plan for all members.

Our goal should be to backfill attrition and maintain an operational capability of

- 15 patrols/month
- 5 to 7 boats
- 6 to 8 coxswains
- 20-25 crew

This is approximately our capability to day.

I realize that these are very challenging objectives and initiatives. They will be difficult to implement especially in a voluntary organization. We may have to make changes as we go along.

I think with your help and participation we can do this. We must do this. The future of our flotilla is at stake. **We also owe this to the founders of our flotilla.**

VICE COMMANDER Joe Blanchard VFC 14-1 (904) 277-4257

The Flotilla Commander and the staff officers are working diligently to remove the mildew in the cottage. We know this has been a problem and concern among the flotilla members for some time and hopefully you will see some results of these efforts in the near future.

The August social was a great success, and I'm sorry if you were unable to attend.

Jay Sintes, our Finance staff officer, is in failing health. Jay and Helen have been extremely valuable assets to our flotilla. Please keep Jay and the Sintes family in your prayers. See you at the September meeting.

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

GOALS FOR OUR ATON WORK:
2009 Goals for Navigation Systems

- Each flotilla will routinely keep information on our waterways before flotilla members, through newsletters, articles in the flotilla newsletter, and/or presentations at meetings or training sessions of the flotilla.
- Each flotilla will verify the condition and location of every Private Aid to Navigation [PATON] within the area traditionally accepted as the flotilla area of operations. The verification, whether "watching properly" or discrepant, should be reported to the SO-NS using the ANSC 7054 form. Photographs depicting PATON condition are preferred in ".jpg" format.
- During every on-water evolution, each facility crew should observe every Aid to Navigation [ATON] and PATON in the area transited, making appropriate reports to the FSO, or if critical, to the communications guard for relay to appropriate USCG authorities.

- Beyond the 7 February Aids Verifier [AV] class, conduct at least one additional division-wide AV training session.

PATON AND BRIDGE LISTINGS FOR 14-1 ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM HEINZ FRIEDRICH, JOE BLANCHARD OR JOHN TATUM.

ATON PROBLEMS: (per Local Notice to Mariners, District 7 33-09)

- LLNR 6995 Kings Bay Light 46 Destroyed
 - LLNR 37790 Cumberland Sound Range C lower rear light destroyed
 - LLNR 6830 St. Mary’s East mooring lighted buoy missing
 - LLNR 6835 St. Mary’s West mooring lighted buoy missing
 - LLNR 6867 Cumberland Sound Shoal Light D-light extinguished
 - LLNR 6873 Cumberland Sound Shoal Light E-extinguished and damaged
 - LLNR 37843 Cumberland Sound Shoal Light A extinguished
- Extensive shoaling reported South Amelia River Daybeacon 34 (LLNR 38100)
Shoaling reported in the vicinity of Fernandina Beach LT 1 and LT 3

No new reports from our patrols.

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

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

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

1. Boat Capacity Plates differ in the U.S. and Europe. Both define #s of persons, pounds and maximum horsepower. The European Union (EU) adds differences per the Recreational Craft Directive(s) (RCDs) (similar to the U.S. ABYC —but have the force of EU law) which define “where” you may operate the boat safely. In the lower left hand corner of an E.U. Capacity Plate is a letter code: D=Sheltered waters, lakes and rivers, winds to Force 4 (11-16) and waves to 1 foot.; C= Inshore waters, open bays, and large lakes, winds to Force 6 (22-27), waves to 6 feet; B= Off shore use, winds to Force 8 (38-40), waves to 16 feet; A=Ocean work but a more water tight boat; same wind and wave limits as B.
2. Boaters planning to travel to Cuba need to see 33CFR107.125 which lists the requirements to go there. Such travel is unauthorized unless you have the approval of the USCG 7th District Commander. Per a change of the requirements on 2 July 2004, a form is to be filled out. Go to www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg531/cubatavel.asp or www.uscg.mil. On the upper right side is the “search” feature, type in “cuba permits” and the search will take you to the (web) location. Fill in the application and fax it in. For more info, call: (305) 415-6920.
3. 33CFR165 lists “all” the Safety and Security Zones in effect throughout the U.S.
4. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) want all boaters to report Derelict Vessels. Using the compiled list of Derelicts, The FWC requests funding for disposing of these vessels and seeks to find the owner(s) for reimbursement. For reporting, call: 1 (888) 404 3922.
5. The Vol 10, AUG/SEP 2009 issue of the Boat U.S. Trailing magazine has a pointed article (“Look out “bellow”) for owners of vessels with inboard/outboard (I/O) stern drives.

Leaking bellows (surrounding the drive shaft from the engine into the stern drive) have been the cause of 44 per cent of vessels sinking alongside the pier or at anchor; another 20 percent of sinkings occurred while the boat was underway! The manufacturers of boats with I/O stern drives recommend replacement of the bellows every five to six years because the rubber deteriorates over time. Visual inspection (with a flashlight) is recommended (but you probably can't see a crack on the topside of the bellows!). A definite recommendation to follow: if your vessel is to be stored for a long period, lower the drive from the trailered position to the normal operating (lowered) position (to keep the corrugations in the bellows "level")

6. Updates to the "Who to Contact List" : (Provided by Marc Lang, Div 14 SO-MS)

USCG Documentation Center:-www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/nvdc (800) 799-8362)

Commercial Vessel-: Licensing-: www.uscg.mil/nmc; Regional Exam Centers: Miami, FL (800) 982-9374; Charleston, S.C. (800) 826-1511

USCG Waterways Management (Obstructions, abandoned vessels, bridge problems and Marine Event Permits-: (904) 564 7563 or 7566

Recreational Boat Accidents, Wake Violations, Law Enforcement, Manatees and Wildlife:

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) -:(888)404 FWCC; JAX # (386) 758-0525; FL. State # (850) 488 5600 or (www.myfwc.com). To report a Damaged or Missing State Sign or Marker (866) 405-2869 or email Markeroncall@myfwc.com.

USCG Foreign or Commercial Vessels- : ICC Integrated Command Center- (904) 564 7511/12 24 hours; Domestic Vessels Prevention Dept. (904) 654 - 7650, Blount Island Foreign Vessel Section (904) 751-2827 Ext. 5.

Aids to Navigation (Buoys, day boards, Ranges, lights, bridge lights etc.)-: ANT TEAM JAX (904) 241-8401/8422; ANT TEAM PONCE (386) 427-3227

National Response Center 24 Hour Hazardous Spill Reporting-: (800) 424-8802

USCG Station Mayport-: (904) 564-7592

Search and Rescue 24 Hour-s: (904) 564-7511/12

USCG Exchange Mayport: (904) 247-8740

MEMBER TRAINER

Bob Sperry

FSO-MT 14-1

(904) 277-7191

We have two training opportunities in September. First, the AUX Speciality Course AUXPAT will begin Wednesday September 9 at 1900 at the Lighthouse. AUXPAT is one of the courses required to become AUXOP status and a very good course for Crew and Coswain candidate. It will be taught by Past Commander Roy Durden and covers the procedures and duties to be performed when on the various types of Patrols we conduct. It will continue for six sessions on following Wednesday evenings. Call or email me if you plan to attend. <bcdsp@netscape.net>

Second, the 8 hour Team Coordination Training (TCT) taught by Bob Pape has been scheduled for Saturday, September 26 0830 Stellar Building 2900 Hartly Jacksonville. TCT certification is required for all members certified in Operations and must be retaken every 5 years. Any member planning to become Crew or Coxswain Qualified or are currently certified but haven't retaken the 8 hour TCT within the last 4 years should consider attending this session. Call or email me if you are interested or have questions. <bcdsp@netscape.net>

OPERATIONS

Heinz Fridrick

FSO-OP 14-1

(904) 261-5844

During the month of August we had 13 patrols four more than our plan. This brings our year to date patrols to 87, ten less than planned.

In addition to our regular safety patrols we supported the St. Mary Kingfish classic with two boats and the 2009 Resolute Guardian with four boats.

The Resolute Guardian was a joint Navy, Coast Guard Maritime Force Protection Unit exercise in the Cumberland Sound. The Navy and Coast Guard did transit from 0900 to about 1600 the Cumberland Sound and simulated security breach and security zone enforcement during the exercise.

Our role was to make boaters aware of the exercise and remind them of a 500 yard security zone around the exercise vessels. Early in the morning we had members from our flotilla at various boat ramps with hand outs for boaters. Three of our boats screened boat traffic at the mouth of the Amelia River, the St. Mary River and Kings Bay. One of our boats was involved in simulating opposition forces.

It was a long and very hot day but also very rewarding to all participants. We all felt that we were contributing to the Coast Guard and the Navy and they recognized us. THANK YOU.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Steve Filkoff

FSO-PE 14-1

(904) 491-8629

Tom Hayden	Tue 08 Sep	Chap 1 Which boat is for you	NO KNOT
Ron Knauss	Thu 10 Sep	Chap 2 Equipment for your boat	Reef/square
Aaron Rawls	Tue 15 Sep	Chap 3 Trailering your boat	Reef/square Review
Aaron Rawls	Thu 17 Sep	Chap 4 Handling your boat	Bowline
Bob Lauber	Tue 22 Sep	Chap 5 Your "highway" signs	Bowline Review
Roy Durden	Thu 24 Sep	Chap 6 The rules of the nautical road	Clove Hitch
Bill Foster	Tue 29 Sep	Chap 8 Boating safely/FL&GA state law	Clove Hitch Review
Heinz F.	Tue 06 Oct	Chap 9 Introduction to navigation	Sheet Bend
Bob Sperry (Tom Pippin – Proctor)	Thu 08 Oct	Chap 12 Weather and boating	Sheet Bend Review
Jim Arman	Tue 13 Oct	Chap 13 Your boat's radio	NO KNOT

PERSONEL SERVICE

Barbara Dunn

FSO-PS 14-1

(904) 261-1889



FLOTILLA 14-1 -**Eight** new members have been sworn in so far this year. **Three** more may be sworn in at the August meeting. They are Robert Stephenson, Steve Mason and Sharron Belcher. All members should be **welcoming** these new people, **helping** them find their interests and **getting** them involved. This is how we keep members active and interested.



Robert Stevenson



Steve Mason



Sharron Belcher

FLOTILLA 14-1 currently has 6 new recruits who are studying to become members. It is exciting that there is so much interest in joining our flotilla.

All members keep finding new recruits! Thanks to all members who have been recruiting. Keep encouraging new recruits. **And** when new members are sworn in greet them and help them get involved.

FLOTILLA 14-1 - Has one candidate who is transferring from Michigan auxiliary. Her name is Sondra Shepherd. She was at the August meeting and I forgot to introduce her. She is currently visiting in Michigan and finalizing her transfer since we found it had to be initiated by her flotilla commander in Michigan.



Reid Hanson sworn in by Commander Fridrich

VESSEL EXAMINER

Richard Trollope

FSO-VE 14-1

(904) 491-1403

SEE Press Release Below



PRESS RELEASE

Coast Guard Auxiliary

Division 14

Tom Hayden

topcat6@tds.net

(912) 674-2348

Lack of boater education linked to rise in recreational boating fatalities

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has expressed concern over statistics reporting a rise in recreational boating fatalities in a recently released publication of the 2008 boating safety statistics.

The fatality rate, a measure of the number of deaths against the number of registered recreational boats, increased from 5.3 in 2007 to 5.6 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational boats in 2008. During this time, the Coast Guard recorded 709 deaths, 3,331 injuries and approximately \$54 million dollars in damage to property, stemming from 4,789 recreational boating accidents.

The death rate for boating related accidents for 2009 is currently ahead of last year.

The major factors in boating related accidents are operator inattention, careless or reckless operation, no proper lookout, operator inexperience and passenger or skier behavior. These rank as the top five contributing factors to recreational boating accidents.

Alcohol consumption continues to be of major concern in fatal boating accidents and is listed as the leading contributing factor in 17 percent of the deaths.

Rear Adm. Kevin Cook, the Coast Guard's director of prevention policy, emphasized the importance of boating education saying, "The 2008 report shows a clear link between safety and boating education by highlighting that only 10 percent of deaths occurred on boats where the operator had received boating safety education. This statistic indicates that boaters who have taken a boating safety course are less likely to be involved in an accident. In addition, two-thirds of all fatal boating accident victims drowned; and of those, 90 percent were not wearing a life jacket. The Coast Guard urges all boaters, whether as an operator or passenger, to take a boating safety course and to always wear your life jacket."

For seventy years the Coast Guard Auxiliary has provided boater education to the American boating public. Courses are taught by experienced and knowledgeable instructors committed to the highest standards of the U.S. Coast Guard. For more information about Coast Guard Auxiliary boater education course please visit <http://www.cgaux.org/boatinged/>. In addition to boater education courses the Auxiliary also offers free Vessel Safety Checks. (<http://www.cgaux.org/vsc/>)

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard created by an Act of Congress in 1939. The Auxiliary, America's Volunteer Guardians, supports the Coast Guard in nearly all of the service's missions.

To view the 2008 recreational boating safety statistics, go to: http://www.uscgboating.org/statistics/accident_stats.htm

For more information on boating responsibly, go to <http://www.boating.gov>



FLOTILLA 14-1 MEETING

**September 3, 2009
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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