



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. 04

Aaron Rawls

FSO-PB 14-1

April 2009

Calendar of Events

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|---|
| April | 02 | Monthly Flotilla 14-1 meeting.-All Members – 1900 – Lighthouse |
| | 11 | ABS Class |
| | 11 | Division operations workshop Mayport |
| | 14 | AUXSEA Course, Tuesdays and Thursdays until April 30th. |
| | 25 | GPS course Saturday April 25th and Saturday May 2nd. |
| | 29 | Flotilla Staff Officer Meeting – 1900 – Lighthouse |
| | 30 | Nassau Soundings Article Submission Date |
| | 30 | Shrimp Festival Parade |
| May | 01 | Festival Fireworks support/ Auxiliary booth |
| | 02 | Coast Guard Cutter SHRIKE tour guides/ Auxiliary booth |
| | 03 | Blessing of the fleet/Auxiliary booth |
| | 07 | Monthly Flotilla 14-1 meeting.-All Members – 1900 – Lighthouse |
| | 09 | ABS Class |
| | 16-22 | National Safe Boating Week |
| | 27 | Flotilla Staff Officer Meeting – 1900 – Lighthouse |



Bob Macias with Coastie at last year's Shrimp Festival

At our last Flotilla Meeting division we welcomed Vice Commander David Greene and the Commanding Officer of Station Mayport CWO Jim Devane . We all appreciated their visit. This is the first visit of a Station commanding officer at our flotilla since I joined the auxiliary 10 years ago and it was truly a highlight..

Jim has been with the Coast Guard for 26 years with assignments at many different stations and also overseas at the Persian Gulf. He has worked with the Auxiliary before. He gave a brief presentation at our meeting highlighting:

- The significant growth of Station Mayport after 9/11
- The predominant mission of Station Mayport is in Home Land Security
- The increasing need for more patrol hours and the objective to better coordinate the patrols between the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary to optimize resources
- The objective that the Auxiliary must meet specific requirements of Station Mayport to be considered a Coast guard multiplier force.
- The offer to assist the Auxiliary in any way possible if asked for.



Thank you for your visit CWO Jim Devane and DVCDR David Greene

In early March Sector Jacksonville initiated throughout the Sector AOR an increase and overt USCG/ USCG Auxiliary /Other Government Agencies (OGA) boating safety education to prevent injury, loss of life and loss of property. The objectives of this effort called **OPERATIONS SAFETY NET** are:

- To check required /proper boat registrations
- To check required/proper boat safety equipment
- To discuss with boaters risk assessment and management.

The last of the three objective needs increased emphasis. You all know about the recent tragic boating accident in the Gulf when three boaters died.

We need to discuss with boaters RISK MAMANGEMANT, PRE DEPARTURE CHECK, FLOAT PLANS, BOAT CAPACITY AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Recently I received from Frank Powell one our most active vessel examiners the following picture. It speaks for itself and makes the point.



On March 15, 2009 Frank did 12 Vessel exams **None Passed**. The boat shown is a 12 foot vessel, has a capacity of 400 lbs, but with 3 adults, 1 child, and a 30 gallon gas tank was about 130 lbs overloaded. In the vessel safety check form Capacity/Certificate of compliance is recommended for discussion only. **WE NEED TO DO MORE**.

The initial effort of OPERATION SAFETY NET will be from March 26 to March 29 but will continue throughout the year especially also at large public events like the Shrimp festival or the national safety week .

We have 7 marinas and 4 boat ramps in our AOR and are scheduled to staff each at the weekend of March 28/29 with Vessel Examiners.

We participated with one vessel at a Media event at Mayport. We are also planning at this time for the large public events in May.

More flotilla members should participate in our effort to improve recreational boating safety. Please ask Richard Trollope our FSO –VE if you are interested. We need help.

AIDS TO NAVIGATION

John Tatum

FSO-AN 14-1

(904) 491-7601

ATON PROBLEMS:

- **Amelia River Daybeacon 16** (LLNR 7100/37980), Daybeacon destroyed, replaced with a temporary unlighted buoy, LNTM 09-06.
- **Cumberland Sound Lt B** LLNR 6860 Light Extinguished
- **Cumberland Sound Shoal lights D, and E** are extinguished and “E” is damaged.
- **Kings Bay Lt. 54** LLNR 7020 Lt. Ext.
- **St Mary’s River** East mooring lighted buoy missing
- **St. Mary’s River** West mooring lighted buoy missing

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Shoaling reported mid-channel in the vicinity of Fernandina Beach Buoy 1. Again, Buoy 1A has been disestablished. Water depth reported less than six feet at high tide.
- A new USCG light list 2009 has been issued available at www.navcen.uscg.gov/publ/LightLists/LightLists.htm I will try to extract our portion of it.

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

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

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

The following items are included in the ALCOAST 074-09, dated 03FEB2009 referencing uniform decisions.

Approved:

- CHANGE NAMING NOMENCLATURE FROM TROPICAL BLUE LONG UNIFORM TO TROPICAL BLUE UNIFORM.
- CHANGE NAMING NOMENCLATURE FROM SERVICE DRESS BLUE BRAVO UNIFORM TO SERVICE DRESS BLUE UNIFORM.
- SUPPORT THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY PROGRAM BY AUTHORIZING THE AUXOP DEVICE MADE IN AN EMBROIDERED STYLE.

Disapproved:

- DE-AUTHORIZE FEMALE COMBINATION COVERS.
- WEARING TWO QUALIFICATION INSIGNIA ON THE OPERATIONAL DRESS UNIFORM.
- WEARING OF THE U. S. FLAG ON THE OPERATIONAL DRESS UNIFORM.
- DESIGNING A CUFFED SHORT-SLEEVED ODU SHIRT AS AN OPTIONAL ITEM.
- WEARING MIX AND/OR MATCH UNTUCKED AND TUCKED OPERATIONAL DRESS UNIFORM ITEMS AT THE SAME TIME.

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

1. The Jacksonville International (open air) Boat Show will be held 17-19 April 2009 (Fri-Sun) at the Metropolitan Park and Marina, 1410 Gator Bowl Blvd. Flotilla members are invited to attend in uniform and help out at our Division Booth. Please contact me for details.
2. Add two important Customs and Border Protection (CBP) names as Points of Contact for your "Waterways Watch". These local CBP officers are: Steven Parrott and Eric Blair at 403 North 3rd St., Fernandina Beach, Fl. Tel# (904) 261-6154 (office) or (904) 588- 8537 (cell).
3. The Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) was given \$1.25 million by the State to aid in removing derelict boats from State waters. Ten of these are in the Jacksonville area.
4. Need a Maritime Attorney? Contact the Maritime Law Association (MLA) at www.mlaus.org, the International Maritime Committee (CMI), or the Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute (SEALI) , at www.iclega.org/seali. Some of these attorneys represent insurance companies; if you are suing an insurance company, get another lawyer!
5. Moisture Meters are somewhat useful in determining if water has been "trapped" in the hulls of vessels (particularly of fiberglass). If the meter detects "moisture", make further checks prior to tearing open the boat IE: hammer tapping, delaminating areas etc.
6. Planning an "anywhere in the world" voyage? Check out www.noonsite.com which covers the requirements of different countries (IE for visas) and tracks what is going in the world due to piracy.

MEMBER TRAINER

Bob Sperry

FSO-MT 14-1

(904) 277-7191

Don't forget the two courses coming up in April - Seamanship and GPS for Mariners.

AUXSEA begins Tuesday 14 April and continues on Tuesdays and Thursdays until 30 April.

GPS will begin on the last Saturday of April and continue on first Saturday of May. Contact me if you are interested.

OPERATIONS

Heinz Fridrich

FSO-OP 14-1

(904) 261-5844

During the month of March we had 8 patrols four less than what we had planned. Due to very cold and windy weather we had to cancel some of our patrols. This brings our year to date patrols to 27 ten less than planned.

On March 26 we participated in a Media event in Mayport with Swabia. Our mission was to demonstrate boating safety to several Media representatives. All this was part of "Operations Safety Net" a sector wide four day event on boating safety.

April will be a very active month for operations. At this time we have planned 16 patrols.

Half of Patrols will be for Night OPS training. We need to practice Night OPS for required QE check rides. Only if we pass these check rides can we receive orders for night missions like the Fire Works Support for the Shrimp Festival.

Most other patrols in April will focus on new crew training.

On Saturday, April 11 all operational member are invited to a Division workshop at Mayport from 0900 to 1200. I hope many can attend.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Steve Filkoff

FSO-PE 14-1

(904) 491-8629

BS&S class completed with 5 graduates March 26th.

ABS course is scheduled for 11 April. So far, I have 2 folks that have asked for registration forms but, it's early. Put the word out for more participants.



Please Welcome New Flotilla Members!

Our Flotilla currently has 3 new members who are waiting for ID cards and member numbers. Mentors have been assigned to these new members. We expect that they will be ready to be sworn in at the April 2 Flotilla meeting.

Flotilla 14-1 currently has 4 new member courses out –Most will probably be ready for interview in mid April. One was an e-responder who has interested a friend. They are both from Callahan.

If you would like to mentor one of these four please contact FSO-PS above.

Please continue to keep bringing prospects to meetings so we can meet or exceed the goal of 10 new members for 2009.

1. A web site has been established to provide information for new VEs and review for “older” VEs as well. Check it out at: <http://www.uscgboating.org/SAFETY/vsc/vsc a.html>
2. Reminder: West Marine has “down-loadable” 10 % discount coupons for “safety items”; if you run across boaters needing flare, fire extinguisher, or life jacket replacements, be sure to bring this to their attention.
3. Life jackets: Many of you VEs were issued inflatable life jackets (provided by the USCG via the Division). Again, note that these are NOT suitable for patrols, as they do not have the required reflective tape. However they should be used while conducting VSCs to emphasize the use of life jackets, sized to fit (these are “universal” for adults), and that can be comfortable to wear.

4. Take note of the increased USCG emphasis on the actual wearing of the life jackets by all boaters when underway. Cite the Federal Requirements (13 years and under in Fed waters)(note that the USCG will allow a 16 year or older to wear an inflatable PFD like the one you use for “show and tell”). Explain the rules of Georgia (age 7 and under) and Florida (age 6 and under) concerning their respective requirements. All PWC operators (and passengers) must wear life jackets marked for water skiing or PWC use) (NOT inflatable ones). Gray area: the USCG recommends and many states require PFDs for water skiing and other towed activities and while sail boarding. The rules don’t require that kayakers wear them but they should. The stowage limitations of kayaks are such that the life jackets will not likely be “readily accessible” when most needed (IE. Capsized). Emphasize: 90% of drownings occur when the victim was NOT wearing a lifejacket.





FLOTILLA 14-1 MEETING

**April 2, 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

***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