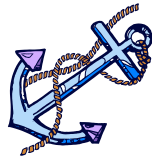


ANCHOR LINE



Flotilla 87

Englewood, Fla.

7th Coast Guard District
www.CoastGuardEnglewood.com

Volume XLVIII February, 2010 Number 2



John Cummings receives Flotilla 87's Spark Plug Award for 2009 from R. Dimon, FC for his outstanding contribution to the RBS Program

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EDITOR and PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

Judith A. Abbott

6767 San Casa Dr. #98, Englewood, FL 34224 Home: 941-474-0168 e-mail: heyabbott6767@comcast.net



2010 FLOTILLA 87 OFFICERS DIVISION 8 DISTRICT 7



Flotilla Commander
Flotilla Vice Cmdr.
 Member Training
 Public Education
 Vessel Examination
 Operations
 Personnel Services
 Public Affairs
 Publications
 Secretary/Records
 Finance
 Communications
 Materials
 Information Svc
 Navigation System
 RBS Visitation
 Marine Safety
 Communication Svc
 Imm. Past Fl. Cmdr.
 Historian
 Lay Leader
 Proctor
 Flotilla Webmaster
 Social Chairperson

FC
VFC
 FSO-MT
 FSO-PE
 FSO-VE
 FSO-OP
 FSO-PS
 FSO-PA
 FSO-PB
 FSO-SR
 FSO-FN
 FSO-CM
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 FSO-IS
 FSO-AN
 FSO-PV
 FSO-MS
 FSO-CS
 IPFC

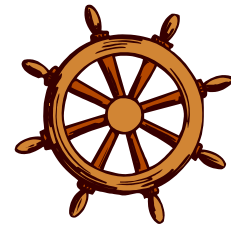
Rodney D. Dimon
Max P. Muller
 Ronald C. Mines
 Nancy Lee G. Waters
 Gerald L. Meckenberg
 Wilbur R. Gray
 Ronald J. DelBello
 David C. Nielsen
 Judith A. Abbott
 Judith A. Abbott
 Robert W. Schmidt
 Gerald L. Meckenberg
 Anton (Tony) Durner
 Robert M. Waters
 David P. Senkpiel
 Gregory J. Masonick
 Ronald J. DelBello
 Graham Leadbetter, Ph. D
 Arthur J. "Skip" Wilson
 C. Eric Schoenfeld
 Judith A. Abbott
 Ruth A. White
 Graham Leadbetter, Ph. D
 Sandy Bilsky



<u>FEBRUARY EVENTS</u>	
2.....Flotilla Staff Officers' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park	7 pm
BS&S Continues Every Monday & Thursday, Lemon Bay Park	
9.....Flotilla Members' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park	7 pm

All photos in this issue by J. Abbott

FROM THE HELM: Rodney D. Dimon, Commander



It is my sad duty to inform the membership that Jack Frost ruined this month's article. Therefore, let me tell you a story about a Blue Shirt coxswain named Captain Bill Lewis, a charter Captain from the Ft. Lauderdale Flotilla. Let me advise you, that this story is old – it takes place during World War II in an area between the Indian River outlet at Ft. Lauderdale and the Hillsboro Light to the north. There, the Gulf Stream runs to about three miles from the Florida shoreline. This created congestion as supply ships tried to run close to shore to avoid the Gulf Stream's northerly current. It also created a prime target area for German subs on the prowl.

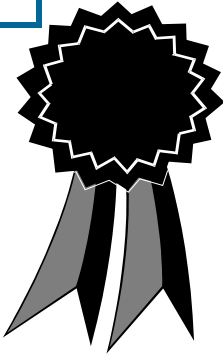
“Captain Bill was at the helm, having left Indian River and was heading out to sea, heading up the coast from Lauderdale in a 46 foot facility named Diane. During those times facility hulls were painted grey, and Diane was barely dry – yet this lady was on the hunt. Captain Bill had about forty years fishing experience and tonight he was after the biggest game of all – suddenly George Amon on bow watch called out quietly “Bill, I think there's something under the surface under the light!” “Damn, I think you're right!” Then Scott Sandy left his post as radio watch and squinted around the edge of the cabin for a better look; an outline of a 300 foot sub with two deck guns and an armed conning tower – too much for the unarmed Diane.

(1)Sector was notified, yet the sub was underway. Captain Bill increased speed and the chase was on as he wanted to keep Sector informed. Soon Diane's twin screws were tearing water at wide open throttle, “Captain Bill wanted to ram the sub, damaging it enough so she would remain on the surface long enough for the Coast Guard to destroy her. The U- boat chose to dive.” She was gone, never to return - one less sub off the Florida coastline to worry about. Today we face our own threat. Training will be forth coming that identifies this and how we are to respond.

Charlie Mike out.

(1) Ref; The Volunteers, Weinberg pages 22-24

AWARDS & CERTIFICATES



R. Waters, FSO-IS receives his Nav Rules Certificate from M. Muller, VFC and R. Dimon, FC

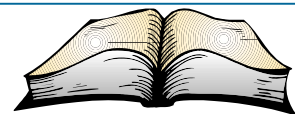


Newest member Ted Turner is sworn in by R. Dimon, FC



D. Nielsen, FSO-PA received the oath of office for 2010 from R. Dimon, FC

Charles E Schoenfeld, Historian



Our Historian Book is coming near the end and is doing very well and is very informative. I am so pleased for all you have done this past year helping me. I should have the books in class this spring. Any suggestions or additions I can add?
Thank you.

Max P. Muller, Vice Commander



Well, we are off and running. With our first Staff and Monthly meetings behind us, the Flotilla's direction is being aligned with the needs of the membership. We have a great Staff Officer team ready to handle their responsibilities.

The Division Orientation meeting on January 16th. was a big success and well attended by the new incoming Staff Officers and Elected Officers. There was a great deal of information available to anyone interested. I was lucky enough to sit next to John Tyson, 7th. District Captain West, who is a wealth of Auxiliary knowledge. The Flotilla Elected Officers meeting (FC and VFC) was very educational and enlightening. A wealth of activities will be passed down the chain of command in months to come, all designed to improve the operations and functions of our Division.

I would ask that every Flotilla 87 member renew his or her commitment to assist in making our Flotilla one the leaders in all departments. Together we can work towards success! Volunteering is what we do!



Ron Mines, FSO-MT



On January 26, 2010, we had our first planning session with the candidates for Crew and Coxswain positions. There were ten in attendance. Our next planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, at my home, 203 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL. If you are interested in attending this second session, please call me at 941-697-2523.

If any one needs the eight (8) hour TCT Course, there will be one held on Saturday, February 20, 2010 at the Coast Guard Station in Santee. Drew Hodges will be the Instructor for this session..

I will be setting up our Annual Mandatory Programs throughout the year 2010. If anyone needs recertification in the Boat Crew Program, please advise. Planning is in the works for the three-year Certification; this will take place in February, 2010.

If anyone wishes to take any of the Qualification Courses offered by the Coast Guard Auxiliary, please let me know.

Lee Waters, FSO-PE



Our latest course, BS&S is up and running with 21 students. The instructors are working hard to present the materials, answering questions and preparing the students for their final exam.

On the horizon will be our next ABS class. The dates for this class have been changed from April to March 20th and 27th, 2010 from 0830-1230. If you know someone who wants to take a safe boating class but is unwilling or can't spare the time for the long commitment of BS&S, this class is the perfect fit! Pass on the word.

Some interest has been expressed for us to offer two new courses to the general public; The Weekend Navigator and Sailing Skills and Seamanship. Looking over the calendar, it appears that The Weekend Navigator MIGHT be offered in April and the SS&S offered sometime in early summer. At this point, both courses are in the planning stages. I'm happy to report that from a brief survey taken from our present BS&S class, we have enough interest to fill The Weekend Navigator class. More information will be forthcoming as the plans become firmer. The SS&S class is still in the talking phase and might or might not occur this year.

W. R. "Gabby" Gray, FSO-OP



All patrols for the month of December were completed. Some patrols have been cancelled because of the weather.

All Coxswain and Crew members: if you are due to have your 3 year currency maintenance this year (2010), please contact MT / OPs so we can make arrangements and get it done EARLY this year.

Thanks to all Coxswains and Crew members for taking up the slack lately for our patrols, and Coxswains, please do your 5132s as soon as possible after your patrols because we only have 30 days from the patrol date to get it to Group for entering to FINCTR and continue filling them out correctly, thanks. (don't forget to fill out a 4612 SAR report if you get an assist.)

Coxswains, don't forget to invite a new trainee along on your patrols and get them familiar with your vessel, towing equipment and where it is kept.

All members, still use caution while transiting Stump Pass as it has continued to change slightly.

Keep up the good work this year and thanks to all for the excellent cooperation and help in the past years.

A VISIT FROM THE WILDLIFE CENTER OF VENICE



A good turnout of the flotilla membership listening to Larry Corl (right) speaking regarding how to capture an injured seabird such as a pelican, and the necessary equipment to carry aboard a vessel. Larry suggests having a large net to capture the bird and a heavy pair of gloves to prevent getting bitten. He also warned about keeping the bird's beak away from your face to avoid an eye injury. Also, due to the recent cold weather, be on the lookout for sea life showing signs of stress.



R. Waters, FSO-IS discusses the new 7029 form regarding the new additions to it and how to properly fill it out

BS&S Class in Session



L. Waters, FSO-PE addressing the class



Instructor G. Masonick presents his lesson



L. Waters, A. Durner and G. Leadbetter observe the class



Aides R. Waters, A. Osiecki and J. Cummings standing ready to assist students



Students are being tested on the first half of the course



Rules of the Road

Who may operate a vessel?

A colleague of mine in the Auxiliary suggested I write about who may operate a vessel. A while back, she and another Auxiliary member had presented a boating safety seminar at a local high school. To their surprise, most of the students did not know there were restrictions for anyone age 21 and under to operate a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater.

After doing a little bit of research I found that the website - http://myfwc.com/RULESANDREGS/Rules_Boat.htm - contained the following information:

- Anyone 21 years of age and under who operates a vessel powered by 10 horsepower or more must pass an approved boater safety course and have in his/her possession photographic identification and a boating safety education identification card issued by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).
- A person must be at least 14 years of age to operate a personal watercraft in Florida.
- A person must be at least 18 years of age to rent a personal watercraft in Florida.

It is unlawful for a person to knowingly allow a person under 14 years of age to operate a personal watercraft which is a second-degree misdemeanor.

The following operators are exempt:

- A person licensed by the U. S. Coast Guard as a master of a vessel.
- A person operating on a private lake or pond.
- An operator who is accompanied onboard by a person who is least 18 years old and possesses the required Boating Safety Education Identification Card, provided that person is attendant to and responsible for the safe operation of the vessel.
- An operator who is accompanied onboard by a person, who is exempt from the educational requirements, provided that person is attendant to and responsible for the safe operation of the vessel.

A non-resident who has in his or her possession proof that he or she has completed a National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved boater safety course or equivalency examination from another state.

Continued next page.....

Who.....Cont'd.

Of particular interest was the following paragraph also on the myFWC.com website. The Boating Safety Education Requirements are changing. Effective January 1, 2010, boat operators who were born on or after January 1, 1988 must pass an approved boater safety course and have in his/her possession photographic identification and a boating safety education identification card issued by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in order to operate a motorboat of ten (10) horsepower or more.

Beginning with the New Year just days away, now would be a great time to sign up for a boating safety class. Boating safety classes are a valuable tool in learning how to safely operate your vessel as well as learning the state and federal requirements.

Flotilla 87 in Englewood will be offering a Boating Skills and Seamanship class beginning January 7 at Lemon Bay Park. For more information, see the class listing in the Bulletin Board in this issue. For boating classes elsewhere in our area, visit http://nws.cgaux.org/visitors/pe_visitor/index.html

Be safe out there and I'll see you on the water.

Dave Nielsen is a safe boating instructor and vessel examiner for the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Englewood Flotilla www.coastguardenglewood.com and the Peace River Sail & Power Squadron, Punta Gorda www.puntagorda-boating.org You may contact him at dc.nielsen@hotmail.com.

