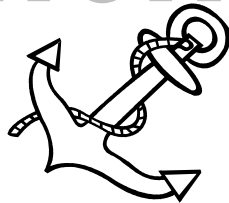


ANCHOR LINE

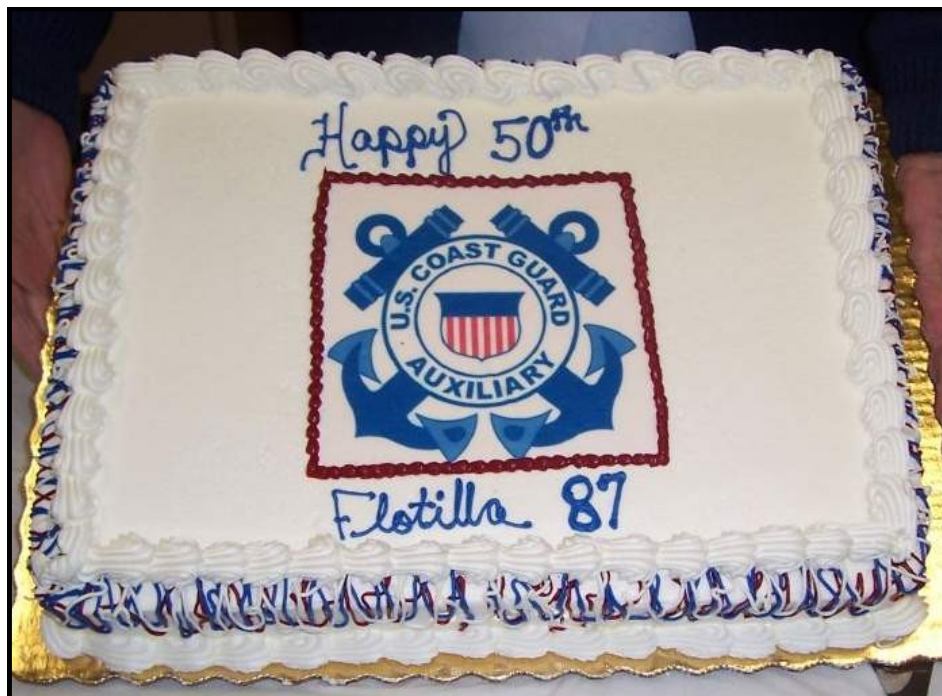


Flotilla 87

Englewood, Fla.

7th Coast Guard District
www.CoastGuardEnglewood.com

Volume XLIX February, 2011 Number 2



Flotilla 87 celebrates its 50th Anniversary

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

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. Privacy of all rosters shall be safeguarded and the page clearly labeled. The publication of these rosters, addresses, and telephone numbers on any computer on-line service including the Internet is prohibited by the Privacy Act of 1974.

The ANCHOR LINE is published at no expense to the government. Cost of its publication is borne by dues-paying members of Flotilla 87, a volunteer, unpaid civilian body whose mission is to assist the Coast Guard in promoting and maintaining safety on the water. Reprints or articles appearing in the ANCHOR LINE may be copied by other publications provided proper credit is given.

EDITOR and PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

Judith A. Abbott

e-mail: hejabbott6767@comcast.net



**2011 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
 Monofilament Recovery
 Imm. Past Fl. Cmdr.
 Lay Leader
 Proctor
 Flotilla Webmaster

FC
VFC
 FSO-MT
 FSO-PE
 FSO-VE
 FSO-OP
 FSO-HR
 FSO-PA
 FSO-PB
 FSO-SR
 FSO-FN
 FSO-CM
 FSO-MA
 FSO-IS
 FSO-NS
 FSO-PV
 FSO-MS
 FSO-CS
 IPFC

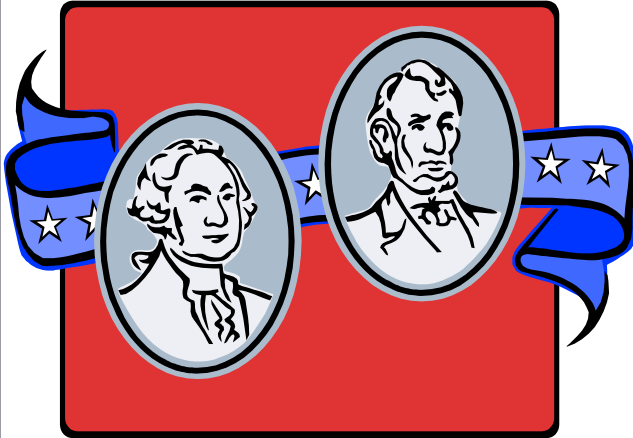
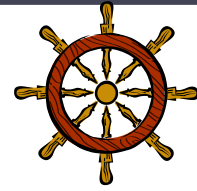
Rodney D. Dimon
N. Lee Waters
 Anton (Tony) Durner
 N. Lee Waters
 Gerald L. Meckenberg
 Wilbur R. Gray
 Sandy Bilsky
 David C. Nielsen
 Judith A. Abbott
 Judith A. Abbott
 Judith A. Abbott
 Gerald L. Meckenberg
 Joseph Scott Mayer
 Graham Leadbetter, Ph. D
 David P. Senkpiel
 Gregory J. Masonick
 Robert M. Waters
 Jack W. Rienks
 Arthur J. "Skip" Wilson
 Arthur J. "Skip" Wilson
 Judith A. Abbott
 Ruth A. White
 Jack W. Rienks

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 1.....Flotilla Staff Officers' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm
- 7—17.....***BS&S Continues Monday & Thursday, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm***
- 8.....Flotilla Members' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm



FROM THE HELM: Rodney D. Dimon, Commander



Flotilla 87 has maintained the momentum during this last month. The Flotilla had a large turnout to celebrate our 50th Anniversary and participate in a large awards ceremony. A large BS&S class was launched with eighteen enrolled participants. Our first safety booth, coordinated by FSO -MS Bob Waters, was conducted at True Value Hardware. All this PLUS patrols, radio watch, and a few vessel exams written, leads us into the now of February!

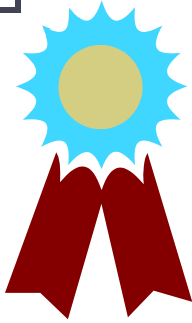
On our plate for this month include the Flotilla Leadership Course (we have eight members who have enrolled in this course), TWO VE blitzes, and Officer Snook support at Vineland school – a safety booth for kids and the “big fish”!

These safety booths are fun and can involve many members at one time. It is an opportunity for catching up on conversations and fellowship while getting out the message of boating safety. The neat thing is that volunteering for this doesn't take a full day if you don't have a full day. A one hour commitment will be appreciated and it will be effective. So, please support our safety booth program by contacting FSO-MS Bob Waters and offer your time and service. It will be a great time – I guarantee you.

Finally, I ask you to contact our FSO-VE, Gerry Meckenberg, if you have interest in the vessel examination program. This is quite a rewarding and important activity that keeps our boating safety message in front of the boating public.

Rod





AWARDS & CERTIFICATES



TCT Certificate

Judy Abbott
George Bazinet
Joseph Mayer
N. Lee Waters

Auxiliary Sustained Service Award

Patricia Brown, 5th Award
Ralph Maguire, 1st Award

Specialty Course-Seamanship

Sandy Bilsky
Graham Leadbetter
Max Muller
N. Lee Waters
Robert Waters

3yr. Crew/Coxswain Recertification

Crew: Ralph Maguire, Alexander Osiecki
Coxswain: Gabby Gray

Auxiliary Performance Award in Public Education

N. Lee Waters
Ruth White

Auxiliary Performance Award in Operations

John Cahow
Gabby Gray
Gerald Meckenberg
Alexander Osiecki

Aid Verifier Certificate

Dave Senkpiel

Commodore's Certificate of Excellence Multi-Directorate OP/Administration Support

Robert Waters

AWARDS PHOTO GALLERY



D. Senkpiel, FSO-NS, A. Durner, FSO-MT, G. Masonick, FSO-RBS/PV and J. Mayer, FSO-MA receive the oath of their respective office from R. Dimon, FC



Awards recipients D. Senkpiel, A. Osiecki, W. Gray and R. Maguire with R. Dimon, FC



A. Osiecki and G. Meckenberg



R. Waters, R. Maguire, R. White, P. Brown, L. Waters



J. Mayer, G. Bazinet, J. Abbott and L. Waters



R. Dimon presents L. Waters with a certificate

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



All patrols for the month of December were completed. Some patrols are being cancelled because of the weather.

All Coxswain and Crew members if you are due to have your 3 year currency maintenance this year (2011), please contact MT / OPs so we can make arrangements and get it done EARLY this year.

I would like to thank all coxswains and crew members for taking up the slack lately for our patrols. 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. Dredging has started.

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

"Gabby"

N. Lee Waters, FSO-PE



I'm pleased to announce that we have 19 students in our new BS&S class who are raring to go. We could use a few more blue shirts at each class to help with marlinspike and to answer questions, so if you are free on a Monday or Thursday night from 1900-2100, drop by and help us out. During the running of this class is an excellent time for our membership to meet the students and show them just how nice a group we are and the advantages of joining the Auxiliary.

I'm excited about the upcoming year of classes especially our new class called "Practical Matters". I'm changing up how we teach the BS&S class in the October/November slot. Instead of teaching the usual 12 chapters we will only teach the core lessons of chapter 1-8, allowing the class to only run the month of October. We are going to use the November allotted days for our new course, which consists of 2 days using Ruth White's piloting lessons, lessons on communication, weather and finally a whole evening of marlinspike. I will offer this class to anyone who has taken the BS&S class and/or ABS with us. My hope is that by adjusting our class schedule we will better meet the needs of our community.

Don't forget to remind your friends and neighbors to wear their life jackets when they are boating because they only work if you wear them.

Dave Nielsen, FSO-PA



Rules of the Road

Dial-A-Buoy

Max is an auxiliary member and friend of mine from Fort Worth, Texas who stopped by a few weeks ago as he was on assignment in Florida. I knew he was nearby, so I invited him to visit and tour some of the sights and establishments around Charlotte Harbor and Lemon Bay.

Of course we talked about boating and fishing and the variety of local weather such as the summer rains, the hurricane season, as well as our current dry spell.

Max, like me, watches the local weather reports and weather radar for severe conditions and passes that information along to those who need it. In my case it's mostly the captains I work with. Max uses the information for disaster relief planning and response.

In our conversations the subject came up of weather and sea conditions in the open waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Max pointed out to me a service from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) called Dial-A-Buoy.

Dial-A-Buoy gives mariners an easy way to obtain weather reports when away from a computer or the Internet. Wind and wave measurements taken within the last hour may be heard using a cell phone. Buoy and coastal weather stations operated by the National Data Buoy Center (NDBC), in addition to a growing number of Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS®) partners, measure a variety of wind and wave information.

NDBC, a part of the National Weather Service (NWS), created Dial-A-Buoy in 1997. The Dial-A-Buoy system was more recently updated in 2007 to include National Water Level Observation Network (NWLON) stations.

Boaters use the observations, in combination with forecasts, to make decisions on whether it is safe to venture out on open waters. Some even claim that the reports have saved lives. Surfers use the reports to see if wave conditions are, or will soon be, promising. Many of these boaters and surfers live well inland, and knowing the conditions has saved them many wasted trips to the coast.

Buoy reports include wind direction, speed, gust, significant wave height, swell and wind-wave heights and periods, air temperature, water temperature, and sea level pressure. Some buoys report wave directions. Coastal weather stations report the winds, air temperature, and pressure. Some also report wave information, water temperature, visibility, and dew point.

Continued

.....Dial-A-Buoy Cont'd.

To access Dial-A-Buoy, dial 888-701-8992 or 301-713-9620 using any touch tone or cell phone and follow the prompts. This is where a little research goes a long way before you actually need the information. Visit the Dial-A-Buoy website <http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/dial.shtml> and identify the buoys that are in the area(s) where you wish to go boating.

My research showed buoys are identified by alphanumeric and/or numeric systems. Having the buoys identified beforehand make retrieving the weather data a little easier. The Dial-A-Buoy system does not actually dial into a buoy. The phone calls are answered by a computer that controls the dialog and reads the observations and forecasts from NDBC's web site.

Callers can also use latitude and longitude and receive the closest station locations and identifiers.

Thank you, Max, for passing this information along 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.
dc.nielsen@hotmail.com.

Editor's Note:

Dave is a regular contributor to the SUN newspaper's WaterLine boating and fishing magazine promoting the USCG and CG AUXILIARY'S safe boating message.

