

ANCHOR LINE

Flotilla 87
USCG Auxiliary
Englewood, Fla.



Volume L
Summer, 2012
Number 6

7th Coast Guard District
www.CoastGuardEnglewood.com



"Old Glory"....Long may she wave!

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**2012 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
RBS Visitation
Communication Svc
Marine Safety
Monofilament Recovery
Imm. Past Fl. Cmdr.
Lay Leader
Fellowship
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-PV
FSO-CS
FSO-MS
IPFC

N. Lee Waters
Graham Leadbetter
Anton (Tony) Durner
N. Lee Waters
Gerald L. Meckenberg
Wilbur R. Gray
Sandy Bilsky
David C. Nielsen
Judith A. Abbott
Judith A. Abbott
Sandra L. Hahn
Gerald L. Meckenberg
Joseph Scott Mayer
Robert M. Waters
George J. Bazinet
Jack W. Rienks
Dane F. Hahn
Arthur J. "Skip" Wilson
Rodney D. Dimon
Judith A. Abbott
George J. Bazinet
Ruth A. White
Jack W. Rienks

JUNE CALENDAR

- 5.....Flotilla Staff Officers' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm
- 5, 6, 7.....ABS Class, Lemon Bay Park, 9 am—12 pm
- 9.....National Marina Day, Royal Palm Marina 12 pm—4 pm
- 12.....Flotilla Members' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm

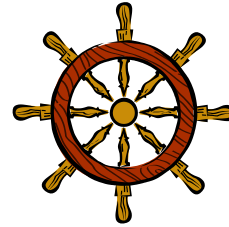
JULY CALENDAR

- 3.....Flotilla Staff Officers' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm
- 10.....Flotilla Members' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm

NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST

FROM THE HELM:

N. Lee Waters, Commander



Greetings Shipmates,

First, Judy and I decided to do something different with the “Anchor Line.” For many reasons, we decided for this summer to run only one issue. The next Anchor Line will be for September.

Second, with the hurricane season upon us, now is the time to make sure we are prepared for it. I hope everyone has gone through their hurricane supplies to make sure batteries are fresh, food and water supplies are acquired, and decided on what preparations are needed for their boats.

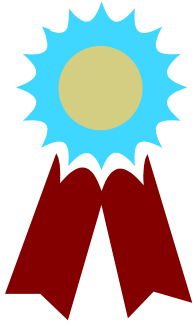
Third, Graham has worked hard at preparing our hurricane calling tree and making sure it is up to date. We used it in the recent hurricane drill and ran into some problems, the major problem being people who were out of town or left for the north hadn't bothered to let Gabby, Graham or I know. Again I remind each of you that if you plan on being out of town **FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME**, please let Gabby, Graham or I know. We must account for all our members if there is an emergency and I'm sure you don't want to make our jobs any harder than they have to be. A copy will be sent via email to all members. Please make sure your information is correct.

Fourth, this last month brought National Safe Boating Week, May 19th – 25th, an annual event that promotes educating the general public on boating safely and protecting ourselves with the proper life jackets. We had several activities for the event including a Safety Booth at Royal Palm Marina, a VE event together with Flotilla 99 at Indian Mound Park and last but not least, a terrific article from Dave Nielsen in The Sun's “Waterline” which is included in this issue. I'm very proud of all the activities and very thankful to all the members who took time out of their busy schedules to make these events successful.

Finally, I hope to see many of you at our June meeting. We still have lots of awards to hand out to the membership. These awards were originally given out at the April division meeting. We also have many new ideas to discuss to make our flotilla even better. Hope to see you there and until September...

BRAVO ZULU!





AWARDS & CERTIFICATES



Division/Flotilla Awards 2011

1. Award of Merit		Outstanding Flotilla	3rd place
2. Award of Merit	Rodney Dimon,	Outstanding Commander	3rd place
3. Flotilla Achievement Award		Navigation Systems	1st place
4. “ “ “		Member Training	3rd place
5. “ “ “		Public Affairs	1st place
6. “ “ “		Governmental Agency Support	1st place
7. “ “ “		Coast Guard Operational Support	3rd place
8. “ “ “		Coast Guard Admin. Support	1st place
9. “ “ “		Operations	2nd place
10. Member Achievement Award	David Nielsen	Public Affairs	1st place
11. “ “ “	Gerald Meckenberg,	Nav. Systems	1st place
12. “ “ “	Graham Leadbetter,	CG Admin. Support	3rd place

Certificates

District 7 Mentor Certificate	Judy Abbott
Flotilla Commander Certificate	N. Lee Waters
Flotilla Vice Commander Certificate	Graham Leadbetter
RBS/PV Certificate	George Bazinet



AWARDS PHOTO GALLERY



George...RBS



Judy...Mentor

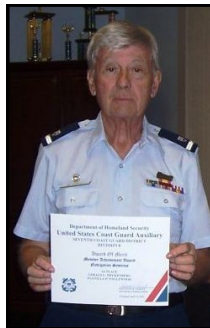


Gabby...Operations



Lee & Graham...CG Support

**Jerry
Nav Sys
1st Place**



Tony...NT

Dave...PA 1st Place



Photos provided by Judy Abbott

Members are pictured above with their variety of awards

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



Only (2) patrols were completed for the month of April.

Attention all Coxswains: Remember you truly only have 30 days to get your 5132s into Sector. Please do yours as soon as possible after your patrol.

Attention all Operational Members: We are coming up on Hurricane Season, don't forget to let Lee or me know if you are going to be out of town at any time this summer.

Don't forget Hurricane season starts June 1st Keep your facility full of fuel so it would be ready if needed.

Coxswains: We are going to be a little short during the summer months as some of our coxswains are going to be out of town, so you might be called upon to take an extra patrol if you could. If you missed the Workshops last time let me know so I can get the CD to you for a make up.

Thanks for your help and keep up the good job.

"Gabby"



N. Lee Waters, FSO-PE

Our next endeavor will be an ABS class on June 5, 6 & 7 from 0900-1200. Class assignments for the June class have been handed out and instructors are working on preparing lesson plans. We need the membership to recruit students because from our class surveys we have found that a large percentage of our participants were word of mouth referrals or used our web site (CoastGuardEnglewood.com). Keep up the good work.

Just as our membership rolls are thinning so is the list of qualified instructors. If you have ever thought about wanting to teach a lesson or you know you have a vast amount of boating knowledge gathered from years of boating, let me know and I will run you through the process of qualifying as an Auxiliary instructor.

We are always looking for "Blue Shirts" to help out with our classes. You don't have to be an instructor to come to one of our classes; you just have to be willing to answer questions about boating and the Auxiliary. One of the best places to recruit new members for the Auxiliary is from our courses. Remember, a friendly face and a helpful manner is a good way to get people involved with our flotilla.

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. One of the reasons that the two men lost their lives in Boca Grande, is the fact that neither man was wearing a life jacket.

NSBW Photo Gallery at Royal Palm Marina



Many people browsed the area of the safety booth. Some stopped by for a chat or to pick up boating information. Others played the trash game and watched as FC Waters displayed the proper wearing of life jackets. And a few signed up for a VE, a class or, like the fellow pictured lower right, some info on how to join the Auxiliary.

Photos provided by Graham Leadbetter and Judy Abbott

Dave Nielsen, FSO-PA



Rules of the Road

National Safe Boating Week May 19 – 25, 2012

National Safe Boating Week (NSBW) is an annual campaign event sponsored by the National Safe Boating Council, Inc. and is scheduled to lead into the beginning of the recreational boating season in the United States and Canada. This year's campaign message; Ready, Set: Wear It!

Members of the Council include the U.S. Coast Guard office of Boating Safety, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Power Squadrons, National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, Army Corps of Engineers, American Red Cross, Sea Tow Foundation for Boating Safety and Education, Canadian Safe Boating Council and other groups which provide media coverage and special programs.

Recreational boating accident statistics from 2010 show that there were 672 fatalities of which 484 were by drowning. Can you guess how many of the 484 drowning victims were wearing a life jacket? I'll give you a hint; just over 11%.

If you unexpectedly find yourself in the water from a sudden turn or stop or oversized wake, just how much time do you think you have to find a life jacket and put it on before you hit the water? Try doing an experiment in the controlled environment of a swimming pool. Jump in and have someone toss you a life jacket and see how long it takes to put it on. I did and I can tell you it was not easy and I was exhausted from the effort.

I have made wearing a life jacket a frequent subject of my safe boating message but there really is no excuse. Those of us in boating safety organizations have heard it all. For instance; "I know how to swim or nothing is going to happen."

A few weeks ago I wrote in this column about two fishing friends from the Houston, Texas area whose boat started taking on water about 50 miles offshore in the Gulf of Mexico. When they realized their boat was going to sink before help arrived, they put on life jackets and grabbed a few more just as the boat was going under. One of the men survived 30 hours in cold water, the other did not. The victim was reportedly still wearing a life jacket when his body was recovered by other fishermen.

The point is that by wearing their lifejackets at least they had a fighting chance to survive. Wearing a life jacket before you end up in the water will help you to be safe in case of an accident and will also allow you to assist others that may be in danger.

Here is another thought, do you know where the life jackets are and if they are in good condition? Do you have a sufficient number of life jackets for everyone on board? Do they still fit?

Federal regulations require life jackets be Coast Guard Approved and in good serviceable condition. A wearable life jacket of suitable size is required for each person on the boat. Children must have a properly fitted life jacket designed for children. Wearable life jackets must be "*readily accessible*". Boats 16 feet or longer must also have a throwable device which must be "*immediately available*". Life jackets must not be stored in un-opened plastic packaging. For personal watercraft riders, the life jacket must be worn.

Continued.....

NSBW.....

Life jackets are no longer the orange, hot and bulky devices that are commonly associated with on-the-water safety gear. New innovations have produced a much more comfortable version of a life jacket, leaving you with no reason not to wear it.

This year during National Safe Boating Week, and throughout the boating season remember to practice safe and responsible boating, always wear your life jacket, and be alert while on the water. By practicing these simple steps you can save your life as well as the lives of the people boating with you. For further information visit <http://www.safeboatingcouncil.org/>

Be safe out there and I'll see you on the water - wearing a life jacket of course!

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

Editor's Note:

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



Photos by Graham Leadbetter



G. Meckenberg, FSO-VE left, performs a vessel examination at Indian Mound's ramp during a recent joint VE effort with Flotilla 99

Flag Day, June 14, 2012

History of the American Flag.

For more than 200 years, the American flag has been the symbol of our nation's strength and unity. It's been a source of pride and inspiration for millions of citizens. And the [American Flag](#) has been a prominent icon in our national history. Here are the highlights of its unique past.

On January 1, 1776, the Continental Army was reorganized in accordance with a Congressional resolution which placed American forces under George Washington's control. On that New Year's Day the Continental Army was laying siege to Boston which had been taken over by the British Army. Washington ordered the Grand Union flag hoisted above his base at Prospect Hill. It had 13 alternate red and white stripes and the British Union Jack in the upper left-hand corner (the canton).

In May of 1776, Betsy Ross reported that she sewed the first American flag.

On June 14, 1777, in order to establish an official flag for the new nation, the Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act: "Resolved, That the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

Between 1777 and 1960, Congress passed several acts that changed the shape, design and arrangement of the flag and allowed for additional stars and stripes to be added to reflect the admission of each new state.

- Act of January 13, 1794 - provided for 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795.
- Act of April 4, 1818 - provided for 13 stripes and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the 4th of July following the admission of each new state, signed by President Monroe.
- Executive Order of President Taft dated June 24, 1912 - established proportions of the flag and provided for arrangement of the stars in six horizontal rows of eight each, a single point of each star to be upward.
- Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated January 3, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in seven rows of seven stars each, staggered horizontally and vertically.
- Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated August 21, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in nine rows of stars staggered horizontally and eleven rows of stars staggered vertically.

Today the flag consists of thirteen horizontal stripes, seven red alternating with 6 white. The stripes represent the original 13 colonies, the stars represent the 50 states of the Union. The colors of the flag are symbolic as well: Red symbolizes Hardiness and Valor, White symbolizes Purity and Innocence and Blue represents Vigilance, Perseverance and Justice.