

ANCHOR LINE

Flotilla 87
USCG Auxiliary
Englewood, Fla.



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Number 6

7th Coast Guard District
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EDITOR and PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

Judith A. Abbott

e-mail: hejabbott6767@comcast.net



2013 FLOTILLA 87 OFFICERS DIVISION 8 DISTRICT 7



Flotilla Commander

Flotilla Vice Cmdr.

Member Training

Public Education

Vessel Examination

Operations

Human Resources

Public Affairs

Diversity

Navigation Systems

Publications

Secretary/Records

Finance

Communications

Materials

Information Svc

RBS Visitation

Marine Safety

Communication Svc

Monofilament Recovery

Imm. Past Fl. Cmdr.

Lay Leader

Fellowship

Flotilla Webmaster

FC

VFC

FSO-MT

FSO-PE

FSO-VE

FSO-OP

FSO-HR

FSO-PA

FSO-DV

FSO-NS

FSO-PB

FSO-SR

FSO-FN

FSO-CM

FSO-MA

FSO-IS

FSO-PV

FSO-MS

FSO-CS

IPFC

N. Lee Waters

Graham Leadbetter

John C. Cahow

N. Lee Waters

Gerald L. Meckenberg

Gerald L. Meckenberg

Sandy Bilsky

David C. Nielsen

Joseph S. Mayer

Graham Leadbetter

Judith A. Abbott

Judith A. Abbott

Sandra L. Hahn

Gerald L. Meckenberg

Anton (Tony) Durner

Robert M. Waters

Dane F. Hahn

Jack W. Rienks

Arthur J. "Skip" Wilson

Rodney D. Dimon

Judith A. Abbott

Jack W. Rienks

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

5.....Flotilla Staff Officers' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm

12.....Flotilla Members' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm

FC & VFC Election

16.....Division 8 Change of Watch, Marina Jack II 11 am

DECEMBER CALENDAR

3.....Flotilla 87 Change of Watch, Englewood Elks 5:30 pm

FROM THE HELM:

N. Lee Waters, Commander



Ahoy Shipmates!

I hope all is well and happy with all of you and that you have made plans to attend our annual Change of Watch on December 3rd at the Englewood Elks. I'm sure you will want to come and wish Graham and Dane the best for the coming year.

As the end of my term of office comes to an end, I have been reflecting on all that has happened in three short years. I was a little overwhelmed at the beginning, but soon found my sea legs. I want to thank you for all the support you have given me and your willingness to following my dream of enlarging our membership to once again to be the best in the division.

I've realized at times my personality was a bit much for people, but I appreciate that all of you hung in there. With our action plan we were able to work on the way we recruited new and retained new members. Your efforts have brought to the flotilla 17 new members. Now we have to work on making sure we retain these new members.

I look forward to returning to my first love, public education and putting my efforts into bringing in new instructors, adding new courses and enlarging our class sizes.

I wish for all of you a wonderful Thanksgiving and a magnificent holiday season.

Bravo Zulu!

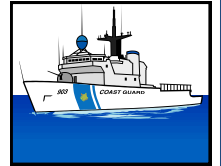


Gerald Meckenberg, FSO-OP/VE/CM



Operation activity has been at an all time low for the past few months. Several factors have contributed to this situation. Shortage of enough qualified crew to staff two vessels at the same time in order to conduct training for the crew/coxswains' facing QE requal date. District/Division restrictions on non-training missions, coupled with weather and seasonal considerations have all combined to limit Operations.

I am encouraged that the recent addition of new members will allow for the development of a coordinated crew training program that will address the needs of the flotilla with the desires of the members, and allow us to resume our commitment to provide Safe Boating assistance to local boaters.



N. Lee Waters, FSO-PE

Our next endeavor will be the BS&S course to be held on Jan. 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30 & Feb. 3 from 7—9 pm. Practical Matters will be held Feb. 10, 13, 17 & 20. Class assignments for the Jan. course will be handed out and instructors can work 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. .

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.

PHOTO GALLERY



LEFT: Margaret Byrum is sworn in by Lee Waters, FC. CENTER: Randy Moritz, VCDR 8 and FC Waters place Margaret's shoulder boards. RIGHT: Margaret is the flotilla's newest member.



FC Waters presents John Cahow with his Flotilla Member of the Year for 2012 Award



Sandra and Dane Hahn display their Certificates of Completion as Patrols Specialists presented by FC Waters



Gerald Meckenberg receives his 8 Hour TCT Certificate from FC Waters

PHOTO GALLERY

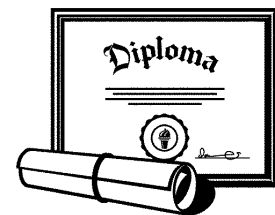


ABOVE: Lee Waters, FC swears in seven new members



New members from left to right:

Front Row: Mary Walton, Eric Von Muller, Carl Chapman, Steve Petty, and Steve Udice.
Back Row: Ron Walton and Robin Lucas.



Dane and Sandra Hahn were presented with their AUXOP Devices for completion of the mandated AUXOP courses

Top right:

Dave Nielsen was presented with his 15 Year Auxiliary Member Service Award by FC Waters.



Bottom right:

Dane Hahn center, was presented with his 5th Sustained Auxiliary Service Award by FC Waters and VFC Leadbetter



All photos in this issue by J. Abbott, FSO-PB

Dave Nielsen, FSO-PA



Rules of the Road

Holiday Gift Ideas

Coast Guard Auxiliary has joined forces with Alliance for Safe Navigation

The Coast Guard Auxiliary has joined forces with the Alliance for Safe Navigation (Alliance) to inform boaters of the importance of maintaining current navigation information. Alliance members include the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), BoatU.S., Jeppesen Marine, the U.S. Power Squadron, OceanGrafix, and the Sea Tow Foundation for Boating Safety and Education.

Surveys have revealed that most boaters are not concerned about the accuracy of their charts and related navigation information. More than three quarters do not pay attention to local notice to mariners issued by the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard Auxiliary will utilize its Alliance partnership to promote boating safety.

For more information concerning the Alliance, see www.allianceforsafenavigation.org.

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The goal of the Alliance is to raise the boating community's understanding of and appreciation for up-to-date navigational information. The Alliance encourages mariners to recognize the high number of changes made to their charts and to keep their electronic and paper charts accurate, which is inexpensive and easy.

I visited the site and found that it gave boaters direct links to paper nautical chart and global positioning system (GPS) manufacturer's websites. These sites make it easier to get updated digital chart data for GPS units. The OceanGrafix (paper charts) site allows you to sign up for and get e-mail alerts when specific charts you use have updated information available. Once you know an update is available you may research those updates through Local Notices to Mariners. The LNM is free and comes as a download in Adobe format from the U.S. Coast Guard's <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/>

As an alternative and in consideration of the holiday season, you might visit Nautical Charts Online www.nauticalchartsonline.com. Here you can order an affordable navigation chart with the most recent changes reported by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). This past summer I needed a current navigation chart of Charlotte Harbor and surrounding areas. Nautical Charts Online promptly got me the chart I needed at a very nice price.

Another great gift idea to help keep boaters safe is one of the new, light-weight, and comfortable inflatable life jackets. Remember, there must be a wearable life jacket for each person on board and it must be U.S. Coast Guard-approved. Children must have properly fitted life jackets designed for children. On vessels greater than 16 feet in length, a Coast Guard approved throwable device is required.

I also read in an Auxiliary newsletter that if you, your first mate or crew own an inflatable life jacket, an affordable gift might be the rearming kit. Inflatable life jackets need to be serviced according to the owner's manual and having a spare rearming kit makes good sense.

Continued.....

Gift Ideas.....

As of February 1, 2009 the Coast Guard no longer monitors analog distress signals transmitted from the older Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs). A new digital 406MHz EPIRB is another great holiday gift idea. You might also consider getting a cell phone equipped with a Global Positioning System (GPS) app and satellite tracking, too.

I know I can only suggest beyond the required items, but here are a few of my favorites for those boaters who have almost everything.

- Hand-held marine radio with extra batteries. Remember here that handheld marine radios have limited range and should not be relied upon as your primary radio communications equipment. A better choice would be a fixed mount marine VHF radio with Digital Selective Calling and a good quality antenna too.
- Hand-held or fixed-mount GPS
- Navigation tools and calculators
- A carbon monoxide detector
- A high water bilge alarm
- A new or larger fire extinguisher
- 7x50 binoculars

Visual Distress Signals

For more information about boating safety visit the U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division website at: www.uscgboating.org/ Also check out local safety classes at <http://cgaux.org/boatinged/> or the listing of Local Boating Safety Programs in this issue.

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Happy Holidays to everyone 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.

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.



FLOTILLA 87 CHANGE OF WATCH DINNER

DECEMBER 3, 2013



Englewood Elks
401 N. Indiana Ave. (SR 776)
Englewood, FL 34223
(941) 474-1404

Appetizers & Cocktails @ 5:30 PM (Cash Bar) - Dinner @ 6 PM

Cost \$24 per person, gratuity included

ENTRÉE

Filet Mignon with Shrimp Scampi

Served with Salad, Fresh Baked Rolls, Roasted Potatoes

Chef's Vegetable

Dessert

Coffee or Tea

NAME _____ *Indicate number attending.*

_____ @ \$24 Total \$ _____

Please complete this form and detach and return with your check

*made out to **Flotilla 87** and mail to:*

Judy Abbott 6767 San Casa Dr. #98 Englewood 34224 by **November 25, 2013**