

HEARTLAND GUARDIAN



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MEET OUR DIRECTOR OF AUXILIARY

Commander Juliet Hudson

Thank you for the great welcome to the region. I had very little experience with the Auxiliary prior to this assignment, so there has been quite the learning curve (especially with all the acronyms). I appreciate everyone's patience as my office and the Order Issuing Authorities worked to overcome the POMS outage challenges.

I have had several positive experiences so far, including attending the Summer Board Meeting, NACON, DTRAIN and my first Division meeting (thanks to Division 8 for hosting me and showing me their skills during the SAREX). I look forward to attending Division meetings throughout the region and plan to attend as many Change of Watches as my schedule allows.

My office will be providing paper copies of the new Auxiliary Manual to the District Commodore, District Chief of Staff, District Captains, Division Commanders and Flotilla Commanders. I hope to distribute these by the end of January 2012. Everyone can access, and electronically search, the new manual on-line at <http://uscg.mil/hq/cg3/cg3pcx/publications/comdtinst/default.asp>.

My job is to help the Auxiliary help the Coast Guard and the American Public. To achieve this, I am working to align my efforts with the D-8 Eastern Region District Strategic Plan (http://uscgaux8er.info/Strategic_Plan_08E_2011.pdf). Goal 2 is a Ready Volunteer Force which emphasizes leadership succession and member training. On the first point, the Auxiliary has stepped forward with the Flotilla Leadership Course (FLC). There are qualified trainers in every Division and participants have great things to say about the course. The District Staff Officer for Member Training and the Past Commanders Association have agreed to develop and teach a 4-hour Division Commander Leadership Course for the Spring DTRAIN in Huntington, West Virginia. The course will be required for all Division Commanders and strongly recommended for Vice Division Commanders (if possible DIRAUX will fund all Division Commanders and Vice Commanders to attend the Spring DTRAIN for this training). Please note that completion of the FLC is a pre-requisite for attending the new Division Commander Leadership Course.

Member training is one of my priorities. Anyone desiring operations training should work through their Chain of Leadership and Management to request assistance from the Operations Training Officer. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Pinto has a wealth of experience and knowledge to share and he loves getting out of the office. Anyone filling a Staff Officer position should work through their Chain of Leadership and Management to request assistance and training from the Division Staff Officers. DIRAUX will make every effort to fund District Staff Officer travel to improve skill sets and knowledge transfer throughout all levels of the Auxiliary organization.

Once again, thank you for welcoming me into your community and I look forward to working with you to support the Coast Guard and help the American public.

Commander Juliet Hudson USCG
Director of Auxiliary



Photo:
Gerlinde Higginbotham USCGAUX

FALL DTRAIN 2011

District Fall Conference during the weekend of September 9 through 11 kicked off with the District Board Meeting and culminated with the District Commodores' Banquet on Saturday night with great training and FUN in between. The following three pages are highlights of the weekend.



Photo above: Jim Armour, Doris Armour, Stephen McLain (behind Jim) from Division 16 and Flotilla 9, along with Ron Tvorik and Eric Piper from Division 18 and Flotilla 6 present The Colors starting Fall DTRAIN 2011.



Photo Left: Captain Larry Hewett, Commander, Sector Ohio Valley gave a Sector Ohio Valley update, as VNACO Tom Mallison and DCO Rick Washburn lend an attentive ear.

VNACO Mallison presented a National update on National Staff Changes.

DCO Washburn encourages the Auxiliary units to build a good working relationship with Marine Safety Units and Marine Safety Detachments in our areas.



Photo Left: Captain David Rokes, Chief, Eighth Western Rivers, spoke on Western River Mission Analysis requiring Auxiliary support.



Photo right: Meteorologist David Nadler, Warning Coordinator from National Weather Service gave a presentation on the tornado activity earlier this year in Northern Alabama.

Photos: Lynn Miles USCGAUX

Who's Minding The Store?

One of the great opportunities for attending our DTRAIN is the opportunity to obtain Auxiliary unique items. In photo at right, Mary Ward, DSO-MA gets an assist from Teresa and Eddy Smith. All are members of Division 16.



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**MEMORIAL SERVICE
2011 FALL CONFERENCE
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA**

HONORING OUR FELLOW MEMBERS WHO HAVE CROSSED OVER THE BAR

Gary Akin	Flotilla 24-04
Virginia A. Forrest	Flotilla 06-08
Darrell Gammon	Flotilla 08-11
David Howard	Flotilla 24-02
Donna Kramer	Flotilla 08-05
Robert Longwell	Flotilla 02-05
Richard Marten	Flotilla 24-06
Robert Van Patten	Flotilla 06-10
Eva Smith	Flotilla 18-04
Dennis Wasson	Flotilla 18-07
Robert Weaver	Flotilla 06-10



John Bentley, DDC-GA,
COMO David Maul,
IPDCO perform
ceremony as COMO
Gordon Scholz, D-AA
reads the names of those
that have gone before us.

Photo: Lynn Miles
USCGAUX



**Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea.**

**But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out of the boundless deep
Turns again home.**

**Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell
when I embark;**

**For tho' from out our borne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.**



David Cox plays TAPS for
Ceremony

Photo: Lynn Miles USCGAUX



Photo Above:
The competition was fierce in the Kilt Category. Left to Right: Jim Myers, DCAPT-S, William Stadtlander and Joe Kleri, Division 24

Photos of Fun Night:
Gerlinde Higginbotham USCGAUX

FUN NIGHT

No conference would be complete without a little bit of levity. This year's theme was "A Celtic Celebration" with these young lads and lassies strutting their finest array. The Maple Hill Band provided Celtic music before and after Dinner.

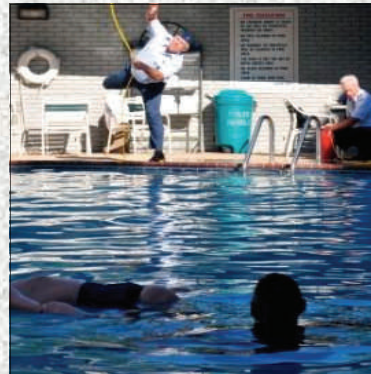


Photo Above: A very tough call on the judges for the best outfit for Females. Left to Right: Gail Sutherland, Wanda Mallison, Debbie Kleri, Betty Jackson, and Lois Wilkinson show off their finest Celtic dress.

TRAINING

Darrell Wood, Division 24 gives the ol' heave-ho to a rescue line during Man Overboard Training led by OTO Phil Pinto. Photo Right shows OTO and Oscar in the water awaiting rescue.

Photo: Lynn Miles USCGAUX



DTRAIN AWARDS

The Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation Award was presented to members of nine Divisions in District Eight Eastern Region as members of the Eighth District Eastern Region Tornado Response Team as a result of the "Tornado Swarm of 2011" that caused wide-spread damage and devastation through Northern Alabama and Lower and Upper East Tennessee in April and May of this year. The list is much too extensive to list all members here but our hats are off to those that stood up to serve.

Bravo Zulu!

Lynn and Richard Miles receiving the Coast Guard Achievement Medal at Commodore's Banquet.

Left to Right: Commander Juliet Hudson, Director of Auxiliary, 8th Eastern Rivers Region, Captain David Rokes, Chief 8th Western Rivers Region, Lynn Miles, Richard Miles, and Captain Larry Hewett Sector Ohio Valley Commander.

Photo: Gerlinde Higginbotham USCGAUX



“Mi Casa Es Su Casa”

Those were the words used last year by Lt. Rob Reinhart, Supervisor of the CG Marine Safety Detachment (MSD) in Cincinnati as he invited the four surrounding Auxiliary Districts (1, 5, 6 & 18) to consider the Detachment’s facility as their own. Today, two Flotillas and Division 5 meet there, and many of the Division’s activities are centered about the building and Reserve and Active Duty team members.

Lt. Stratton (now LCDR), the preceding Supervisor, opened the door to Auxiliary participation almost six years ago by establishing a Marine Safety Watchstander role at the Detachment and providing PQS mentoring. There are now a dozen or more Auxiliaries who are the old men at the facility (literally) having been there longer than active duty and increasingly providing institutional memory.

Activities performed by Auxiliaries include:

- Marine Safety Watch Stander
- Un-inspected Towing Vessel Exams
- Assist in Facility Inspections
- Environmental outreach (Sea Partners)
- Marine Observation Missions (MOM Patrols)
- Joint training exercises (tow and be towed)
- SAR Standby
- Event related patrols and AUXCOM
- MISLE and CART database entry
- Painting & general repair work
- Community activities (Food Bank, Habitat, Joplin Relief)
- Training to provide relief boat crew



Auxiliary and Active Duty ensigns fly side-by-side at MSD Cincinnati, symbolic of the extent to which the Detachment has truly become a Team Coast Guard facility.

Photo: Mort Mullins, USCGAUX

Almost half the Marine Safety hours logged in the District take place at MSD Cincinnati with over 2000 hrs YTD by Divisions 1, 5 and 6 so far in 2011.

For further information, contact the District Liaison to MSD Cincinnati, Mort Mullins at mmullins7@cinci.rr.com.



Photo Above: MSD Cincinnati Supervisor Lt. Rob Reinhart (Right) is shown along with Dennis Mullins DCDR Division 5 as they receive “Kentucky Colonel” designations for their team building efforts at MSD.

Photo: Thom McQueen, USCGAUX



Photo Above: Auxiliarist Bruce Perry, then of Division 6, assists in making up a stern tow during towing evolution training with MSD Cincinnati Reservists. AUXFAC 38778 with Dennis Mullins as Coxswain is the vessel “in distress.”

Photo: Mort Mullins, USCGAUX

Drowning Looks Different Than You Think!

Think drowning involves screaming, gasping, and flailing? Think it's easy to notice someone drowning? Well, you're wrong. Drowning is a silent killer. There's no waving or calling for help of any kind. It's not like what you see on TV. Many people would not even notice another person drowning at just 30 yards away. Read on for tips on how to keep yourself and those you love safe from this silent killer whether at the beach or in your backyard pool.

The Facts About this Silent Killer

The Instinctive Drowning Response, a term coined by Francesco A. Pia, Ph.D., is what people instinctively do to avoid suffocation when drowning. The responses to drowning are undramatic and surprisingly quiet. Drownings are the leading cause of injury death for young children ages 1 to 4. Even scarier is that in a small but significant percentage of kids' drownings, an adult will have watched the whole process, not having a clue what was happening (Source: CDC).

Drowning Doesn't Look Like What You'd Expect

Dr. Pia, in an article entitled "It Doesn't Look Like They're Drowning" featured in the Coast Guard's *On Scene Magazine* (Fall 06), describes the typical drowning response as follows: "Except in rare circumstances, drowning people are physiologically unable to call out for help. The respiratory system was designed for breathing. Speech is the secondary or overlaid function. Breathing must be fulfilled before speech occurs. Drowning people's mouths alternately sink below and reappear above the surface of the water. The mouth of a drowning person is not above the surface of the water long enough to exhale, inhale, and call out for help. When the drowning person's mouth is above the surface, she exhales and inhales quickly as her mouth starts to sink below the surface of the water. Drowning people cannot wave for help. Nature instinctively forces them to extend their arms laterally and press down on the water's surface. Pressing down on the surface of the water permits drowning people to leverage their bodies so they can lift their mouths out of the water to breathe. Throughout the Instinctive Drowning Response drowning people cannot voluntarily control their arm movements.

Physiologically, drowning people who are struggling on the surface of the water cannot stop drowning and perform voluntary movements such as waving for help, moving toward a rescuer, or reaching out for a piece of rescue equipment. From beginning to end of the Instinctive Drowning Response people's bodies remain upright in the water, with no evidence of a supporting kick. Unless rescued by a trained lifeguard, these drowning people can only struggle on the surface of the water from 20 to 60 seconds before submersion occurs."

Watch for these signs the next time you're swimming with your kids or others:

- Head low in the water, mouth at water level
- Head tilted back with open mouth
- Hair over forehead or eyes
- Eyes glassy, empty and unable to focus
- Eyes closed
- Hyperventilating or gasping
- Not using legs
- Body is vertical and upright
- Trying to swim in a certain direction but not making progress
- Trying to roll over on the back



Internet Photo

Stay Aware to Save a Life

Keep your eyes open for any oddities because even when things seem ok, they may not be. A good way to be sure is to ask your kid or the person you're swimming with if he or she is all right. If they are rather still, do not answer or have a blank stare, then you may have less than 30 seconds to get to them! As any parent knows, kids make noise in the water. If they are not making noise, find out why and get them out of the water ASAP.

(Mario Vittone is an expert on water safety and a marine safety specialist with the U.S. Coast Guard. For more information on water safety issues, check out www.facebook.com/watersafety.)

(Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed by the author are not necessarily those of the Department of Homeland Security or the U.S. Coast Guard.)

(Publishers Note: This article is reprinted from the Internet in its entirety and may be referenced by this link:
<http://shine.yahoo.com/channel/parenting/drowning-looks-different-than-you-think-2010225/>)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

GREGORY S. RUSK

(Article and photo: Thom McQueen USCGAUX)



Greg Rusk joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary in 2007.

Greg has been a "trailer sailor" for the past 16 years and wanted to be a better boater so "I thought Auxiliary training would help me do that", he said. He obviously knows what he is doing, after all, he has been boating for 16 years, even obtaining his 50 Ton Masters license in 2006 because he was sailing in Europe. "A good friend in Michigan told me about the Auxiliary Air OPS that operate over Lake Michigan", he said. And with that, he was hooked.

Since his oldest son was in the military, Greg decided that his interest in the water and boating would compliment his desire to serve his country. He talked with Dave and Carol Stroup and joined up with Flotilla 5-3 in Blue Ash, Ohio. "What a great introduction to the Auxiliary" he exclaimed.

Greg has jumped into the Auxiliary with both feet, becoming an Instructor, Vessel Examiner and a Program Visitor. This summer, he became Crew Qualified. He also works with MSD Cincinnati as a Watchstander and is training with the Active Duty Coast Guard for UTV inspections. In June, Greg purchased a Larson LXI 208, 20 ft bow rider IO, and has been outfitting it for use as an Auxiliary facility. "It's my first motorboat" he said through a grin.

Though he does enjoy educating the public about boating safely and doing vessel safety checks, not all is perfect. "There are some things that I don't like, such as the paperwork. It can be overwhelming at times".

On The Coast Guard Auxiliary as a whole, Greg is emphatic that members of the Auxiliary are not people whom just make life miserable for recreational boaters! "There's a perception that the Auxiliary is trying to be more than it is. I'm sure some members come off that way but in my experience most members that I know just want to be helpful". And his remedy for that is simply stated; "Taking a position of trying to be helpful and not authoritarian with the Public is in the best interests of the Auxiliary".

Greg and his wife Mary just celebrated their 38th anniversary. They have 2 children. Joe is a SSG in a Stryker Brigade Combat Team currently deployed in Afghanistan. Greg and Mary have two lovely grandchildren who live "too far away" in Alaska. Their younger son Charlie had been working as a mental health technician in a facility for emotionally and behaviorally disturbed children from interior Alaska.

When asked the over-asked question of where do you see yourself in three years, Greg responded with "What is this, a job interview?" Then answered, "I'm partly retired so I'll be working some and volunteering with the Coast Guard Auxiliary".

With all that Greg does in the Auxiliary, in a way it could have been a job interview.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

This electronic publication is a product produced for and by you, the Auxiliary members of District 8 E.R. We solicit any articles and photos of interest to the Auxiliary and our District. With this come a few requirements of course. We ask that you give proper credit to the writer of the article and, or the person that took the photos. Please have a caption with each photo explaining what is going on in the photo. Please do not send photos that do not have a good quality to them. Clear, sharp, in-focus photos will be used, and please, send the photos in .jpeg format. We would like to suggest as well that your articles and captions be done in Arial font. Please limit your articles to one page or less due to space restrictions. This newsletter will generally be a four page publication but from time to time may run to six or more pages.

For our Flotilla Commanders, Flotilla Staff Officers for Publications, Division Commanders, Division Staff Officers for Publications: We have at last count 139 members in this District without an email address. Most of these possibly do not have Internet access. These members will be missing out on the opportunity to read this publication and possibly submit to same. If you have members that do not have Internet or email, would you please assist us in providing a copy of the newsletter to these members?

Should you have a member that stands out in a positive way for the Auxiliary, please submit your information on the member with a photo for this column.

Auxiliarist To The Rescue

As goes the proverbial Knight on a white horse riding to the aid of someone in distress, so goes Valerie McQueen. Swapping the white horse for a white pickup, the battle armor for ODU's and waving the Coast Guard Auxiliary flag Valerie rides into action, answering the call of distress.

That call went out from Coast Guard MSD, Cincinnati, that emergency donations were needed in Joplin, Missouri after strong tornados went through that area creating havoc and destruction.

As part owner of several minor league basketball franchises, Valerie has instant access to promotional clothing and materials used within the league. Since t-shirts were one of the major items asked for, a thousand t-shirts and 250 baseball caps were immediately requisitioned. Designed, manufactured, printed and still in the shipping cartons, the boxes were on their way to Joplin. "My heart goes out to these people. I certainly hope that these items can be used and will help someone", she said.

"What do you have in the truck ?" asked the BM1 in charge of the collections. When he got the answer he said "You're not kidding me ?" and jokingly added "You had better NOT be kidding me." The boxes kept coming and he saw that it was no joke. There was even talk about putting her in for the Auxiliary Humanitarian Award for her work and donations to the Joplin mission.

This isn't the first time that Valerie has stepped up to help. Coming from a military family, her father a Marine Command Sergeant Major and her Uncle, an Army General, she has a soft spot for the military. When she owned a Music and CD store, Valerie closed the CD section, sending the entire inventory to Iraq for the soldiers.

Always giving 100% to whatever she does Valerie takes that same attitude into the Coast Guard Auxiliary. In one short year, she has gone from recruit to earning the AUXOPS designation, as well as earning several other qualifications along the way. Qualified as an Instructor, Vessel Safety Examiner, Marine Dealer Visitor, MOMs Patrols, and has earned her AUXOPS designation, she has kept her nose to the proverbial grindstone. "I enjoy learning", she said, "and the Auxiliary offers a lot in the way of Education". Valerie is a graduate of Northern Kentucky University.

She has also taken the Flotilla Commanders Course, the Professional Development Courses and has become a Proctor while serving as the FSO-SR. A member of the National Photo Corps, Valerie now has her sights set on becoming a Public Affairs Officer.

Though some question her motives and strategies, ("Sure she has all of that but what is she going to do with it ?"), Valerie keeps plugging away. "I don't let that noise bother me. I intend on keeping my qualifications up in all of the areas until I find what's right for me", she explains.

What's right for her seems to be exactly what she is doing now.



Article and photo:
Thom McQueen USCGAUX

"Fascinating Reading"

Recently, the Louisville Free Public Library sent us a folder with Coast Guard related news clippings from 1915 through 1942. Fascinating reading as you can imagine. The earliest stories included Coast Guard personnel who had trained under Billy Devan, the first keeper of the Life Saving Station at the Falls of the Ohio, established in 1881. They take us through those early days, huge flood in 1913 (Dayton) and 1927 (all over), prohibition, and the early days of World War Two.

There are a few stories about the start of the Auxiliary, which of course began as "The Coast Guard Reserve" until 1940. The first head of the Auxiliary in Louisville was Foster Embry, a livestock broker. In 1939 there were 4 flotillas in the Louisville area. Then, like today, their primary mission was boating safety. Then, like today, they also assisted with security duties, patrolling around bridges, factories, and other infrastructure for sabotage.

When we get a little time we are going to scan all of these to the computer and put them on CDs. We'll gladly share them widely when we get to that point.

From CDR Drew Tucci, U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Ohio Valley

Did You Know?

Any member training another member in either initial qualification or re-qualification as a Vessel Examiner **MUST** complete all supervised VSC's on ANSC Form 7012 and NOT on ANSC Form 7012a. Once completed, the VSC's should be reported to the Flotilla Staff Officer for Vessel Examinations on ANSC Form 7038 per policy.