

FEBRUARY 2006



VOLUME 6 ISSUE 1

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
COMMANDER (OAX-S)

Commodores' Bulletin & District Newsletter

Arizona / Nevada
Southern California

FEBRUARY COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

District 11SR started off the New Year with a very successful District Conference. Over 495 members and guests attended the training conference. Friday night Fun Night was a wonderful fellowship event. The theme of "At the Movies" provided many of our members and guests the opportunity to dress-up in costumes depicting their favorite movie characters. The division hospitality booths expanded on the movie theme with colorful decorations and served a wide variety of food and drink. The live band added to the festive occasion. At Saturday morning's general session, we had the opportunity of hearing from Commodore Steve Budar, NAVCO. He shared with us Commodore Gene Seibet's message of maintaining a balance between our traditional recreational boating safety missions and our newer missions of homeland security. Captain Gerald Swanson, Chief of Prevention for CG D11, spoke at lunch. Admiral Kevin Eldridge, CO CGD11, was the keynote speaker at the banquet. Our District Staff Officers worked very hard to present workshops containing the most current information in their programs. Once again, the entire stock of the District Material Center was set up at our conference by Rick Kaufman, DSO-MA, and his staff for the convenience of our members. I want to thank everyone connected with making this one of the most successful district training conferences yet.



Lois Conrado
Commodore

In 2006, we need to continue to support the Coast Guard as we have always done with a reliable volunteer workforce. We have our Operational Readiness Plan III in place. We need to continue to make sure it works well when we are called upon to mobilize resources during times of increased threat to our country. To insure that we are ready, I will be asking Mike Johnson, OPR III/Marine Domain Awareness Coordinator, in conjunction with John Farris, DSO-OPS, Glenn Arrant, DSO-CM, Steve Speer, DSO-MS and Marcus Stevenson, DSO-AV, to continue to test all aspects of the OPR III plan as we did in 2005 in order to identify capabilities, locate redundancies and find any gaps.

Besides the Awards Committee headed by Dale Zimmermann, RCO-S, and the Budget Committee chaired by Virgil Campbell, RCO-I, I have formed a Standing Rules Committee headed by Eric De Cuir, RCO-N, and a District Sector Alignment Committee chaired by Joe O'Hagan, RCO-SD. This year, National has charged all the districts to update their standing rules and work on aligning the district staff with the Coast Guard sector-organization.

I want to take this opportunity wish all the members of our district a very Happy and Prosperous New Year! 📧

Semper Paratus,
Commodore Lois A. Conrado



**The Official Publication of
the Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11S**

District Executive Committee

District Commodore.....Lois Conrado
 District Vice Commodore.....Bob Sterzenbach
 Rear Commodore—North ... Jon E De Cuir
 Rear Commodore—South .. Dale Zimmerman
 Rear Commodore—San Diego Joe O'Hagan
 Rear Commodore—Inland .. Virgil Campbell
 Immediate Past Commodore Denny Densmore
 Director of Auxiliary Captain Greg Haack

Division Captains

Div 1 Michael Fulgham Div 2 John C Aden
 Div 3 Barbara Plebuch Div 4 Bruce Kelton
 Div 5 Dennis Grinstead Div 7 Roy Graboff
 Div 9 Roge Horner Div 10 Judith Ninabuck-Gothann
 Div 11 Robert Tanner Div 12 Barbara De Cuir
 Div 13 Lynwood Douthett Div 14 Michael McClary
 Div 15 Wally Wynn Div 16 Wajeeh Berry

District Staff

DSO-AN Harold Burkett DSO-AV Marcus Stevenson
 DSO-CM.... Glenn Arrant DSO-CS James Franklin
 DSO-FN Thomas Wilson DSO-IS..... Ken Edwards
 DSO-LP Kevin Griffin DSO-MA..... Robert Kaufman
 DSO-MS.... Steven Speer DSO-MT Malcolm Smith
 DSO-OP John Farris DSO-PA Edward Neale
 DSO-PB Bert Blanchette DSO-PE Malcolm Coston
 DSO-PS Gerri Flynn DSO-PV Eve Oppedisano
 DSO-SR Howard Levine DSO-VS Ralph Casale

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Do you know where this is?

**District Publication
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Division Captain Wally Wynn traveled to Palm Springs to present **Marcia Stepp** of 15-08 Desert Forces Flotilla (Palm Springs) with a **Certificate of Appreciation for 35 years** of support to the USCG and the USCGAUX. Also present was Auxiliarist Larry Bitonti (15-08) and Marcia's niece. I am happy to report that Marcia got up and was very happy to see us. Marcia is suffering from a broken back. We all wish Marcia a speedy recovery. Cards are nice, phone calls get screened, but she can now accept of few.



Did you know... A depth of 2 fathoms (3,6 meters) is called a Mark Twain. Originally a fathom was the length reached by with two arms outstretched.

ALWAYS REMEMBER... When you are in uniform or when you are on, near, with, around a Facility, whether it is a Coast Guard Facility or an Auxiliary Facility YOU represent the Coast Guard and EVERYTHING it stands for. As far as the public is concerned YOU ARE THE COAST GUARD. Whatever you say or do reflects on the COAST GUARD. "TEAM COAST GUARD".



As I write this note, I feel sad because this is one of my last opportunities to address the membership of the finest group of Auxiliarists I have had the pleasure to work with...and I mean this sincerely. You really are the Elegant Eleventh, as our seal proudly displays.

Our conference was without exception, a class act. And that is because of all of you, the hard working volunteers who give your time and talents to help the Coast Guard succeed in accomplishing our many missions. You are being lead by an extremely competence, dedicated and hardworking Commodore; Lois Conrado is of the brightest and the best Commodores within our Pacific Area and National Auxiliary leadership.

My staff has worked hard for me, and will be working even harder to insure we complete all the Security Screening by the end of this year. And I am asking you to complete the paper worked needed by the Security Center as soon as you receive it from my office, or I will be required to dis-enroll you from the Auxiliary program, within 30 days of being notified to fill out the forms. We all must move out smartly on this endeavor, to eliminate a flood of confusion at the end of the year.

As many of you now know, I am retiring after 29 years of military service this summer. I think another party at the Point Vicente lighthouse (with that Irish Band) is in order. Standby for further word on this event and don't miss it. I hope to see you there!!! 📧

With warm regards, the Captain sends.

Captain Greg Haack



(Continued from page 12)

Operational Exercises with be a little different this year in that we will be coming to you with the training. There will be at least 5 scheduled weekends distributed throughout the District. I would like to see as many people as possible at each location with the focus being on already qualified personnel and those that are ready to take their check ride. The intent is to hone the skills of our current operators while qualifying new candidates. We will provide TCT training based on location needs and Security screeners will be on hand to facilitate the final push before the deadline this year.

I am extremely happy to be here and have the privilege of being surrounded by such a dedicated group of people. I look forward to a busy and exciting year working with each and every one if you. 📧

CWO Chris Ruleman

BALANCE

As we start 2006 the catchword from National is BALANCE. We are used to our usual Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) activities of PE, VSC, Safety and Regatta Patrols. Since 9/11 the Coast Guard has taken on the responsibility of protecting our nation from terrorists. This has filtered down to our activities to support the Coast Guard. I have heard members say that they want to learn and do more in the field of Homeland Security. We are more established with the Coast Guard in San Diego, San Pedro and Channel Islands than we ever have been.



*Bob Sterzenbach
Vice Commodore*

Let's not forget why most of us joined the Auxiliary: To help our fellow recreational boaters, and become better boaters ourselves. Again the key word is BALANCE.

We serve to help the Coast Guard in the PREVENTION department. Prevention is: PE, VSC, Safety and Regatta patrols, and add to that Waterway Watch, ATON. Let's not forget RBS and BALANCE our activities. 🚤

DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2006

By Harriet Howard, FC 58

District 11SR's annual training conference, January 6-8, was held again at the Hilton Costa Mesa. Nearly 450 Auxiliarists and guests attended. The conference theme was "Focus on the Mission."

The theme for Friday, "Fun Night," was "At the Movies". The Hospitality Room was decked out like a giant movie set, complete with movie memorabilia. Hot dogs, popcorn, candy and soft drinks were just some of the treats at the divisions' snack bars. The Innisfree Irish Folk Dance Band had us all dancing and singing. The district's show was a hit!

At the general session on Saturday morning, the colors were presented by an Auxiliary unit from Flotilla 12-4. Lay Leader, Baylor Maggenti, gave the invocation at the conference. District Commodore, Lois Conrado, introduced the 11SR District Bridge and Board for 2006: Robert Sterzenbach, Vice Commodore, Eric DeCuir, Dale Zimmerman and Virgil Campbell, Rear Commodores, and Captain Greg Haack, Director of Auxiliary. Our new training officer, Chris Ruleman, was also introduced.

The DCO recognized the 2005 Board and Staff and presented them with gifts of appreciation for their work.

On Saturday, many Auxiliarists received awards for their efforts

on behalf of the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. (Listed elsewhere.)

Workshops, from Aids to Navigation to Vessel Examinations, were held on Saturday, including a New Member workshop. The Surface Operations workshop was held on Sunday morning.

There was a Spouse/Guest Coffee on Saturday morning, featuring storyteller, Jim Cogan. He delighted the audience with his imaginative and humorous stories.

In remembrance of the 41 Auxiliarists from 11SR who had "Crossed the Bar" in 2005, Dennis Blenn, President, Past Captains Association, read their names and Hal

(Continued on page 6)



*Jon Eric De Cuir
RCO-North*

Auxiliarists are amazing. At the District Conference, just like everyone else, I receive a nicely crafted “monkey’s fist”. Small enough to fit in your pocket, it was suitable for a key chain. I also heard the interesting story behind it.

The “monkey’s fist’s” were all made by long time Auxiliarist Leo Braun of Division 4. In recent months, Leo had been in ill health and found himself unable to participate in Auxiliary events as he had for many years. Knowing he could not attend the conference, he still wanted to do something. Wanting to be useful, Leo offered to make “monkey’s fists” for the Conference. Not just a few, but for everyone who attended!

I was certainly moved by Leo’s dedication and perseverance. Imagine, hour after hour, day after day, making enough monkeys’ fist’s for everyone at the conference. And with a Conference theme of “Focus on the Mission” this was truly an inspiring story. ‘This would make a good article for the Commodores Bulletin’, I thought.

(Continued on page 8)



*Joe O'Hagan
RCO-San Diego*

Divisions 1 and 16 started the year at full throttle after an outstanding 2005 in support of Sector San Diego and the boating public. Last year was marked with several SURGEOPS, special operations exercises and emergency call-out drills using a new call-out procedure that was very successful. Dockwalking was developed to patrol status. And of course, the Public Education effort was the best in the District for a Division and Flotilla.

2005's performance was echoed with the thirteen District Awards for individuals, Flotillas and Divisions presented at the District Conference. Both Divisions had a great attendance at the Conference, and on the same weekend, members of both Divisions supported the San Diego Boat Show.

2006 promises to be an even greater year with increased involvement in not only the SURGEOPS and special operations, but being involved in the planning of such exercises. Dockwalking will increase along with the increased emphasis on boating safety via VSC's and PE classes. 📖



*Dale Zimmerman
RCO-South*

As a quick introduction, my name is Dale Zimmermann, Rear Commodore LA-South for 2006. I would like to thank the District Bridge and Board for their confidence in my abilities to serve YOU, the members, of the LA-South AOR. With an area covering from San Pedro to Dana Point with several beautiful harbors and miles of coastline, to Big Bear and San Bernardino and several lakes, it is a big responsibility.

I am looking forward to the challenge. I am open to all suggestions from the membership as to what you would like to see in District 11 (SR).

Just remember to use the Chain of Leadership and Management. Remember to be safe on patrol and that our actions reflect on Team Coast Guard. 📖

Did you know... No piece of paper can be folded more than 7 times?

(Continued from page 4)

Burkett, Vice President, PCA, tolled the bell.

Steven Budar, National Vice Commodore, was the keynote speaker on Saturday morning. He spoke of Recreational Boating Safety as a core mission for the Auxiliary and stressed balance in our programs to avoid being ineffective. He commented that the Marine Domain Awareness program was the basis to rebuild our membership. NAVCO Budar remarked that the conference was his opportunity "to get a feel" for what is going on in the flotillas.

Chief Jerry Swanson, 11th District Coast Guard Prevention Division, Maritime Safety, said that the Auxiliary was the "star in the Prevention Division's crown." He praised those Auxiliarists who had received awards, calling them "superstars" for their accomplishments.

The Firing Line was held on Saturday afternoon, a time to fire off questions at the NAVCO, the 11SR Executive Board and representatives of the Coast Guard. The members asked about awards, communications, patrols, uniforms and many other topics.

The DCO introduced "our admiral", Rear Admiral Kevin Eldridge, U.SCG, 11th District Commander, the keynote

speaker at the Commodore's Banquet Saturday night. The admiral thanked us for all we do and remarked that the conference merged together the active side and the Auxiliary side. He said that we've "adopted, adapted and adjusted" to whatever the need required, praising our many volunteer hours on surface and air patrols, vessel safety checks and public appearances. "Semper Paratus and Bravo Zulu"!

Mr. Ray Tsunayoshi, Director of the California State Department of Boating and Waterways, discussed matters of interest to us all, including the increase in funding from the Wallop/Breaux Trust Fund, enabling the department to expand its services and the possible adoption of mandatory boating safety education in California. He concluded by presenting the Distinguished Public Service Award for 2005 to Ralph Casale, DSO-VE.

DCO Conrado thanked us for our support and asked us to focus on our missions and also to teach one more P.E. class.

Harry Jacobs, 2006 conference chairman, introduced the members of the conference committee and thanked them for their help.

On Sunday morning, CWO Chris Ruleman led the Surface Operations Workshop, handing out drill sheets, discussing many topics, including patrols, EPIRBS, Mustang suits and QE

Guidelines. Note that OPEX 2006 is April 22-23, 2006.

During the conference, the District Materials Center was open to meet the members' needs for uniforms and accessories.

The 2006 conference was a star-studded show, centered on training and fellowship. 📷



Thanks to the Bridge and Board for their vote of confidence in allowing me to serve the members of Division 9 & 10 and the District for another year. I will continue to do my best.

March 11th would be a very interesting day to be at Lake Havasu. The replica of the Boston Lighthouse that Division 9 financed and dedicated to the men and women of the Coast Guard will be dedicated at 1400 hrs. The "Pass in Review" should be very impressive with aircraft and vessels from many agencies including the Coast Guard. If you are interested, please give me a call.

The Inland Divisions are gearing up for a very busy summer as boater activity is rather heavy already. 📷

LEGAL CORNER*Kevin R. Griffin, DSO-LP D11(SR)***A. Prohibited Demonstration/ Use of Pyrotechnic Devices.**

1. As discussed in Para P of the Legal Memo distributed at the 6-8 JAN 06 District Conference, the Coast Guard has not trained or authorized the Auxiliary to organize or conduct “firing range” flare shoots involving the active participation of or demonstrations to non-Auxiliary, general public “civilians” It makes no difference whether the civilians would be using their own pyrotechnic devices (flares, flare guns, or the like) or would be using pyro devices provided by the Auxiliary—it still is wholly unauthorized.

2. In the event of any Incident during any such unauthorized Auxiliary-sponsored civilian flare shoot, there would be no government coverage for any Auxiliary member who planned, organized, or was directly or indirectly involved in the flare shoot. Each such Auxiliary member would be exposed to personal liability for any damage, loss, and/or injury suffered by any civilian(s)—and any other Auxiliary member.

3. In a 30 JAN 06 email, the CHDIRAUX Office specifically directed that the Auxiliary immediately cease and desist from all such demonstrations to the general public.

4. Note that the foregoing does not preclude trained Auxiliary members (e.g., VEs doing VSCs, ITs in a PE class) from discussing general safety factors with civil-

ians regarding emergency use of pyro devices.

B. Authorized Demonstration/ Use of Pyrotechnic Devices.

1. Auxiliary members continue to be authorized to use and fire pyro devices in training missions for Auxiliary members (Boat Crew Trainees and qualified CXN and Crew re-familiarization missions), provided the devices are not date-expired, “old” devices.

2. In addition, Auxiliary members may assist the Coast Guard at demonstrations of pyro devices to members of the general public when such demonstrations are directly sponsored and supervised by the Coast Guard. For example, at the direction of the Coast Guard personnel at such public demonstrations, Auxiliary members might give safety lectures, provide information hand-outs, and assist in establishing safety zones. Even at Coast Guard sponsored public demonstrations, however, Auxiliary members still may not actively participate in firing any devices.

C. Two-Boat Training and Currency Maintenance Drills.

1. Aside from actual SAR situations, two-boat drills (towing and side-ties) for training and currency maintenance (annual and QE five-year) are authorized when: (a) Both boats are Auxiliary OP FACs operating under Coast Guard Patrol Orders with the required minimum qualified Boat Crew (CXN and Crew) in addition to any Trainees; and (b) An Auxiliary OP FAC under Orders and with minimum Boat Crew is operating with a Coast Guard boat.

2. Auxiliary boats are not author-

ized to engage in two-boat training drills with vessels of any other agency (federal, state, or local) unless there is a Coast Guard MOU with such other agency which specifically authorizes such training drills. There currently are no MOUs in the D11(SR) which authorize such two-boat drills.

3. Auxiliary boats also are not authorized to engage in two-boat training drills with a vessel owned by any “civilian”—any member of the general public. This would be the case—unauthorized for two-boat training—even if the other boat happened to be an Auxiliary OP FAC and even if the other boat’s crew all happened to be qualified Boat Crew (CXN and Crew). If the other boat is not operating under Coast Guard Orders, it then is by definition a “civilian” boat.

4. In the event of any Incident during any unauthorized two-boat training drill, there would be no government coverage for any Auxiliary member (an Auxiliary Patrol boat engaged in an unauthorized, prohibited activity is, in essence, acting as a “civilian” boat). Each Auxiliary member participating in such an unauthorized activity would be exposed to personal liability for any damage, loss, and/or injury suffered by any other person on either or both boats. 🚢



DISTRICT AWARDS --- TROPHIES --- AWARD YEAR 2004-2005

MOST ACTIVE FLOTILLA (PICKERING AWARD)	JAMES A. KANE	FLOTILLA 2-5	
MOST ACTIVE NEW MEMBER (PCA TROPHY)	JAMES L. MAYFIELD	FLOTILLA 16-1	
MOST ACTIVE MEMBER IN OTHER THAN AUXMIS REPORTED ACTIVITIES (DISTRICT COMMODORE'S AWARD)	ROBERT E. STERZENBACH	FLOTILLA 2-9	
BEST FLOTILLA PUBLICATION (MIKE MARCONI AWARD)	FLOTILLA 12-04	"12-411 NEWSLETTER"	
INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD	WAKO R. WINTERS	FLOTILLA 3-5	511 HOURS
INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE IN THE MARINE DEALER VISITATION PROGRAM	WALTER S. KAUFMAN	FLOTILLA 12-7	273 VISITS
DIVISION MOST ACTIVE IN PUBLIC EDUCATION (JOHN STONE AWARD)	DIVISION 16		483 HOURS
FLOTILLA MOST ACTIVE IN PUBLIC EDUCATION	FLOTILLA 16-5		290 HOURS
DIVISION MOST ACTIVE IN MEMBER TRAINING	DIVISION 3		703 HOURS
FLOTILLA MOST ACTIVE IN MEMBER TRAINING	FLOTILLA 3-5		571 HOURS
DIVISION MOST ACTIVE IN OPERATIONS	DIVISION 16		7,148 HOURS
DIVISION MOST ACTIVE IN OPERATIONAL SUPPORT	DIVISION 16		4,231 HOURS
FLOTILLA MOST ACTIVE IN OPERATIONS	FLOTILLA 16-5		4,896 HOURS
FLOTILLA MOST ACTIVE IN OPERATIONAL SUPPORT	FLOTILLA 16-5		3,309 HOURS
INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE IN PATROLS with a KEEPER	JOHN J. SWARTZ	FLOTILLA 16-5	790 HOURS
INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE IN OPERATIONAL SUPPORT MISSIONS (KEITH CORDREY TROPHY)	MICHAEL SAVERSON	FLOTILLA 16-5	3,246 HOURS
DIVISION MOST ACTIVE IN VESSEL EXAMINATIONS	DIVISION 12		843 VSC's
FLOTILLA MOST ACTIVE IN VESSEL EXAMINATIONS (POWER SQUADRON AWARD)	FLOTILLA 12-4		582 VSC

*(Continued on page 9)***SUPPORT YOUR
MATERIAL CENTER****United States
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Auxiliary Material Center**

Rick Kaufman
District Staff Officer —
Material Center (11SR)

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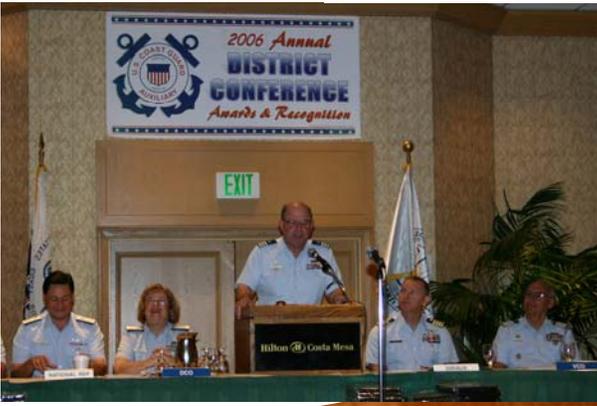
**Almost every uniform
item you'll need in the
Auxiliary. and some non-
uniform items, too!**

Did you know where that picture was
from? **Balboa Island, CA**

Then, as I was writing this article, I got the sad news of Leo's very recent "passing over the bar". I didn't get a chance to thank him. I didn't get a chance to finish that inspirational story. But, I do have his monkey's fist. It serves as a reminder of what Auxiliarists are all about. It also serves as a reminder of just what we should strive to be. Auxiliarists are amazing. So were you Leo. 🐒

Did you know... hydrophobia is the fear of water and cymophobia is the fear of waves or wave like motion.

INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE IN VESSEL EXAMINATIONS (JOHN LOOS TROPHY) TISH J. CULLEN	FLOTILLA 9-6	373 VSC
BARKLEY OPERATIONAL AWARD (JOHN BARKLEY TROPHY) ROBERT E. SEARLES	FLOTILLA 12-4	457 OPERATIONS 93 EDUCATION, 350 VSC
DIVISION MOST ACTIVE IN AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM (HERB PACKARD AWARD)	DIVISION 9	344 ATONS
FLOTILLA MOST ACTIVE IN AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM	FLOTILLA 92	318 ATONS
INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE IN AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM WILLIAM M. BRYAN	FLOTILLA 9-2	25 ATONS
WM C (PAPA) HARR AWARD ROBERT E. SEARLES	FLOTILLA 12-4	1,090 HOURS
OPERATIONS TRAINING OFFICER AWARD DON VARY	FLOTILLA 2-5	
INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE IN CAREER CANDIDATE (AL LAREAU TROPHY) TERRENCE L. KINSELLA	FLOTILLA 7-4	422 HOURS
DIRECTOR'S AWARD (COAST GUARD AWARD) HERB HAAS	FLOTILLA 4-9	
INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS TISH J. CULLEN	FLOTILLA 9-6	410 HOURS
INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE AS AN INSTRUCTOR AIDE (JEROME CRAMPTON TROPHY) STEVEN A. BAINE	FLOTILLA 2-7	137 HOURS
INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE IN ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OF THE COAST GUARD JOAN B. PAULOO	FLOTILLA 5-3	1355 HOURS
DIVISION MOST ACTIVE IN PERSONAL SERVICES (RCO RANSOM S HAIG MEMORIAL TROPHY AWARD)	DIVISION 12	18 NEW MEMBERS
FLOTILLA MOST ACTIVE IN THE MARINE DEALER VISITATION PROGRAM	FLOTILLA 5-3	529 VISITS
DIVISION MOST ACTIVE IN THE MARINE DEALER VISITATION PROGRAM	DIVISION 10	907 VISITS
INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE IN COMMUNICATIONS (CHARLES REDMON, JR. MEMORIAL TROPHY AWARD) HARRY JACOBS	FLOTILLA 11-1	
INDIVIDUAL MOST ACTIVE IN THE MARINE SAFETY PROGRAM WAJEEH BERRY	FLOTILLA 16-4	1,033 HOURS
FLOTILLA MOST ACTIVE IN THE MARINE SAFETY PROGRAM	FLOTILLA 16-4	1,292 HOURS
DIVISION MOST ACTIVE IN THE MARINE SAFETY PROGRAM	DIVISION 16	1,451 HOURS



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*CWO, Chris Ruleman
Operations Training Officer*

I would like to take this opportunity to mention a few items of interest to those of you involved in operations.

Anti-Exposure Coveralls (AECs) are here to stay. The good news is that the water temperature looks to be nearing 60 degrees a little earlier this year. I am not allowed enough room in the Bulletin to address all the misconceptions surrounding the AECs but I will address some of the more important ones. There is no body of water located in 11SR that the Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual page 4-27 does not apply while operating as an Auxiliarist. Now matter how advanced your meteorological and fortune telling skills are, you may not request a waiver until the day of your patrol. Waivers will not be granted when there is inclement weather, reduced visibility, or during periods of darkness. Quite honestly, it's harder to find you then. There are currently 80

AECs in 11SR with 90 more arriving soon. The bulk of our current inventory in staged for "Ready Service" in locations around the District. We will begin issuing suits to individuals, starting with our "winter workers" based on information from POMS, as more suits come in. We will maintain a supply of suits strategically placed to fill gaps when required.

The 2006 Operations workshop is optional this year. Any member that is REYR due to not completing the required 2005 workshop must complete the 2006 one to regain operational status. The workshop is available online for training personnel to copy and present to a class but not as an online course.

(Continued on page 3)