

The Waterline

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2007

Flotilla Change of Watch - Tradition & Fellowship



On Saturday, January 20th, 2007 the flotilla members joined spouses and invited guests to participate in the time honored tradition of the Change of Watch.

In keeping with tradition, BMC Mike Snyder, OIC of CGSTA Sheboygan, swore in Jim Eichelberger and Mark Duff as the new FC and VFC. Prior to the actual oath of office, Vice Commodore,



Jim Eichelberger and Mark Duff are sworn in as FC and VFC, respectively, by BMC Mike Snyder as Vice Commodore Dick Runde and the invited guests look on.

Below left, IPFC Rick Rosenwald prepares to receive the Auxiliary Commendation medal. At lower right, Andy Burkart prepares to receive the Commandant Letter of Commendation. CWO Mark Stevens is at the far left.

Dick Runde read the responsibilities of the offices they were accepting.

In addition to VCO Runde and his wife, the special guests included: CWO Mark Stevens, BMC Mike Snyder and his wife Leslie, BM1 Steve Courtier and his wife Shellee, BM3 Brian Kuhn, our Aux liaison along with several other of the active duty guests along

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

AUXCOM Training	2
VSC Message	2
Bits-n-Pieces	3
Winter Conference	3
Roy Hundt Appointed to National Office	3
Christmas Party;	4



with the members of the flotilla.

Following the swearing in of the FC and VFC all of the staff officers took their oaths of office.

Both the outgoing FC, Rick Rosenwald and the departing VFC, Andy Burkart received special recognition for their exceptional contributions to the flotilla during their tenure over the last two years. BMC

Snyder read the citations and CWO Stevens presented the awards

Lloyd Sargent served as the MC for the evening, once again providing his unique humor and keeping the events on track. Though Lloyd did not receive recognition that evening, it is worth noting that, as Rick Rosenwald pointed out, 'it was



largely due to Lloyd's efforts that the flotilla enjoyed the growth it has during the past 18 months.' Bravo Zulu Lloyd!

From the left, Bob Ternes, Dave Given, Mae Cuellar, Lloyd Sargent, Linda Hundt, (Roy is hidden behind Lloyd & Linda) Andy Burkart, Rick Rosenwald and John Wagner prepare to recite their oaths of office as the FSO's for the coming year. Len Vandennack, DCP-04, and Dick Runde, VCO administered the oaths.

AUXCOM Training A Great Success

Ten members of the flotilla started the new year by tackling the AUXCOM course. Andy Burkart, FSO-CM provided the instruction. Starting on January 3rd and continuing through the end of January, the members went through the Auxiliary Communications Specialty Course (COMDTPUT P16794.32B) to learn all aspects of CG Auxiliary Communications. The participating members include: Rick

Rosenwald, Dave Given, Mark Duff, John Wagner, Ray Rank, Bob Ternes, Patrick Knowles, Peter Tyszka, and Jim Eichelberger. On Thursday, February 1st, BMC Snyder pro-



From left, Dave Given, Mark Duff, Petty Officer Kuhn Mae Cuellar and Patrick Knowles listen intently as Andy explains some of the finer points of Communications and Watchstanding.



Andy Burkart provided instruction and made the learning even more interesting by using examples from his time as a Radioman on active duty as Bob Ternes takes notes.

tored the exam for all of those who completed the course and showed up to take the test. One member did not complete the course and another was sick the evening of the exam but will take it at a later date. The grades have not been received yet.



VSC Stickers Imply a Safe, Conscientious Boater—Not a “Get Out of Jail Free” Card

During the DSO staff meeting in Milwaukee on Saturday, January 13th, it became apparent that in some areas, Vessel Exams are "sold" as a preventive measure to avoid being boarded by the US Coast Guard or local law enforcement.

Commodore Jaworski sent an email to the District staff and Division Captains directing them to be sure all Vessel examiners are informed that the intent of the VSC is directed to safe boating and boater education. Vessel exams are not to be promoted in any way that sells the program as an exemption from being boarded. This type of statement should not even be mentioned in the contact with the boater.

The VE program's purpose is to inform the boating public of the safety and regulatory re-

quirements for operating in a safe manner. It doesn't ensure that the boater will be in compliance after that inspection if they neglect to bring the appropriate items required back on board. It also doesn't ensure that the boater will operate the vessel in a safe manner which can cause law enforcement action irregardless (sic) of the presence of a VE sticker.

It is important that the boating public understand the purpose of the VSC. The Commodore and the OTO (CWO Stevens) are working together to ensure all the members of the Coast Guard and Auxiliary RBS team work to promote the same understanding. This is important internally as well so that the gold and silver share the same understanding.

This issue ended up being discussed at N-Train and at an OIC meeting. According to BMC Snyder, Coast Guard Station Sheboygan, the

guidance the OIC's received was that the VSC sticker did imply that these boaters were in compliance with safety standards and absent some other reason, the Coast Guard will honor the sticker and pass by boaters with valid VSC stickers. This does not mean these boaters will be given any special dispensation – if the Coast Guard deems it necessary to stop a boater for some observed infraction, they will do so, but they won't board vessels showing the VSC sticker simply to conduct a safety inspection.

Patrick Knowles took his member oath on January 20th, 2007. IPFC Rick Rosenwald administers the oath.



Bits-n-Pieces: Things Auxiliarists Need to Know

Towing Insurance Liability The problem of liability insurance in the case where a privately owned vehicle (POV) was not covered for liability insurance when towing government property has been corrected. The vehicle may now be "Offered for Use". This is particularly important if the vehicle is towing a trailer registered as a DHS trailer with DHS license plates. The vehicle owner must annually complete the new ANSC 7065 form, "Vehicle Offer of Use", (available on the Forms page) and have it on file at the DIRAUX's office prior to the towing. A record of this POV "facility" will eventually be recorded in AUXDATA. Members should contact their DIRAUX for more info as that is where the records will be stored until they can be inputted into AUXDATA not earlier than this summer.

Which Life Jacket for You?

A new Point of Purchase PFD poster

designed to point customers towards the best life jacket for their activity is now available for use by Recreational Boating Safety Program Visitors. The 12" X 18" poster shows various boater activities and suggests life jackets for that activity, with a very brief description of what one should be looking for. The idea is that if someone buys a good quality comfortable life jacket, they just might wear it. Auxiliary units can order this poster from the Auxiliary National Supply Center, ANSC 3505.

http://safetyseal.net/pdf_files/lifejacket-poster-2.pdf

ALCOAST 014/07: Distribution of the Coast Guard Presidential Unit Citation On May 25, 2006, at the Commandants Change Of Command Ceremony, President Bush presented the Presidential Unit Citation

(PUC) to the U.S. Coast Guard for meritorious achievement and outstanding performance in action from August 29 To September 13, 2005, in preparation for, and response and recovery to the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina. Since the response to Katrina was an all-hands effort, all CG Active Duty, Reserve, Auxiliary, and Civilian personnel who were affiliated with the Coast Guard at any time during the period (29 August 2005 - 13 September 2005) are eligible for the award. There is no individual citation to accompany the award. Individuals desiring a copy of the award citation to the coast guard will find it on the medals and awards web site at <http://www.uscg.mil/HQ/g-w/g-wp/g-wpm/g-wpm-1/g-wpm-3/medalsandawards.htm>.

US COAST GUARD AUXILIARY 09WR 2007 WINTER CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN MILWAULKEE MARCH 2-4, 2007

The Winter Conference is set to begin in a little over a week. The Four Points Sheraton in south Milwaukee, on Howell Avenue (near Mitchell Airport) As of the time of this publication, numerous flotilla members are planning to attend: Mark Duff will attend the Flotilla Commander's Academy, Roy and Linda Hundt will be attending as District Staff Officers, Dave Given will serve as the official photographer for the event, while the Flotilla Commander is scheduled to present a two hour seminar on VSC's and Facility Inspections. Peter Tyszka, Ray Rank, and John Wagner were also planning on attending.

Those wishing to carpool can

contact the Flotilla Commander. Mark, Roy, Linda and Dave will all be traveling to Milwaukee on Friday to meet commitments during the first day of the conference. Jim will be going down on Saturday morning and returning home Saturday night.

The food won't be anything to write home about, but the seminars, learning opportunities and fellowship make the event worth the small registration fee. Those who have not already done so may still register, but there is a five dollar late charge tacked on.

Many people have worked hard to make this event worth your while—take advantage.

Congratulations to Roy Hundt, IPDCP and FSO/IS, for His Appointment as BC-VPD



Special Congratulations to Roy Hundt who has recently been appointed as the RBS Visitation Program, Branch Chief - Visitation Program Development. Check out the V-Department website and click on 'Staff' at

<http://safetyseal.net/index3.asp>

Station Sheboygan Christmas Celebration Ends the Year on a High Note

If you missed the Station Christmas party on December 8th, you missed one of the highlights of the year. Active duty and Auxiliary members gathered at the Sheboygan Yacht Club to exchange gifts, partake of some truly excellent food and view a history of the station over the last sev-



eral decades. Above, BMC Snyder shares a few thoughts with Andy Burkart, while below, Rick Rosenwald and Andy share a few good memories. At the lower left, BM1 Steve Courtier and Petty Officer Wulf greet people and handed out raffle tickets for what turned out to be an absolutely hilarious gift exchange. It was a great ending to a very successful year.



eral decades. BM1 Courtier took pictures provided by many people and put them to music in a funny and touching presentation. Above, BMC Snyder shares



Flotilla 95WR-04-04
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Department of Homeland
Security

TO:

If you would like more information about Flotilla 04 (Sheboygan) or the Coast Guard Auxiliary see our website at: <http://a09504.uscgaux.info/>

Send article submissions by regular U.S. Mail to:

James E. Eichelberger (FSO-PB)
814 Ontario Ave
Oostburg, WI 53070
Phone: 262-243-4480
Fax: 262-243-3480
E-mail: jeichelb@cuw.edu



UNITED STATES
COAST GUARD
AUXILIARY