



Inside This Issue

What You Can (Should) Expect From Your Auxiliary Leaders..... 1

Dates to Remember.....3

Editor's Note.....3

Detail and Neatness in Dress4

Travel Reimbursement for CG Orders4

Commodore Arthur H. Remus5

Making Mentoring Work.....6

Fish Barrier.....7

Stimulus Plan Creates New Jobs in D9 Western Region 10

Greeters Program a Huge Success at NACON 10

Time Spent Together11

Using Technology as Your Recruiter..... 11

Take Ownership of the Coast Guard Life 12

New 9WR Logo Contest Winner Declared! 13

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Interpreter Corps 14

It Is Not Too Early to Promote 2010..... 15

Blessing of the Fleet..... 16

From the CS Corner 18

Announcing Auxiliary Interpreter Program Delegate 18

Attention ACC Members 18

Boat Attire..... 19

Halls of Leadership.....20

Finance Report20

EAA is for Everyone 21

In Memory.....22

Festival Recap.....23

Leadership, Learning & Lubber Lines.....24

2009 Anderson Grant Award26

PDCO Dr. Richard J. Runde Sr's Bench Dedication..... 27

USCG Station Milwaukee 27

What You Can (Should) Expect From Your Auxiliary Leaders

RANDY D. PODOLSKY, COMMODORE, NINTH WESTERN REGION

Would it be a surprise to any member of the auxiliary to hear the phrase “we do not elect our best leaders, we elect our friends?” I suspect not if you have been a member for more than a couple of years. There is a perceived safety in electing, or even appointing, someone with whom we are familiar.

But what if we were to elect and appoint our leaders based more upon objective criteria rather than subjective emotions? Would we be a better organization? You bet.

Integrity:

First and foremost our leaders must be substantially above reproach. They set the bar for honesty and integrity for our membership and must adhere to the highest standards. Anything less than consistently applied expectations of our members, missions and programs will undermine our organizations success. As an example, we should not allow OPFAC VEs be done at a tabletop, or by good will. They should be done with high standards for all required equipment and in lights of being an operational facility. Crew and public safety is paramount. How our Coast Guard counterparts, as well as the boating public, regard us is paramount. Accept nothing less.

Professionalism:

Our members should not only be led by those who set a good example, they should demand the same of their elected and appointed leaders and staff. Doing what you say you will do, as completely as possible, is to be expected. While we are there to follow the rules, leaders can also be expected to interpret them and, as such, will be asked to uphold a professional standard that applies equally to all members - including themselves. If you would not allow another member to do something,

Continued on page 2



What You Can (Should) Expect From Your Auxiliary Leaders

Continued from page 1

it is likely you should not either. Leaders also set the standard for uniform wear and personal grooming. Once again, we must look and dress the part. If your leaders are not doing so, you should remind them of the oath they took to wear the uniform proudly and neatly - just as they should remind their members of the same.

Respect:

Good leaders listen to what others have to say, compliment them and encourage creative thinking. When they do not agree with others, they present their views in a constructive manor. A good leader is never judgmental or demeaning. A mutual respect will be built between leaders and their teams through encouragement, even if they do not agree on a subject matter or decision.

Timeliness:

Leaders must set an example by providing timely reporting and communication to their members. Taking on the responsibility of leadership means delivering what is needed to keep fellow officers (above and below your position) and members informed – and on a timely basis. Leaders must also expect the same from their direct reports, and take action to correct any deficiencies along the way, even if that means a change in officer outside of the normal cycle. Accepting mediocrity is a sign of a weak leader, while building on one's strengths and working to improve performance while accepting one's shortcomings - and working best around them – is the sign of a quality leader.

Diligence:

Being a leader means building a good team around you. How often have you heard that a leader is only as good as the team he or she builds? It is true, especially in an organization of volunteers! Our leaders must be able to motivate others to get involved and carry out a plan or a mission. Lazy or complacent members do not make good leaders, as behavior is infectious. By establishing lofty but attainable goals, the leader has set a realistic expectation that provides pride and satisfaction to all when results are achieved.

Good Instincts:

A strong leader has vision. Being able to envision an outcome and working towards those goals is leadership strength not to be underestimated. Simply doing what we did before - or worse, not doing something because we did not before – is not leadership. Knowing when to say “yes” and when to say “no” is critical. Doing nothing, or inaction, is not an option. Thinking outside the norms and developing new ideas is paramount. Leadership can be taught, but having the instincts is a step in the right direction.

Willing to Learn:

Last but not least, a good leader is one that does not know everything and is willing to learn from others. Once you know everything, there is nothing new to chance. When there is nothing new to chance, we become stagnant and stoic. Stoicism is the dark cloud above us. Open minds and a sense of adventure in trying new things are what make us great.

So the next time you are asked to elect a new bridge, appoint a staff officer or even a committee chair or member, remember that who *you* select does matter. “New blood” is the lifeline of the CG Auxiliary! Make your selection based upon your, and the candidates experience, knowledge, open mindedness and leadership skills – not based upon your comfort zone or friendships alone.

With so much changing within and outside of our organization, now more than ever it is critical to our success that we elect, appoint and support leaders who can deliver what is expected with professional pride, integrity and imagination. As the Coast Guard motto says, “Honor, Respect and Devotion To Duty.” Deploying the strategy outlined in making your next leadership choices will make us “Semper Paratus” or “always ready” to serve during these challenging times and for years to come.



RANDY D. PODOLSKY
DCO

**Ninth Western Region
Executive Committee — 2009**

DCO	Randy D. Podolsky
DCOS.....	Ed Ross
DCAPT -N	Len C. Van Denack
DCAPT-S	Bob Auchinleck Jr.
DCAPT-E	Bob Higginson

9WR Division Captains — 2009

DCDR 1	Kathy Chappelle
DCDR 2	Ken Dixon
DCDR 3	John L. (Larry) vanGoethem
DCDR 4	Brian Pigeon
DCDR 5	Ted Dawson
DCDR 7	Mary Kobrow
DCDR 9	John Linder
DCDR 10.....	Earl Gough
DCDR 18.....	Tom Lewis
DCDR 20.....	Norman Herman

9WR District Staff Officers — 2009

DSO-AV	Chuck Hagerman
DFSO	Jim Fellers
DSO-CM.....	Michael Wiedel
DSO-CS	Amy Seeley
DSO-FN.....	Edward Fahrner
DSO-IS.....	Thomas Lewis
DSO-LP.....	Bob Egan
DSO-MA.....	Brian Pigeon
DSO-MS	Norman Pearce
DSO-MT	Craig Lake
DSO-NS.....	Jim McInnis
DSO-OP.....	Patrick Poziwilko
DSO-PA.....	Ronald J. Aidikonis
DSO-PB.....	Jerry Heitschmidt
DSO-PE.....	Dr. Timothy G. Caufield
DSO-PS.....	Kate Steimel
DSO-PV	Roy Hundt
DSO-VE	Roy Hundt
DSO-SR.....	Linda Hundt

D-AD: Commodore Aids
Roy Hundt, Thomas Trucco, Rick McNulty,
Tim Hoffmann, Bob O’Laughlin

CRC Civil Rights Coordinator Robert Egan

U.S. Coast Guard, Ninth District

District Commander	RDML Peter Neffenger
Sector Commander	CAPT Luann Barndt
Director of Auxiliary.....	CDR Karl Willis
Assistant Director of Auxiliary	Mr. Paul Barlow
Operations and Training Officer	CWO Mark Stevens
Operations and Training Officer	Chief Justin Sperber

**D A T E S
TO REMEMBER**

Please save the dates for the
9WR conferences as follows:

- October 9-11, 2009, *Schaumburg, IL*
- February 19-21, 2010, *TBD*
- October 15-17, 2010, *TBD*
- April 14-17, 2011
Training Symposium 2, Pontiac, MI
(including a 9WR board meeting)
- October 14-16, 2011, *Tentative*

EDITOR’S NOTE:

Hello all, please consider contributing to the next issue of *Currents*, both photos with appropriate caption and articles are accepted. We have until January 19, 2009 to accept content, so please try to set aside some time to share your thoughts and experiences within your specific field with your shipmates. For those of you who have contributed, thank you.

JERRY HEITSCHMIDT
DSO-PB



CURRENTS is published by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Ninth Western Region, at no expense to the government. Reprints of articles or pictures may be used in other publications without written permission provided proper credit is given. The Coast Guard Auxiliary is a volunteer, civilian organization dedicated to assisting the Coast Guard in its mission of promoting boating safety. Disclosure of the personal information contained in this publication is strictly prohibited and subject to the provisions contained in the Privacy Act of 1974. The subject Act, with certain exceptions, prohibits the disclosure, distribution, dissemination or copying of any material containing the home address, home telephone number, spouses name and social security numbers, except for official business. Violations may result in disciplinary action by the Coast Guard and/or civilian criminal sanctions.

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then, is not an act, but a habit.”

– Aristotle



ED ROSS
DCOS

We all remember our parents telling us about first impressions and the need to dress and act appropriately. There was a reason for that. Our culture happens to judge people by the way they look, and the military particularly demands attention to detail and neatness in dress.

Section 10 of the AUXMAN describes when it is appropriate to wear various uniforms and tells us the way they are to be worn. As proud members of our volunteer organization, we should hold ourselves accountable and remember that we represent our government. We cannot expect to obtain respect from our fellow members, much less the public if we don't dress the part.

Recently I told a member that his faded uniform was not acceptable. I described a way to freshen up the uniform without having to buy another one. This involved dieing his ODU's in RIT liquid die and trimming off loose threads as appropriate. He accepted my suggestions, and applied some

other basic grooming habits which helped him with his interactions with the boating public. He agreed that not only was his uniform shabby, but his hair and some other basic grooming needed improvement. We can all take simple measures to make sure we look the part and represent our government with pride and authority.

In addition, courtesy and a positive attitude are the keys to successful interpersonal relationships. In the Auxiliary, how we act kindles the friendly associations we maintain among our members and help us represent our organization positively when dealing with the public. Section 12 of the Auxman will provide a quick reminder to those interested in a refresher.

In summary, there are simple things we can do to make our parents and the Auxiliary proud. Do your part. Practice excellence.

Travel Reimbursement for CG Orders

What to do when there is a discrepancy not resolved at Aux level

The first thing a member whose CG travel orders claim is not fully reimbursed (after assuring the claim matches the funding the orders provided) needs to do is speak directly to PSC and thoroughly discussed this with an auditor. Below is a link that can be used to discuss any issue the member may have with travel claim section in Topeka, KS.

Due to privacy issues, the member speaks directly with the support staff at PSC; then takes further action within the Auxiliary COL, as needed or required.

Remember, members will only obtain reimbursement for what is authorized form CG 4251, Section 12, as stated in the orders. The Commodore is the only one that can authorize any change, or amend, any orders.

<https://www.fincen.uscg.mil/secure/TravelPay/TPQuery.htm>
(link requires a SSN, to access members information)

Commodore Arthur H. Remus

RANDY D. PODOLSKY, COMMODORE, NINTH WESTERN REGION

Commodore Art Remus and his wife Janette joined the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary in 1966. His commitment and enthusiasm to Auxiliary programs led him to the office of District Commodore in 1974 where he led for two years. Commodore Remus served with the utmost professionalism under the Commodore title for two years, he exceeded everyone's expectations and led by example in the 34 years to follow. Never stepping away from his commitment to serve the Auxiliary, he mentored, nurtured and guided many leaders who followed him to his last day of service, and for that we will be forever grateful.

Commodore Remus faithfully served in the United States Army prior to joining the Coast Guard Auxiliary. He lived in Bensenville, Illinois with Jan where they raised four children Arthur Jr., Danny, Ron and Debbie. Equally important to Commodore Remus during his time of Auxiliary service was his commitment to family, friends, neighbors and the community.

In addition to his leadership role Commodore Remus was coxswain and communications qualified, and current in those disciplines until he crossed the bar at 83 years "young" on May 1, 2009. Commodore Remus was AUXOP qualified and had served in his most recent capacity as DSO Operations and Chief QE Coordinator for the Coast Guard's QE program. As recently as a year ago, Commodore Remus ended his longstanding

service as Chairman of the District's Conference Committee having planned scores of events for well over a decade. Commodore Remus received numerous awards including Operational Merit with an "O" device and Meritorious Service for his talents in QE and Operations including his many patrols on Fox/Chain of Lakes. He was also president of the Past Commodores Association at one time.

Art Remus was a pillar in the Auxiliary for over 43 years. He departed us with the highest honors and our esteem and respect. Leaders of Commodore Remus's true caliber come few and far between. We were fortunate to have been graced with his presence amongst us. May he forever have fair winds and following seas in the world beyond.

With love,

Ninth District Western Region
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Randy D. Podolsky
District Commodore



Making Mentoring Work

This year we will be starting a new tradition in 9WR – the introduction of the Arthur Remus Mentoring Award. Art was more than just a great ‘do-er’, he was a person who always was there to help members develop and improve their Operations skill level. For all the District Awards we hand out, I can’t think of a better category than an award recognizing someone who puts in time and effort so that others can succeed. People in the Auxiliary typically fall into one of three buckets: 1) Those who join, but then drift off – never to be seen again; 2) Those who hang around, but never do much ; 3) Those who are engaged, grow, and flourish. We need to stay continually focused on creating an environment that guides members into that third group. How often has a new member (or even a newly elected officer) needed to learn things on their own? As an organization, we do not always do a great job of passing along the benefit of our knowledge and experience.

Mentoring is about sharing advice and experiences. Its about making yourself available and showing an interest in the development of others. I read a recent article in the U.S. Naval Institute magazine *Proceedings* titled, “How to Make Mentoring Work”. In the article, the authors discuss how mentored persons enjoy (on average) faster growth, greater productivity, and higher retention than their non mentored colleagues. So, should every Flotilla start a formal mentoring program? The answer is not as obvious as it would appear. Study results also show that forcing a mentor/protégé relationship can have mixed results. The most successful mentoring programs are those where a natural, informal, relationship develops between the two individuals.



COMO and Mrs. Arthur Remus

What does all this information mean to you? Whether you are an elected leader or a member at large, make yourself available to those who are new to the Auxiliary or to their position. Be there to pull them along – not to push them. Create an environment where members know that help and guidance is available. Remember, though, its not just about you being a mentor to others. Each one of us is also a potential



BOB AUCHINLECK JR.
DCAPT-5

protégé and should be looking for mentors of our own. If you don’t have a mentor, I encourage you to find one. It does not necessarily have to be a formal relationship and the person may never actually know they are a mentor to you. However you slice it, every one of us has something to give and something to learn. Be there to help others but also don’t forget to develop your own skills. Mentoring is

a key component to helping keep the Auxiliary the premier boating safety organization in the country.

A link to the on-line article is below:

http://www.usni.org/magazines/proceedings/story.asp?STORY_ID=1834

This will be my last contribution to *Currents* as the D-CAPT, South. Hopefully I have been able to live up to my words in this article by being available and offering appropriate advice and counseling to others. Thank you all for the opportunity and trust you have put in me over the past two years. It has been an honor to serve with you and I look forward to continuing with the relationships I have been fortunate to develop during my time in office. All the best!!

Bob

Fish Barrier

LUANN BARNDT

CAPTAIN, U. S. COAST GUARD
COMMANDER, USCG SECTOR LAKE MICHIGAN

Thank you for CG Auxiliary support of the mission at the Chicago Fish Barrier. While the CG Auxiliary has been providing support for this mission for the last year, the OPTEMPO and interest in the fish barrier has grown exponentially since 31 July when USACE found evidence that the Asian Carp were closer to Lake Michigan than previously thought.

CG Auxiliarists answered Sector Lake Michigan's urgent call for resources to enable us to notify recreational mariners, previously prohibited from transiting the safety zone under their power, that they could transit through the fish barrier if they followed specified risk mitigation measures identified following USACE's safety testing.

I appreciate the Auxiliarists' willingness to provide a facility very early on Saturday morning 12 Sep to meet the 0700 start time for these transits. The Auxiliary vessel proved to be a valuable asset to assist the Incident Command Post with vessel transit coordination and flyer distribution. As a result of CG Auxiliarists participation in our outreach efforts, we were able to distribute over 600 tri-fold brochures and engage mariners at 60+ key points (e.g., marinas, yacht clubs, boat ramps, locks, etc.) Mariners are now aware of the risk associated with the electrified water as well as the risk mitigation measures they must implement to safely transit the area under their own power thus relieving the backlog of recreation boats built up over the four week waterway closure.

The Auxiliarists' demonstrated dedication to duty in educating the public and helping us enforce the Safety Zone contributes to preserving the Great Lakes Ecosystem from aquatic nuisance species while at the same time enabling the safe flow of commerce and recreational boating on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal.

This mission would have been much more difficult to accomplish without CG Auxiliary support. Thanks again for answering our call for assistance.”



East Bank of Canal from on top Romeoville Bridge

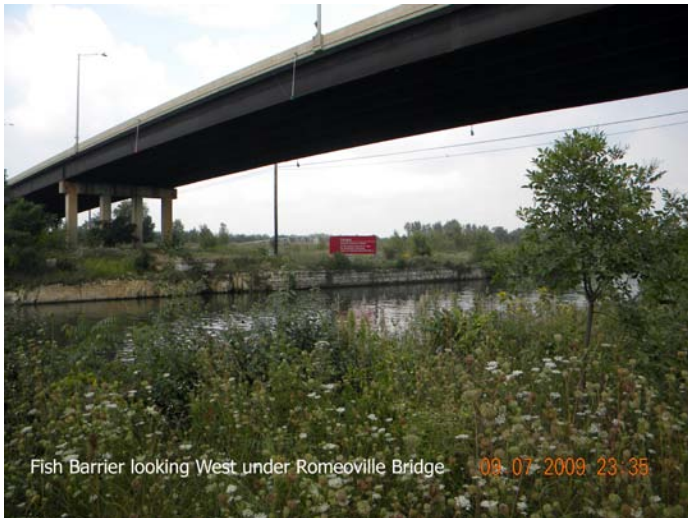


Fish Barrier looking West under Romeoville Bridge



Fish Barrier

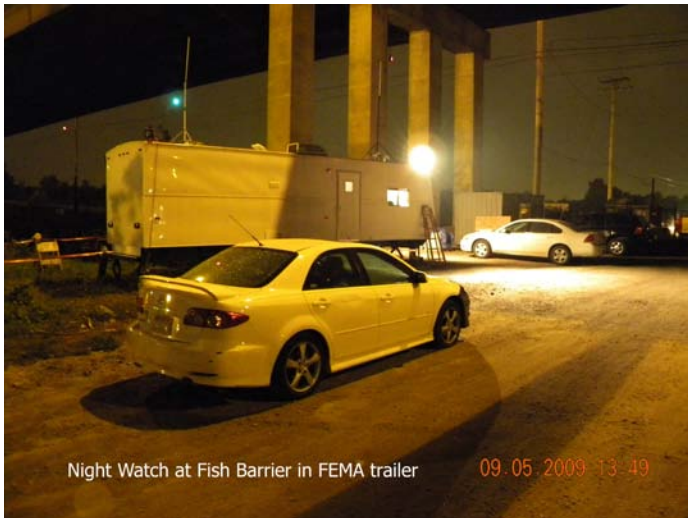
Continued from page 6



Fish Barrier looking West under Romeoville Bridge 08.07.2009 23:35



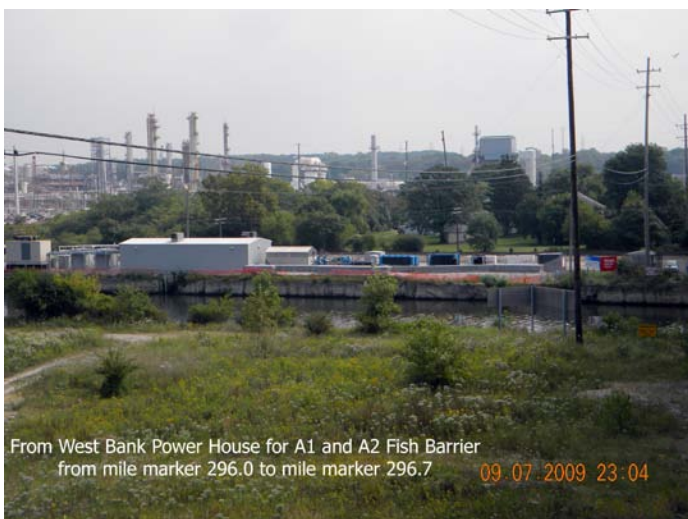
08.07.2009 23:31



Night Watch at Fish Barrier in FEMA trailer 09.05.2009 13:49



08.07.2009 23:06



From West Bank Power House for A1 and A2 Fish Barrier from mile marker 296.0 to mile marker 296.7 09.07.2009 23:04



Fish Barrier looking East from West Bank Under Romeoville Bridge

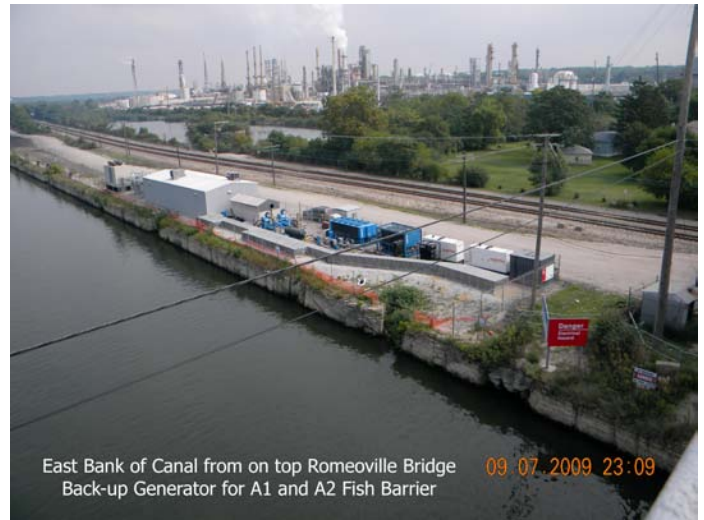
08.07.2009 23:31

Fish Barrier

Continued from page 6



East Bank of Canal looking South at Romeoville Bridge
Back-up Generator for A1 and A2 Fish Barrier 09.07.2009 23:29



East Bank of Canal from on top Romeoville Bridge
Back-up Generator for A1 and A2 Fish Barrier 09.07.2009 23:09



East Bank of Canal from on top Romeoville Bridge
Back-up Generator for A1 and A2 Fish Barrier 09.07.2009 23:12



Fish Barrier Radio Watch in FEMA Trailer 1710 Hours 03SEP09
09.03.2009 17:10



Fish Barrier Electric Lines for A2 Going Down
Under West Bank of Canal 09.07.2009 23:27

Stimulus Plan Creates New Jobs in D9 Western Region

Everyone is watching the employment situation, and we are seeing an increase in job openings. It has recently been reported that a stimulus plan for Marketing by the District PA Dept. has created new job openings to promote Safe Boating, increase membership, and to support the Gold side.

Job openings are available for professionals, and also for beginners wanting to gain experience. We are presently seeking: photographers, speakers, writers, marketing, administration, power point specialist, graphic designers, and social media specialist. To apply for any of these positions simply email your contact information along with area of interest to dso-pa@cgauz9wr.com



RON AIDIKONIS
DSO-PA

Greeters Program a Huge Success at NACON

RON AIDIKONIS, DSO-PA

The Greeters program which started out at the 2009 D9 Spring Conference was expanded and better organized for the 2009 NACON held in Oak Brook IL. Attendee's from all over, every rank, both Gold and Silver side thanked the Greeters for being there and helping out. We plan on having the Greeters Program at future D9W Conferences.

Like any other mission in the Auxiliary it's success was due to the volunteer's. The Greeters Program volunteers at NACON 2009 were: Bob Auchinleck, Ruth Aurigemma, Joel Berman, Terry Gibson, Linda Hundt, Roy Hundt, Dave Johnsen, Jay Katzman, Joan Lake, Caroline Lewis, Tom Lewis, Rose Ross, Amy Seeley. Bravo Zulu!

The elements of the program are: 1. Meet and greet at the facility entrance with a smiling face, and an offer of assistance. 2. Provide local knowledge, and assistance to the attendees, and the Event management. 3. Provide quick assistance to anything needed at the Event by anyone. This event "2009 NACON" was very well organized and professional, but at any event things just come up and need to be handled. 4. And most important is one of our Cornerstones "Fellowship." We need to be there for our brothers and sisters should they need any help.



Time Spent Together

Wow, what a summer, It has been all too short. Between the weather and the economy this has not been a good year for boating. Many of the people have stayed home or made short vacations, even on the water.

Summer is the time many of us get together to enjoy each others company. With the weather and economy, many of the events fall to the wayside along with camaraderie. Now is the time to make that extra effort to gather the troops and spend quality time with our friends and families.

Soon the “snow birds” will be leaving. We need to include them in what will be happening over the next several months. Keep them informed about Public Ed. classes, Public Affairs events, and whatever your Flotilla is doing, weekly, bi-weekly or even monthly emails (Flotilla meeting Minutes) is a wonderful way of keeping in contact with your members.

When you are with your fellow Auxiliarist, take pictures, make the most of it, and remember the moments. Scrapbooks are great reminders of what happened over time.



LEN VAN DENACK
DCAPT-N

Please remember all those who have crossed over the bar. They were good friends to many and will be sadly missed by all.

Embrace the time you have, it will be over all too soon, you may regret not doing the one thing in your life that has been a priority that you never had the time for.

Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty.

Using Technology as Your Recruiter

KATE STEIMEL, DSO-PS

Finding new member prospects has never been easier. The National Lead system and social media web-sites such as VolunteerMatch.org have made it possible to get leads without leaving the comfort of your home. Ninth Western has a flotilla that, since January 2009, has enrolled 11 new members with six more prospects in the pipeline. All but two were derived from the lead system and VolunteerMatch. There is no secret formula of success – technology has provided the leads it just takes good communication, enthusiasm and follow-through to secure new members.

A few things to remember:

Once a lead has been received make immediate contact with them - immediate PERSONAL contact. E-mails should only be used to inform the prospect that you have been trying to contact

them and would like to arrange time to talk to them personally.

Your Flotilla Commander and/or PS officer can't do it alone. Every flotilla member has to be a part of the recruiting process.

Challenge the prospect to find the right reason to join the Auxiliary. Re-live the enthusiasm you experienced when you joined - let the prospect see your pride in what you do.

Ensure a smooth enrollment process by following the step-by-step instructions found on the 9WR District websites' Personnel Services page.

Please contact me if you have any questions or want more information.

Take Ownership of the Coast Guard Life

For the past year I've had the honor of serving as a District Captain. Sharon and I have enjoyed interacting with fellow auxiliary members in several different units at all levels. We truly enjoy building relations within the Coast Guard Auxiliary family and we always try to model good deck plate behavior. The privilege of developing these relationships and interactions allowed us to observe our organization from a unique perspective. What we need to do is clear and has three points. One, make sure all members know they are apart of a dynamic organization. Two, Make sure members take ownership of the Coast Guard Life. Three, secure our future by recruiting young new membership and interest through our core missions.

One of the unique opportunities Sharon and I had was in July of this year. We attended the United States Coast Guard National Memorial Service in Grand Haven Michigan. This is also known as the Coast Guard Festival. We could only say this was the most inspiring experiences we have had in nineteen years of being in the Auxiliary. This event made us so proud to be part of the Coast Guard family. This is what we are; we are part of the Coast Guard family; active duty, reserve, and auxiliary from all units. We are going to promote attendance from my District next year to make sure all of our current members know they are a part of this awesome organization.

Past sector commander Captain Jones in one of his first speeches at our district conference told us the Coast Guard is a unique military organization. We are trained not only to take orders from the top down, but we are trained to make decisions from the deck plate up. As we are out there serving the boating public we are constantly making decisions on our own on how to accomplish our missions. This is a healthy organizational model. However, I have observed there are many of our members that have found their "nitch" mission. These members choose not to look at other missions. They will not interact with other units or aspire to other levels of leadership. As a District Captain I will ask members to push themselves out of their comfort zone with both hands and embrace other missions. This is embracing the Coast Guard Life.

At the CG National Memorial Service Vice Admiral Robert J. Papp Jr. Commander of the Coast Guard Atlantic area gave the key note address. The theme of his speech was honoring those fallen members of the Coast Guard family. He also spoke about our choice to be part of the Coast Guard. We have chosen to give unselfish service to our country at all levels of our organization. As a deck plate, leader the total membership must take ownership of the coast guard life.



BOB HIGGINSON
DCAPT-E

**Make sure all members know they are
apart of a dynamic organization.**

**Make sure members take ownership
of the Coast Guard Life.**

**Secure our future by recruiting young new
membership and interest through our core missions.**

New 9WR Logo Contest Winner Declared!

RANDY D. PODOLSKY, COMMODORE, NINTH WESTERN REGION

Earlier this year we called for a “design the new 9WR logo” contest from our members. There were many good submissions, but after careful consideration, the executive committee of the board of 9th Western Region selected the attached logo as our own. It was certainly not easy to chose from so many good alternatives.

Along with our other changes associated with our Modernization Plan, we can now include the attached as the official logo for 9WR going forward. The attached logo can be used in district marketing materials and PA programs. That means that your flotilla or Division can use this logo when you are preparing your marketing and/or PA materials if your unit does not have one of its own.

As for the contest entrants, the winning logo was designed by David Bossert of Division 2. Dave will receive travel orders to the April 2011, D9 Symposium 2, in Pontiac Michigan!

Other entries were received from, and we gratefully thank and acknowledge (in reverse alphabetical order):

- Michael Scott, Division 2 (runner up)
- Matthew Peterson, Division 5 (5 separate entries!)
- Debbie Guzan, Division 7
- Maribeth Foley, Division 7
- Miles DePaage, Division 2

Your EXCOM and I appreciate all entries. Bravo Zulu to all for their submissions. There is clearly talent out there, so design new logos for your new Divisions next year! With your help, we continue to be well recognized as a premier district of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary!



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Interpreter Corps.

GEORGE KARTSIMAS, ADSO-OP-I

The Interpreter Corps first began 13 years ago as a component of the Auxiliary International Affairs and Interpreter Support Directorate. It was established to provide interpreter support to Coast Guard Operational, Administrative and Public Affairs missions.

Currently we have over 380 Interpreters and can interpret in 46 languages. The Interpreter Corps has logged more than 50 thousand mission hours!

Members of the USCG Auxiliary may apply to join the Interpreter Corps however their acceptance is based on several factors:

Verification of a favorable security clearance, PSI completion, Operational Support or Direct Support, ICS course completion and verification of EMPLID number are required.

There are two levels of interpreter competency:

Level "A" read, writes, speaks and understands a foreign language fluently in addition to English. Level "B" speaks and understands a foreign language fluently in addition to English but does not necessarily read or write fluently in a foreign language.

Applicants are subjected to a high level of extensive verbal and written linguistic assessment by a Language Qualified Examiner (LQE). Currently due to high demand only Level "A" interpreter applications are being accepted.

Some areas where an Interpreter may be used are:

- U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Deployments
- U.S. Navy ship deployments
- Foreign visitor escort
- Foreign VIP tours
- Foreign border guard events
- Communications watchstanding
- Translations of incidents investigating documents
- Foreign marine safety events
- Other missions as authorized by the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

A member of the Interpreter Corps is expected to be physically and mentally fit as well as capable and willing to be deployed when needed for service. All interpreters are designated "INT" and as such are authorized to wear the Auxiliary Operations Ribbon.

Members in the 9th Western Region can learn more about the Interpreter Corps by visiting our site at <http://cgwebs.net/et/interpreter> or contacting me directly at geo.uscg@gmail.com

Currently we have over 380 Interpreters and can interpret in 46 languages. The Interpreter Corps has logged more than 50 thousand mission hours!

It Is Not Too Early to Promote 2010

TIM CAUFIELD, DSO-PE

At this point in the year, the PE class schedule has ebbed, as most of us are out on our boats making use of the summer days that remain before the end of the season. Some of us in the PE program are starting to think ahead toward next year already! The sooner FSO-PEs and their instructors can develop a schedule for next year's classes, and post them on the web site, the sooner the boating public can start to sign up for them. I talked with DSO-CS Amy Seeley at NACON this month, and efforts are being made to make the process of posting new classes to the website easier and more efficient. Early promotion of the classes as a holiday season present for adults (that Dad that "already has everything") and the "12 year old and up" age group may help tap into a pool of potential students.

As I mentioned in a DSO-PE report to the District Commodore earlier this year, from a "Best Practices" standpoint, frequent mention (in PE

classes of all types) of the availability of scheduled Vessel Examinations, and the ease of contacting a vessel examiner to come out to do a Vessel Safety Check "on the trailer" or "at the boat slip" is a continuing point I would like emphasize with all of the Division SO-PEs, and in turn emphasize with the FSO-PE officers and instructor base. The Safety Check program is included in the ABS PowerPoint presentation, but in the heat of the moment of trying to get other lesson content in, mention of Vessel Safety Checks may be overlooked or simply not mentioned again once we've gotten past the Legal Requirements of Boating chapter. If we make it a point of working the topic in along with other chapters, though, we may gain further chances to educate boater on a one-to-one basis, and have an extra chance at interesting the public in Auxiliary membership. I know that personally I could do better mentioning it more often when I teach, and this may be true of all of us involved in the PE program, so I'd like to emphasize this again.

This picture was taken of a member in 2-10 recently and sent in to Brant Miller from the weather on Channel 5 and was aired on the 10pm news.

Photo by Gary Merkel.



Blessing of the Fleet

BOB ALLEN, IPFC (03-08)

Volunteers from the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary are working to make this summer of 2009 safe on the water.

Sunday afternoon in Yorkville, members of the Auxiliary presented the “Blessing of the Fleet” event in Yorkville. This multi-media program prays that boaters wear their life preservers this summer.

“May God protect all those who canoe, kayak and fish on the river,” said Father Matthew Lamoureux, pastor of Saint Patrick Catholic Church in Yorkville.

Father Lamoureux prayed for the safety of boaters in our area. The tradition of the blessing goes back to seafaring communities, but it is especially

poignant in Yorkville. Yorkville has been the scene of 13 drownings at the Yorkville Palmer Dam.

The state of Illinois has been working on improving the dam. Although delayed by the heavy rains of the last few months, the re-construction of the dam has eliminated a deadly hazard at the Yorkville structure. An undertow near the dam has been eliminated by an expanded, downstream concrete base.

But a new canoe/kayak chute will likely bring dramatic increases in river traffic in downtown Yorkville. Therefore, calling for safety is well-timed.



Blessing of the Fleet

Continued from page 16

“The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary is dedicated to protecting the safety of our citizens on the water,” commented Auxiliary volunteer Jerry Heitschmidt, who served as Master of Ceremonies.

Most drownings would have been avoided if the boater or fisherman had worn a life preserver. Life preservers give those who fall into the water precious seconds to pull themselves to safety. Safety education programs, like the Blessing of the Fleet activity in Yorkville, remind all to wear their life preservers to avoid serious problems.

The Blaine Street Band, conducted by Mark Dreyer, played music before and after the ceremony. Songs included: “Semper Paratus” (The Coast Guard Anthem), America the Beautiful, Aura Lee, the theme from New World, School Spirit, Beethoven’s 9th Symphony, Crazy Clock and Amazing Grace.

Heitschmidt introduced members of the Auxiliary and guests who were in attendance. Coast Guard Auxiliary safety brochures were distributed.

USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 3-8 member Paul Burd’s vessel was used in the static display. Flotilla 3-8 member Bob Allen concluded the Blessing of the Fleet ceremony by thanking all for attending.

The Auxiliary would like to thank Yorkville Flower Shoppe for donating a memorial wreath, which was carried to the display by local children in memory of those who have drowned in Yorkville. Jay and Kim Rutherford donated stage supplies. The City of Yorkville allowed the Auxiliary to use the Riverfront Park for the event.

“May God protect all those who canoe, kayak and fish on the river.”

Father Matthew Lamoureux,
PASTOR OF SAINT PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH IN YORKVILLE.

From the CS Corner

AMY SEELEY, DSO-CS

There is certainly a lot going on with the Communication Services (CS) area and 9WR right now. District Commodore Randy Podolsky and I have set up an email bang list so that the latest information can be passed on to all of our members. Everyone who had an email address in AUXDATA was put on the list and should have already received some of these emails from Commodore Podolsky. If you haven't gotten received one of the emails, then there are 2 possible reasons; either the email address you have in AUXDATA is wrong or you don't have an email address in AUXDATA. However, you can fix this situation! Go to the Members section of the District website, and you will find a link on the right hand side of the page titled "Email Bang List". Just click on the link and there will be instructions on how to sign up for this great feature. But wait....there's more! All 9WR DSO's are currently being set up with their own email bang lists as well. So you can subscribe to any of the other lists that interest you. For example, let's say you want to receive the latest news from the CS and VE departments. You can go to the Members section of the District website and sign up for these mailing lists. That way you can

keep up to date on all the latest news from each of the program areas. It is very easy to subscribe and unsubscribe for any of these lists, so please check this out!

Also, all websites will have to be updated because of changes from modernization such as Division and Flotilla identification numbers. With this change, all websites will have to be updated. Take this opportunity to go through your website and update all your pages. Perhaps you'd like to come up with a new look for your website? If you answered yes and you would like some designs to help you out, you're in luck! The National Information Technology Department of the Auxiliary has come up with some new webpage templates for everyone to use. They are very nice and relatively easy to use. You can access the links for those templates off the Members section of the 9WR webpage under the CS Department.

Of course if you have any questions on these programs available, please contact your FSO-CS, SO-CS or myself.

ANNOUNCING

George Kartsimas as the 9WR ADSO-OP-I, our delegate to the Auxiliary Interpreter Program. Any members interested in the program should contact George via email at geo.uscg@gmail.com.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Sign up for "The Bridge" and "DSO Program" updates via email. You can subscribe or update your preferences at <http://cgaux9wr.com/lists/?p=subscribe>

Boat Attire

PATRICK POZIWILO, DSO-OP

This is crazy, the call for articles for the upcoming Currents publication has me thinking about fall and that dreaded winter season. Officially, it is the first of fall, but summer has saved the best weather for a last fling. The days are warm, nights cool and the lake is flat – life does not get any better. Back to reality, dog days of summer are going to be followed by cool, cooler and colder days of winter. The dropping air and water temperatures bring about a change in our boat attire. Now is the time to rat around the forgotten cubby holes to locate our PPE gear.

We need to look at our anti-exposure coverall (mustang) to see if it is serviceable. The mustang must be inspected before it can be considered fit for use. I suggest that one does a preliminary inspection and maintenance before presenting it to the station RNS officer for an annual check. No one would ever put a mustang away soiled, but it could have become soiled while in storage. To bring a soiled mustang back to serviceable condition, clean it by hand-wash the suit in a solution of water and disinfectant/detergent. Rinse completely and hang dry. **DO NOT** put the suit in a dryer as the heat will destroy the suit. Every suit should have a marking that identifies the suit. The marking is station/OTO specific serial number and is located on the top; inside of the slide fastener cover or on the label inside the suit depending on the specific model. Restore the serial number if it becomes hard to read. Inspect the anti-exposure coverall over its entire surface for obvious signs of damage. Inspect the entry and leg slide fasteners for ease of operation over their entire length. Lubricate slide fasteners with paraffin. Inspect the oral inflation tube and valve. Inflate the head pillow by blowing in the inflation tube. Inspect entire surface for leaks, by holding under water. Deflate and stow head pillow by securing the free end to the back of the mustang with the snaps and Velcro strips. Check all reflector strips to insure they are securely fashioned. Give the anti-exposure suit and a list of deficiencies to the station RNS officer. The Station RNS officer will insure proper repairs of any defects, inspect the item, and record the inspection date in the maintenance log. If the CG Station is unable to provide assistance with repairs or does not have funding, inform the OTO for assistance.

Remember, when the air or water temperature drops below 60 degrees you will need to be wearing an anti-exposure suit while underway. If one has participated in a number of picnics or backyard grilling events this past summer, then one should try on the suit to see if it has shrunk during the summer.

The wearing of a PFD is not required when wearing an anti-exposure overall. If you wear a SAR vest that is completely outfitted with a light, mirror, whistle, knife and possible a PERB, then you can slip it on over the anti-exposure overall and are good to go. If you do not wear a SAR vest then the safety equipment needs to be transferred to the anti-exposure overall.

Should you be considering going underway when the temperature of the air or water dips below 50 degrees, then you have to be in an Industrial dry suit (MSD900) or a dry suit (MARITIME COLD WEATHER SUIT SYSTEM (MCWSS)). The inspection process for the MSD900 has over 61 steps and needs to be performed by a professional (the station RNS officer). If you have been personally assigned a dry suit, then take it to an RNS officer as the inspection procedure is technical and comprehensive. Remember, both garments require three layers of protection. You are responsible for the servicing of the undergarment layers 1 (wicking) and 2 (fleece).

As fall transitions in to winter and the water becomes hard, then you have one more garment transition. One now has to locate the most comfortable warm clothing and settle down in front of the fire place with a good book. Some books that I would suggest are: Navigation Rules (international-inland), Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual, Boat Crew Seamanship Manual, Rescue and Survival Systems manual and the U.S. Coast Guard Addendum to the United States National Search and Rescue Supplement (NSS) to the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR). While you are dozing, please recall all the pleasant fellowship experiences that you had on the water this past year and what you can do to enjoy the water and the auxiliary more next year.

COMMANDER'S DECK

Halls of Leadership

KEN DIXON, DCDR 2

One of the greatest asset's we have as a volunteer organization is our membership. Although they join for a number of reasons, the one that stands out the most, to me, is their desire to help. We are fortunate in that our members come from diverse backgrounds – many of whom bring expertise and talent in areas that can be of great value and benefit. Never will this become more apparent than when our Flotillas and member's move to new areas and become familiar (more so) working in different surroundings with different people. The big question will be -- are we going to keep doing as much as we can to take advantage of this available and valuable expertise and talent that lies within their desire to be of help?

As I continue to actively participate on different levels in the Auxiliary I get to see a lot of this "first hand."

First and foremost, we as leaders, should be there for our members. As names and faces move around the District, in different capacities, we must keep in mind that our MISSION is still there for the United States Coast Guard. Our concern, as the Auxiliary, should be to accomplish it with safety, diligence and professionalism. We should further work to develop a process that encourages creative thinking and implementation of good ideas.

In closing, I guess what I'm saying here is never be discouraged from participating in the "Program." No matter what unit you belong to, or your AOR, please remember "YOU'RE STILL YOU."

I should have been a Preacher.

Finance Report

ED FAHRNER, DSO-FN

The District continues to benefit from a very strong financial position. Surplus funds exceeding \$115,000 are available to the District Board to support activities of the Western Region, District Nine. At the rate of current 2009 spending, through August, we are likely to add to our surplus funds this year. A proposed budget for 2010 will be submitted to the District Board at the Fall Conference. Your thoughts on spending alternatives can be forwarded up the Chain of Leadership for consideration.

This year, we expect 42 % of our \$56,500 annual income to come from Membership Dues, 35 %

from Conference Revenues, 15 % from National Materials Center sales commissions and the balance from Interest earned on our invested funds. Conference Expenses are scheduled for 27% of our spending. Dues payments to National are forecasted to be 23 % of our expenses with Member Training and Member Awards, consuming another 19% of our funds.

Questions or concerns about our District financial affairs will be addressed quickly by contacting me at (630) 858-4597 or sending an e-mail to FahrnerLSA@aol.com.

EAA is for Everyone

MARCUS S. EVANS, BMC, USCG, STATION SHEBOYGAN

Over 30 different members from Flotillas all over the region came together with their facilities and experience to enforce the sea plane safety zone and provide operational support for the Experimental Aviation Associations annual AirVenture. The last week of July every year, this week long event brings in home made, novelty, and experimental planes from all over the nation. The large number of planes combined with the warm water and active recreational traffic make for quite an exciting patrol. It is not uncommon to find yourself on plane, with lights flashing, trying to notify an unknowing family out for an afternoon cruise that they have just wandered into an active run way. Luckily this year, all of the guardians stayed vigilant and we were fortunate enough to avoid and deter any serious accidents.



Auxiliarists John Linder and his fellow guardians from Flotilla 910.

that they have received special permission from the CG to keep the original paint scheme and markings on the aircraft.

In addition to all the Coasties on the water we also had operational members staffing OshKosh radio. This facility is stood up in a portable trailer at the marina. It is a full fledged command center with multiple radios, computers, air conditioning, charts, and many other amenities. Auxiliarist George Boris of Flotilla 56 takes the lead on the communications center every year and makes it one of the most efficient and professional radio facilities around. The coordination of up to seven boats at a time can be difficult and confusing but OshKosh radio did it with skill and ease every day.



AUXSARDET Neenah (Flotilla 43) on patrol in the Coast Guard owned Auxiliary operated 25' Response Boat 255060.

The weather was beautiful most of the week and this allowed for hundreds of take offs and landings. At any time there could be four take offs and three landings happening simultaneously in the nearly two square mile safety zone. The dynamics of the event definitely make situational awareness critical. You never really know what you are going to see while on patrol during this international event. One day we had a special visit from a decommissioned Coast Guard Grumman Albatross HU-16E. This beautiful plane is owned and operated by a group of Auxiliary aviators out of the west coast. It is said that for public relations and recruitment purposes,



Decommissioned Coast Guard Grumman Albatross HU-16E making its approach on the safety zone.

EAA is for Everyone

Continued from page 22



Auxiliarists Bruce Fuhrmann, John Vodra, and Don Denzin of Flotilla 43 on patrol.

All in all, six Auxiliary facilities and multiple radio operators devoted over 350 hours to this event. These hours were spent doing more than just “cutting holes in the water” and the vigilance of all of the crews was commendable. Without them, Station Sheboygan would not have been able to provide even the half of the quality of coverage and ensured safety for the over 70,000 registered boaters on Lake Winnebago. Special thanks go out to the members of Flotilla 43 for making the sacrifices that they in order arrange and coordinate this mammoth event every year. If you are interested in participating with the EAA in the future please contact Flotilla 43 or Station Sheboygan for details, we would love to have you!



Auxiliarists Lee Bahcall of Flotilla 42 and Dave Given of Flotilla 44 on patrol.

In Memory

We will miss our
members who
have crossed
over the bar

Robert Kimberly
(FLOTILLA 1-11)

Arthur Davis
(FLOTILLA 2-4,
FORMERLY FLOTILLA 7-9)

William Russell, Sr.
(FLOTILLA 2-4,
FORMERLY FLOTILLA 7-9)

Sam Koukious
(FLOTILLA 3-6)

Nicolas Bruns
(FLOTILLA 3-6)

Linda Mueller
(FLOTILLA 3-9)

Commodore Arthur Remus
(FLOTILLA 7-2)

Festival Recap

JOE SEDLOCK, FESTIVAL LIAISON

We had 32 Auxiliary members from various locations working as volunteers for the planned events and tasks such as “SPARS” pick ups from the GR and Muskegon airports, ship tours, Water Ski Show, PA exhibit, Coastie & Kids Day, Parade of Ships, Aux. float and Aux. Facility in the Grand Parade, National Memorial Service and Auxiliary Memorial Service. The Mackinaw saw over 12,285 visitors for the week with 8,825 on the Bristol Bay.

The pizza night was poorly attended with around 20 - 25 volunteers and staff. COM Randy Podolski thanked those in attendance for their services. The extra pizza was distributed to the SFO and Station crews.



We had 65 in attendance at the Auxiliary Picnic on Thursday. We enjoyed a “bonus” meal of prime rib from the previous night event, which was a big surprise, along with our baked chicken menu,.

Early reports indicate that attendance was increased from previous years to all the events scheduled.

The Auxiliary was represented by a parade float and an aux. facility provided by Ralph Fairbanks, and an Auxiliary exhibit on the SFO grounds.



All photos on this page courtesy of D9 CG PA Staff

Leadership, Learning & Lubber Lines

Upon review of the events of the Symposium, leadership and continuous improvement through learning was the recurring theme. From the debut of the Flotilla Leadership Academy to the Best Practices Session to Aviation Crew Resource Management, leadership ruled! Our senior leadership from VADM Papp, the National Commodore, our District Chief of Staff and the Director continued to drive home the principles of good leadership and an absolute requirement for success in a “change-centric” organization that we are striving to become.

“Together we are better” were the watchwords for the Symposium that highlighted our excursion through modernization and our assimilation of the Guardian Ethos. As the District Chief of Staff emphasized, we are all Guardians and should be proud of our heritage. The Chief of Staff continued to express his leadership philosophy that can be summed up in five words: listen, talk, respect, direct and laugh. These are simple but elegant reminders for all of us to emulate.

VADM Papp conveyed his own lessons in leadership with anecdotes of “wallowing” in amongst cadets and junior officers in his quest to become a better leader. He told the story in seeking advice from then Captain Paul Welling regarding the personal magnetism “Tall Paul” displayed with throngs of cadets surrounding the Commanding Officer of Eagle wherever he went. The secret counsel that Captain Welling gave to then LT Papp was to seize the initiative. Don’t wait for the throngs to come to you. Instead, head in amongst the cadets to “wallow” in their presence and allow them to learn from the “Master and Commander”...simple but sage advice he uses to this day.

Another story recounted recent accolades from Admiral Allen to VADM Papp for not only great Mission Execution and Mission Support during the ice rescue off of Detroit this year but great Mission Cognizance; Great Mission Cognizance because Admiral Allen became aware of District Nine’s response before hearing it on CNN. As you can imagine, VADM Papp was thrilled with the compliment and the realization that we have

to take the initiative to look beyond traditional mission accomplishment to survive in this new age of instant communications.

On another such occasion, VADM Papp was awakened by the boss regarding a downed aircraft off of Puerto Rico. In this case, Admiral Allen said he was feeling “cognitive dissonance”. VADM Papp indicated he didn’t know at the time what “cognitive dissonance” was but he was sure that it wasn’t a good thing. In this case, the search for the downed aircraft was proceeding as normal but what had been missed was that a family member of a prominent political force in Puerto Rico was aboard the missing plane. This information had been overlooked and could have been embarrassing to the Commandant during his meeting with the Puerto Rican consulate earlier that day. As such, another lesson learned by VADM Papp as well as all of us interested in continuously improving our leadership skills and mission cognizance.

This leads me to my view of leadership and my own particular “lubber’s line” or centerline to help cope with cognitive dissonance. Wikipedia describes cognitive dissonance as “an uncomfortable tension caused by holding two contradictory ideas simultaneously or experiencing inconsistency between one’s actions and one’s beliefs. The theory of cognitive dissonance proposes that people have a motivational drive to reduce dissonance by changing their attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors, or by justifying or rationalizing their attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors.” I try to reduce cognitive dissonance by aligning my actions to my “lubber’s line” of beliefs...returning to my core.

My core can be summed up with these initials that form a triad or three legged stool: JC – SC – CG. Each leg of this stool must work in concert with each other just like the three Auxiliary Regions that came together for the Symposium. “Together we are better.” You may have heard something similar from others prescribing to the tenets of God – Family – Country.



PAUL BARLOW
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
OF AUXILIARY
NINTH COAST
GUARD DISTRICT

My initials stand for Jesus Christ (JC), Stephen Covey (SC) and the Coast Guard (CG). They help form my basic belief system upon which all else can be built. As most of you are aware, there's been only one person throughout history who has been perfect...and it's not me. So, realizing my imperfections, I'm a firm believer in acquiring more and more knowledge to add to my own personal value and the need to constantly reevaluate and adapt...much like navigating by comparing fix after fix to our dead reckoning trace to adjust for set and drift...to adjust for errors and deviation from the selected course. Only with an absolute True North can we use our compass to measure these deviations adequately.

I've tried to internalize this simple message of absolutes as I review the bidding every day. I find it helpful to refer to JC, but you're welcome to select some other entity. As for me, I'll stick with JC who exemplifies the ultimate servant leader relying on freedom of choice and his teachings to love your neighbor as yourself. As a former ship Captain, I tried to look out for my crew. I tried to remove obstacles in their way. I wanted them to succeed, to be able to operate independently and to choose and decide on their own...hopefully as I would have chosen...but if not, to understand and accept the consequences. Most times, this approach worked and an effective team grew from mutual respect of each other as shipmates and as individuals.

Before I talk about Family and Stephen Covey, I'd like to reflect upon the U.S. Coast Guard. Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty is a phrase we're all familiar with that says it all. This simple phrase provides me with the values, vision and moral compass I need to travel through these turbulent times. As someone once said, "If you don't know where you are going, any road will take you there." (Lewis Carol's Alice in Wonderland) Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty helps me use my compass to take the "right" road. Leadership starts and ends with a set of values. Otherwise, there is no right road or wrong road. There is no Dead Reckoning plot that we can follow. There is no method of measurement and no accountability. A

good leader needs to measure and to be measured; held accountable, if only to themselves.

Finally, my studies of Stephen Covey (SC) have given me another mantra that reminds me of my commitment to family. SC starts with four rules to live by similar to the Chief of Staff on leadership: Live, Love, Learn and Leave a Legacy. I've touched on some of these already but I'd like to focus on our legacy where we can all understand the importance of the dash – between our birth date and death – and my family should be a big part of that dash. For me, its 1950 – (TBD) and at the end, I hope to have written on my tombstone that "Here lies a man that lived, loved and learned..."

I expect to achieve this epitaph by following the "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People" (Stephen Covey). He lists these habits as follows:

- **HABIT 1:** Be Proactive:
Principles of Personal Choice
- **HABIT 2:** Begin with the End in Mind:
Principles of Personal Vision
- **HABIT 3:** Put First Things First:
Principles of Integrity & Execution
- **HABIT 4:** Think Win/Win:
Principles of Mutual Benefit
- **HABIT 5:** Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood:
Principles of Mutual Understanding
- **HABIT 6:** Synergize:
Principles of Creative Cooperation
- **HABIT 7:** Sharpen the Saw:
Principles of Balanced Self-Renewal

I recite these habits every day...not that I am able to accomplish them every day...far from it...but I try to live by them if I can. I won't spend any more time on these habits but I think Habit 3 is worth mentioning. Put First Things First. God – Family – Country helps me keep life in perspective using the triad of JC – SC – CG. You also can decide what is of most importance to you. Find out what your First Thing is and try to stick to it. With this simple view

Leadership, Learning & Lubber Lines

Continued from page 26

of life and leadership, I'm able to cope and reduce my cognitive dissonance. Maybe you can too.

So, that's my story and I'm sticking to it. It works for me and hopefully, you can use some, all or none of it to get you through the day. I've tried to summarize the lessons learned during the Symposium regarding change, leadership, continuous learning and the Guardian Ethos that keeps me on course. I've told you my story that may help you in your journey to become a better leader. Choose your own lubber's line and try to follow it as best you can...no matter how difficult it may be.

As Commander Willis stressed in his training session on Tribal Leadership, "If you're not uncomfortable in your leadership progression, you're not reaching your leadership potential." You may be uncomfortable in hearing my story just as I am uneasy sharing my inner feelings on leadership and life. All I can say is reflected in the words of an old "Eagles" song -- "Get Over It."

Paul Barlow was born in Fall River, Massachusetts. He graduated in 1971 from the United States Coast Guard Academy and spent the next 26 years in operational positions throughout the Coast Guard including tours in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico and California. He was fortunate enough to command two cutters; one was the Acacia out of Grand Haven Michigan and the Thetis-a 270' Medium Endurance Cutter out of Key West, Florida. His senior officer tours placed him in charge of Law Enforcement in New England and Aids-to-Navigation on the Great Lakes. He also was assigned to the U.S. Navy to coordinate the UN embargo against Iraq. Upon retiring from the Coast Guard as a Captain in 1997, he worked several years as a computer consultant in the Cleveland area prior to assuming his duties as Assistant Director of Auxiliary in 2004. He has two daughters, Yvonne and Kim, two granddaughters, Lauryn and Paige, a grandson Drew. He is married to Renae, originally from West Virginia.

2009 Anderson Grant Award

BOB AUCHINLECK

ANDERSON GRANTS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Below are the recipients of a 2009 Anderson Grant Award. The good news is that we have all done a good job promoting the program. We received close to 20 grant requests, totaling more than \$14,000 - almost twice as many as last year. The bad news is that not all requests could be funded. The requests that were not funded were still good ideas, and we encourage those units to look for creative ways to fund them internally.

Flotilla 4-2: Portable PA system (\$800)

Flotilla 4-7: LCD (\$550)

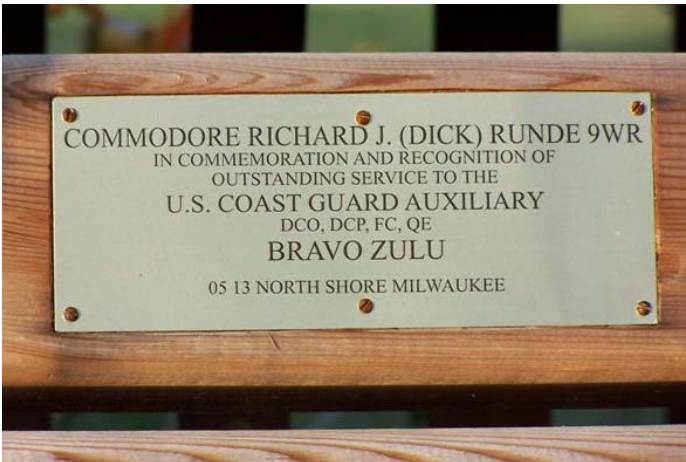
Flotilla 7-6: LCD (\$550)

Flotilla 9-9: LCD (\$550)

Flotilla 10-8: 10X10 Canopy (\$200)

Flotilla 18-10: Barrel labeling program (\$650)

PDCO Dr. Richard J. Runde Sr.'s Bench Dedication USCG Station Milwaukee



PDCO Dr. Richard J. Runde Sr.'s Bench Dedication

Continued from page 29

