

# HELLO ALL STATIONS

2009 Publication, Issue 1

Flotilla D5SR - 23 - 1  
Annapolis, MD

January - February 2009

## The Flotilla Commander's Corner

Wendy Kravit, FC

I would like to thank the flotilla for the honor and trust that it has shown me by electing me to serve as FC in this new year. We will all have to learn how to operate in our new Division and I expect that we will make new friends and forge new alliances with our fellow flotillas in our new Division 23. The northern flotillas of the new Division 23 are looking forward to cooperating and complementing each other. For example, some flotillas have crew members looking for coxswains, and we sometimes have coxswains looking for crew. The flotilla commanders of the northern flotillas have already been discussing how we can share resources and work together.

I am grateful for those members, both old and new, that have stepped up and agreed to take on the responsibilities of being staff officers. And I especially want to thank Braulio Mercader for taking the initiative to put together this newsletter. The newsletter will only work if we have the cooperation of all our members. Please, send him anything you think might be interesting to the flotilla, your achievements, accomplishments, and stories. Let's have a wonderful and productive and safe 2008. Semper paratus.❖

## From the IPFC

Larry Mawn, IPFC

Like a Phoenix rising from the ashes, our flotilla newsletter, *Hello All Stations*, joins us once again! While we may have had a Newsletter before *Hello All Stations* came into being around 1990, the Flotilla, in its wisdom, decided that we should once again have a newsletter and, as FC, it was my job to get one going, or going again, as the case may be. We fussed around looking for a name and finally came up with *Hello All Stations*.

Why name the Newsletter *Hello All Stations*? You may remember the Pan-Pan message, which is a message of urgency. It goes something like "Pan-Pan, Pan-Pan, Pan-Pan, **Hello all Stations**, this is USCG Group, Baltimore, Maryland, USCG Group, Baltimore, Maryland. Break, break". The message then follows. To me the expression "*Hello All Stations*" means, "Hey, everyone listen up"! I trust you all will "listen up" and read our newsletter faithfully.

I hope I did not miss someone in the history of our newsletter, if I did, I apologize, but when I think of "*Hello All Stations*", I think of Ron Mains who faithfully put out the newsletter for a number of years. Thank you, Ron! I am sure you will be glad to see the Newsletter coming into existence once again.

I thank all our active members, 2008 VFC Wendy Kravit and all of 2008's Flotilla Staff Officers for the great job they did last year. While I was off chasing windmills, windmills that, perhaps fortunately, I did not conquer, you all were in overdrive taking care of the Flotilla's business. And, our Flotilla, in its last year as Flotilla 16, had a very good year due to you! Great job! Thank you very much!

And thanks to all of 2009's elected and appointed officers for stepping up and keeping the Flotilla running! As part of Division 23 you will be operating in a slightly different environment this year. Despite my initial concern, I really believe this will be a good move for us. Most importantly, as I first feared, we are not weakened by desertions due to transfers. My great thanks to Anita and Art Murray and Ed Martin for deciding to stay with our magnificent Flotilla 16, now Flotilla 23-1 (I have not given up on Jeff Conopask yet!). Additionally, I believe Division 15 (now 23) is truly glad to have us and has accepted us with respect and enthusiasm!

Finally, I thank you very much for once again electing me as your FC for 2008. Being FC of any Flotilla is a great honor and responsibility, but it is even more of an honor and responsibility to be the FC of an outstanding Flotilla like Flotilla 01-06. Do not wait for it to come to you. Seek it out! Work for it! It is something that, if successful, you will tell your grandchildren and great-grand children about! Start out by supporting our Flotilla as a Flotilla Staff Officer. We have positions open. (Contact Wendy or Carl). Continue on into the Division and the District (we have had a District Captain, Ralph Norvel, from our Flotilla.) You can handle National Office! Tell me, I will help! Get off your butt and do it now!

Once again, thank you all for your incredible support of our Flotilla during 2008. I know that Wendy, Carl and you will do even better in 2009!

Hooyah Auxiliary! HOOYAH Flotilla 23-1!❖

## Annual Sector Baltimore Winter Workshops

Sector Baltimore will hold its annual all-day winter workshop on Saturday, February 28th, from 0830 to 1610 at the Southern High School (NOT the South River School), located at 4400 Solomon's Island Road (Route 2) in Harwood, MD. Sessions will include ICS-210, one-hour TCT refresher, mentoring, how to use AUXDATA, workshop for FCs and VFCs, working more closely with the USCG, new members workshop, wearing the uniform, patrols update, recertification update, brush up your radio procedure, e-mail for auxiliaries, Powerpoint for Auxiliaries, GPS for Auxiliaries, getting a USCG Captain's License, and AUXCHEF orientation.❖

## Navigation systems update

Starting in 2009, the AN designation for the Aid to Navigation staff function is changing to NS for Navigation Systems Division. It will take some time for NS to replace AN in documents and web sites.❖

## Instructor training available

Become an instructor and help to teach the public about safe boating! There will be a training class for people that would like to become qualified instructors. It will consist of 6 sessions during the last 3 Sundays of January and during the first 3 Sundays of February. All sessions will meet at Station Annapolis from 1900 to 2100 on January 11, 18 and 25 and February 1, 8 and 15. POC is Betty Fotheringham at (410) 268-1865.❖

## ICS 210 training opportunities

Lot of opportunities to take the ICS 210 course! Don't miss out. Remember, many of us need to take this course by the end of March.

ICS-210 classes between now and 31 March:

- 24 JAN – Division 23, Prince Fredrick, MD – Contact SO-MT 054-23
- 31 JAN – Division 24, Rockville, MD – Contact SO-MT 054-24
- 28 FEB – Sector Training Event
- 06, 07, 08 MAR – Advance Skills Weekend – USCG TRACEN Yorktown
- 14 MAR – Division 21 – Eastern Shore, MD – Contact SO-MT 054-21

## USCG encourages boaters to go digital with new emergency beacons

Coast Guard News  
5 January, 2009  
<http://coastguardnews.com>

PORTSMOUTH, Va. - The Coast Guard is encouraging mariners and aviators to make the switch to digital 406 MHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs) to keep pace with search and rescue technology.

Beginning Feb. 1, 2009, the Coast Guard and other search and rescue personnel will only receive distress alert broadcasts using digital 406 MHz EPIRBs. Search and rescue satellites will no longer process older model analog EPIRBs that only transmit on 121.5 or 243 MHz.

The 406 EPIRB's signal is 50 times more powerful than the 121.5 beacon's, allowing satellites to better detect its signal and provide a more accurate search area for rescue crews. Furthermore, a GPS-embedded 406 EPIRB can shrink a search area to about 100 yards and can pinpoint the position of a distressed mariner within minutes.

Additionally, the number of false alerts with digital beacons is significantly lower than analog beacons.❖

## America's Waterway Watch program more relevant following Mumbai attacks

USCGAUX *Public Affairs Press Release*  
4 December 2008  
<http://auxpa.org/>

WASHINGTON D.C. - The public can help the Coast Guard keep America's waterways safe and secure. In light of the tragic terrorist attacks in Mumbai it is important to remember that all Americans play a vital role in homeland security. Whether you live, work or recreate near the waterways of the United States you can assist the Coast Guard by remaining vigilant and reporting suspicious activity.

With this in mind, the Coast Guard Auxiliary reminds the public of the [America's Waterway Watch](#) program. America's coasts, rivers, bridges, tunnels, ports, ships, military bases, and waterside industries may be the terrorists' next targets. The America's Waterway Watch program simply requests that the public do their part and report:

- unattended boats near bridges,
- unusual diving activities,
- unauthorized vessels operating in restricted areas, or other suspicious activities.

Call the National Response Center at 1-877-24WATCH or radio the Coast Guard on marine channel 16. Use 911 or marine channel 16 to report immediate dangers to life or property. For your safety, do not approach or engage anyone acting in a suspicious manner – call for help. ❖

## NOAA request for public input for tide tables information

USCG Local Notice to Mariners  
23 December 2008

NOAA's National Ocean Service is evaluating specific features on nautical charts for their importance to marine navigation. The goal is to improve clarity and ease of use. To achieve this, NOAA's National Ocean Service is proposing the removal of tide tables and tables of small craft facilities

Both of these tables will be removed from the following charts:

11302 11303 11306 11308 11314 11315 11319 11322 11326  
11331 11347 11348 11350 11354 11355 11365 11367 11370  
11372 11374 11378 11385 11390 11393 11402 11404 11411  
11425 11427 11428 11430 11432 11433 11446 11449 11451  
11453 11464 11465 11467 11472 11485 11489 11491 11507  
11514 11515 11518 11534 11541 11553 12205 12206 12237  
12285 12316 12324 12352 12364 12372 13229 13274 18423  
18445 18447 18545 18546 18547 18548 18652  
18661 18662 18687

Tidal information will continue to be available at [HTTP://TIDESANDCURRENTS.NOAA.GOV](http://TIDESANDCURRENTS.NOAA.GOV). These changes are expected to affect new chart editions commencing in 2009. The proposed changes will be advertised on The Office of Coast Survey website under "Latest News" [HTTP://WWW.NAUTICALCHARTS.NOAA.GOV](http://WWW.NAUTICALCHARTS.NOAA.GOV). Comments about these changes may be sent to NOAA through the form at [HTTP://OCSDATA.NCD.NOAA.GOV/IDRS/INQUIRY.ASPX](http://OCSDATA.NCD.NOAA.GOV/IDRS/INQUIRY.ASPX) before February 20, 2009. ❖

## Division 23 is looking for a few good articles

Division 23 is seeking for articles for the next issue of the Chesapeake Chatter as soon as possible but not later than the middle of March. Please submit any article to Connie Cosgrove using MSWord or type the article inside the text of an email. ❖

## Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (PEPIRB) requirement

As of June 1st, 2004, Auxiliary surface facilities (including PWCs) and special purpose facilities not equipped with a 406 MHz EPRIB are required to have a minimum of one crew member carrying a PEPIRB while underway on orders. The life span of the PEPIRB batteries is about five years. PEPIRBs were issued in 2004 originally for all coxswains, so all of the batteries should need replacement. Contact Jim Welayd ASAP for more information. ❖

## Personal Income Tax - U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Members

Maryland Administrative Release 35  
1 September 2008

The Maryland Comptroller's Office has issued an updated release that provides guidance on the subtraction modification for U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary members. Effective for all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007, in order to be eligible for the \$3,500 tax deduction for each member, a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary member must have been an active member for at least 36 months (previously, 72) during the last 10 calendar years by December 31 of the taxable year. ([Maryland Administrative Release 35, 09/01/2008](#).) ❖

## Coast Guard issues Administrative Order for vessel aground

USCGAUX *Public Affairs Press Release*  
20 January 2009  
<http://auxpa.org/>

SEATTLE - The Coast Guard will issue an Administrative Order to the owner of the 40-foot sailing vessel Gwalchavad that ran aground on Sand Island, Ore., January 13 directing him to remove the vessel.

The vessel was discovered aground Thursday by personnel from Coast Guard Station Cape Disappointment, Wash. The owner of the vessel declined Coast Guard assistance and stated he would find an alternate way to remove the vessel.

An Administrative Order gives the owner 24 hours to remove the pollutants from the vessel or remove the vessel from the beach. If the owner is unable to remove the pollutants, the Coast Guard will federalize the project, remove the pollutants and dispose of them properly. ❖

## OPERATION GUARDIAN EAGLE

The 56th Presidential Inauguration was attended by a record-breaking crowd of more than 2 million people and was the largest domestic security operation in the history of the United States. The safety of all involved in the inauguration and subsequent events was assured by more than 25,000 military and civilian personnel. The United States Coast Guard (USCG), responsible for maritime and port security, played a key role during the events. This complex and comprehensive coast guard operation, dubbed Operation Guardian Eagle, was headquartered at Station Washington, Bolling AFB. The USCG Auxiliary played supporting roles in the operation in watch standing and in the registration and documentation section. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of all involved, the events went off with no more than minor disruptions.❖



LCDR Lecrone, Commanding Officer Station Washington, review plans with Air Force Brig Gen Hepburn and Col Roop



AUX Hargraves (5S-23-01), LT Graham, and AUX White (5N-12-01).



RADM Fred Rosa, Commander 5<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District, receives briefing before inspection.

## Somali interpreters needed

USCGAUX *What's New* - 2009

12 January 2009

[http://nws.cgaux.org/members/whats\\_new/announce.php](http://nws.cgaux.org/members/whats_new/announce.php)

The USCG Auxiliary Interpreter Corps is looking for linguists that are fluent in Somali/English. Only members of the USCG Auxiliary need to apply. Visit webpage: <http://cgwebs.net/interpreter/> If you know a member in your Flotilla who speaks Somali, suggest to contact Klaus G.E. Baumann, N-II❖

## Updated Recreational Boating Safety Guide

USCGAUX *What's New* - 2009

19 January 2009

[http://nws.cgaux.org/members/whats\\_new/announce.php](http://nws.cgaux.org/members/whats_new/announce.php)

Since the number of boaters who drown not wearing a life jacket has remained around 90 percent for several years, its time to approach boating safety exhibits differently to obtain better results. This updated exhibit guide contains ideas that work and that have been field tested by Auxiliarists. Visit this Boating Department site to view it before designing your boat show exhibit: <http://auxbdept.org/pdf/ExhibitGuideJan2009.pdf>.❖

## FLOTILLA 23-1 HISTORY

In 1939, the Coast Guard Reserve Act of 1939 was amended and the Coast Guard Auxiliary was established. The Auxiliary was established as a voluntary organization of citizens who were owners of motorboats or yachts. The Auxiliary's purpose was to further the interest in safety of life at sea and on navigable waters. These early regulations were approved by Herbert E. Gaston, Acting Secretary of the Treasury on March 5, 1941.

John K. Pyles was Commander of Flotilla 6, Division I, in 1943 and there are many letters addressed to him and sent by him. At that time, Flotilla 16 was listed as #6 in Division I, Annapolis, MD with Headquarters listed in Baltimore, MD.

In 1944, Tilghman Brice III, then Commander of Flotilla 16, wrote "... Flotilla 6, Division I, Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Annapolis Flotilla, was organized some three years ago..."

In a separate note, our Art Murray did crew with the same Tilghman Brice III ❖



## 2009 Flotilla Staff Officers

FC	Wendy Kravit
FVC	Carl Smith
FSO-AN	Doug Robinson
FSO-CM	Jim Welday
FSO-CS	Walt Discenza
FSO-FN	Wendy Kravit
FSO-IS	Jim Welday
FSO-MA	Leonard Butler
FSO-MS	Larry Mawn
FSO-MT	Ed Martin
FSO-OP	Jim Farrell
FSO-PA	Tony Drago
FSO-PB	Braulio Mercader
FSO-PE	Wendy Kravit
FSO-PS	Larry Mawn
FSO-PV	Rod Hargraves
FSO-SR	Helen Yurevitch
FSO-VE	Ben Copley

### CONTRIBUTORS

Anita and Art Murray

Wendy Kravit

Doug Robinson

Larry Mawn

Ed Martin

Jim Farrell

Walt Discenza

Rod Hargraves

**Hello All Stations** is a bi-monthly publication open to articles and pictures of interest to all Flotilla 23-1 members. Please forward any material to Braulio Mercader, FSO-PB.



Our FSO-SR (Helen Yurevitch) at work Flotilla 16's last Change of Watch.