# **DIVISION COMMANDER'S REPORT**

To: Wally Smith, Commodore Date: Year End (and Final Report)

From: Jerry B. Edelen, Division Commander Division 6

# **HIGHLIGHTS:**

1. Division participates in District Board and Staff Meeting and Memorial Service.

- 2. Flotilla 6-7 latest Newsletter is released.
- 3. Flotilla 6-7 conducts a Dining-In.
- 4. Flotilla 6-7 updates its Facebook page.
- 5. About Boating Safely Classes are held.
- 6. Flotilla 6-10 continues Public Education Classes.
- 7. Flotilla 6-4 website outlines Public Education Classes.
- 8. Surface Operations Patrols are conducted.
- 9. Santa Cruz Harbor Partnership continues.
- 10. CG Station Monterey Facebook Page includes Division 6 Activities.
- 11. Team Coast Guard participates in the Santa Cruz Lighted Boat Parade.\
- 12. CG Station Monterey sponsors Holiday Party.
- 13. Division 6 sponsors Holiday Party.
- 14. Coast Guard Pier clean-up continues.
- 15. Team Coast Guard celebrates the Holiday Season (CG Station Monterey sponsored)
- 16. Team Coast Guard celebrates the Holiday Season (Auxiliary sponsored)
- 17. Silver Charm support continues.
- 18. Flotilla 6-4 conducts joint operations with CG Station Monterey.
- 19. Monthly Meetings continue at CG Station Monterey.
- 20. Division support of CG Station Watchstanding continues.

NOTE: This will be my last report of the year and my last Division Commander's Report. It's been an honor (and a heck of a lot of fun) serving the Auxiliarists in Division 6 and working with my shipmates in the other Divisions and District Leadership. 2019 is shaping up to be our best year yet!

#### **DETAILS:**

1. On the weekend of November 18-18, Division 6 personnel traveled to Coast Guard Island to participate in the events that weekend. COMO Wally Smith, Jane Smith, Jerry Edelen, Sonia Foster, and Bobbi Kamil participated in events during the weekend.

On Friday, the EXCOM Meeting was held. The new District Captains were introduced, and work was begun planning District events for next year:



**EXCOM Meeting** 

On Saturday, the District Board and Staff Meeting was held:



District Board and Staff Meeting

Followed by a Memorial Service dedicated to all our District Shipmates who passed the bar this last year:



Memorial Service

After the Memorial Service, the Flotilla Commander's Course was taught. The course concluded at noon on Sunday. Overall, great instruction and even better fellowship!

2. Flotilla 6-7's latest newsletter, "Lubber Line" is out. It illustrates lots of great Flotilla Activities! Thanks to FC Sean Sheehan for putting the effort to produce such a great newsletter!



- 3. Flotilla 6-7 conducted a formal Dining-In as part of their monthly Flotilla Meeting on November 20th. Participating were COMO Wally Smith, Jane Smith, Jerry Edelen, Keith Simmons, Glenn Marshall, Gabrielle Adelan, Scott Galloway and Peter Kryl. All the important traditions and procedures of a formal Dining-In were explained and practiced, even to the Apple Juice Toasts! Flotilla Commander Sean Sheehan explains, "In short, a dining in is a naval tradition adapted from our British friends where military members gathered for an evening of good food, drinking, fellowship, and honoring the feats of individuals and organizations. We continue this in our own version where we celebrate our flotilla's year and toast our members accomplishments over a fun meal. The soup tureen (or is it a chamber pot?) that was displayed at this Dining-In was once owned by famed hero of the British Navy Admiral Nelson." A lot of effort went into this event, and everyone learned a lot and enjoyed the activity!
- 4. Flotilla 6-7 Commander Sean Sheehan reports:

1) Promotion of upcoming Fall boating, sailing, and navigation classes via Facebook and print media. A boosted Facebook post of a course announcement reached over 400 residents in service area and resulted in 1 inquiry for details via Facebook page. Go to link:

https://www.facebook.com/Flotilla67SantaCruz/photos/a. 815011451971721/1153562534783276/?type=3&theater

2) Flotilla 6-7 tailored a Coast Guard produced PSA with local contact information for use during Labor Day Holiday. Released on Facebook. See this link:

https://www.facebook.com/Flotilla67SantaCruz/videos/272613416687323/

5. About Boating Safely Classes were conducted at the Santa Cruz Harbor Meeting Room on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. COMO Wally Smith, DCDR Mike Brown and DCDR Jerry Edelen taught classes during the period. VDCDR Keith Simmons was on hand to assist. The classes were taught to Santa Cruz Harbor personnel and the feedback received was that they thoroughly enjoyed the experience and learned a lot.



COMO Smith teaching during one of the ABS Classes

6. Scott Galloway reports:

The following multi-day classes began in September 2018 and are being held through late December 2018

Coastal Navigation (CN)

Sailing Skills (SS&S)

Coastal Navigation (CN): on Mondays, on Mondays (14 weeks)

Sailing Skills (SS&S): on Thursdays, on Thursdays (14 weeks)

Students who take and pass the Capitola Flotilla 6-10 Boating Skills & Seamanship course will meet the State boating card requirement.

Students who take the Santa Cruz Flotilla 67 Sailing Skills & Seamanship course will have the opportunity to meet the California State boating card requirement . The curriculum for the autumn 2018 course has been altered to cover the California "Course of Safe Boating," and students will be offered the opportunity to take and mail in the California California "Course of Safe Boating" exam during the course.

Due to low enrollment, the Boating Skills (BS&S) class was cancelled for the fall. The two registering BS&S students agreed to transfer into the Sailing Skills (SS&S) class.

At present, five (5) students are enrolled in there Coastal Navigation Class and ten (10) students are enrolled in the Sailing Skills and Seamanship class.

7. Flotilla 64 website continues to include a zip code-based PE Class locator at the following URL:

http://wow.uscgaux.info/peclass.php?unit=113-06-04.

All local Montrerey Bay Division 6 Public Education classes are listed on that page.

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8. The following surface operations patrols were completed by Division 6 facilities during this last month:

Facility #	Coxswain	Flotilla #	Location	# hours
Facility 201474	Steve McCann	Flotilla 6-4	in Monterey Harbor	4 hours
Facility 201152	Mark McLaughlin	Flotilla 6-4	in Monterey Harbor	TBA
Facility 261616	Dave Wormington	Flotilla 6-7	in Santa Cruz vicinity	TBA
Facility 301219	Wally Smith	Flotilla 6-10	in Santa Cruz vicinity	14 hours
Facility 331522	Chuck Cobery	Flotilla 6-10	in Santa Cruz vicinity	16 hours
Air Facility	Glen Marshall	Flotilla 6-7	In Watsonville vicinity	In District Av Rpt

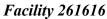




Our TWO Division 6 Fighter Aircraft...uh... Air Facilities! 😊









Facility 301219 assisting Vessel Assist



Facility 201474

Santa Cruz Harbor continues to partner with our Division: 9.

http://www.santacruzharbor.org/

and advertise our monthly "About Boating Safely" Classes:

https://www.santacruzharbor.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/ Announcement\_USCGBoatingSafetyCourse.pdf

In addition, the Santa Cruz harbor bulletin boards featuring a themed monthly boating safety message provided by Flotilla 6-7. The intention is to have a fresh, timely message up each month to catch boater's eyes.



# **PROJECTS:**

• All Completed!

# **CHALLENGES/ OBSTACLES:**

- Trying to juggle numerous Division responsibilities with limited personnel and available time.
- Trying to increase the membership and participation level of our Flotillas. (DONE!)
- Trying to develop a pool of members interested in moving up in the Division leadership hierarchy. (IDENTIFIED)

# **AGENCY INTERACTION:**

10. Coast Guard Station Monterey Facebook Page includes Auxiliary support:

https://www.facebook.com/coastguardstationmonterey/

11. On Saturday, December 1st, Team Coast Guard supported Santa Cruz Harbor's Lighted Boat Parade. Prior to the Boat Parade, a 4-hour Team Coordination Training Class was held in the Santa Cruz Harbor Classroom. Thirty-two Auxiliarists responded to the call and showed up to control access to the various docks to keep them from overflowing and collapsing. We also had two Paramedics present to assist with any injuries. Harbormaster Letisha Marshall was effusive in her praise for our support and provided delicious burritos for supper prior to our going on duty. At the end of the evening, it was reported there were no incidents of any kind and once again, many thanks were provided for our support.



Harbormaster Letisha Marshall briefs the 32 Auxiliarists about the Evenings' Activities



Just one of the many extravagantly Lighted Boats

12. Team Coast Guard celebrated the Holidays with a Coast Guard Station Holiday Party. Station Leadership participating included CG Station Commander LT John Gatti,f Station XO Cate Giguere, and Station BMC Phil Dawalt. On December 14th, most of the Coasties from CG Station Monterey, the Cutter Hawksbill and the Auxiliarists from Division 6 descended on Peter B's Brew Pub in Monterey to enjoy the holidays. Six Auxiliarists participated....Jerry Edelen, Keith Simmons, Craig Johnson, Alex Urciuoli, Lyn May, and Kim Huynh. The active duty Coasties bought the food....the Auxiliary insured the beer flowed freely. During the evening, there was an ugly sweater contest, a raffle, and a gift exchange. A lot of fun was had by all!



Great Fellowship!



Gift Exchange

13. On December 15th, Team Coast Guard also celebrated the Holidays with an Auxiliary-sponsored Holiday Party at Ella's at the Watsonville Airport. 46 members of Division 6, including folks from all three Flotillas met with CG Station XO Cate Giguere and CG Station BMC Phil Dawalt and celebrated the holiday season in style. It was an excellent opportunity for members of our three different flotillas to get together and to get to know one another, along with our Station Leadership. At neither of our two holiday parties did we have to use our Division Bail Bond Account!





Coasties and Auxiliarists mingling Consuming wood-fired cuisine amongst friends!

14. At the recurring request of the CG Station Commander, Division member, Keith Simmons, continues his weekly trips to the Monterey US Coast Guard Pier and informs personnel there not to leave their fishing line behind when they leave.

In Keith's Own Words: I completed eight trips, including one with Ben Fowler on 26 November, to the US Coast Guard Pier at Monterey and picked up litter, ever vigilant in relation to America's Waterway Watch (AWW). In general, while walking on the Pier I sometimes have brief conversations with tourists, including pointing out features and answering questions. Ben, a Monterey Police Officer, had a conversation with one of his fellow officers on patrol. Thus, serendipitous with environmental benefits, my ongoing litter control effort is a positive public relations activity. Also, I often have the opportunity to say hello and briefly chat with Active Duty personnel, which also contributes to Auxiliary maintaining good rapport with the Gold Side. The day Ben participated in picking up litter and we also pulled weeds, some well rooted and entrenched, on initial Pier section over the fence on the seaward side where the asphalt abuts the concrete seawall as the weeds were not only unsightly but the roots degrade the asphalt. Between City of Monterey staff, recently including a street sweeper on the initial section, one ever-present volunteer on the Pier and occasionally one particular and other SCUBA divers alongside the Pier, all affiliated with organizations unrelated to the Auxiliary, and our Station Monterey Commanding Officer approved Auxiliary effort, the USCG Pier is surely the most consistently litter-free pier in America – something in which Active Duty and Auxiliary can take pride.



Keith picking up refuse



Keith and Ben working in their Team CG Station Monterey attire



Sammy the Sea Otter showed his appreciation of Keith's and Ben's Efforts!

15. Patrolling on the San Francisco Bay on Silver Charm: Silver Charm is a specially designed Auxiliary facility used to support Air Station San Francisco. Terry Blanchard, Wally Smith, Jane Smith, and Mark McLaughlin are regulars who assist the Active Duty Coast Guard with their Air Operations.



Checking on bridge maintenance in SF.



**Coxswain Training** 



Some of the Crew of Silver Charm for the day

16. Coxswain Steve McCann and his crew of Tracy Schultz and Robb Kay continue to conduct joint training with CG Station Monterey's 47-foot Motor Life Boat.



Crewman Robb Kay and the 47-foot MLB

- 17. Flotilla 6-4 conducts its monthly Flotilla meetings at the CG Station Monterey classroom.
- 18. Three Division members support CG Station Monterey by performing Watchstanding duties. CG Station Monterey, Division 6 Watchstanders Tom Sprague, and Alex Urciuoli are fully qualified U.S. Coast Guard Watchstanders and continue to serve in this important position at CG Station, Monterey.





Division Watchstanders Alex Urciuoli and Tom Sprague at work at CG Station Monterey!

# **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

- Have Fun! **DONE!**
- Win the Phifer Award! (**DONE!** ©)
- Have all Flotillas show photos/ videos of last year's events PRIOR to the events reoccurring this year. Show our members what a great time everyone has at the events and encourage everyone to participate. *Only Partially Successful...one Flotilla attempted*.
- Have all Flotillas qualify for the NACO 3 Star Excellence in Diversity Award. (*Flotillas 6-4 and 6-7 received the Award!!!*
- Sign up three Division Members to earn the RBS Device. Encourage everyone. (We had one member earn his RBS device this year!)
- Have two Division Members qualify for AUXOP. Encourage everyone. (*Peter Kyryl received his AUXOP!*)
- Make Flotilla Meetings and Division Meetings more pertinent and fun, thereby increasing meeting participation and retention. DONE...Huge Improvement!
- Contact inactive members, encourage activity, learn about roadblocks to inactivity. Sporadic Accomplishment.
- Encourage all Flotilla activities to be considered Division Activities. Although Flotillas will take the lead, Division identification is important for cohesiveness and morale. **DONE!**
- Encourage Members of each Flotilla to attend other Flotilla meetings to increase Division identification. DONE *by Leadership*!
- Train Division Staff Officers to "own" their areas of responsibility....to monitor, assist and mentor Flotilla Staff Officers. Needs Huge Improvement Next Year
- Insure timely reporting by Division and Flotilla Staff Officers. I know this may be next to impossible, but my recent purchase of a cattle prod may help! *Better this year; but, could be better*.
- Encourage all Division members to attend PCA and D-Train....Great Training and Fellowship! Increase the number of crew qualified Division Members by at least 2 and increase Division member participation in the Santa Cruz and Antler's OPTREX's. (*This year, more members attended both training events than in previous years!*)

• Increase the excellent support provided to CG Station Monterey, USCG Cutter Hawksbill, the local harbor masters and other local agencies. Inquire and analyze how we can increase our support. GREAT SUPPORT AND WILL GET BETTER NEXT YEAR!

RBS PROJECT	GOAL	CURRENT STATUS
Surface Operations (hrs.)	1700	1244
Marine Dealer Visits	1150	919
Public Ed. (enrollment)	160	202
Vessel Safety Checks	650	359
Volunteer Hours	18,000	11,156

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry B. Edelen DCDR – Division 6