



District Eleven Northern Region
DIVISION COMMANDER'S REPORT – 113-03

MONTH ENDING: 30 APRIL 2019

TO: DCO Mary Kirkwood

FROM: DCDR 03 Jeff Fite

Highlights:

- MSAMS/APOS training is underway
- DIV 3 OPTREX recertified 2 members
- DIV 3 New Member Academy successfully concluded
- CAST for Kids 28
- HR Challenge coin awarded

Details:

- Until recently, Division 3's entire MSEP Department consisted of 3 members. With the conclusion of a day-long training session conducted by DSO-MS Will Sumner and ADSO-MS Sue Fry on April 6th at STA Rio Vista, that number has quadrupled to 12. Members successfully completed the initial training needed to work towards certification as an Auxiliary Prevention Outreach Specialist (formerly Marine Environmental Education Specialist) and as an Auxiliary Marine Safety Administrative and Management Specialist.
- SO-OP John Hardin was Incident Commander of the 2019 Division 3 OPTREX on April 13th, and two members were recertified as Boat Crew Members. (This is the new, QE-only version of the old Delta OPTREX. The training and fellowship that we all knew and loved will be on June 22nd at Folsom Lake.)
- SO-MT Don Anderson and FC 33 Nancy Holtzman conducted a New Member Academy at STA Rio Vista on April 27th. 12 Auxiliarists from Divisions 3, 5, and 10 were briefed on Auxiliary culture and customs, how to cultivate a successful Auxiliary career, and how to utilize online resources to independently learning problem-solve. After the training and an AUX-FS lunch, members were treated to a tour of the station and a 29-foot RB-S. Unfortunately, the water was too rough for a safe and comfortable underway experience. Next year, for sure!
- April 28th saw the return of *C.A.S.T. for Kids* at Folsom Lake. Representatives of every Flotilla in Division 3 were on-hand at one of my favorite events. *C.A.S.T. for Kids* pairs up professional anglers with special-needs kids and their families for a day of fishing and fun on the water. The Auxiliary performed VSC's on every participating boat, and fitted every child and parent with a life jacket provided by California Division of Boating and Waterways. We then got on the water to provide a safety patrol, and to take photographs that are sent to *C.A.S.T. for Kids* for distribution (after proper releases, of course) to the families. I was privileged to be a crew member on the safety patrol, and I would like to report that better conditions could not have been possible: the lake was full to the bathtub ring, the temperature was about 70 degrees, no wind, flat water, and the hillsides were lush and green from this spring's abundant rainfall. It was a good day to be an Auxiliarist.
- AUX Gary Estep was awarded a challenge coin from the Auxiliary National E-Directorate, for completing all Core Values training as well as the BQII qualification (which includes ICS 100 & 700), within 30 days of joining Flotilla 33. These Challenge Coins are available to all new members who gain BQ status within 30 days of their official enrollment date. I recommend all DCDR's pass the word to their FC's and HR department about this valuable incentive, and extend my congratulations to AUX Estep!

Projects

- Division Commander's member preparedness initiative: CERT preparedness course TBD
- National Safe Boating week, extended to a season-long project, underway 18 May
- OPEX to coincide (roughly) with USCGAUX Birthday, 22 June, Folsom Lake

Future Activities

- OPEX and Family Appreciation Day, June 22nd at Folsom Lake
- California Capital Airshow, October 5-6th
- Division 3 COW, January 11th. Sacramento Yacht Club docks and clubhouse.

Challenges

- Additional surface facilities needed
- Air facilities are struggling to get mission hours (maintenance, aging of aircraft owners)
- Insufficient IS officers, and little interest by members in becoming IS qualified
- Recruitment and retention

Agency Interactions:

- State Parks Folsom Lake (ongoing radio guard for patrols)
- Sacramento PD Marine Patrol, Sacramento SO Marine Patrol (ongoing, plus safety zone for recovery of sunken tow truck and two victims)
- Sea Scouts by 3-10 on 24 April, in Galt
- Delta Sailing School (ongoing) by 3-10

Goals and Objectives

- Complete assembly of the Photo Op Banner frame
- Complete repairs to DIV 3's Coastie

<end of report>

Respectfully Submitted,



—Jeff Fite, DCDR 03

Division 113-03 (Greater Sacramento and the California Delta)