



DIVISION COMMANDER'S REPORT

To: DCO Mary Kirkwood, D11NR
Cc: District Board and Staff
Date: JUNE REPORT FOR MAY 2019 ACTIVITIES
Division: 6 – Gold Coast
DCDR: Jane D. Smith

Highlights

- **May 2** - Support of USCGC Aspen and 6-10 facility #522
- **May** – Flotilla 67 – Glen Marshal – FSO-HR - Efforts to recruit a more diverse membership continues.
- **May 14** – Operational Training
- **May** – Flotilla 64 – Clean up
- **May 15** – Flotilla 64 Boat Crew Academy
- **May 18** - Safe Boating Weekend –for all Division 6
- **May 17 & 18** - Coast Guard Watch standing support

Details:

- **May 14** - Mark McLaughlin conducted a “2019 Surface Operations Workshop” in the Training Room at Station Monterey. Fourteen Monterey Auxiliarists participated, plus Mark. See two photographs at bottom of this report.
- **May 15 - Flotilla 64 Boat Crew Academy** kicked off with 6 instructors and 9 students. Lead instructor for the course is Mark McLaughlin, SO-OPS. The multi-week course consists of classroom training, hands-on skills development and field trips to become acquainted with boat operations. Classes have been held at Station Monterey and at Mark McLaughlin’s office in Castroville. The course is intended to familiarize students with the items required for Boat Crew PQS signoffs. The first 3 sessions included Crew Efficiency Factors, Survival Equipment and Pyrotechnics, and Marlinespike Seamanship. Several members of other flotillas have asked whether this will be offered again in the fall, but there are currently no plans to do so.
- **May 18th** – Flotilla 64 with support from Station Monterey - STATION MONTEREY’s OPEN HOUSE - On May 18th 2019, USCG Station Monterey hosted its 2nd annual Safe Boating Open House as part of National Safe Boating Week (NSBW). Like last year, this event was very successful. Along with Station crew, Auxiliary members also participated. Adding to the festivities, a helo and rescue swimmer from Air Station San Francisco flew to Monterey and provided a public demonstration to the delight of visitors!



- May - USCG Pier Cleanup--** As he always does, Keith Simmons was busy this month making sure Monterey's USCG pier is the "cleanest in America." Keith took extra special care to make sure the pier was pristine in advance of the annual Memorial Day ceremony when the USCG Auxiliary was joined by members of the Fleet Reserve Association and a Naval Sea Cadets Honor Guard. Well done to all! In Keith's own words: "I completed eight trips to the US Coast Guard Pier at Monterey and picked up litter, ever-vigilant in relation to America's Waterway Watch (AWW). While on the Pier I sometimes have brief conversations with tourists, some foreign, pointing out features and answering questions. Thus serendipitous with environmental benefits, my ongoing litter control effort is a positive public relations activity. Typically, I often have the opportunity to say hello and briefly chat with Active Duty Station Monterey personnel, including this month with the Commanding Officer, and Cutter *HAWKSBILL* personnel, which contributes to Auxiliary maintaining good rapport with the Gold Side. Litter typically collected before it can end up in the ocean includes cigarette butts, scraps of plastic and paper, occasional bottle or can, and unfortunately sometimes fishing line, leaders, hooks, lures, and lead sinkers, which included this month several lengths of fishing line. Between City of Monterey staff and periodically a street sweeper on the initial section, one ever-present environmental organization.
- May 17 & 18 – During NSBW –** As the 29'RBS was on display in Monterey for their Open House and NSBW, Flotilla 6-10 provided two facilities, #522, Coxswain Chuck Cobery and #219, Coxswain Wally Smith and a third facility #616, Coxswain Dave Wormington of Flotilla 67, as well as crewmembers from Division 4, 6 and 12 were asked to stand watch at Coast Guard Station Small Santa Cruz for a 24 hour period between 1600 17 May and 1600 18 May. Flotilla 67 #616 provided the facility and crew for the first eight hours, then the next 8 hours by #522. On the afternoon of 18 May, Wally Smith and crew on C.R.A.F.T Moment braved high winds and rain in response to a vessel in distress near Davenport. The crew ultimately escorted the distressed boat, along with Santa Cruz Harbor Police, who arrived on the scene as well, to safety at Santa Cruz Harbor.
- In addition to the regular corps of volunteers cleaning the Pier, occasionally one and sometimes additional 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.
- This month, litter was picked up just prior to two special events: (1) May 18, Station Monterey Open House which included tours of the Cutter *HAWKSBILL*, CG boats, Monterey Fire Boat, and NOAA boat, all accessed down the Pier, while an Auxiliary boat patrolled offshore, and (2) May 27, Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony held on the Pier.
- May**, with approval of the Station CO, Keith Simmons weeded the Lighthouse Avenue sidewalk on the opposite side of Station Monterey, during which for a couple hours a day for seven days (spread out due other obligations and bad weather) forty-three 33-gallon yard waste bags were filled. Each day, the CO, XO, or CWO arranged for Active Duty personnel to carry filled bags to the Station's dumpster making this a joint "Team Coast Guard" project. Though this was an augmentation project, litter on the sidewalk was also collected and thus the project is mentioned herein.



- **May 20** - While weeding at 8:10 AM, Keith observed suspicious activity adjacent to the very end of the Station's fence line. Standing among tall weeds, at this vantage point a person took a photograph or photographs across the street of the guarded gate entrance area of the US Army Presidio of Monterey, home of the Defense Institute. For many reasons, Keith believed he was a foreign national. Soon after, he emailed the Station leadership with details and received a reply from the XO: "Thank you also for passing along the suspicious activity you noticed. She forwarded it to Presidio security staff for their awareness."
- **May** - Marine Patrols – again all three Flotillas had several during this month.

PROJECTS

- **September** – Date TBA – Station Monterey - another SAR practice with local agencies and Auxiliary in Santa Cruz AOR.

CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES/OPPORTUNITIES:

- Gather members' information and completing the NACO 3 Star Award Application for 2019.
- Many members need encouragement to be more involved in Vessel Examinations and Marine Dealer Visits. Also, difficult in getting members to step up for Flotilla Staff Office positions.
- Glenn Marshall – Flotilla 67 – FSO-DV/FSO-HR - continues to reach out to UCSC students and other areas for prospective members. Also, Flotilla 67 is working well with new members.
- September the classes will start again – SS&S, BS&S and Coastal Navigation.

AGENCY INTERACTION

- **May 2** – Flotilla 6-10 facility #522 provided direct support for the USCGC Aspen as a target platform for Aspen's newly trained boarding teams. Aux Crewmembers from several flotillas within the District participated. Four scenarios were conducted testing the skills of the boarding team to include the discovery of illegal firearms, faulty safety equipment, and no registration.
- **May 16 - Send-off for Station Monterey XO Cate Giguere and BOSN2 Phil Dawalt, Tony Budlong retirement**, May 16, 2019. Held at 64 members Bobbi Kamil and John Ittelson's home, this fun and heartfelt event was attended by Active Duty and Division 6 members, and their guests.
- **May 18 – Flotilla 64 AUX members worked with Station Monterey personnel** to coordinate, support, and put on the 2nd annual Safe Boating Open House at Station Monterey on May 18th as part of NSBW.
- **Coordinated with Fleet Reserve Association, Station Monterey, and other agencies** for the annual Memorial Day observance at the USCG pier in Monterey.



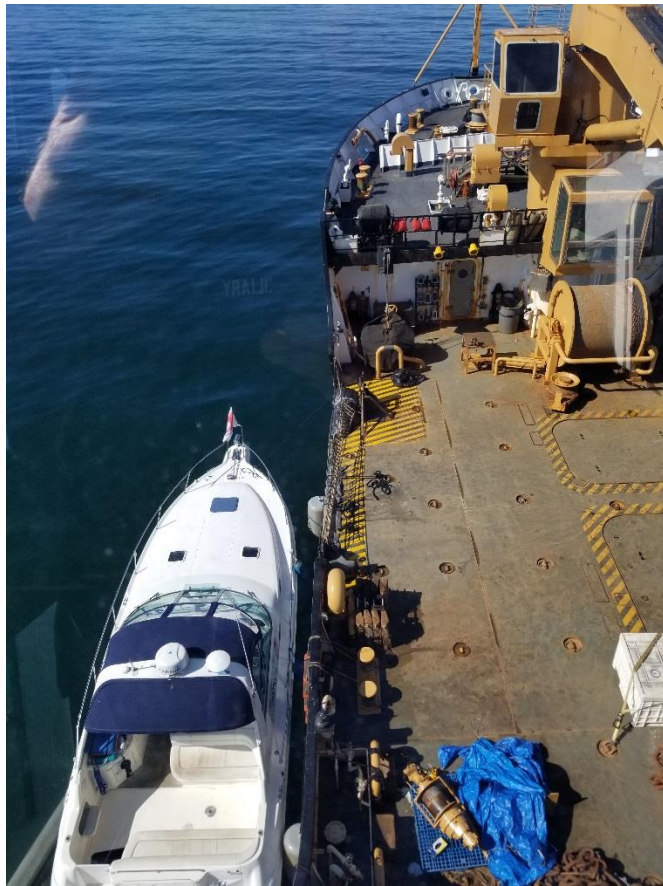
- **May** – Flotilla 67 interacted with both “Save our Shores” and the National Marine Sanctuary regarding National Safe Boating week, and with Station Monterey Personnel at the Santa Cruz Harbor.

GOALS OF DIVISION 6

- Retain and Recruit – Contact inactive members, encourage activity, learn roadblocks to activity
- Conduct PA events to present the Auxiliary to the public.
- Continue to offer training to members as requested.
- Coordinate emergency services throughout Division 6
- Increase interaction, communication, shared events, and training between Flotillas.
- Progress towards RBS goals will be reviewed monthly.
- Continue the excellent rapport with CG Station Monterey, USCG Cutter Hawksbill, the local harbors and other local agencies. We are always looking through our interaction for ways we can help.
- Keep the multiple events to involve more than one flotilla to allow for great fellowship and awareness. This provides for timely acquisition of information from many entities and allows for timely dissemination to the flotilla member.

RBS PROJECT	GOAL 2019	CURRENT STATUS 2019
Surface Operations (hrs.)	1300 hours	113 hours
Marine Dealer Visits	1100	325
Public Ed. (enrollment)	250	90
Vessel Safety Checks	299	420
Volunteer Hours	15,000	6,940





May 2nd - # 522 rafted alongside CGC Aspen



Commanding Officer Jeff West with Coast Guard Auxiliarist Chuck Cobery (right) and crew member from Aspen





Aspen Small Boat with boarding crew aboard approaches Auxiliary Facility #522



Boarding Crew from Aspen training on Auxiliary Facility #522





NSBW – Station Monterey – Air Station San Francisco, demonstrations with Flotilla 64's, Facility #474, Coxswain, Steve McCann, standing by to assist



Water Rescue of overturned kayak participants by Flotilla 64's #474 (Coxswain Steve McCann, crew, Rob Kay and Tracy Schultz) during the annual races





OUR HARD-WORKING INSPECTION TEAM IN MONTEREY – FROM LEFT TO RIGHT - ROB KAY, BOBBI KAMIL, KEITH SIMMONS Jerry Edelen, Brian Babcock, Ben Fowler, Craig Johnson

