



**U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
District Eleven North Region
DIVISION COMMANDERS REPORT**



To: Mary Kirkwood, Commodore

June-12 -2019

From: paul custance, Division Commander

Division: 113-07

HIGHLIGHTS

1. NSBW
2. Patrolling
3. No division meeting in May

DETAILS:

1. National safe boating week.

Because it is hard to fit much into the week of NSBW with our cooler and unpredictable weather, in Utah we have more of a "Safe Boating Month" and attend or plan events throughout the month of May. Utah's spring weather is very unpredictable and boating activity is very light until Memorial Day or after because the lakes are still cold with snow melt runoff. So, in 2019, in typical Utah spring weather fashion, we had a few events that were cancelled or were not well attended because of the rain, snow, hail, wind - all the usual! Below is a report on the events we were able to attend.

PA EVENTS:

• **May 11 - Davis County Safe Kids Day 2019**

Saturday, May 11, 2019 - 10 am - 2 pm at Northridge High School in the main gym. This event was sponsored by Safe Kids Davis County. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has been invited to this event by the Davis County Health Department for several years. Kellie Farr was our point of contact with the Davis County Health Department. It was estimated there were 3000-4000 in attendance, which was excellent as this was the first time this event had been held in this venue, and there were multiple competing events going on in the Ogden area at the same time. The Safe Kids Davis County Safety Fair has been held for several years and is always highly publicized in local newspapers and on social media such as Facebook. The event has always been well-attended.

All PE events are open to any member of Division 7 who wishes to attend. Information was given to the FCs at Division Board Meeting the month before the event for them to take back to their Flotilla members. Division 7 Utah members in attendance at the Davis County Safe Kids Fair were Anthony King (FC of Flotilla 7-6 and Auxiliary POC), Tony Zocchi, Carl Henning, Zachary Silveous, Lana Visser, and Pandora Panda aka Ann Zocchi. Uniform of the day was Tropical Blue.

In addition to the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, in attendance were Police Departments, Fire Departments, Paramedic personnel, and Search and Rescue teams from around Davis County. Also in attendance were the Davis County Sheriff Department, various Davis County hospitals, clinics, medical centers, Davis School District, Davis County Health Department, and various organizations and vendors dedicated to child health and safety.

Activities included hands-on look at first responder trucks and facilities, a life flight helicopter landing, inflatable slide, bike helmet give-away, a fire and earthquake trailer that simulated fire and earthquake conditions on a home, Sheriff Mobil Command vehicle, and child safety booths with activities. Pandora Panda was on hand with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to meet the children, pose for photos and exchange high fives, and while their parents learned about life jackets and water safety. The kids received coloring books while parents had ample materials available to browse about life jacket selections, Kids and PWCs, radio use, carbon monoxide poisoning, hypothermia, and other boating safety information, as well as a life jacket display. Lana Visser assisted Pandora Panda with the children while the other Division members in attendance talked to and assisted members of the public who stopped at our booth.

- **May 15 - Hill AFB Outdoor Recreation and Travel Summer Expo**

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at Hill Air Force Base next to the Outdoor Recreation, Tickets, and Travel Building. This event was sponsored by Hill Air Force Base, and so was geared to the military personnel and families assigned to Hill AFB. Attendance was restricted to those military personnel, civilian workers, and vendors who had access to the base. Since there are a number of lakes and other bodies of water in the area of Hill AFB, the Auxiliary was asked to attend to talk to the attendees about boating safety and life jackets. The base rents paddle craft and small boats to people on base through the Outdoor Recreation Building, so it was a good audience for possible first-time watercraft users.

In addition to the Auxiliary, there were a number of select commercial vendors offering outdoor recreational activities, travel opportunities, and personal services to the base personnel. The Auxiliary was the only other government-affiliated agency attending the event. Division 7, and in particular, Flotilla 7-6, has a good relationship with HAFB, having taught several boating safety classes to the military personnel and families on base.

The event was open to any Division 7 Auxiliarist who wished to attend, but we were required to give the base a list in advance of those who would be in attendance from the Auxiliary for security purposes in order to be allowed

through the base gates. In attendance was Anthony King, Ann Zocchi, Tony Zocchi, and Lana Visser. Uniform of the Day was Tropical Blue, with extra attention to perfectly worn proper uniform and protocol since we were on a military base and interacting with active military personnel.

At day's end, we felt this had been a very successful event. There were not many children in attendance, so the attendees were able to stop and talk to us about life jackets and boating safety-related topics without the distraction of trying to keep track of their children. Our life jacket display was in a prominent position and generated some good discussions about life jackets. In particular, we had a number of discussions about paddle boards and paddle craft, and many were interested in the fanny pack-style life jackets gaining popularity with weekend paddle board enthusiasts we see on our Utah lakes. Pamphlets were also available on a variety of boating safety-related topics and the Utah Boating Rules and Regulations booklet.

•May 21 - Wasatch County Safe Kids Fair

May 21 - Wasatch County Safe Kids Fair, Southfield Park, Heber Utah- the Auxiliary has attended this event for several years and was scheduled to be at this event, but reluctantly did not participate at the last minute because of severe weather - strong winds, heavy rain, thunderstorms, and lightning exactly during the scheduled time frame. The event organizers did not have an alternate venue selected in case of bad weather, and we felt it made no sense to

have paper-based materials at an event with heavy wind and rain, even though we had a canopy. We also felt we needed to decline for the safety of our members who were scheduled to attend this event, as there was significant travel distance through our mountain canyons to Heber City, which can be treacherous during bad weather. We had been in contact with our POC for the event, Amber Pulley, throughout the day and she agreed with our reasoning for not attending. We have been invited back next year, and hope the weather is significantly improved!

VE Events:

- We had VE events scheduled at two lakes and another venue, but were not well attended because of our late cold, wet spring weather. This has been the scenario for National Safe Boating Week in Utah for a few years now.



PE Events:

Boating Safety Classes:

- **May 17 - Paddle Board Classes at Hill Air Force Base**
The Paddle Board Classes at Hill Air Force Base were cancelled because of lack of students. Since the class was open only to individuals who were authorized to be on base (military or civilian), the class was only advertised on base.

 - **May 18 - *About Boating Safety* PE Class**
This class was held at Cabela's in Lehi, Utah from 9:30 am - 5:00 pm. There were three students from our February boat show.
2. **Patrolling:** Patrolling well the month of May was the start of our patrol season we are still currently waiting on two of our state boat facilities to be released from the maintenance shop expecting them to be released the end of June probably middle of July due to the heavy influx of equipment the state has had to work on

 3. **No divion meeting** unable to hold a division meeting due to unforeseen circumstances among the division board lack of quorum no pressing business needed to be handled this month.

PROJECTS: CG Communication Trailer Division 7:

1. we need graphics for the Utah Comms trailer.
2. the trailer needs to have a spare tire along with jack in the event of a flat tire
3. we believe the four tires on the trailer are well past their life expectancy. And will need to get some new tires for the trailer.

CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES

1. needing more new membership
1. need to keep our current membership active
2. need to activate the inactive members through fellowship actives
3. we need to get more boat crew members!

AGENCY INTERACTION: on June 09-2019

Utah National Guard Special Forces Unit from Camp Williams Utah held a parachute drop at Deer Creek Reservoir participating units where the Coast Guard auxiliary, Utah State park rangers, Wasatch County search and rescue with their dive team. More information will follow in my next report. Outstanding work by the auxiliary in supporting the parachute drop event. Bravo Zulu to all the members of participated we had three facilities in one radio facility and we had a total of 11 members make this event successful



Upcoming dates:

1. June 22nd and 23rd flotilla 76 is holding their joint operation workshop at Willard Bay
2. July 01 flotilla 72 at their July meeting will be holding a flotilla barbecue at one of their members' home
3. July 02 flotilla 7-8 will you be holding their flotilla meeting and having a barbecue at their location
4. July 06 Flotilla 73 will be having a pancake breakfast at Utah state park

5. July 13 Flotilla 72 will be working the(on the water fireworks) event at Jordanelle Reservoir.

Note: Please check out the flotillas photo galleries in our division they have a number of wonderful photos too many to put on my report