

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

MONTH ENDING: 31 JULY 2019

TO: DCO Mary Kirkwood

FROM: DCDR 03 Jeff Fite

Highlights:

- Division 3 supported Sacramento Parks Rangers at non-permitted event
- AUX present at AIRSTA Sacramento Change of Command
- Flotilla 35 presentation on USCG Master's license
- DIV 3's Coastie is back in service

Details:

- Division 3 responded to a request for assistance from the Sacramento County Park Rangers. The Bay Area Boat Life Captains (BABCL) announced a "Watermelon Sunday" event at Discovery Park for 28 July 2019. The rangers asked for a VSC station at the Discovery Park boat ramp, and on-the-water patrols. We had 10 days to organize and execute this event. We marshaled the following resources and completed these tasks:
 - IC was DCDR 03 Jeff Fite, who coordinated with SGT Randy Bickel of the Sacramento County Parks Rangers. SGT Bickel and I exchanged Challenge coins. An ICS 201 was prepared for the event.
 - Kevin Sellstrom was AUXCOM Lead TCO with the Comms trailer, assisted by TCO's Christine Lay and Larry Stanton, and TCO trainee Gary Estes—who completed his PQS and has been submitted for qualification
 - VE's Jeff Fite and Larry Stanton performed 14 VSC's.
 - AUXFAC *Side Kick* (COX John Hardin) was on patrol from 1300-1700, and conducted one SAR case.
 - AUXFAC *Aqua Sport* was on patrol from 1100-1630 on BRAVO-15 status (COX Jeff Fite), and conducted one SAR case from 1630-1730.
 - AUX Nathan Fite was present as Crew Trainee and for operational support
 - Photos of the event are attached at the end of this report
- AIRSTA Sacramento's Change of Command was on July 12th, and was attended by several representatives of the Auxiliary, including (L to R): DSO-HR Bob Schabert, DCOS Dean McFarren, AUX Ron Clark (a watch stander at the AIRSTA), COMO Mary Kirkwood, and VCDR Russ Kaiser (photo)
- AUX (and Captain) John Hardin gave an informative presentation on how to obtain a USCG merchant marine credential, and what you can do with it
- Repairs to the remote control unit are complete, with Coastie again operational. Minor issues still to be addressed: loose connection in the audio headset; eyelid actuators nonfunctional



Projects

- Division Commander's member preparedness initiative: CERT preparedness course TBD
- Complete assembly of the Photo Op Banner frame

Future Activities

- SAR training at STA Rio Vista, August 24th (a condensed introduction to AUXSCE)
- Presentation of D11n 5-year plan for recruitment and retention at the September 12 Division meeting, by DCAPT Jim Losi
- 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 County Park Rangers

Goals and Objectives

- Implement the recruitment and retention strategies being developed by HR and EXCOM
- Establish an ongoing presence at California Capital Airshow
- Increase the number of surface facilities by 2
- Increase the number of Marine Safety-qualified members by 3
- Advance all members in IQ status to BQ (and scan for 'stuck' AP members)

<end of report>

Respectfully Submitted,



—Jeff Fite, DCDR 03
Division 113-03 (Greater Sacramento and the California Delta)

In order, the pictures are:

1. the Challenge Coin DCDR received from SGT Randy Bickel. Challenge coin photo by me, all other photos by AUX Larry Stanton.
2. The DIV 03 Comms Trailer standing watch at the Discovery Park boat ramp
3. Just some of the crowds on Tiscornia Beach Park and at anchor in the mouth of the American River. The Jibboom Street Bridge is in the background.
4. COX Jeff Fite at the helm of AUXFAC *Aqua Sport*, backing down on a distressed vessel in order to take her in tow.
5. The distressed vessel (engine casualty) under tow and en route to Discovery Park boat ramp.

