



Homeland Security

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11 Northern Region**

Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



DIVISION COMMANDER'S REPORT

TO: DCO Mary Kirkwood, D11NR
Cc: District Board and Staff
DATE: OCTOBER REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2019 ACTIVITIES
DIVISION: 10---San Joaquin Valley
DCDR (acting): Donald Pierce

Highlights:

- OPTREX Lake Don Pedro
- Election for 2020
- Change of Watch
- Flotillas
- Facility repair Fellowship

DETAILS:

- **OPTREX dates:** Sept 27-29 (QE Saturday Sept 28th)

Location (Marina, Dock, or Facility): Lake Don Pedro, Blue Oak Recreation Area

Directions to Location: Follow GPS to: 10200 Bonds Flat Rd, La Grange, CA 95329

Mike Rafatti		passed	Cox'n requel
Boersma, Bill		passed	Crew requel
Ben Fowler		passed	Initial Crew
Carrie Van Da Boom		passed	Cox'n to Crew
Witt, Thomas A		extended	Cox'n requel

FACILITIES	COXSWAIN
Peerless-Witt	Witt Sr, Thomas A
SEA FORCE	Holtzman, Tommy

Training and fellowship was excellent on Friday. Sat a little confused with the schedule. The QEs were patient and very professional. OTO Finkelson was generous and wise when sharing his experience with the candidates for Crew and Cox'n. A real pleasure to be able to train with him. Some of the new/renewed Cox'n and Crew stayed for a Sunday Patrol and Training. Tommy Holtzman was excellent and shared his boating experience

- **DIVISION 10 ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE OPTREX**

Carrie Vandaboom was nominated from the floor for DCDR, Bill Boersma for VCDR.

Billy Ray withdrew his letter for nomination for DCDR. Donald Pierce had submitted a letter for nomination for DCDR and Mike Rafatti for VCDR.

Results: Donald Pierce DCDR (elect), Bill Boersma VCDR (elect) for 2020.

- **CHANGE OF WATCH: 26 October 2019**, at the Ratzlaff Ranch in the Sanger area again. Planning is aggressively being planned. The US Naval Sea Cadets have been invited to be the Color Guard.

- **MODESTO FLOTILLA 10-02**

1. CORE AND RM TRAINING DOING VERY WELL. Mike Rafatti as a new Facilitator will be having a RM Refresher Face to Face, 19 Oct 2019 in Modesto.
2. NEW MELONES LAKE, the patrols have been very well received. The PA booth was a delightful experience. There was a Life jacket Exchange, 3 Rangers and Becky Witt manned the booth from 1000-1500 Sat. The booth was at the prelaunch set-up area. With a display in an inflatable with many things in it the kids occupied themselves at the booth will the parents readied the boats. With magnetic fishing poles the removed the 'BAD' things. They were rewarded and given lots of handouts. The parents that watched were requesting VSCs and a schedule for Boating Safety Classes. The Rangers are working with the Flotilla to make all of that happen.
3. FACILITY MAINTAINANCE FELLOWSHIP: Mike Rafatti's boat was having brake problems on the trailer, after 2 Saturdays and many hours of 'FELLOWSHIP', the trailer is in excellent shape. The Facility Vessel is being ready for a shakedown. In addition the Flotilla is in the process of getting another Facility.

- **STOCKTON FLOTILLA 10-03:**

There have been many Patrols, PA Events and VSCs. The Flotilla joined DIVISION 3 and participated in a QE event, which went very well. Karl Keller sent a Report that does an excellent job covering the event. It included other Divisions and Flotillas, the people that Passed their Quals will serve the Auxiliary well. Getting ready for Division 10 COW has shown, Stockton 10-03 the most outstanding Flotilla : VSC, PV, INSTRUCTOR HRS, MS, OPS and more. It will be a pleasure to give the awards. Elections are pending

- **FRESNO FLOTILLA 10-05:**

The Flotilla is undergoing many changes, caused by retirements and serious illness. They are hanging in there, conducting a joint ABS Boating Safety Class for Dept of Fish and Wildlife, slowly increasing their VSCs. The FRESNO VETERAN'S PARADE is moving into the final stages of planning. Steve Pitts is bringing together other Agencies with Boats to display in the Parade. The Color Guard is schedule to participate. Elections are pending

- **KAWEAH FLOTILLA 10-06:**

1. The Flotilla has been working hard to get their Facilities operational. Efforts were successful to enable Richard Myers with LIFE SAVER, to complete all our assigned ATON and PATON verifications. LIFE SAVER after the patrol got new seals around her outdrive and will be ready for next season. FARFRUMWERKEN managed to be ready for Patrol on Millerton Lake assisting CA Parks and Recreation, she again went into drydock probably for the winter. GRACE came home from Oregon with a little TLC was ready for Lake KAWEAH and the Labor Day weekend. GRACE again had pulley and pump problems. This even brought out the BEST from Modesto 10-02 They Professionally rebuilt the Pump with machined surfaces and custom fabricated a pulley. WOW. Grace is beautiful.
2. ABS BOATING SAFETY CLASS: worked with Fresno Flotilla teaching the class for Fish and Wildlife. 10 participants Rangers Academy Graduates and their Volunteers. All passed and are applying for their CA Boating Card.
3. Dockwalkers with USACE at Lake Kaweah
4. Training new Crew, Instructors and TCOs.
5. Working hard for COW.
6. **Flotilla Election Results:** Howard Ratzlaff FC, Richard Myers VFC

PROJECTS

- FACILITY REPAIRS
- CHANGE OF WATCH
- OPTREX, DON PEDRO (completed)
- MEMBER TRAINING

CHALLENGES/OBSTICLES/OPPORTUNITIES:

Attrition/Attrition/ Recruitment and Education

AGENCY INTERACTION:

Each Flotilla AOR has different environments which teams them up with: GOLD SIDE, many COUNTY SHERIFF DEPTs, Bureau of Land Management, USACE, CA PARKS AND RECREATION, FISH AND WILDLIFE

GOALS OF DIVISION 10:

- FLOTILLAS TO WORK AS A TEAM
- RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION
- MORE INSTRUCTORS AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

- MORE FACILITIES, COX'N AND CREW
- STRONGER EFFORT FOR VSCs
- REPORTS ARE OUR FRIEND

End of Report