



Homeland Security

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11 Northern Region**
Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



Division 6 – Gold Coast Area

To: DCO Mary Kirkwood, D11NR
Cc: District Board and Staff
Date: MARCH REPORT FOR March 2020 ACTIVITIES
Division: 6 – Gold Coast
DCAPT: Randy McCormick
DCDR: Chuck Cobery DCDR

Reports for March 2020 Missions, Events, and Activities

Table of Contents

- Division 6 Staff Officer Reports for March 2020
- Division 6 Flotilla Commander Reports for March 2020
- Division 6 Vice Commander Comments March 2020
- Division 6 Photographs for March 2020

Division 6 Staff Officer Reports for March 2020

SO-FN Finance Steven McCann

The Division 6 account balance as of March 31, 2020 is **\$2,519**.

SO-IS Information Services Benjamin Fowler

SO-IS report: With the rollout of Auxdata II right around the corner, there will be an anticipated transition period during which no new hours may be logged. Members should continue submitting hours as normal, and they will be queued for entry once the new system is live and accessible.

SO-MS Marine Safety & Environmental Protection Alexander Urcioli

Monterey 64:

Vessel Examiners make Commercial Fishing Vessel Exams (CFVEs) The following CFVE activities were completed in March: Two CFVE were requested and referred to USCG CFVE Officer in Charge, Manny Ramirez based at CG Island, Alameda. Tom Stead qualified as a Marine Dealer Visitor (MDV) and completed 8 visits. Ray David mentored Stead to take the MDV test and accompanied him on the

required 5 training visits. Both Tom Stead and Ray David are on hold but ready to go when CFVEs are needed.

Online Dockwalkers training now available! This training has been posted on the Flotilla Monterey website in the Marine Safety section and is open to all interested Division 6 members, both new and experienced, who would like to participate in the DW program. Vessel Examiner Tom Stead completed the new Virtual Dockwalker training online.

National Safe Boating Week, May 16-22, 2020 and Station Monterey Open House All public/group Auxiliary activities are suspended until further notice. Any updates will be forwarded to all members, ASAP.

SO-MT Member Training Cecil Claspell

Several courses are being offered by District 11N trainers via videoconference. Notifications were received from COMO Mary Kirkwood with scheduling and enrollment information. No in-person training is scheduled until resumption of normal operations.

SO-NS Navigation Systems Bruce Simpson

During the month of March Bruce responded to and to and verified seven (7) Private Aids To Navigation (PATONS) in the Moss Landing area. Six of the buoys were found to be watching properly and one in the Elkhorn Slough was missing. The proper forms and 7030s were completed and sent to District.

Of interest to local mariners is that the Monterey Harbor Junction Lighted Buoy A (LLNR 3972.1) is missing, according to the latest Local Notice To Mariners.

SO-PA Public Affairs Sonia Foster

Flotilla 6-10 FSO-PA report included in this month's Division 6 report:
At Flotilla 6-10, the highlight of this month's PA efforts was the celebration of Women's History Month and International Women's History Day on the Flotilla's Facebook page with a brief history of Laura Hecox of Santa Cruz. Accompanying the text was a Coast Guard generated watercolor depiction of Laura Hecox.

This was one of our most effective online public affairs efforts. The post was shared 48 times (by local and national organizations) and viewed by more than 8000 accounts, gathering many visits to our Facebook page and many new account follows and increasing the Auxiliary's message reach.

See below for the Facebook posting.



U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla Santa Cruz

March 7 at 1:04 PM · 🌐

Celebrating Santa Cruz's local hero Laura Hecox and USCG women this #womenshistorymonth. As a Keeper of the Santa Cruz Lighthouse for more than 33 years, Laura helped guide mariners to safe waters. As a naturalist, she collected specimens that became the beginnings of the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History.

The U.S Lighthouse Service later merged into what is today's U.S. Coast Guard. #CoastGuardHistory



Laura Hecox
Keeper, Santa Cruz Lighthouse 1883-1917

...

8,401 People Reached

436 Reactions, Comments & Shares ⓘ

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 301 Like | 50 On Post | 251 On Shares |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 64 Love | 8 On Post | 56 On Shares |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Haha | 0 On Post | 1 On Shares |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 7 Wow | 3 On Post | 4 On Shares |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 15 Comments | 5 On Post | 10 On Shares |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 48 Shares | 48 On Post | 0 On Shares |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|

347 Post Clicks

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 41 Photo Views | 0 Link Clicks | 306 Other Clicks ⓘ |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|

SO-PE Public Education Scott Galloway

Flotilla 67 member Marius Landauer qualified as an Auxiliary Instructor in February. He is currently serving as Co-Instructor for the Sailing Skills and Seamanship course. Before joining the Auxiliary in 2019, Marius previously taught sailing classes professionally, and has held a Coast Guard Master's license. He has extensive experience skippering sailing vessels on ocean voyages.

Winter/Spring P.E. Classes in Santa Cruz began on Thursday January 8, 2020. Boating Skills and Seamanship (BS&S), Sailing Skills and Seamanship (SS&S), and Coastal Navigation (CN) classes were scheduled to continue until mid April. Flotilla 67 Members Bruce Krogstad and Marius Landauer have joined the Instructor team for the CN and SS&S classes.

In mid March, Auxiliary Instructors were directed to cancel all in-person PE classes. The remaining sessions of the FL 6-10 BS&S course were postponed until a later time.

The FL 67 SS&S Course and FL 67 Coastal Navigation course are continuing through mid April as on-line courses. The final examinations for those courses are being completed during the week of April 12th. Taking the courses on-line has involved making the course slide sets available to students on Google Drive, the publication of weekly Instructor's Commentaries to accompany the slide sets, weekly two-hour on-line classes utilizing the "Zoom" video conferencing platform, and interactive on-line computer chart plotting exercises using Open CPN, a free marine chart plotting program. For the Coastal Navigation course, a new final examination was created and is currently being administered at present. The students are assisting Coastal Navigation course Instructors in evaluating the examination so that it can be improved for future terms.

SO-VE Vessel Examination Craig Johnson

SO-VE Report for the Gold Coast Division as of 4/2/2020

Information from AUXDATA:

| | Examiners | VSC's given |
|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Division | 16 | 6 |
| Monterey | 13 | 5 |
| Santa Cruz | 2 | 0 |
| Capitola | 1 | 1 |

Division 6 Flotilla Commander Reports for March 2020

Flotilla 6-4 Monterey Alex Urciuoli

On Saturday March 15th, a memorial service was held for Ralph Neal, a longtime and beloved Auxiliary member. Flotilla 64 took the lead in planning assistance for the ceremony, which was held at 1100. Approximately 20 Auxiliaries were in attendance in uniform. A Marine Detachment conducted a flag ceremony and a meal at a local restaurant was shared, hosted by Ralph's family, after the Service. Ralph's ashes were scattered at sea the following day from an airplane. Ralph, you will be missed.

Flotilla 6-7 Santa Cruz Sean Sheehan

See Staff Report, above

DIVISION COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Shortly after I arrived in Hong Kong to begin my duties as the Naval Attaché I heard a Chinese expression that goes "May you live in interesting times". It was explained to me that rather than a blessing this was actually a curse. Today we are living in some *very* interesting times. We have been fortunate in our division to be healthy and virus free for now and it appears that there may be a light at the end of this interesting tunnel. I propose that we in Division 6, as well as the District begin to ready ourselves for getting back into the game in a prepared and safe manner by keeping focused on the following guidelines for the foreseeable future:

Stay Connected: Flotilla Commanders must keep in touch with their respective membership. No one wants to feel isolated or alone. Conduct meetings with Zoom or GoToMeeting. The technology is there and it is not as daunting as it may appear. Take advantage of the myriad of Aux courses available now on line via webinar.

Control the Controllable: Reduce stress and save your energy by focusing your efforts on that which you can control and accept what you cannot.

Take the Long View: Remember that we are not in a sprint. Pace yourself and be prepared for a marathon, as no one knows how long this battle with the Virus will take. Using the long view will help to manage the expectations for yourself and the Auxiliary.

Share Information: This one is on me. I intend to keep everyone informed and in the loop regarding what is going on and to answer any questions that may arise.

To all in Division 6, stay healthy and stand by. The day will come when we will return to the water and the sky and these days will be remembered as being so very, very interesting.

Semper Gumby.

Chuck Cobery
DCDR, Division 6

Division 6 Photographs for March 2020

Farewell Ralph. May you always have
fair winds and following seas.

